



# SAVE THE DATE!

## GOMA Marine Debris Cross Team Initiative VIRTUAL Mid-Year Meeting



When: October 29 - 30, 2024  
Where: Zoom, Virtual Meeting



*Scan the QR code to register today!*

## Gulf of Mexico Alliance Marine Debris Cross Team Initiative Virtual Mid-Year Meeting

### October 29-30, 2024

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**Virtual:** Meeting hosted on Zoom. You must be pre-registered at this [link](#).

**Workshop Goal:** To strengthen regional effectiveness by bringing the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA) Marine Debris Cross Team Initiative (MDCTI) community together to re-establish working groups and regional marine debris actions that address both everyday marine debris and debris generated by severe weather.

**Objectives:** During this workshop, participants will:  
Bring together entities across the Gulf that currently address marine debris.  
Review & update actions in the Marine Debris Cross Team in Governors' Action Plan IV for Healthy and Resilient Coasts.  
Learn about various resources and organizational tools for tracking marine debris in the environment.

**Key Outputs:**

- Team-wide groundwork participation
- Marine debris resource and tool awareness
- Working group tier II and metrics tracker

## Day 1 – October 29th, 12:00 – 4:00 PM CT

**11:45 AM**      **Technical Check (Zoom meeting hosted by Gulf of Mexico Alliance)**

**12:00 PM**      **Welcome and Resources Survey Introductions**

**12:15 PM**      **Marine Debris Cross Team: Action Plan IV & GOMA Updates**

Ali Robertson, *Gulf of Mexico Alliance*

Alicia Walker, *Texas Parks & Wildlife Department*

Jessi James-Barry, *NOAA Marine Debris Program*

Objectives:

- Welcome new MDCTI co-facilitators Alicia & Jessi
- Hear about the status of Governors' Action Plan IV, planning timelines, and Gulf of Mexico Alliance updates
- Learn about the Marine Debris Cross Team's goals and focus areas for Action Plan IV

**12:45 PM**      **Working Group Actions for Action Plan IV**

Calista Mills, *Environmental Protection Agency*

Katie Swanson, *Mission Aransas NERR*

Tasheena Powers, *Environmental Protection Agency*

Objectives:

- Review team actions in Governors' Action Plan IV
- Discuss types of regional projects
- Discuss potential funding sources and resources lists

**1:15 PM**      **Break**

**1:30 PM**      **Regional Updates:**

- Jessi James-Barry (NOAA Marine Debris Program), GoMx Updates
- Alicia Walker (TPWD), GOMA Project Updates/Crab Trap Videos
- Lisa Scobel (Galveston Bay Foundation), Interception Project
- Keely Colinger (Mississippi State University), Marine Debris Internship Participation

**2:30 PM**      **Break**

**2:45 PM**      **TBD: Gulf of Mexico Open Data Platform: Marine Debris**

**3:15 PM**      **Day 1 Breakouts—Working Groups (Removal, Research, Prevention)**

Removal: Calista Mills, *Environmental Protection Agency*

Research: Katie Swanson, *Mission Aransas NERR*

Prevention: Tasheena Powers, *Environmental Protection Agency*

Objectives:

- GoMOD Q&A Session (will rotate between groups)
- Discuss new projects/ideas/funding sources/collaborations
- Begin organization of contact list and Tier II document/spreadsheet to track Governors' Action Plan IV projects

**3:55 PM Day 1 Wrap-up**

**4:00 PM Adjourn**

## **Day 2 – October 30th, 12:00 – 4:00 PM CT**

**11:45 PM Technical Check (Zoom hosted by Gulf of Mexico Alliance)**

**12:00 PM Day 2 Welcome & Introductions**

**12:15 PM TBD: Marine Debris Education & Monitoring Tools**

**12:45 PM Break**

**1:00 PM Breakouts—Working Groups (Removal, Research, Prevention)**

Removal: Calista Mills, *Environmental Protection Agency*

Research: Katie Swanson, *Mission Aransas NERR*

Prevention: Tasheena Powers, *Environmental Protection Agency*

### Objectives:

- Finalize contact list and Tier II document/spreadsheet to track Governors' Action Plan IV projects
- Discuss new projects/ideas/funding sources/collaborations
- Discuss presentation opportunities for All-Hands 2025
- Schedule next WG meeting

**2:00 PM Break**

**2:15 PM Working Group Takeaways**

Removal: Calista Mills, *Environmental Protection Agency*

Research: Katie Swanson, *Mission Aransas NERR*

Prevention: Tasheena Powers, *Environmental Protection Agency*

### Objectives:

- Share highlights from your group conversations and next steps for moving ahead!
- Share opportunities to collaborate across workgroups and any feedback for moving forward with these meetings.
- Revisit resources survey!

**3:55 PM**      **Day 2 Wrap-up**

**4:00 PM**      **Adjourn**