



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

**Thank you so much for
joining us for the inaugural
“State of Our Coast”**

STATE *of*
Our **COAST**



ENHANCE ★ PROTECT ★ CONSERVE

May 13, 2015

**Golden Nugget Casino Hotel
151 Beach Blvd.
Biloxi, Mississippi**

“Moving Forward Together”

Wednesday, May 13, 2015
Morning Session



7:30 a.m.- 9:00 a.m.	Registration & Coffee
9:00 a.m.- 9:10 a.m.	Introductions & Welcome <i>Jamie Miller, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources</i>
9:10 a.m.- 9:40 a.m.	Tidelands and Coastal Preservation <i>Delbert Hosemann, Mississippi Secretary of State</i>
9:45 a.m.- 9:55 a.m.	We Happy Few <i>Walker Foster, Vice President of Government Contracts VT Halter Marine</i>
10:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.	Changes in Habitats and Life Styles in Hancock County <i>Jerry Boos, Local Gulf Coast Historian</i>
10:20 a.m.- 10:35 a.m.	Creating Opportunities Through Nature Based Tourism <i>Malcolm White, Director of Visit Mississippi Mississippi Development Authority</i>
10:35 a.m.- 10:45 a.m.	Question & Answer
10:45 a.m.-11:15 a.m.	BREAK
11:15 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	Research.....Fishing for Answers <i>Dr. Kelly Lucas, Chief Scientific Officer, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources</i>
11:30 a.m.- 11:45 a.m.	Mississippi's NFWF Planning Project <i>Tom Strange, Natural Resource Scientist Sustainable Ecosystem Restoration, LLC</i>
11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	Question and Answer
12:00 p.m.-1:15 p.m.	LUNCH with keynote speaker Dr. Rex Caffey Economics and Ecosystem Services <i>Dr. Rex H. Caffey is a Professor of Natural Resource Economics in the LSU Department of Agricultural Economics</i>

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Wednesday, May 13, 2015
Afternoon Session



1:15 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Panel - Funding Opportunities for Coastal Restoration <i>Jamie Miller, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Gary Rikard, Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality Justin Ehrenwerth, Restore Council Chuck Wilson, Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative Laura Bowie, Gulf of Mexico Alliance</i>
2:00 p.m.- 2:15 p.m.	Question and Answer
2:20 p.m.-3:00 p.m.	Panel - Cross State Partnership for Sediment Management <i>George Ramseur, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Carl Ferraro, AL Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Frank Cole, Louisiana Department of Natural Resources</i>
3:00 p.m.-3:10 p.m.	Question and Answer
3:10 p.m.-3:30 p.m.	BREAK
3:30 p.m.- 3:50 p.m.	Panel - Red Snapper Update <i>Matt Hill, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Chris Blakenship, AL Department of Conservation & Natural Resources Dr. Robert Leaf, Gulf Coast Research Laboratory Dale Diaz, Gulf Council</i>
3:50 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Question and Answer
4:00 p.m.- 4:20 p.m.	Panel - Governor's Oyster Council Update and Video <i>Jamie Miller, Mississippi Department of Marine Resources Dave Dennis, Council Chairman Alan Sudduth, Committee Co-chairman Tish Williams, Committee Co-chairman Clay Wagner, Committee Co-chairman</i>
4:20 p.m.-4:30 p.m.	Question and Answer
4:30 p.m.-4:45 p.m.	Closing <i>Jamie Miller, Executive Director Mississippi Department of Marine Resources</i>