

For Immediate Release

Florida Ocean Alliance to Host a Coastal Resilience Leadership Meeting, Program and Port Cruise on November 9 at Port Tampa Bay

Fort Lauderdale, FL, November 3, 2023 - Florida Ocean Alliance will host its second annual Leadership Meeting on November 9, 2023, at Port Tampa Bay. The 2023 theme, [“Coastal Resilience – Protecting Florida’s Blue Economy and Future.”](#) will focus on the changing climate and its impacts on Florida’s natural and built infrastructure, coastal communities, and the blue economy as well as innovative technologies and solutions that are being implemented to strengthen coastal resilience.

The program will include presentations by:

- Dr. Mark Rains, Chief Science Officer, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, “Replacing Lost Natural Capital and Resilience Through Conservation, Restoration, and Engineering.”
- Jim Murley, Chief Resilience Officer, Miami Dade County and Panel Moderator, “Coastal Resilience in Southeast Florida.”
- Dr. Charles Colgan, Director of Research, Center for the Blue Economy, “The Economics of Natural Infrastructure: The Tampa Bay Case.”
- Dr. Thomas Frazer, Dean & Professor, USF College of Marine Science and Executive Director, Florida Flood Hub, “Florida Flood Hub Sea Level Rise Projections for Informed Statewide Resilience Efforts.”
- Rebecca Prado, Florida Coastal Resiliency Leader, and Nabil Bawany, Florida Flood Resiliency Lead, WSP USA, “Find Your Match - Innovative Nature Based Solutions and Policies.”
- Fredrik Wannius, Co-founder, 1Print 3D Printed Coastal Protection, “Green-Gray Coastal Protection Solutions.”

The program will be attended by the [Alliance Board of Directors](#) and other leaders in the marine and maritime industries, research and academia, NGOs and government who will participate in discussions of a sustainable future for Florida’s ocean and coastal resources and the blue economy. Following the program, a reception, silent auction and yacht cruise in Port Tampa Bay will offer guests an opportunity to network and gain insight into the dynamic ports and maritime industry sectors of Florida’s vital blue economy. More information is available [here](#).



Coastal Resilience
Protecting Florida's Blue Economy and Future

*Join Us for a
 Coastal Resilience
 Leadership Meeting,
 Port Cruise & Reception*

November 9, 2023
3:00 - 6:00 PM
 Port Tampa Bay,
 Terminal 2

Sponsored by:






















About the Florida Ocean Alliance

The [Florida Ocean Alliance \(FOA\)](#) is Florida's leading non-partisan, science-driven, private-public sector partnership. Its diverse membership is dedicated to positioning Florida as a global leader in responsible ocean and coastal economic development, conservation, education, and technology innovation. Our Board of Directors represents ocean-related industries: tourism, ports, shipping, cruise, recreational and commercial fishing, and recreational boating, as well as nonprofit and other marine research institutions, academia, and public interest groups.

The Alliance focuses on innovative thinking, planning and implementation actions to protect and restore Florida's ocean and coastal assets, while promoting responsible economic growth, diversification and job creation within the state's ocean and coastal industry sectors.

Florida's ocean and coastal resources provide billions of dollars and support hundreds of thousands of jobs, significantly impacting the state's economy. Ocean-related industries, including fishing, shipping, recreational boating, tourism, technology and others comprise a major segment of Florida's vital blue economy. However, climate change, declining water quality, damaged natural habitats, and the increasing vulnerability of coastal human-built and natural infrastructure continue to put the blue economy at risk.

The 2020 economic report, [*Securing Florida's Blue Economy: Strategic Policy Plan for Florida's Oceans & Coasts*](#), was produced by the Florida Ocean Alliance and submitted to the Florida Legislature, establishing priorities and direction for Alliance members to continue to work together to advance Florida as a leader in resilience, both economically and environmentally.

To learn more about the Florida Ocean Alliance, visit www.FloridaOceanAlliance.org.

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