



2026 SOUTHWEST FLORIDA RESILIENCY SUMMIT

PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

BRIAN BATTEN, PH.D. (bbatten@dewberry.com)

Brian Batten is the Associate Vice President of Dewberry and provides leadership for Coastal Resilience. With over 25 years of experience, he has provided leadership for diverse federal, state, and community clients. Dr. Batten provided overall technical leadership for the first pilot Florida resilience studies in 2015, which assessed increased precipitation for resilient design considerations in Clearwater. He has also led a recent vulnerability assessment of the Florida Overseas Highway and supported numerous community vulnerability assessments under the Resilient Florida Program, with combined future rainfall and coastal hazard conditions. Brian also provides technical leadership in Virginia in adaptation planning and serves as a consultant program manager for Virginia's Coastal Master Plan— which was given an award by the Association of State Floodplain Managers. He holds an MS in Environmental Studies and a Ph.D. in Coastal Oceanography, both from Stony Brook University.

JENNIFER CODO-SALISBURY (jcodosalisbury@cfRPC.org)

Jennifer Codo-Salisbury is the Executive Director of Central Florida Regional Planning Council (CFRPC). She leads a dynamic and multi-functional planning team that administers programs including Resiliency, Brownfields, Hazard Mitigation, Geographical Information Systems, the Avon Park Air Force Range Sentinel Landscape, military installation compatibility, local land use planning, and state and federal grant administration and coordination. She has more than 25 years of experience in urban planning, a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of South Florida and is a AICP certified planner. Prior to joining the CFRPC, Ms. Codo-Salisbury managed several large-scale planning projects in the public and private sectors.

MICHAEL FLOOD (michael.flood@wsp.com)

Michael Flood is the Senior Vice President of the Earth and Environment Sector of WSP, acting as their National Resiliency Lead. His over thirty years of consulting experience includes national projects focused on determining the risks of extreme weather and future conditions and the development of various mitigation strategies for addressing those risks. This work has included assessing potential impacts to buildings and facilities in the northeast and southeast, as well as transportation facilities across the United States. His work focuses on the development of methods, tools and strategies to help agencies make effective decisions to cost-effectively respond to extreme weather risks and future conditions through development of prioritization processes, and capital design strategies. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Urban, Community, and Regional Planning from University of Maryland and a Master's degree in Urban and Environmental Planning from the University of Virginia.

ANDREA GALINSKI (andrea.galinski@ufl.edu)

Andrea is an Assistant Professor of Landscape Architecture at University of Florida Department of Landscape Architecture. Her focus is advancing climate resilient design and planning in teaching and research. Andrea's research explores the nexus between climate change and affordable housing. Her research has been supported by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine Gulf Research Program (NASEM GRP), National Science Foundation (NSF), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Florida Sea Grant (FSG), Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC), and others. Previously, Andrea worked in Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) to develop the state's Coastal Master Plan, as well as taught at Louisiana State University (LSU) focusing on research-based design of landscape infrastructure along the Louisiana coast. Andrea holds a Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) from Louisiana State University and a Bachelor of Philosophy (B.Ph.) degree in Human Ecology from Penn State University.

JENNIFER HECKER (jhecker@chnep.org)

Jennifer Hecker is the Executive Director of the Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership (CHNEP), part of the US EPA National Estuary Program. In her current role, she oversees federally-funded resiliency, restoration and research projects across the 10 counties CHNEP serves. Prior to joining CHNEP ten years ago, Hecker served as the Director of Natural Resource Policy for thirteen years at the Conservancy of Southwest Florida, where she oversaw a team of policy and legal professionals working on a variety of natural resource policy issues. She holds an Environmental Studies undergraduate degree from Prescott College and a Tropical Biology and Conservation graduate degree from the University of Missouri Saint Louis. She currently serves as a Science Advisory Board member to the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force and as a member on the Environmental Advisory Committee of the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

MARY MARGARET HULL (marymargaret.hull@swfwmd.state.fl.us)

Mary Margaret Hull is the Resiliency Coordinator at the Southwest Florida Water Management District, where she leads strategic planning and advances resilience initiatives across the District's 16-county region. She has more than 18 years of experience at the District and has PMP and APR certifications. She is also currently pursuing a USF Graduate Certificate in Coastal & Flood Resiliency Planning. She serves as vice chair of the Hillsborough County Greenways and Trails Committee and is a past president of PRSA Tampa Bay. She holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies from Rollins College and a Master's Degree in Public Administration, State and Local Government from the University of South Florida.

ANA CAROLINA MARAN, PH.D. (cmaran@sfwmd.gov)

Carolina Maran, Ph.D., P.E. is the Division Director of Flood Control and Water Supply Planning and Chief of District Resiliency at the South Florida Water Management District. In her role, she is responsible for coordinating resilience efforts, advancing scientific research and data analysis; and, developing and implementing comprehensive resiliency projects. Prior to joining SFWMD, Dr. Maran worked as the Water Manager at Broward County, a Water Resources Specialist for the Federal Water Agency in Brazil and collaborated with International Organizations as part of technical consulting teams. She holds a Ph.D. in Civil and Environmental Engineering – Water Resources from Colorado State University and a Master's Degree in Water Resources Engineering from Parana Federal University in Brazil.

THOMAS RIES (tries@ecosphererestoration.org)

Thomas Ries is the President and Co-Founder of Ecosphere Restoration Institute, a non-profit organization that coordinates habitat restoration and protection projects in the SE United States. Ecosphere specifically formulates public-private-partnerships (P3s) to implement habitat renovation projects and has managed millions of dollars in grants in the past twenty years implementing habitat restoration projects for both public and private sector groups – including resiliency projects. Prior, Thomas worked as the Vice President / Habitat Restoration Director for Environmental Science Associates, Vice President and Owner of Scheda Ecological Associates, and as a Senior Scientist at the Southwest Florida Water Management District. He holds a Bachelors in Biology from the University of South Florida.

CHRISTINA RIMES (crimes@venicefl.gov)

Christina Rimes is the Certified Flood Manager for the City of Venice. With 12 years of experience in local government, including six years dedicated to the Community Rating System (CRS) and floodplain management, she helps communities become more resilient to flooding and finding practical ways to turn floodplain management requirements into meaningful improvements for residents. Her expertise includes the problem-solving and collaboration that comes with helping a community become better prepared for the challenges of flooding. She holds an Associates in Liberal Arts and Sciences and certification from the Association of State Floodplain Managers.

ORLANDO A. RUBIO (orubio@craigasmith.com)

Orlando A. Rubio is the Vice President of Engineering for Craig A. Smith & Associates, LLC, who has worked for over the last twenty-five years. His expertise is flood studies (H/H Modeling), Stormwater Master Plans, Engineering Design/permitting/management of Capital Stormwater Projects, Grant assistance to municipal clients (FDEP, HUD, FEMA, SA), Proposal writing, Client permit reviews, and Vulnerability Assessments. Prior to his current role, he worked in the Regulation Department of the South Florida Water Management District and for Broward County's Surface Water Management as a Licensing Section Supervisor and a CRS Coordinator. He graduated from University of Florida and holds a PE certification

CARRIE SCHUMAN, PH.D. (carries@conservancy.org)

Carrie Schuman is the Climate Resilience Advisor for the Conservancy of Southwest Florida and is part of their environmental policy team. Some aspects of her work include education and outreach around climate impacts for Southwest Florida, as well as a focus on making sure nature-based and hybrid adaptation solutions are represented in local planning. Her scientific background is primarily in interdisciplinary marine and coastal sciences, but with additional experience in social science and science education research. She also has skills in education and outreach acquired from more than 15 years of teaching and tutoring across many levels, and in science communication including an AAAS Mass Media Fellowship during which, she wrote coastal and climate-focused news stories for the San Luis Obispo Tribune in California. She holds a M.S. in Marine Science and Technology from UMASS Boston; as well as a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Ecology from the University of Florida.

ADRIAN SANTIAGO TATE (adrian@hightide.ai)

Adrian Santiago Tate is the CEO and Cofounder of HighTide Intelligence, a flood risk data company on a mission to accelerate flood adaptation with data-driven technology. He led the development of the peer-reviewed Stanford Urban Risk Framework, which underpins HighTide's flood impact modeling and has quantified flood risk from the San Francisco Bay Area to an eight-county region of East Central Florida. HighTide automates vulnerability assessments for cities and counties across Florida, supports local governments in the FEMA Community Rating System, and builds Arkly, a platform that gives residents free access to their flood risk and gives governments the tools to manage it, launched in Puerto Rico with the Puerto Rico Science Trust. Adrian holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Virginia Tech and an M.S. in Geophysics from Stanford, where he is currently an Entrepreneur in Residence leading a project bringing satellite-based subsidence data into flood resilience planning. He serves on the board of the Flood Mitigation Industry Association.

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