

# Environmental Conditions

TOWARD A REGIONAL HYBRID OF URBANISM AND ECOLOGY  
**SCIENCE OF SEA LEVEL RISE IN SOUTHEAST FLORIDA**  
Topography, Geology + Water

With its low elevation, oolitic limestone base, and pre-urbanization history of wetlands and mangrove swamps, the environmental conditions of our sub-tropical region provide unique challenges and opportunities in the quest for resilience. These presentations explain key tools employed to study the region, introduce some of the scientific inquiries currently in progress, and point toward areas for critical future study and intervention. Peter Harlem presents the development of inundation maps used for many of our current sea level rise studies. Dr. Rene Price explains the hydrogeology of South Florida and its vulnerability to sea level rise and saltwater intrusion. Drs. James Heffernan and Meredith Steele present our regional urban landscape of lakes --its hydroscape. Tommy Strowd, presents the South Florida Water Management District, regional regulators of our water levels. Finally, a short video by Dr. Emily Northrop explains the importance of Everglades restoration in the pursuit of regional climate resilience.







