From:	Gilmour, Cindy
To:	William Landing
Cc:	Axelrad, Don
Subject:	RE: 2nd notice: Gulf of Mexico Hg workshop/December 2008
Date:	Monday, October 06, 2008 11:58:34 AM

Bill -
I would be interested in attending, and that week is free so far (I'm not going to AGU).

On funding: I would need travel support to attend. The Smithsonian is a pseudo-federal agency - a "trust instrumentation of the US gov't" in formal language. There are a number of routes to move $ to SI, thru fund transfers to the Trust side of the institution (thus outside the federal side of SI); or thru the gov't side of the institution. I work for the Trust side of SI, so have much flexibility in funding routes.

One route might be to use existing FL DEP $ (thru our existing contract) for travel, and combine the workshop with a trip to meet with Don. Don would just need to approve the use of funds on our existing contract.

Thanks for the invite, it's always fun to take on a new ecosystem, and we have gained a lot of marine experience lately with our Chesapeake Bay/Mid Atlantic Shelf/Slope work.

Cindy

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-----Original Message-----
From: William Landing [mailto:wlanding@fsu.edu]
Sent: Friday, October 03, 2008 4:22 PM
To: Gilmour, Cindy; Gary Gill; atkinson.dwight@epa.gov; "dpkrabbe@usgs.gov"@mailrelay1.fsu.edu; Tony.Lowery@noaa.gov
Subject: 2nd notice: Gulf of Mexico Hg workshop/December 2008

Greetings:

Working with the Florida DEP, the Gulf of Mexico Alliance (GOMA), and the
EPA, we have gotten some momentum on conducting significant mercury research
in the Gulf of Mexico. This research would have the ultimate goals of understanding why gulf fish have such high Hg levels, and how those levels

might respond to various reduction scenarios in Hg emissions and Hg deposition to the gulf and its surrounding watersheds.

Our first action item is to convene a 2-3 day workshop during the first week
in December 2008. The workshop agenda is not finalized yet, but would include:
1. presentations to establish the current state of our knowledge on Hg inputs, sources of methyl Hg, and Hg bioaccumulation in the gulf.
2. presentation of a preliminary dynamic-MCM screening model designed to test a series of "what if" scenarios regarding Hg sources and cycling in the
gulf.
3. formulation of research priorities to answer questions about total and
methyl Hg sources and cycling in the gulf.
4. setting up teams/working groups to develop research proposals (to state
and federal funding agencies) to meet the January 2009 NOAA and EPA RFP deadlines.

The purpose of this email is to see if you are interested in attending the
workshop in the role of "outside expert" to inform us and to help us develop
the research priorities and proposals. For non-federal employees, the GOMA
would cover your travel, hotel, and meal expenses. We will assist federal
employees with efforts to obtain travel funds using any leverage the GOMA
can apply on your agency.

Participation in the workshop would also not preclude you from becoming a PI
or co-PI on one or more of the proposals that might result; in fact it would
be a great opportunity for you to meet the "local" scientists and agency representatives interested in GOM Hg research and to develop collaborations.

Please respond and let me know your level of interest, and whether you would
be available for 2-3 days between December 1-5, 2008. If you know of other
people with interests in Hg research in the GOM, please ask them to contact
me. Workshop participation will be limited (by funding), but we are trying
to be as inclusive as possible.

Best Regards,
Bill

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