**Fall 2013 meeting agenda**

**New Orleans, LA**

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**October 28, 2013:**

*Breakfast is on your own.*

**Meeting of the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council**

**Location:** Omni Royal Orleans  
621 St. Louis Street  
New Orleans, LA

8:30 a.m. **CONVENE**

**Welcome & Introductions**  
- Thom Dammrich, SFBPC Chair

8:35 a.m. **Welcome from the Department of the Interior and the Office of Governor Bobby Jindal**

- Rachel Jacobson - Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, U.S. Department of the Interior  
- Garret Graves - Chair of the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority of Louisiana and Executive Assistant to Governor Bobby Jindal for Coastal Activities

9:05 a.m. **Welcome to Louisiana & New Orleans**

- Overview of Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries activities and recreational fishing and boating in Louisiana  
  - Randy Pausina, Assistant Secretary, Office of Fisheries, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

- Bayou Sauvage & Big Branch Marsh: Overview of National Wildlife Refuges in the New Orleans area  
  - Kenneth Litzenberger, Refuge Complex Manager

9:45 a.m. **BREAK**
10:00 a.m. **Federal / State fisheries management in Louisiana and the Gulf Region**  
- Randy Pausina, Assistant Secretary, Office of Fisheries, LDWF  
- Doug Boyd, Chair, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council  
- Jeff Angers, Center for Coastal Conservation

11:00 a.m. **Gulf Restoration / RESTORE Act update**  
- Rachel Jacobson, Acting Assistant Secretary, DOI  
- Garret Graves, Executive Assistant to Governor Jindal for Coastal Activities  
- Chris Macaluso, Director, Center for Marine Fisheries, Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

12:00 a.m. **LUNCH** (Lunch is on your own. There are many restaurants within walking distance. Please back prior to 1:15 so that we can stay on schedule.)

1:15 p.m. **National Ocean Policy implementation Update**  
- Deerin Babb-Brott, Director, National Ocean Council  
- Garrett Gravens, Executive Assistant to Governor Jindal for Coastal Activities  
- Laura Bowie, Executive Director, Gulf of Mexico Alliance

2:00 p.m. **Update on the Implementation of the DOI Idle Iron policy and the Rigs to Reefs Program**  
- Herb Leedy, Chief, Environmental Review Unit, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior  
- Douglas Peter, Artificial Reef Coordinator, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, Department of the Interior  
- Mike McDonough, Rigs to Reefs Program manager, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

2:30 p.m. **Implications of Federal shutdown on boating, hunting, and angling**  
- John Arway, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission & SFBPC member

2:45 p.m. **Refuge Vision Implementation Plan update**  
- Anna Harris, Division of Visitor Services & Communications, National Wildlife Refuge System, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

3:00 p.m. **BREAK**

3:15 p.m. **Outreach and Communications Committee**  
- Scott Kovarovics, Chair

➤ RBFF assessment: Update and project scoping  
- Scott Kovarovics  
- Doug Hobbs, SFBPC Coordinator  
- Phil Seng, D.J. Case and Associates
4:30 p.m.  **ADJOURN  (Dinner plans TBD)**

**October 29, 2013**  
*Breakfast is on your own.*

8:30 a.m.  **CONVENE – Thom Dammrich, SFBPC Chair**  
- Welcome and introductions

8:35 a.m.  **Outreach and Communications Committee**  
- Scott Kovarovics, Chair
  - Update on the activities of the Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF)  
    - Frank Peterson, President, RBFF
  - Discuss follow-up to Council letter to Secretary Jewell regarding issue priorities  
    - Scott Kovarovics,  
    - Doug Hobbs, SFBPC Coordinator

9:05 a.m.  **Fisheries Issues Committee**  
- Mike Nussman, Committee Chair
  - FWS update on status of Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program (15 minutes)  
    - David Hoskins, Assistant Director, *Fish and Aquatic Conservation, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*
  - SFBPC Fish & Aquatic Resource Conservation Strategic Vision and Needs Assessment: Status update and report back from FWS (45 minutes)  
    - Hoskins, Nussman, Hobbs
  - Update on the activities of the National Fish Habitat Partnership (10 minutes)  
    - Ron Regan, Executive Director, *Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies*
  - Update on Susquehanna River smallmouth bass disease (10 minutes)  
    - John Arway, Executive Director, *Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission & SFBPC member*
  - Mass marking of salmonids in the Great Lakes and reauthorization of the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act (15 minutes)  
    - John Arway, Executive Director, *Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission & SFBPC member*
    - James Dexter, Fisheries Division Chief, *Michigan Department of Natural Resources*
    - Leroy Young, Jr., Director, Bureau of Fisheries, *PA Fish and Boat Commission*
Update on NOAA Fisheries activities & issues (10 minutes)
- Russell Dunn, National Policy Advisor for Recreational Fisheries, NOAA Fisheries

11:00 a.m. **Boating Issues Committee**
- John Sprague, Committee Chair

- Wildlife & Sport Fish Restoration program Update (15 minutes)
  - Lisa Van Alstyne, Acting Chief, Division of Policy and Programs, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Trust Fund reauthorization update (10 minutes)
  - Lisa Van Alstyne, FWS
  - Ron Regan, AFWA
  - SFBPC members

- E-15 and the federal Renewable Fuel Standard (15 minutes)
  - Ron Regan, Thom Dammrich, John Arway

- Update of the National Boating Access Assessment being conducted by the States Organization for Boating Access (SOBA) (10 minutes)
  - James Adams, SFBPC member & SOBA President

- Update on Ad Hoc team to options for increasing participation in both the Boating Infrastructure and Clean Vessel Act Grant Programs (10 minutes)
  - Ryck Lydecker, Ad Hoc Team Chair

12:15 p.m. Public comment / new business

12:30 p.m. **ADJOURN**

**NOTE: Meeting minutes will be made available 90 days after the meeting date.**