

# Salty Topics: Fall 2015

## Marine Research Speaker Series

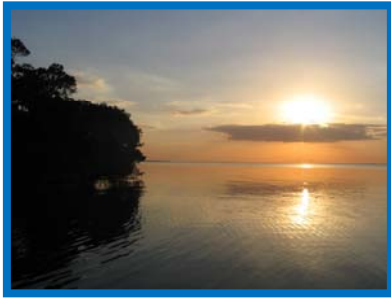
At Weedon Island Preserve Cultural and Natural History Center  
1800 Weedon Drive NE, St. Petersburg, FL 33702



### **Tampa Bay: A Climate-Ready Estuary**

**Lindsay Cross, Tampa Bay Estuary Program**

**Thursday, October 1, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm**



What will Tampa Bay look like decades or centuries into the future? Will the bay still support a mosaic of coastal habitats, like seagrass, mangroves and saltmarsh? Or will rising water levels, recorded at a rate of one inch per decade since the 1940s, threaten these critical habitats? Learn about the "Climate-Ready Estuary" designation of Tampa Bay by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency because of work by the Tampa Bay Estuary Program (TBEP) and partners to enhance the ability of coastal wetlands to adapt to the effects of rising seas.

### **Sea Level Rise Planning in Tampa Bay**

**Libby Carnahan, UF/IFAS Extension Florida Sea Grant; Maya Burke, Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council; Gary Mitchum, PhD, USF College of Marine Science**

**Thursday, November 5, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm**

Coastal communities surrounding Tampa Bay are low-lying, densely-populated and therefore vulnerable to sea-level rise. In response to requests from local governments in the Tampa Bay region, Florida Sea Grant and the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council (TBRPC) are facilitating coordinated efforts to guide sea-level rise adaptation planning in the region. We will present the scientific foundation and regional planning application of the recently released "Recommended Projection of Sea Level Rise in the Tampa Bay Region."



### **Tracking Goliath Grouper in the Gulf of Mexico**

**Angela Collins, PhD, UF/IFAS Extension, Florida Sea Grant**

**Thursday, December 10, 7:00 pm-8:00 pm**



Goliath Grouper (*Epinephelus itajara*) are one of the world's largest groupers, with individuals reaching sizes exceeding 8 feet and 800 pounds. The species has been completely protected from harvest in the U.S. since 1990. Join Dr. Angela Collins, Florida Sea Grant Agent, as she shares research of how Goliath grouper have responded well to protective measures and the population is beginning to show signs of recovery in Florida. This presentation will explore research regarding the movement patterns and distribution of this huge fish in the Gulf of Mexico.

**Sponsored by:**



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