

Invasive Species – Northern Gulf of Mexico

Keynote Presenter: Kirsten Larsen
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Welcome to the lecture on Invasive Species in the Northern Gulf of Mexico. Included in this series are 1) powerpoint presentation, 2) glossary, 3) homework assignment, and 4) student activity. More information about invasive species can be accessed through the internet. Additional recommended reading can be found at the following websites:

<http://www.issg.org/database/welcome>

<http://www.invasivespecies.gov>

http://www.pewoceans.org/oceanfacts/2002/01/11/fact_22986.asp

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/rc00219.pdf>

About the presenter: Kirsten Larsen is a Fisheries Research Associate at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, and has been working in the Center for Fisheries for the past seven years. Research projects have included a wide variety of subjects including soft shell crab production, larval blue crab recruitment, artificial reef colonization, larval brown shrimp habitat utilization, fisheries monitoring and assessment, invertebrate taxonomy, and the intrusion of non-native jellyfish species. This jellyfish work has led to her interest in invasive species: where they come from, how they get here, and what we can do about them. Kirsten came to the Laboratory to attend summer marine courses while working on her undergraduate degree at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire. She came to work at the Laboratory after receiving her bachelor's degree and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree from the University of Southern Mississippi. Kirsten consistently presents research at local, regional, and national scientific meetings. She has also co-authored several peer-reviewed journal articles with senior scientists from the Laboratory. Kirsten enjoys participating in outreach activities for the Center for Fisheries and actively promotes the management and environmental work done at the Laboratory to local civic groups, and secondary and elementary education students. Kirsten works closely with the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Honors Program as a mentor for undergraduate biology students and has participated in the National Science Foundation's Program to promote Research Experience for Undergraduates (NSF-REU).