

DRAFT (08-05-25)

2025 Florida Resilience Conference

featuring the 68th FSBPA Annual Meeting

September 17-19, 2025 ♦ Sunseeker Resort ♦ Charlotte Harbor, FL



4TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Adapting Today; Powering Tomorrow!

**SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2025
SUNSEEKER RESORT
CHARLOTTE HARBOR, FLORIDA**



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OPENING GENERAL SESSION

Wednesday, September 17

Opening General Session

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

1:00 pm

Call to Order

Janet Zimmerman, Chair, FSBPA and Executive Director, Florida Inland Navigation District, Jupiter, FL

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Joseph “Joe” Tiseo, Chair, Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners, District 5

1:15 pm

Opening Legislative Keynote: Florida's Environmental Outlook on Policy and Funding

Ana Maria Rodríguez, Florida Senate, District 40, Monroe County and part of Miami-Dade County

1:35 pm

Update on the Florida Flood Hub

Dr. Thomas “Tom” Frazier, Executive Director, Florida Flood Hub

1:55 pm

Pathways to Resilience: FDEP Updates on Florida’s Resilience Efforts and Programs

Adam Blalock, Deputy Secretary, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

2:10 pm

Aligning Flood Vulnerability Assessments and Resiliency Adaptation Planning Across Local, Regional, State, and Federal Levels

Moderator: Ana Carolina Coelho Maran, PhD, P.E., Chief of District Resiliency, SFWMD, West Palm Beach, FL

2:50 pm

Professional Exchange Break

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A1 – SMART PLANNING

Wednesday, September 17

Session A1 – Smart Planning

3:20 pm – 5:30 pm

3:20 pm

The Florida Navigator Program: Providing Technical Assistance for Community Resilience

- Holly Abeels, Florida Sea Grant Extension Agent, University of Florida IFAS Extension, , Cocoa, FL
- Alicia Betancourt, County Extension Director and Community Development Agent, University of Florida IFAS Extension, Key West, FL
- Ramona Madhosingh-Hector, Regional Specialized Agent, Urban Sustainability, University of Florida IFAS Extension, Plant City, FL
- Carrie Stevenson, Coastal Sustainability Agent, University of Florida IFAS Extension, Cantonment, FL

3:50 pm

Developing Florida's Statewide Coastal Restoration Guide with Living Shoreline Chapter

- Matthew Martin, Scientist, Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC, Orlando, FL
- Melinda Donnelly, PhD, Assistant Research Scientist, University of Central Florida, Department of Biology, Orlando, FL

4:20 pm

Redefining Regional Resilience

Anne Coglianese, Chief Resilience Officer, City of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL and Jessica Beach, Chief Resilience Officer, City of Saint Augustine, FL

4:40 pm

Assessing the Need for New Special Protection Areas in the Shingle Creek and St. Johns River Basins in Orange County, Florida

Kelsey Mack, Environmental Scientist, Applied Ecology Inc., Melbourne, FL and Alan Marshall, Environmental Policy Coordinator, Orange County, Orlando, FL

5:00 pm

Plan it Now, Stay Dry Later: The Florida Adaptation Playbook

- Samantha Danchuk, Climate and Coastal Resilience Lead, APTIM, Boca Raton, FL
- Eddy Bouza, Program Management Director, Resilient Florida Program, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL
- Charlie Mopps, Public Works Director, Town of Longboat Key Public Works Department, Longboat Key, FL
- Moises Cuesta, Stormwater Engineer, City of Delray Beach Public Works Department, Delray Beach, FL

5:30 pm

Adjourn

5:45 – 6:45 pm

Welcome Reception

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A2 – SMART PLANNING

Thursday, September 18

Session A2 – Smart Planning

8:30 am – 10:10 am

8:30 am

Adapting Urban Amenities to Manage Extreme Rainfall: NYC Cloudburst Infrastructure Planning and Design

Pinar Balci, Senior Vice President, WSP USA Corp, New York, NY

8:50 am

Regulatory Obstacles to Coastal Resiliency

Jeffrey Collins, Director of Federal Regulatory Services, Bio-Tech Consulting, Cocoa, FL

9:10 am

Powered by SMARTS: Streamlining Grant Management & Community Resiliency

Laura Wittenbauer, Grants Professional and Molly Williams, PE, Civil Engineer, Kimley-Horn, Sarasota, FL

9:30 am

AI + Outreach: Redefining Public Engagement for Resilience Projects

Kelly Flowers, Marketing Director, Jones Edmunds, Alachua, Florida

9:50 am

Courtney Campbell Causeway Vulnerability Assessment and Resilience Study

Michael Salisbury, Senior Coastal Engineer, AtkinsRealis, Inc., Orlando, FL

10:10 am

Professional Exchange Break

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A3 – SMART PLANNING

Thursday, September 18

Session A3 – Smart Planning

10:40 am – 12:10 pm

10:40 am

Beyond Flood Risk: a Holistic Approach to Increasing Resilience of Florida Communities

Stephen Bourne, AtkinsRealis, AtkinsRealis, Rome, GA

11:00 am

Collaborative Climate Resilience Planning for Central Florida Communities

Donald Carpenter, Principal, Drummond Carpenter, PLLC, Maitland, FL

11:20 am

Integrating Climate Risk into its Engineering Design Decision-Making (For Buildings, Roadway Infrastructure)

- Catherine Prince, Catherine Prince, VP, Climate Resilience & Sustainability, WSP USA Inc., Sunrise, Florida
- Angel Chavarria, WSP, Senior Project Manager
- Christian Kamrath, Resilience Program Manager, Miami-Dade County
- Levi Stewart-Figueroa, Senior Planner, Broward MPO

11:50 am

Florida's Ports on the Frontlines: Advancing Resilience and Readiness

- Jenna Phillips, Senior Director, Cummins Cederberg, Coral Gables, FL
- Jose De Jesus, PE, Director of Engineering, Port Tampa
- Helga Sommer, PE, PPM, Chief of Engineering, Port Miami

12:20 pm

Adjourn for Lunch

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A4 – SMART PLANNING

Friday, September 19, 2025

Session A4 – Smart Planning

8:30 am – 10:10 am

8:30 am

Advancing Miami-Dade Adaptation Action Areas

Christian Kamrath, Resilience Program Manager, Miami-Dade County Office of Environmental Risk and Resilience, Miami, FL and Robert Colon, Resilience Coordinator, Miami-Dade County Office of Environmental Risk and Resilience

8:50 am

Using a Benefit-Cost Analysis Tool for Smart Infrastructure Investments

Afeefa Abdool-Ghany, Community Resilience Lead, Brizaga, Fort Lauderdale, FL

9:10 am

Legal Policy and Project Case Studies in Vulnerability Planning and CRS Watershed Planning

Erin Deady, President, Erin L. Deady, PA, Delray Beach FL, FL

9:30 am

City of Tampa Basin Model Gap Analysis and Prioritization

Taylor Lankford, Director of Water Resources, Applied Sciences Consulting, Inc., Tampa, Florida

9:50 am

Know Before you Go: Reaching Agreement on Level of Service and Design Criteria

Michael Houda, Program Manager, Village of Key Biscayne, Key Biscayne, FL and Roland Samimy, PhD, Chief Resilience Officer, Village of Key Biscayne, FL

10:10 am

Professional Exchange Break

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B1 - BEACHES

Wednesday, September 17

Session B1 – Beaches

3:20 pm – 5:30 pm

3:20 pm

A Tale of Two Shorelines

Matthew Logan, Coastal Projects Manager, Charlotte County, Punta Gorda, FL and Michael Poff, PE, President, Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc. Bonita Springs, FL

3:50 pm

A Tale of Resiliency: Anna Maria Island's Response to the 2024 Hurricane Season

Morjana Signorin, Coastal Protection Engineering, Boca Raton, FL and Charlie Hunsicker, Director, Natural Resources Department, Manatee County, FL

4:10 pm

Balancing Act: For Every Action there is a Reaction

Dave Swigler, Engineering Supervisor, Palm Beach County, West Palm Beach, FL and Andy Studt, Coastal Resources Management Program Supervisor, Department of Environmental Resources Management, Palm Beach County, FL

4:30 pm

Coastal Risk Check- Evaluating Risk Along the Volusia County Beaches

Wendy Laurent, Coastal Engineer, Taylor Engineering, Philadelphia, PA and Jessica Fentress, PE, Coastal Director, Volusia County, Daytona Beach, FL

4:50 pm

A 30+ Year Journey: The Port Everglades Inlet Sand Bypassing Project is FINALLY! Going to Construction!

- Chris Creed, PE, Senior Coastal Engineer, Foth | Olsen, Jacksonville, FL
- Cheryl Miller, President, Coastal EcoGroup, Deerfield Beach, FL
- Stephanie Roche, Beach Program Manager, Resilient Environment Department, Broward County, Fort Lauderdale, FL

5:20 pm

Adjourn

5:45 – 6:45 pm

Welcome Reception

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B2 - BEACHES

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Session B2 – Beaches

8:30 am – 10:10 am

8:30 am

U.S. Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District Commander's Update

Colonel Brandon Bowman, Commander, U.S. Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville, FL

8:50 am

FDEP Beaches Programs Trends and Updates: Policy, Funding, and Monitoring

- Lainie Edwards, PhD, Deputy Director, Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL
- Greg Garis, Program Administrator, Beaches, Inlets and Ports Program, Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL
- John Irving, MSc, Environmental Administrator, Beach Management Funding Assistance Program, Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

9:30 am

Shifting Sands of Beach Renourishment Funding and Financing

Kevin Plenzler, Director, PFM Financial Advisors LLC, Orlando, FL

9:50 am

Alternative Contracting Strategies to Manage Beach Nourishment Costs

Jay Block, Area Manager of Markets & Strategy, Weeks Marine, Inc., Cranford, NJ and Chuck Broussard, Vice-President, Weeks Marine, Inc., Covington, LA

10:10 am

Professional Exchange Break

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B3 - BEACHES

Thursday, September 18, 2025

Session B3-Beaches

10:40 am – 12:10 pm

10:40 am

Balancing Florida's Inlet Management Program - Accomplishments, Implementation of Strategies & Policy

- Thomas Pierro, PE, Principal Engineer, Coastal Protection Engineering, Boca Raton, FL
- Will Reilly, PE, Chief, Waterways Branch, USACE, Jacksonville, FL (*Invited*)
- William “Guy” Weeks, Planning Manager, Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

11:15 am

Florida Seafloor Mapping Initiative: Providing a Statewide Elevation Model for Improved Resource Management and Policy Decisions

- Jim Cichon, Environmental Administrator over Technical Support Section, Resilient Florida Program, Tallahassee, FL
- Jeffrey R. Irwin, CoNED Field Campaign Lead, U.S. Geological Survey, Earth Resources Observation and Science Center, Sioux Falls, SD
- Kimberly Jackson, Florida Geographic Information Officer, Tallahassee, FL
- Alex Reed, Director, Office of Resiliency and Coastal Protection, FDEP, Tallahassee, FL

11:50 am

Manasota Key Mitigation Artificial Reefs: How to Determine Mitigation Success in Disturbance Mediated Nearshore Habitat

Cheryl Miller, President, Coastal Eco-Group Inc., Stuart, FL

12:10 pm

Annual FSBPA Membership Meeting

12:15 pm

Adjourn for Lunch

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B4 - BEACHES

Friday, September 19, 2025

Session B4-Beaches

8:30 am – 10:10 am

8:30 am

The Recreational and Economic Value of Volusia County Beaches

James Houston, Senior Scientist, Taylor Engineering, Ponte Vedra, FL and Jessica Fentress, PE, Coastal Director, Volusia County, Daytona Beach, FL

8:50 am

A Tale of Post-storm Recovery and Hazard Mitigation at a Public Marina

Danielle Irwin, Senior Director, Cummins Cederberg, Tallahassee, FL and Leonard Barrera Allen, PE, Project Director, Cummins Cederberg Inc., Miami, FL

9:10 am

Reimbursement for FEMA Category G Beach Projects: Policies and Procedures

- Hamza Sattar, FCCM, Programmatic Reviewer & EHP Specialist, Florida Division of Emergency Management, Tallahassee, FL
- Collin Kenline, FCCM, Programmatic Reviewer & State Infrastructure RSF Lead, Florida Division of Emergency Management, Tallahassee, FL

9:40 am

Beach Access Granted! A Legislative Update on Florida's Beaches

Jay Trumbull, District 2, State Senator, Panama City, FL *(invited)*

Consists of Bay, Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson, Walton, Washington counties and part of Okaloosa county

10:10 am

Professional Exchange Break

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C – ENERGY

Sessions under development

C1-Energy

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

3:20 pm – 5:30 pm

C2-Energy

Thursday, September 18, 2025

8:30 am – 10:10 am

C3-Energy

Thursday, September 18, 2025

10:40 am – 12:10 pm

C4-Energy

Friday, September 19, 2025

8:30 am – 10:10 am

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D1 - INFRASTRUCTURE

Wednesday, September 17

Session D1 - Infrastructure

3:20 pm – 5:40 pm

3:20 pm

Resiliency Florida Program Policy Updates

Eddy Bouza, Program Management Director, Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee, FL

3:40 pm

Hybrid Reefs and Living Shorelines: Collaborative Solutions for Coastal Resilience in South Florida

- Marian G. Alicea, PE, Assistant Vice President, Coastal Engineer, WSP, Miami, FL
- Greg Corning, PE, Assistant Vice President, Civil Engineer, WSP, Bradenton, FL
- Landolf Rhode-Barbarigos, PhD, Associate Professor, University of Miami, Miami, FL
- Samantha Tiffany, Environmental Resources Manager, Environment & Sustainability Department, City of Miami Beach, FL

4:15 pm

Innovating Coastal Resilience through Native Landscaping and Living Seawalls: A Case Study of Green-Gray Infrastructure in Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Stephanie Dunn, Associate, Florida Master Naturalist, Cadence, Wilton Manors, FL and Madisen Rieger, Project Lead, Kind Designs, Miami, FL

4:35 pm

Advanced Dredging Methods for Community and Environmental Improvement

Mackenzie Hudson, Coastal Engineering Specialist, Scientific Diver, Stantec Consulting Services, Naples, Florida

4:55 pm

Improving Infrastructure and Ecosystem Resilience in the Pensacola Bay Estuary

Bret Webb, Vice President, Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Mobile, AL

5:15 pm

Resiliency in Naples, Florida: Stormwater, Beach Outfalls and Raising Road Elevations

Peter Seidle, PE, Coastal Practice Area Leader, GRAEF, Sarasota, FL and Sergio Hoyos, PE, Senior Associate, Stantec, Sarasota, FL

5:35 pm

Adjourn

5:45 pm – 6:45 pm

Welcome Reception

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D2 - INFRASTRUCTURE

Thursday, September 18

Session D2 – Infrastructure

8:30 am – 10:10 am

8:30 am

Adaptive Solutions That Work Within Existing Environments

Rachel Zastrow, Coastal Engineer, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., Tampa, Florida

8:50 am

Engineering with Nature to Protect Navy Assets

Michael Herrman, Vice President, Moffatt & Nichol, Tampa, Florida

9:10 am

DarkSky Port Lighting Certification - Resilient Lighting for Port Marine Terminals

Derek Sears, Senior Electrical Engineer, Hall Engineering Group, Tampa, FL and Jose De Jesus, Director of Engineering, Port Tampa Bay

9:30 am

Restoring Resilience at J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge: A Tidal Ecosystem Revival

Carlton Spirio, Section Director Drainage/Environmental Group, Burgess & Niple, Inc., Tampa, FL and Robert M. Gerwig, Deputy Wildlife Refuge Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,

9:50 am

Restoration to Resilience: Enhancing Shorelines in Manatee County through Ecosystem-based Solutions

Sherri Swanson, Ecological & Marine Resources Division Manager, Whitney Costner, Ecological Resources Section Manager, and Natalie Moreno, Ecological Resource Coordinator, Manatee County Natural Resources Department, Bradenton, FL

10:10 am

Professional Exchange Break

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D3 - INFRASTRUCTURE

Thursday, September 18

Session D3 – Infrastructure

10:40 am – 12:10 pm

10:40 am

Lower Peninsula Stormwater Improvements – The City of Tampa’s nature-based solution to urban flooding that improves water quality for Hillsborough Bay

Chris Chandler, PE and Daniel Parksons, PE, Water Resources, AtkinsRéalis, Tampa, FL

11:00 am

Unlocking Nature: Rethinking Permitting Pathways

Nicholas Muzia, Engineer, Sea & Shoreline, Ruskin, FL; *other speakers being invited*

11:30 am

Enhancing Coastal Resilience through Emergency Ferry Services - A Feasibility Study for Southwest Florida

Charlene Ross, Modal Project Manager, Florida Department of Transportation, District 1, Bartow, FL and Janet Luce, Senior Project Manager, AtkinsRéalis, Cocoa Beach, FL

11:50 am

Erosion and Accretion in Motion: How Machine Learning Can Optimize Nature-based Solutions and Support Adaptive Coastal Management

Joseph Schmidt, PE, Lead Nature-based Solutions Engineer, Conservation International, Arlington, Virginia

12:10 pm

Adjourn for Lunch

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D4 - INFRASTRUCTURE

Friday, September 19, 2025

Session D4 – Infrastructure

8:30 am – 10:10 am

8:30 am

Orlando's Investment in Stormwater Data Pays Dividends in Mapping Flood Risk across the City

Max Wallace, PE, Senior Engineer, Drummond Carpenter, PLLC, Maitland, FL

8:50 am

Smart Planning for Zero Waste in Miami-Dade County

Randall Russell, Project Manager, WSP USA, Miami, FL and Nick Ciancio, Resilience Division Director, Miami-Dade County Department of Solid Waste Management; and Alex Nadolishny, Waste-to-Energy Technical Expert/Assistant Vice President, WSP, USA, Los Angeles, CA

9:10 am

The My Safe Florida Home Program

Gustavo Fusaro, Senior Project Manager, AtkinsRealis, Tampa, FL and Steven Fielder, Chief Financial Officer, Florida Department of Financial Services, Tallahassee, FL

9:30 am

Regional Substantial Damage Response Planning, Can It Work?

Robert Flaner, West Region Resilience Planning Team Leader, Black and Veatch Corp., Eagle, ID and Chris Huch, Hazard Mitigation Planning Specialist, Black & Veatch Corp. Paramus, NJ

9:50 am

Hybrid Living Shorelines Reduce Wave Loads on Coastal Infrastructure: Insights for Florida Resilience Projects

Edwin Rajeev, Project Engineer and Leonard Barrera Allen, PE, Project Director, Cummins Cederberg, Miami, FL

10:10 am

Professional Exchange Break

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CLOSING GENERAL SESSION

Friday, September 19, 2025

Closing General Session

10:40 am – 12:20 pm

10:40 am

Closing Legislative Keynote 2025: Legislative Wrap-up and Outlook for 2026

Jay Trumbull, District 2, State Senator, Panama City, FL *(invited)*

Consists of Bay, Calhoun, Holmes, Jackson, Walton, Washington counties and part of Okaloosa county

11:00 am

Florida Climate Review: A Look at Past Events and What to Expect in the Next Year

Dr. David Zierden, State Climatologist, Florida State University

11:20 am

Water Management Districts: The Importance of Resilience Planning for Florida's Water Future

Moderator: Ann Shortelle, PhD, Senior Scientist, Bio-Tech Consulting

11:50 am

Closing the Gap: State and Local Solutions to Federal Funding Cuts

Moderator: Irela Bagué, Director of Governments & Water Resilience, Black & Veatch

12:20 pm

Conference Adjourns