

## Panel Discussion: New Research to Inform Living Shoreline Design, Placement and Monitoring

Collaborative Science for Estuaries Webinar Series  
3:30-4:30pm EDT, Thursday, April 11, 2019

### Description

Living shoreline techniques can be effective tools for bolstering coastal habitats, controlling erosion, and protecting coastal areas from the impacts of storms, sea level rise and boat wakes. Under the right conditions, they can provide a variety of services while being cost-competitive with traditional approaches, such as bulkheads. Despite their potential, sustainable shoreline designs are not applied as broadly or effectively as might be expected.

Members of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS) and partners, in part supported by Science Collaborative resources, have been studying how different living shoreline designs perform in a variety of coastal locations from Mississippi to New York, and have been developing tools to enhance the use of these techniques.

This webinar will: a) facilitate a candid panel discussion of the lessons learned, management implications and next steps related to a series of applied research projects; and b) give audience members the opportunity to engage and ask questions about opportunities and challenges associated with living shorelines.

### Objectives

Tease out the most actionable findings from projects, and then explore next steps for both management and research.

### Agenda Overview

- 3:30 - 3:45 - Welcome and panel introductions
- 3:45 - 4:10 - Moderator led panel discussion  
*Discussion prompts:*
  1. What are the one or two most important lessons you have learned through your research that you want to share with practitioners?
  2. What do you see as the next steps, opportunities, and needs for management?
- 4:10 - 4:30 - Q&A session with participant generated questions and comments

### Resource

Ahead of the webinar, learn how the panelists and project teams have been working to identify and meet informational and practical needs of landowners, regulators, and contractors related to living shorelines.

[Draft Management Brief: Collaborative Research to Advance the Use of Living Shorelines](#)

## Panelists

**Christine Angelini**, Assistant Professor in Environmental Engineering Sciences, University of Florida

Christine's research and teaching focuses on community ecology and restoration engineering in a variety of coastal habitats. In partnership with GTM Reserve in Florida, she has been testing a hybrid design for protecting oyster and salt marsh habitats from boat wakes in the busy intercoastal waterway. [Learn more about project](#)

**Stuart Findlay**, Aquatic Ecologist, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, NY

Stuart has been conducting research on the Hudson River ecosystem for over eighteen years with an emphasis on carbon and nutrient cycling in freshwater and tidal habitats and watershed restoration issues. Stuart has led several Science Collaborative grants related to sustainable shoreline designs and monitoring approaches in the Hudson River Valley. [Learn more about project](#)

**Jennifer Raulin**, Manager, Chesapeake Bay-Maryland National Estuarine Research Reserve, MD

Jenn oversees the Chesapeake Bay Reserve's research, training, stewardship, and education sectors. Her responsibilities include serving as the primary liaison with NOAA to manage grants and advancing coastal management practices with partners in and around the reserve's three protected areas. Jenn brings a management perspective to the panel discussion, helping explore the applications of shoreline research projects for other reserves and regions.

**Denise Sanger**, Research Coordinator, ACE Basin National Estuarine Research Reserve, SC

Denise is a marine ecologist with expertise in benthic ecology, sediment chemistry, water quality, ecological risk assessment, and the application of science to management. She oversees long term monitoring and a range of applied research efforts at ACE Basin Reserve and has studied the performance of living shorelines all along the coast of South Carolina. [Learn more about project](#)

**Eric Sparks**, Assistant Extension Professor, Mississippi State University, MS

Eric is the assistant director for outreach for Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant and he focuses on estuarine and wetland issues, including coastal restoration and restoration research. He's worked on two Science Collaborative projects assessing living shoreline use along the Gulf Coast. [Learn more about project](#)