



# 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), BIL Interception Project
- Ellie Mallon (Osprey Initiative), Project Updates
- Keely Colinger (Mississippi State University), Marine Debris Internship Participation

**2:30 PM**      **Break**

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

Drew Stephens, *The GIS Institute*

Objective: The GoMOD platform includes a comprehensive map of extent for priority habitats across the entire Gulf of Mexico, curated theme maps for key coastal and ocean management topics of interest to Gulf stakeholders, a data explorer where users can choose their own datasets of interest, and access to a

suite of regional data tools developed by GOMA. In this session, we will discuss the possibility of adding a marine debris layer to the existing map.

**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 Marine Debris Education & Monitoring Tools**

Alexandria Gillen, *NOAA Marine Debris Program*

Objective: Explore a variety of marine debris resources designed to support your needs and learning for students of all ages.

**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**