

**Peter N. Adams** is an Assistant Professor of Geological Sciences at the University of Florida whose research interests include Coastal Geomorphology, Influence of Climate Change on Coastal Processes, and Numerical Modeling of Landform Change. Dr. Adams received dual B.S. degrees in Chemical Engineering and Geosciences from Penn State University (1996), an M.S. degree in Geosciences from Penn State University (1999), and a Ph.D. degree in Earth Sciences from the University of California at Santa Cruz (2004). He was a post-doctoral fellow at Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC-San Diego, from 2005-2007. He has led projects examining the effects of changing wave climate on coastal landscape evolution at sites in Alaska, California, and Florida, and currently is a PI or Co-PI on funded projects through the California Energy Commission, the U.S. Geological Survey, and NASA.

**Mark Brenner** is a limnologist /paleolimnologist with special interests in tropical and subtropical lakes and watersheds. He received his undergraduate degree in Biology from Grinnell College (1973) and his MS (1978) and PhD (1983) degrees in Zoology at the University of Florida (UF), where he studied with the late Edward S. Deevey, Jr. Mark is a Professor in UF's Department of Geological Sciences and he serves as Director of UF's interdisciplinary Land Use and Environmental Change Institute (LUECI). Mark teaches courses in Paleolimnology, Limnology, Florida Lake Management, and Tropical Field Ecology, the latter a summer class taught in Yucatan, Mexico. Mark is Co-Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Paleolimnology*.

Mark's paleolimnological research has addressed the broad topic of past interactions among climate, environment, and humans. Specifically, he has deep interests in the areas of: 1) recent human-mediated changes in Florida lakes, 2) the historical ecology of the lowland Maya region, 3) Pleistocene/Holocene paleoclimate of the circum-Caribbean, 4) environmental history of the Bolivian Altiplano, 5) paleoecology of Yunnan Province, China, 5) the history of El Niño events, 6)  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  dating, and 7) biological accumulation of  $^{226}\text{Ra}$ . He has done fieldwork in Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, Haiti, Dominican Republic, China, Cambodia, and Florida. A publication list is available at: <http://web.geology.ufl.edu/faculty/brenner.html>

**Robert E. Deyle** is a professor of Urban and Regional Planning at Florida State University where he teaches environmental planning, coastal planning, and planning for climate change. Deyle holds a bachelor's degree in biology from Dartmouth College, a master's of environmental management from Duke University, and a PhD in environmental science from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. His research focuses on coastal hazard mitigation and adaptive response planning for sea level rise. Current work is focused on integrating hazard mitigation, including the effects of sea level rise, into long-range transportation planning.

**Joseph Donoghue** is a coastal marine geologist in the Department of Geological Sciences, Florida State University. His research interests include the geology and geomorphology of coastal environments and continental margins, the causes and effects of sea-level change, and Quaternary geology and geochronology. He teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses in coastal processes, marine geology, Quaternary geology, and environmental geology. He has published more than 40 papers and a large number of technical reports, and has presented or co-authored more than 90 papers at professional meetings. His work has been funded by several government agencies, including the National Science Foundation, SERDP, NOAA, USGS, and various state of Florida agencies. In addition to his position at Florida State University he is also a research associate at the Florida Geological Survey, a frequent visiting scientist at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands, and an associate editor of the *Journal of Coastal Research*.

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### Education

B.S., Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

M.S., American University, Washington, DC

Ph.D., University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

**Thomas Eason** is a wildlife biologist and administrator with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). He received his B.S. and M.S. in Wildlife Science at Virginia Tech and the University of Tennessee, respectively, and completed his Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Tennessee. He began his career working on black bears during the summer of 1992 and studied various aspects of bear ecology until 2003 when he took on new duties as the Wildlife Diversity Manager for Florida. He now leads several major conservation efforts including Florida's Wildlife Legacy Initiative and serves as Deputy Director of the Division of Habitat and Species Conservation.

**Mitchell J. Eaton** is a postdoctoral researcher at the U. S. Geological Survey at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. His areas of expertise include structured decision making, adaptive management, and conservation genetics.

**Holly H. Edwards** is an assistant research scientist for the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Her research interests include population monitoring and assessment, and behavioral ecology of the Florida manatee.

**Laura Geselbracht** is Senior Marine Scientist with The Nature Conservancy. She has over twenty years of professional experience in the areas of environmental/conservation science, planning and policy. In her work with TNC, Ms. Geselbracht has headed up development of a marine site prioritization framework for Florida, the marine component of Florida's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS) and a marine gap assessment for Florida. Prior to this, Ms. Geselbracht headed up TNC's Everglades Large-scale Conservation Area and served a key role building support for ballot initiatives that have contributed more than \$225 million to conservation land acquisition in South Florida. Most recently, Ms. Geselbracht conducted a sea level rise analysis of coastal Hernando County using the Sea Level Affecting Marshes Model (SLAMM). Ms. Geselbracht holds a Master's degree in Marine Affairs from the University of Washington and a Bachelor's degree in Aquatic Biology from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

**Doria Gordon** has worked for the Florida Chapter of The Nature Conservancy since 1990. She is currently the Director of Conservation Science and Courtesy Professor of Biology at the University of Florida. She directs the research, conservation planning, monitoring, and invasive species efforts of the Florida Chapter. Conservation planning includes recent efforts to model the effects of sea level rise on coastal habitats in Florida. Dr. Gordon's research focus includes identification and prediction of invasive non-indigenous plant species, process and species restoration in longleaf pine ecosystems, and rare species biology, demography, and management. She has recently started collaborative research on carbon storage in natural, restored and un-restored longleaf pine systems. Dr. Gordon completed a M.S. and Ph.D. in Ecology at the University of California at Davis. Her dissertation research focused on competitive interactions between blue oak seedlings and herbaceous neighbors within native perennial and non-native Mediterranean annual grasslands.

**Eric Grimm** is curator and chair of the Botany Section at the Illinois State Museum. He is also director of the Landscape History Program. He also is affiliated with the Department of Plant Biology at the University of Illinois. He has a B.S. in Biology from South Dakota State University and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Grimm's research has centered on late Quaternary environmental change, focused on how history has shaped modern ecosystems. His recently funded research projects include "Floral and Faunal Community Responses to Late-Quaternary Climate Change," "A Late-Glacial Model System for Studying Fine-Scale Vegetational Responses to Abrupt Climate Change," "Holocene Drought Cycles and

Impacts on the Northern Great Plains,” and “A Late Neogene Terrestrial Ecosystem Database.” He is also coordinator of the North American Pollen Database, which is a component of the Neotoma Paleoecology Database, for which he is one of the leading principal investigators. Dr. Grimm has also worked with W.A. Watts in Florida, and was a leading PI on the NSF funded project “Long Records of Paleoclimate from Florida,” which focused on long records from Lake Tulane and Lake Annie on the Lake Wales Ridge. Dr. Grimm is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, past president of the American Quaternary Association, and is currently vice-chair of the U.S. National Committee of the International Quaternary Association.

**Tom Hactor** is director of the Center for Landscape and Conservation Planning and a GeoPlan Center research associate at the University of Florida. He completed a B.A. in History and Science at Harvard University, and a Masters and Ph.D. in Conservation Biology and Landscape Ecology at the University of Florida. Dr. Hactor’s research interests include the application of landscape ecology and conservation biology to regional planning, greenway and wildlife corridor design, large carnivore ecology and conservation, focal species habitat modeling, and GIS applications in conservation planning. He has served as a co-principal investigator on a variety of regional-scale conservation analysis and planning projects including the Florida Ecological Greenways Network, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Southeastern Ecological Framework, The Nature Conservancy’s ecoregional planning process, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s South Florida Multi-Species and Ecosystem Recovery Plan, and the Department of Defense’s Sustainable Ranges initiative. His current projects include the Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Cooperative Conservation Blueprint, and the Southwest Florida Water Management District Land Use and Management Decision Support System and Conservation Land Acquisition Project Reassessment.

**Jill A. Hood**, is a Professional Geologist at the Southwest Florida Water Management District. She received a B.S. in Geology and M.S. in Hydrogeology from the University of South Florida. Jill is also currently a Ph.D. student at the College of Marine Science of the University of South Florida where her research will include modeling the effects of sea level rise on saltwater intrusion in coastal west-central Florida. The goals of the research project are to estimate 1) the rate and extent of saltwater intrusion and 2) salinity and quantity of submarine groundwater discharge in response to changes in sea-level and groundwater withdrawals by 2100.

**James W. Jones** is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering at the University of Florida where he has conducted research and taught graduate classes for the last 31 years. He is an expert in cropping systems modeling and decision support systems. His research has focused on modeling the effects of climate on crops and on applying those models to study effects of climate variability and climate change on crop yield and for determining management options that minimize risks. He co-leads a 4-state (Florida, Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina) center that conducts research on climate variability, agriculture, and water resources management and provides climate risk management information to farmers, foresters, and water managers through the Cooperative Extension Services in these states. He has led and participated in many interdisciplinary research programs nationally and internationally. He is author of more than 250 scientific journal articles and teaches graduate courses on mathematical modeling and simulation of biophysical systems. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Agricultural & Biological Engineers, Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy, Fellow of the Soil Science Society of America, and serves on several international science advisory committees related to climate and agriculture.

**Brian D. Keller** is the Regional Science Coordinator for the Southeast Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Region of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration). Brian has a B.S. in biochemistry from Michigan State University (1970) and a Ph.D. in ecology and evolution from the Johns Hopkins University (1976). He had

postdoctoral research positions at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (1976-1979) and Yale University (1980-1984). His research has included sea urchin population ecology in Jamaican seagrass communities (advisor: Jeremy B.C. Jackson); kelp forest dynamics in central California (with Paul Dayton and David Ven Tresca); snapping shrimp behavior, larval dispersal, and taxonomy (with Nancy Knowlton); and the collapse of staghorn coral populations along the north coast of Jamaica (with Nancy Knowlton and Judy Lang). He served as Acting Head and Research Fellow at the Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory, University of the West Indies, Jamaica (1984-1986), and was the Project Manager of an oil spill study at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama (1987-1994). He has authored or edited more than 40 papers, chapters, and technical reports. Brian was the first Executive Director of the Ecological Society of America in Washington, DC (1994-1997), and then moved to the Florida Keys as a marine ecologist for The Nature Conservancy (1997-2000). He served as Science Coordinator of the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (2000-2007) prior to assuming the position of Regional Science Coordinator, based in St. Petersburg, FL.

**Catherine A. Langtimm** is a research wildlife biologist with the U. S. Geological Survey in Gainesville, FL. Her research focuses on manatee population biology and management. She also is the lead for a team of USGS biologists, hydrologists, and geologists developing hindcast and predictive models of the hydrological and ecological consequences of sea level rise in the Greater Everglades.

**Roy R. "Robin" Lewis III** is a Certified Professional Wetland Scientist with the Society of Wetland Scientists and a Certified Senior Ecologist with the Ecological Society of America. He is president of Lewis Environmental Services, Inc., an environmental consulting firm, and has worked as a wetlands management and restoration consultant for 37 years. He has designed and built over 200 successful wetland restoration or creation projects in the United States and 15 foreign countries including Cuba, Costa Rica, Nigeria, Thailand and Vietnam. He is currently working on a 2,400 ha marsh and mangrove restoration project near Negril on the west coast of Jamaica in an area known as the Great Morass.

**Julien Martin** is a research scientist at the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute/ Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. His research focuses on population dynamics, estimation of demographic parameters, and management of natural resources.

**Joyce Maschinski** is the Conservation Ecologist leading the South Florida conservation program at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden. She received her doctorate from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, AZ and began her conservation career at The Arboretum at Flagstaff. As one of the leading plant conservationists in the United States, she has published numerous studies on endangered plants in the southwest and southeast. Her research interests center on rare plant populations - understanding factors that limit reproduction, growth and expansion, the impact of human activities, and potential management solutions for their conservation. Currently, she is co-editing a book with Kristin Haskins, which reviews two decades of rare plant reintroductions and the implications for assisted migration. In South Florida, she leads an effort to encourage creating corridors of native plants in public spaces to reduce extinction risk of our rarest native plants.

**Gary Mitchum** is a Professor of Physical Oceanography in the College of Marine Science at the University of South Florida, where he has been since 1996. After receiving his PhD from the Department of Oceanography at the Florida State University in 1985, he spent 11 years in the Department of Oceanography at the University of Hawaii, first as a postdoctoral researcher and then as a member of the research faculty and as the Director of the University of Hawaii Sea Level Center. His research interests emphasize short-term climate changes, ranging from interannual variations such as ENSO, to decadal processes, to the long-term sea level rise problem. He has also done work on continental shelf dynamics, mesoscale eddy interactions with mean flows, internal tide generation and propagation, and physical controls on fisheries variables. Although he has used many types of data in his research, he is especially interested in analyses

of tide gauge and satellite altimetric data, and notably proposed and developed the presently accepted method of calibrating altimeters via comparisons with the global tide gauge network.

**Anne Morkill** Originally from Miami, Anne Morkill returned to the tropics after 24 years in northern latitudes to become Refuge Manager for the Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuges Complex in 2006. The Key West, Great White Heron, Key Deer, and Crocodile Lake refuges encompass some 500 square miles of marine, coastal and upland areas that protect unique subtropical habitats and more than 30 listed and imperiled species. Her focus is on establishing a science-based adaptive management program and fostering partnerships to restore and conserve imperiled wildlife and their habitats in the face of many challenges ranging from habitat fragmentation, development, invasive exotic species, and climate change.

Ms. Morkill started her professional career in wildlife management with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in 1986. Joining the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1990, she worked as a Refuge Biologist for the Alamosa-Monte Vista NWR in Colorado. In 1992, she moved to Alaska to work as a Wildlife Biologist for the Bureau of Land Management, returning to USFWS in 1998 as Assistant Refuge Manager for the Arctic NWR. From 2001-2006, she was Deputy Refuge Manager for the Alaska Maritime NWR. She received a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from Colorado State University (1986) and a M.S. in Zoology from the University of Wyoming (1990). She currently resides on Big Pine Key.

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**James D. Nichols** is a wildlife biologist and senior scientist with the U. S. Geological Survey at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. His main interests are the dynamics and management of animal populations and communities.

**Reed Noss** is the Davis-Shine Professor of Conservation Biology at the University of Central Florida and President of the Florida Institute for Conservation Science. He has a B.S. in Education from the University of Dayton, an M.S. in Ecology from the University of Tennessee, and a Ph.D. in Wildlife Ecology from the University of Florida. For most of his professional life he has worked in the southeastern United States, the Pacific Northwest, California, the Rocky Mountains, and several regions of Canada, with additional research projects in Latin America and other regions.

Dr. Noss is the author of more than 265 scientific and semi-technical articles and several books. From 1993 through 1996 he held a Pew Scholars Fellowship in Conservation and the Environment. He has served as Editor-in-Chief of *Conservation Biology* (1993-1997), President of the Society for Conservation Biology (1999-2001), and President of the North American Section of the Society (2006-2008). He is an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has served on many boards and advisory panels, including the Board of Governors of the Society for Conservation Biology, the Board of Trustees of the Florida Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, Florida's Acquisition and Restoration Council, and was co-chair of a Federal Advisory Committee for the U.S. Climate Change Science Program. His present research involves the application of science to species-level and ecosystem-level conservation planning, restoration, and management. He is currently writing a book on southern grasslands, examining the comparative ecology and biogeography of pine woodlands in the

Americas, and leading a science-policy project on adaptation to sea level rise in Florida.

**Jayantha Obeysekera** is the Director of the Hydrologic & Environmental Systems Modeling Department at the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), a regional governmental agency in South Florida, United States. This agency protects the water resources on behalf of 7.5 million South Floridians and it is responsible for water quality, flood control, water supply and environmental restoration in the South Florida region. SFWMD is also the lead agency in restoring America's Everglades – the largest environmental restoration project in the history of the United States. Dr. Obeysekera holds a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from University of Sri Lanka, M. Eng. from University of Roorkee, India, and a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University with specialization in water resources. Prior to joining SFWMD in 1987, he worked as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at Colorado State University. He also has taught courses in the water resources area at George Washington University, Washington, D.C. and at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton. He has also held the position of Courtesy Associate Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of South Florida in Tampa. During his career, Dr. Obeysekera has published nearly 40 research articles in refereed journals and over 50 others in the field of water resources. Dr. Obeysekera has over 25 years of experience practicing water resources engineering with an emphasis on computer modeling with emphasis on implications of climate variability on planning and operations of complex water resources systems. He has taught short courses on modeling in the countries of Dominican Republic, Colombia, Spain, Sri Lanka, and U.S. Recently he was appointed as a member of a National Research Council committee to review hydrologic studies of the Klamath River Basin in Oregon and California, and as an external advisory member to review the computer modeling of the New Orleans area in the aftermath of the hurricane Katrina. He was a co-principal investigator for a US NSF funded project on the investigation of the tsunami impacts on coastal water resources in Sri Lanka. His group has been instrumental in the application of climate outlook on such indices as ENSO and AMO in planning and operations of the south Florida water resources system and has recently published chapter on this experience in a book published by the American Society of Civil Engineers. Presently, he is the technical lead for climate change and climate variability investigations at SFWMD.

**Jon Oetting** Conservation Planner, Florida Natural Areas Inventory. Jon is co-coordinator (with Tom Hctor) of the Critical Lands and Waters Identification Project (CLIP). He currently is involved in several other planning projects, including GIS analysis of rare species habitat and land acquisition priorities for the Florida Forever program. He is also Managing Editor for The Atlas of Florida's Natural Heritage, planned for publication in Spring 2010. Jon oversees FNAI's environmental review and data distribution efforts, and manages the content and organization of the FNAI website. Jon has been with FNAI since 1999. He has a M.S.P. in Urban & Regional Planning from Florida State University and a M.A. in Biological Anthropology from the University of Illinois.

**Anthony Oliver-Smith** is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Florida. He is also affiliated with the Center for Latin American Studies and the School of Natural Resources and Environment at that institution. In 2008 he held the Greenleaf Chair of Latin American Studies at the Stone Center for Latin American Studies at Tulane University. He also held the Munich Re Foundation Chair on Social Vulnerability at the United Nations University Institute on Environment and Human Security in Bonn, Germany from 2005-9. He has done anthropological research and consultation on issues relating to disasters and involuntary resettlement in Peru, Honduras, India, Brazil, Jamaica, Mexico, Japan, and the United States. He has served on the executive boards of the National Association of Practicing Anthropologists and the Society for Applied Anthropology and on the Social Sciences Committee of the Earthquake Engineering Research Institute. He is also a member of La Red de Estudios Sociales en Prevención de Desastres en America Latina and is on the editorial boards of Environmental Disasters, Sociological Inquiry and Desastres y Sociedad. His work on disasters has focused on issues of post-disaster aid and reconstruction, vulnerability analysis and social organization, including

class/race/ethnicity/gender based patterns of differential aid distribution, social consensus and conflict, and social mobilization of community-based reconstruction efforts. His work on involuntary resettlement has focused on the impacts of displacement, place attachment, resistance movements, and resettlement project analysis. He has authored, edited or co-edited 8 books and over 60 journal articles and book chapters.

**Randall W. Parkinson** is president of *RWParkinson Consulting, Inc.*, a firm specializing in geological issues associated with the management and protection of coastal resources. He received a BS in Environmental Science from Cornell College (1979), MS in Geology from the University of Iowa (1982), and Ph.D. in Marine Geology and Geophysics from the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami (1987). He is an Eagle Scout, Fulbright Scholar, NASA Summer Faculty Fellow, Registered Professional Geologist (State of Florida), vice-chair of the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program Selection and Management Committee (1990 to present), and Associate Editor of the *Journal of Coastal Research*. Prior to starting his own business in 2006, Parkinson was an Associate Professor of Geological Oceanography at the Florida Institute of Technology (1987 – 2000) and thereafter employed as a Senior Geologist and Laboratory Director for a coastal engineering firm (2000 – 2006).

In December 2007, Dr. Parkinson launched the *Space Coast Climate Change Initiative (SCCCI)*. The Space Coast Climate Change Initiative (SCCCI) was established to facilitate *local* government implementation of plans, policies, and/or programs to address global climate change. As an initial objective, the SCCCI seeks to promote sound coastal and ocean policies that address rising sea level.

**Leonard Pearlstine** is Landscape Ecologist at Everglades and Dry Tortugas National Parks and is a member of the National Park Service Climate Change Science Working Group. His education and 25 years experience have been multi-disciplinary and directed toward applied research in natural resource management. His interest is in community spatial patterns resulting from natural and anthropogenic disturbance and how these relate to sustainable wildlife communities, maintenance of natural processes, and habitat change. His approach has been to integrate detailed biological information with broad-scale landscape concepts and methodologies using spatial statistics and modeling. The majority of his projects over the last ten years have focused on South Florida regional habitat and landscape evaluations including collective USGS/SFWMD/USACOE/ University integrated, multidisciplinary grants to aid in the development of restoration plans for south Florida and the Everglades. His current activities include coastal habitat modeling under scenarios of sea level rise, Everglades community vegetation succession modeling and climate envelope niche modeling for South Florida T&E species (with USGS and University of Florida).

**Orrin H. Pilkey** is a James B. Duke Professor Emeritus in the Nicholas School of the Environment of Duke University. He is a coastal/marine geologist specializing in the study of barrier island evolution, shoreline stabilization and the validity of mathematical models on beach behavior. He has more than 250 technical publications. He was awarded the Shepard Medal for excellences in marine geology and the Geological Society of America Public Service Award and the Priestly Award. His latest books include *The Rising Sea (Island)*, *A Celebration of the World's Barrier Islands (Columbia)*, *Useless Arithmetic (Columbia)* and *the Corps and the Shore (Island)*.

**Laila Racevskis** is an assistant professor in the Food and Resource Economics Department at the University of Florida with a joint appointment in the School of Natural Resources and Environment. Her research interests include nonmarket valuation of ecosystem services, land use economics and policy, and human dimensions of natural resource management. In her extension work, she serves as Director of the Natural Resources Leadership Institute and also develops workshops and educational materials on land use and natural resource issues in Florida. Laila holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University and two

degrees from The Ohio State University, an M.S. in Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics and a B.A. in French and International Studies.

**Mike Ross** is currently a plant community ecologist in the Department of Earth and Environment at Florida International University. My academic training is in Silviculture and Forest Biology, having studied at Utah State under the tutelage of Ted Daniel, and at Virginia Tech with Terry Sharik. My post-doctoral research, with George LaRoi, focused on forest dynamics in the southern boreal forest of Alberta. Prior to arriving at FIU, I studied environmental law at Vermont Law School, then joined a National Audubon Society research team working to preserve the ecosystems of the Florida Keys. Throughout my career as an ecologist, my interests have centered on environmental controls on plant community composition and structure, the involvement of these controls in the successional process, and the implications of these dynamics for resource management. My approach often incorporates large-scale field manipulations with pattern analysis based on "natural experiments", usually arrayed along well-defined environmental gradients. Presently, the bulk of my research is directed toward restoration of the mixture of forested and herbaceous coastal wetlands of the greater Everglades ecosystem. My collaborators and I are also working on climate change effects on coastal habitats, disturbance ecology (including hurricanes and fire), plant-soil relationships, and remote sensing of vegetation.

**Michael C. Runge** is a research ecologist at the U. S. Geological Survey at Patuxent Wildlife Research Center. His areas of expertise include: Structured decision making, adaptive resource management; harvest management models; population modeling; matrix models; ecology and management of ground squirrels, manatees, and beavers; large-scale management experiments; biometrics; mathematical ecology.

**Thomas Ruppert**, assistant in environmental law, holds a cooperative position created by the Levin College of Law's Conservation Clinic and the University of Florida's Institute for Food and Agriculture's (IFAS) extension service. Mr. Ruppert provides legal expertise in the context of funded IFAS extension projects. Mr. Ruppert's areas of expertise include beach and coastal policy in Florida, sea turtle habitat protection, the Endangered Species Act, Florida's coastal construction control line permitting program, comprehensive planning law, and 5th amendment takings law. Additional conservation and environmental issues with which Mr. Ruppert has worked include the Clean Water Act's total maximum daily load program, water quality trading, low-impact development stormwater, homeowners' associations, and boating/marine issues. Mr. Ruppert speaks fluent Spanish. He has worked on projects in several Central American countries and with the UF Conservation Clinic's Costa Rica summer program in San José where he has worked on human rights, water, land use planning, and property issues.

**Sonali Saha** is a functional ecologist interested in utilizing the patterns of plant distribution and dynamics for conservation of plant communities. Sonali has a PhD from University of Illinois at Chicago in Ecology and Evolution (2002; effects of fire and drought on distribution and regeneration of tropical deciduous forest trees) and postdoctoral experience at Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University (2002-2004; water relations of woody bamboo) and Archbold Biological Station (2005-2007; relationships between Florida scrub plant distribution and soil moisture). Sonali works as a Senior Biologist with The Institute of Regional Conservation, Miami, Florida. A recently funded project allows her to collaborate with the Everglades National Park to (i) examine the distribution and dynamics of rare species in coastal buttonwood forests in relation to elevation and porewater salinity and (ii) to evaluate their fate in response to sea level rise (SLR) under differential freshwater delivery scenarios. She is also investigating role of fire and hurricanes on population dynamics of rare plants in subtropical pine forests of the Florida Keys against the backdrop of SLR.

**Kenneth E. Sassaman** (Ph.D. Anthropology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 1991) is Hyatt and Cici Brown Professor of Florida Archaeology, Department of Anthropology, University of Florida. Before joining the faculty at UF in 1998, Sassaman worked for 11 years with the Savannah River Archaeological Research Program of the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology

and Anthropology, University of South Carolina. His research in Florida has centered on the mid-Holocene hunter-gatherers of the middle St. Johns River Valley, notably on the circumstances surrounding the construction of some of the oldest shell mounds in North America. In 2009, Sassaman launched the Lower Suwannee Archaeological Survey to develop data on coastal living pertinent to the challenges of sea-level rise today. He is the author or editor of eight books and over 90 articles, chapters, and monographs.

**Bradley M. Stith** is a principal scientist for Jacobs Engineering, and a contractor for U. S. Geological Survey, Southeast Ecological Science Center. His research focuses on wildlife ecology and conservation. His expertise includes individual based modeling, metapopulation analysis, and estimation of ecological parameters from data.

**Hilary Swain** is the Executive Director of Archbold Biological Station, an independent non-profit research facility, which conducts extensive ecological research on its 8,840-acre scrub preserve on the Lake Wales Ridge and at its 10,300-acre working cattle ranch, the MacArthur Agro-ecology Research Center (MAERC). She oversees a staff of 50 involved in long-term research, environmental monitoring, science education for K-12, undergraduate and graduate students and the public, as well as land management and conservation programs. Dr. Swain's research interests are in the application of conservation biology to preserve design, land management, and planning for natural communities and endangered species. Her research at MAERC has focused on the relationships among ecological, economic, and physical factors in grazing lands and how these change over time. She plays a key role in extensive liaison with local, state, and federal agencies, and private landowners on the Lake Wales Ridge and in the Northern Everglades region, helping to build a bridge between government agencies, private landowners, and the environmental communities in Florida.

Dr. Swain is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and is past president of the Organization of Biological Field Stations. Among other appointments she currently serves as: Board member for the National Ecological Observation Network, Inc. (NEON); Board member for NatureServe; Chairperson of the Babcock Ranch, Inc. Board of Directors; Board member of the Florida Institute for Conservation Science (FICS); and member of the Natural Resources Advisory Commission (NRAC) for Highlands County, Florida.

**Tom Swihart** is the Administrator of the Office of Water Policy in the FDEP Division of Water Resource Management. He has a bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Science from the University of South Florida and a Master's Degree in Planning from Florida State University. The Office of Water Policy is responsible for many aspects of water management and policy development, including:

Water Resource Implementation Rule. This rule provides state guidance regarding water shortage management, water conservation, reuse of reclaimed water, minimum flows and levels, water use permitting, and regional water supply planning.

Water Planning. The Office of Water Policy develops detailed guidance on the structure and content of regional water supply plans prepared by the water management districts. Each year, the Office of Water Policy prepares a *Status Report on Regional Water Supply Planning* and evaluates progress in water resource development.

Minimum Flows and Levels. The Office of Water Policy oversees the state role in working with the water management districts in establishing minimum flows and levels.

Water Conservation. In 2004, the Legislature directed the Department of Environmental Protection, in cooperation with other stakeholders, to develop a statewide comprehensive water conservation program for public water supply, now called *Conserve Florida*. The 2007 drought has resulted in other actions, including the July 2007 *Drought Smart* report produced collaboratively by Conserve Florida participants. Tom is also on the Board of the national "Alliance for Water Efficiency."

Water Management/Climate Change Nexus. The Office of Water Policy coordinates the development of Department of Environmental Protection policies on water relating to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

**Steve Traxler** received a marine biology bachelor's degree from Florida Institute of Technology and a Masters in fisheries from Texas A & M University. Steve worked for the Army Corps of Engineers for 8 years and now works for US Fish and Wildlife Service as a senior biologist. Steve has spent most of that time working on Everglades's restoration, primarily on the estuaries such as the Indian River Lagoon and developing a system adaptive management plan. Lately, Steve has shifted focus to climate change and is part of the local FWS team. Steve also works with a local sea turtle research nonprofit called Inwater Research Group. Prior to 1994, Steve spent 7 years studying estuarine fish, primarily juvenile drum and their relationship to seagrass. His main hobbies include fishing, scuba diving, canoeing, kayaking, and hiking.

**Michael Volk, Volk Design Consultants, LLC**

Michael has an MLA in Landscape Architecture from the University of Florida and a BAS from the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture. He has professional experience in planning and project management in both the private and public sectors, and produced his Master's thesis project on Strategies for Adaptation to Sea Level Rise in Florida. He has experience in historic preservation and working with waterfront communities, and is currently working on several projects throughout Florida involving the sensitive planning and future development of historic communities.