

MMM4: USA Welcomes You

I.C. Feller¹, C.E. Proffitt², K.W. Krauss³ & C. McIvor³

¹Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Smithsonian Institution, Edgewater, MD 21037. E-mail: felleri@si.edu

²Department of Biological Sciences, Florida Atlantic University c/o Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, 5775 Old Dixie Hwy, Ft. Pierce, FL 34946, E-mail: cproffitt@fau.edu

³U.S. Geological Survey, National Wetlands Research Center, 700 Cajundome Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70506. E-mail: kraussk@usgs.gov

Abstract

This final presentation introduces the intention of the Smithsonian Institution to jointly organize MMM4 with Florida Atlantic University and USGS in Florida, USA. The presentation includes a regional overview, a brief summary of mangrove studies and mangrove sites, as well as a background on the would-be organizers, potentially collaborating organizations, and tentative conference themes for MMM4 in 2016. For the conference themes, we propose that MMM4 focus on examining how mangroves and mangrove macrobenthos are responding to climate change. For example, how will global warming, sea-level rise, storm patterns, and/or nutrient enrichment affect the following: 1) poleward expansion of mangroves and mangrove macrobenthos; 2) inland migration of coastal wetlands; 3) changes in the geographic boundaries of mangrove and salt marsh species through time; 4) ecosystem structure and function of coastal wetlands along tidal and latitudinal gradients; 3) vegetation patterns, community structure, and foodweb dynamics; 5) carbon sequestration and nutrient cycling.