



MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 14, 2014

NOAA Gray's Reef Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council will meet on Tuesday, May 20, to hear updates on various science and management activities including ongoing water quality and carbon dioxide monitoring at Gray's Reef.

The meeting in the Gray's Reef conference room in the sanctuary's administrative offices on the campus of University of Georgia's Skidaway Institute of Oceanography will begin at 1:00 PM. Sanctuary advisory council meetings are open to the public. A public comment period is scheduled for 3:45 PM.

WHAT: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, May 20, 2014, 1:00 – 4:00 PM

WHERE: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary administrative office conference room

WHO: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council (open to the public)

The Gray's Reef Sanctuary Advisory Council was established in August 1999 to ensure continuous public participation in the management of the sanctuary. The council is composed of members representing fishing, diving, conservation, science, education, the general public, and state and federal agency stakeholders.

Designated in 1981, Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary is one of the largest near-shore live-bottom reefs off the southeastern United States, encompassing approximately 22 square miles. The live-bottom and ledge habitats support an abundant reef fish and invertebrate community. Threatened loggerhead sea turtles use Gray's Reef year-round for foraging and resting, and the sanctuary is located in the winter calving grounds of the highly endangered North Atlantic right whale.

For further information, please contact Council Coordinator Becky Shortland:
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On the Web:

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary: <http://graysreef.noaa.gov>

NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>