



SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS OF THE 63rd GULF AND CARIBBEAN FISHERIES INSTITUTE

NOVEMBER 1- 5, 2010
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Abstracts for the 63rd GCFI have been extended to 1 September 2010.

The 63rd Annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute will be held at EL SAN JUAN HOTEL & CASINO www.elsanjuanhotel.com, in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

GCFI is pleased to confirm that the keynote address will be presented by **Dr. Callum Roberts**, a Professor in the Environment Department, University of York and author of *The Unnatural History of the Sea*.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Papers and posters are solicited in the following themes:

- ❖ Biology, Ecology, and Assessment of Reef Fishes includes:
 - Fish Spawning Aggregations
 - Essential Fish Habitats
- ❖ Biology, Ecology, and Assessment of Invertebrate Marine Fisheries
- ❖ Management and Socio-Economics of Marine Fisheries: Contributions on the following two topics are proposed. These are not exclusive of other subjects:
 - Economic assessment of reef uses: small scale commercial, recreational fisheries, ecotourism and other services provided by the reefs ecosystems.
 - Fisheries management plans: examples and perspective for the management of ecosystem in the Gulf and Caribbean area.
- ❖ Marine Protected Areas Science and Management (CaMPAM activity)
- ❖ Pelagic and Recreational Fisheries
- ❖ Marine Aquaculture

POSTER SESSION

The poster session/reception will be on the evening of 2 November 2010.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Three special sessions are planned for the 63rd GCFI:

- ❖ ***Management of Coral Reef Ecosystems for Sustainable Fisheries*** – This Special session is sponsored by Coral Reef Program of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program. The increasing pressures on coral reef ecosystems require the adoption of more holistic management approaches, such as ecosystem-based management. A basic premise is the link between fisheries productivity and extent and health of the habitats required by exploited species. Stressors such as overfishing, coastal development, recreational misuse or overuse and land-based sources of pollution can potentially affect key habitats. This session seeks contributions that explore management options for protecting/enhancing the extent and health of key habitats supporting fisheries and other ecosystem services.
- ❖ ***New and Emerging Technologies for Monitoring of Fisheries and Habitat*** – This Special session is sponsored by Coral Reef Program of the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and the NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program. Monitoring is a fundamental source of information to assess change in exploited species, habitat and environmental conditions in response to natural and anthropogenic stressors and management interventions. Yet, monitoring activities are often labor intensive, subject to weather and sea conditions, and limited in space and time relative to the spatio-temporal scales of interest. The goal of this session is to explore new and emerging technologies in acoustics, remote sensing, video and manned and unmanned deep diving technology, etc. that can facilitate monitoring efforts and offer new avenues of assessment.
- ❖ ***Invasive Lionfish Control and Management*** — This Special session is sponsored by Florida Sea Grant College Program, University of Florida. Presentations are by invitation only and it is targeted to managers, NGO's, and fisheries officials throughout the Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico. The Workshop will address relevant lionfish issues emphasizing a range of topics including: Lionfish ecological impacts; Lionfish control strategies and Lionfish local and regional management. If you would like to participate on the workshop, please contact the session co-hosts: Dr. James Morris James.Morris@noaa.gov or Lad Akins lad@reef.org.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP

- ❖ ***Development of Sustainable Aquaculture Practices for the U.S. Caribbean*** — The NOAA Aquaculture Program and Coral Reef Conservation Program will host the first in a series of invitational workshops aimed at developing environmental guidelines and standards for aquaculture operations sited near coral reef ecosystems. This day and half long workshop will focus on several key goals, including: exchanging available information (e.g., research, monitoring results, and model output), identifying knowledge gaps, reviewing permitting procedures, and identification of key elements for development of regional best management practices. The NOAA will convene a panel of experts to share their expertise on

coral reef ecology, aquaculture research and monitoring, best management practices, and environmental standards.

ABSTRACTS

Abstracts for the 63rd GCFI have been extended to 1 September 2010.

Abstracts will be accepted in English, French, and Spanish. **ALL ABSTRACTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED WITH ENGLISH, SPANISH AND FRENCH TITLES.** (Note that this is a change from previous years – abstracts are only required in one of the three languages; titles must be in all three languages.) Abstracts must not exceed **250** words (**275** for Spanish and French). Abstracts must be submitted using the secure Online abstract Submission Form found in the [User Portal](#).

Acceptance to present within an oral session requires submission of a full and complete manuscript or extended abstract in the proper format (MS word and jpg or power point figures) prior to presentation at the meeting. Poster presentations do not require submission of a manuscript (although they are enthusiastically accepted). However, students wishing to compete for the student awards and who are presenting an oral *OR* poster presentation are required to submit a manuscript for publication in the GCFI Proceedings at the meeting. Manuscript preparation guidelines are available at <http://www.gcfi.org/Conferences/RefMats/AuthorGuidelines.htm> .

Beginning this year, the Book of Abstracts will be available online in pdf format; no printed Book of Abstracts will be distributed at the conference.

STUDENT AWARDS

GCFI is offering two travel awards of \$750 each to eligible students to help offset travel costs to the 63rd GCFI in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The deadline for students applying for these awards is July 31 for abstracts and all supporting paperwork. Students will be notified of acceptance/rejection by August 1. Complete instructions and eligibility requirements for the travel awards are on the GCFI web page at: <http://www.gcfi.org/StudentAwards/StudentAwards.htm>. Students may apply for a travel award and for consideration for the Student Achievement Award in the same year. Students who received a Student Achievement Award at the 62th GCFI are not eligible for a travel award to the 63rd GCFI. **The deadline for applying for these awards is 31 July 2010.**

GCFI will offer two Student Achievement Awards which will cover all expenses to the subsequent conference. Students must meet the abstract deadline to be eligible for the Student Achievement Awards. Students wishing to be considered for these awards must indicate their interest at the time of abstract submittal on the abstract submittal form. Eligibility criteria for the Student Achievement Awards can be found at: <http://www.gcfi.org/StudentAwards/OutstandingAward.htm>. Note that a manuscript of the talk/poster must be submitted at the meeting to be eligible for this award. Students who applied for the award when submitting their abstract may withdraw from consideration of the award by the first day of the conference. Winners of these awards

will be announced on Friday at the end of the conference. Please check the website (www.gcfi.org) for other Student Awards.

RON SCHMIED AWARD

This award is in memoriam to a friend, colleague and avid participant of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute. Students with a social, economic, biological, ecological, or recreational fisheries management perspective are eligible to apply for this travel award. Each award amount to \$1,500.00 will cover air fare, lodging and per diem to allow the students to attend the GCFI annual meeting. The instructions and requisites of eligibility for this travel award can be found in the GCFI Web: [GCFI Student Award](#).

REGISTRATIONS

Registrations can be made online at <http://www.gcfi.org>. Early registration (until 15 September) for the meeting is US\$150 (\$75 for students); late registrations after 15 Sept are \$200 US (\$85 Student). Registrations at the door are \$225. Check the GCFI website (www.gcfi.org) for registration rates for daily participation.

Everyone registering for greater than 1 day is automatically a member of GCFI and will receive a CD copy of the GCFI Proceedings from the meeting when published.

Registration is available online. Onsite registrations may be made with a credit card, check, money order, or US currency. Other arrangements may be made by contacting registrations@gcfi.org.

THE VENUE (include hotel website)

The meeting venue will be at the EL SAN JUAN HOTEL & CASINO <http://www.elsanjuanhotel.com/> in San Juan, Puerto Rico. For Hotel reservations please visit the [GCFI conference hotel reservation page](#). For Spanish reservations please call: (787)791-1000.

For information about the 63rd GCFI, please visit the [San Juan PR conference web page](#) on the GCFI website. Information includes transportation information, hotel information, GCFI student awards, and guidelines for submitting abstracts and manuscripts as well as other important information. As the meeting approaches, more information about the venue and program will be posted.

VISAS

The U.S. Government requires visas for visitors entering the U.S. from selected countries. Answers to visa questions can be found here: <http://travel.state.gov/visa/>.

We look forward to seeing you in SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO in November for the 63rd GCFI!