



# **Largest Marine Science Cluster in the Southeast U.S.**

**20+ organizations**

Education – Government – Private Industry – Nonprofit

## **History of the Ocean Team and its Member Organizations 1950-1970s**

**1955**

Florida Board of Conservation Marine Laboratory was established in St. Petersburg

**1960**

Oceanographic courses began at University of South Florida's (USF) Bayboro Campus (now the USF College of Marine Science)

**1967**

Marine Science Institute was founded on the USF's Bayboro Campus at the former US Maritime Base

**1968**

Florida State Board of Conservation Marine Laboratory was renamed to the Florida State Board of Conservation Marine Research Laboratory

**1969**

Florida State Board of Conservation Marine Research Laboratory was renamed to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Marine Research Laboratory

USF Marine Science Institute doubled in size

**1970**

First National Science Foundation (NSF) grant was awarded to the USF Marine Science Institute

**1971**

USF Department of Marine Science was formed within the USF College of Natural Sciences

**1972**

First contract from the Office of Naval Research is awarded to the USF Department of Marine Science

**1978**

Florida Board of Regents designates the USF Department of Marine Science as a "Center of Excellence"

# History of the Ocean Team and its Member Organizations 1980-1990s

## 1982

Standalone Ph.D. program in Marine Science at USF is launched

First fellowship for a USF Marine Science graduate student established by Nelson Poynter Fund in honor of John B. Lake, publisher of the St. Petersburg Times

Marine Science major established at Eckerd College

## 1983

DNR Marine Research Laboratory was renamed the DNR Bureau of Marine Research

## 1986

Gulf Oceanographic Charitable Trust endows two fellowships for marine science graduate students and USF receives the first matching funds from Florida's new major gifts program

## 1988

US Geological Survey (USGS) selects St. Pete as the home for the National Center for Coastal Geology

DNR Bureau of Marine Research was retitled DNR Florida Marine Research Institute (FMRI)

## 1991

USF Department of Marine Sciences sponsors its first Oceanography Camp for Girls

Joint Research Facility groundbreaking with the Department of Natural Resources and the USF Department of Marine Sciences

Tampa Bay National Estuary Program (TBNEP) was established

## 1993

USF Department of Marine Science set up physical oceanography real-time system (PORTS)

Tampa Bay Watch was founded

Galbraith Marine Science Laboratory was dedicated at Eckerd College

DNR Florida Marine Research Institute (FMRI) was renamed the Department of Environmental Protection, FMRI

## 1994

Florida legislature provides funds for five engineering positions to establish the Center for Ocean Technology (COT) within the USF Department of Marine Science

Tampa Bay Watch's Grasses in Classes constructs the first nursery

## 1995

The Carbon Retention in a Colored Ocean (CARIACO) Ocean Time-Series Program is established

## 1996

The first live satellite television broadcasts for USF Project Oceanography are transmitted to middle schools throughout the United States

# History of the Ocean Team and its Member Organizations 1990-2000s

## 1997

Multiagency (ONR, NOAA, NASA, EPA), multi-investigator study of Florida's western coastal ocean begins the Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms (ECOHAB)

## 1998

Tampa Bay Watch completed the first oyster shell project at Crisp Park in St. Petersburg

## 1999

USF establishes a Science Journalism Center consisting of a partnership between the Department of Marine Science and the College of Mass Communications

Department of Environmental Protection, FMRI was retitled the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, FMRI

## 2000

USF Department of Marine Science became the College of Marine Science

## 2001

Peter R. Betzer named permanent Dean of the USF College of Marine Science (USF CMS)

USF CMS faculty member Frank Muller-Karger nominated and appointed to the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy by President G.W. Bush.

## 2002

USF College of Marine Science receives a Center for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence (COSEE) grant from the National Science Foundation

## 2003

USF College of Marine Science becomes a member of the Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education and the Joint Oceanographic Institutions

## 2004

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation, FMRI was renamed to FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI)

## 2005

NOAA established operations in St. Pete

Tampa Bay Watch Marine Education Center in Tierra Verde was dedicated

## 2006

SRI International partnered with the USF College of Marine Science to begin operations in St. Pete

USF College of Marine Science receives \$8.5 million grant for advanced instrumentation from the Florida Technology, Research, and Scholarship Board

# History of the Ocean Team and its Member Organizations 2000-2010s

## 2007

Tampa Bay Watch coordinated the largest Salt Marsh Planting in Tampa Bay History at Terra Ceia Aquatic Preserve

## 2009

St. Pete Ocean Team consortium was formed

Research Vessel Weatherbird II was purchased

St. Petersburg College implemented a 4- year Baccalaureate Degree in Biology

## 2010

St. Pete Ocean Team leads response to the Deep Water Horizon disaster

St. Pete Ocean Team Economic Impact Analysis was released

Marine Science Job Creation Summit was held

## 2011

USF St. Petersburg Department of Biological Sciences was formed

USF St. Petersburg Health Sciences program started

## 2012

USF St. Petersburg Biology program started

## 2014

Marine Science was identified in the St. Petersburg Grow Smarter Strategy (economic development plan) as target industry sector

55 KW Solar Array Installed on Tampa Bay Watch Marine Center

## 2015

Sea-grass growth in Tampa Bay was back to 1950s levels

## 2016

St. Pete Ocean Team members helped found the St. Petersburg Innovation District

St. Petersburg College implemented 2- year Associate Degrees in Biomedical Engineering Technology, Biotechnology Laboratory Technology, and Certificate for Water Quality Technician

## 2017

Research Vessel Hogarth was commissioned

St. Petersburg College expanded its Environmental Science Technology Program adding a new natural resources conservation subplan and opportunities for undergraduate research and careers in conservation and water management

# History of the Ocean Team and its Member Organizations 2010-2020s

## 2018

Joint Institute for the Gulf of Mexico studies planning began

City of St. Petersburg approved lease to operate Tampa Bay Watch Discovery Center at new St. Petersburg Pier

Tampa Bay Watch celebrated 25 years of restoration and education

## 2019

St. Petersburg College implemented a Certificate for Medical Equipment Repair and did natural habitat rehabilitation and installation of a living shoreline in Hurricane Hole Lagoon at the Bay Pines STEM Center as part of the Tampa Bay Estuary's Living Shoreline Project

USF College of Marine Science launched new "smart city" marine science education program with the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Suncoast

## 2020

USF College of Marine Science and NOAA launch a cooperative ocean mapping center - the Center for Ocean Mapping and Innovative Technologies (COMIT)

The City of St. Petersburg contributed \$125,000 to the USF College of Marine Science's "Bridge to the Doctorate" fellowship supporting underrepresented students of color in Marine Science

## 2021

USF multi-college team was selected to join the National Science Foundation's All-ABOARD Diversity Program

