

For Immediate Release

Florida Ocean Alliance Hosts Florida Oceans Day for Legislators on March 22, 2023, at the Florida State Capitol

Program and discussions will focus on coastal resilience and Florida's Blue Economy.

TALLAHASSEE, FL, March 10, 2023 – Florida legislators will join leaders from marine industries, ports, academia, and non-profits on March 22, 2023, to celebrate Florida Oceans Day at the Florida State Capitol. The purpose of Oceans Day is to educate legislators and State agencies on the importance of healthy coasts and oceans to Florida's economy and to promote protection of ocean and coastal resources for all Floridians. Florida Oceans Day is produced and sponsored by the Florida Ocean Alliance with Florida Institute of Oceanography and Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium.

This year's theme, "Coastal Resilience: A Key to Florida's Blue Economy and Future," focuses on the four priorities of the Florida Ocean Alliance:

- 1. Coastal Resilience, Improving Water and Habitat Quality**
- 2. Coastal Community Hazard Preparedness**
- 3. Natural Resources Protections, the Foundation of Florida's Blue Economy**
- 4. Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Florida's Oceans & Coasts**

These priorities are closely aligned with and support the [ocean and coastal priorities of the Governor](#), the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Paul Anderson, President of Florida Ocean Alliance and President and CEO of Port Tampa Bay stated, "With visionary leadership, Florida now has a historic opportunity to proactively protect and restore its valuable ocean and coastal resources and thus take full advantage of the economic opportunities and innovation they provide." In 2020, the Florida Ocean Alliance published [Securing Florida's Blue Economy: Strategic Policy Plan for Florida's Oceans & Coasts, June 2020](#) to grow Florida's Blue Economy, worth hundreds of billions of dollars in economic revenue and supporting over a million jobs. Declining water quality, damaged natural habitats, and the vulnerability of coastal human-built and natural infrastructure continues to put Florida's Blue Economy at risk.

On March 22, Florida Ocean Alliance members and partners [Florida Institute of Oceanography](#) and [Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium](#) will convene for meetings and other events, including:

The Florida Institute of Oceanography Fish Fry & Member Exhibits

The Florida Capitol, South Plaza, 10 AM - 2 PM

Members of the media are invited to attend.

[The Florida Ocean Alliance](https://www.FloridaOceanAlliance.org) is Florida's leading non-partisan, science-driven, private-public sector partnership comprising leaders from industry, academia, and non-profits. The Alliance focuses on innovative thinking, planning and implementation actions. Our goal is to protect and restore Florida's ocean and coastal assets, while promoting responsible economic growth, diversification and job creation within Florida's ocean and coastal industry clusters. The Florida Ocean Alliance has been serving Florida as a trusted, independent leadership alliance for more than 20 years. Learn more at www.FloridaOceanAlliance.org

FLORIDA OCEANS DAY 2023

Coastal Resilience: A Key to Florida's Blue Economy and Future

March 22, 2023 Florida State Capitol Tallahassee

Join Us Wednesday, March 22, 2023

for the

Florida Institute of Oceanography

Fish Fry & Member Exhibits

Florida Capitol, South Plaza

10 AM - 2 PM

Florida Oceans Day is hosted by:

