

## MMM4 Field Trip #2: Whitney Marine Lab with Boat or Kayak Tour

The Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience and the Whitney Sea Turtle Hospital are located on a narrow stretch of land between the Atlantic Ocean to the east and the Matanzas River Estuary to the west. The Whitney lab, established in 1973, has a long history of neuroscience and marine biology research. New and exciting areas of research include estuarine biogeochemistry, ecology, and climate change sciences. Participants will tour the Whitney lab, the Whitney Sea Turtle Hospital, and travel along one of Florida’s most protected and undeveloped estuaries. A limited number of participants may choose to kayak with master naturalists (<http://rippleeffectecotours.com>) on this part of the tour for an additional \$35. Or, for those who choose not to kayak, a boat ride will be available. This estuary is of exceptional interest to mangrove scientists as it is a zone of transition with *Avicennia germinans* and *Rhizophora mangle* encroaching on historically *Spartina alterniflora* dominated salt marsh.

**PLEASE NOTE: Summertime in Florida will be HOT. Please wear light clothing that offers sun protection. Being on the water will amplify the exposure to sun so we recommend sunglasses, hats, plenty of sunscreen and lightweight clothing that provides protection from the sun. Hydration is also important so please take advantage of opportunities to hydrate (bring your water bottle to refill). If you have any known health conditions or allergies that may impact your enjoyment of this trip, please make these known to the tour guides in advance.**

*Lunch and drinks will be provided. Bottled water will also be available before and after the field trip.*

<b>LOCATION:</b>	Whitney Marine Lab- 9505 Ocean Shore Blvd, St. Augustine FL 32080
<b>ROUTE:</b>	Travel by bus to Whitney Lab and disembark for kayak or boat tour, lab and turtle hospital walking tour, and lunch.
<b>ROUTE LENGTH:</b>	20 miles round trip
<b>DEPART/RETURN:</b>	Depart hotel at 7:30am – Arrive back at hotel at approximately 1:30pm
<b>TRAVEL TIME TO SITES:</b>	20 minutes
<b>TIME AT SITES:</b>	4 hours
<b>TOTAL TRIP TIME:</b>	5.5 hours
<b>FIELD TRIP CAPTAIN:</b>	Todd Osborne
<b>SITE GUIDES:</b>	Todd Osborne, Catherine Eastman, Danny Lippi, and others
<b>OTHER:</b>	Participants who choose the kayak option could potentially get wet and should wear appropriate clothing and footwear. This kayak trip is approximately 4 miles long, so participants should be prepared for some exercise!  All participants should bring sunscreen and bug spray. Lunch and water will be provided.
<b>MAXIMUM ATTENDANCE:</b>	50 people (32 in kayaks)
<b>DEADLINE TO REGISTER:</b>	June 24, 2016 or until trip is full.
<b>COST TO PARTICIPATE:</b>	\$50, plus \$35 for the kayak option

