

# Navigating Shifting Sands: Oil on our beaches

August 5, 2015 – Pensacola, FL

## A BIT ABOUT TODAY'S SPEAKERS...



**Scott Zengel** is a Senior Scientist with Research Planning, Inc. (RPI). Scott served as one of the NOAA shoreline assessment leads during the *Deepwater Horizon* spill, and continues to support the Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) and restoration planning efforts. He will be speaking about shoreline oiling as documented by the Shoreline Cleanup Assessment Technique (SCAT) program.

**Dr. Soupy Dalyander** is a research oceanographer with the U.S. Geological Survey at the St. Petersburg Coastal and Marine Science Center. She studies sediment transport and geomorphological change on the beach, nearshore, and continental shelf. She will be talking about the physical dynamics of sand and oil agglomerates (essentially “sinking tar balls”), which can form when oil mixes with sediment in shallow water and are a potential source of beach re-oiling.

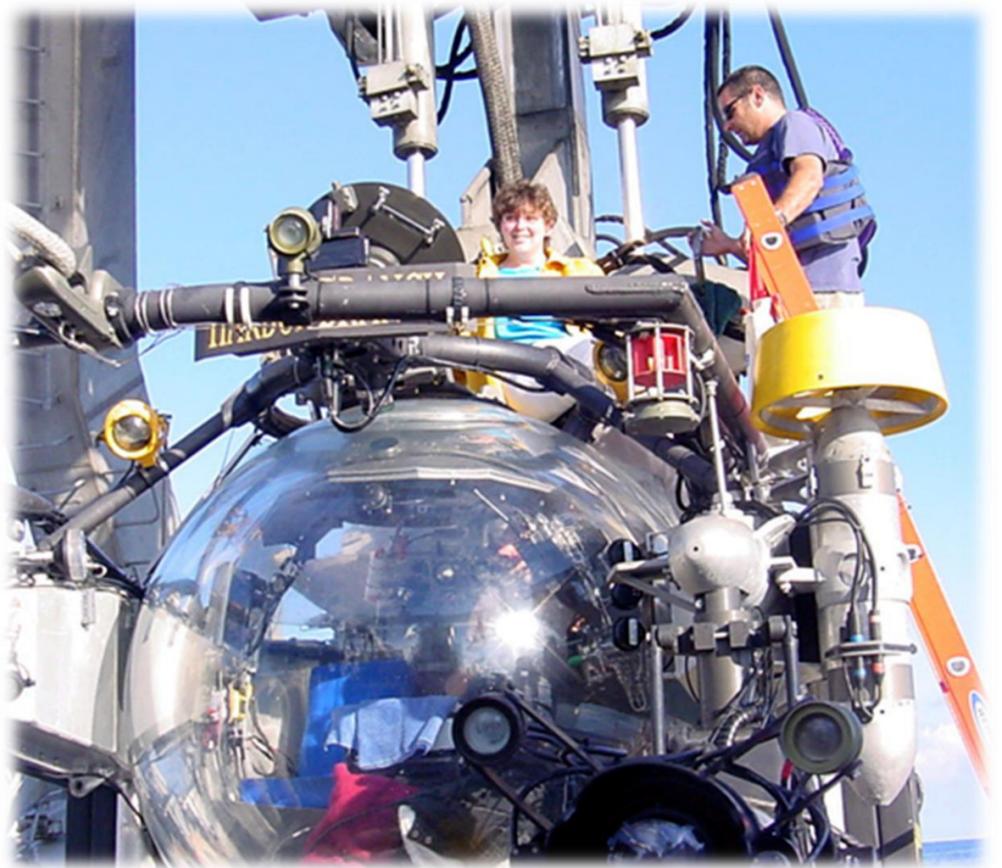


**Dr. Joel Hayworth** is an associate professor at Auburn University. His work focuses on assessment and restoration of human-impacted natural systems. He will be talking about the broad impacts of the oil spill on Alabama and Florida nearshore and beach systems.



**Dr. Prabhakar Clement** is a professor in the Environmental Engineering program at Auburn University. He has been collecting and analyzing *Deepwater Horizon* (DWH) oil spill tar balls for the past five years. Prabhakar is an expert in fingerprinting, identifying, and characterizing oil spill residues. He will present a field dataset to demonstrate increases in background oil contamination along Alabama's beaches. He will also discuss the fate of some toxic polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons trapped in DWH tar balls.

**Dr. Patricia Sobecky** is a professor and an associate provost at the University of Alabama. She is a microbiologist with expertise in marine microbiology. She's conducted microbiology studies in the Gulf of Mexico deep sea and coastal habitats. She will be talking about the microbiology of marine tar residues (tar balls, tar mats) and their impacts on coastal ecosystems.



**Dr. Markus Huettel** is a professor at Florida State University. He is a coastal oceanographer and his research focuses on biogeochemical processes in marine sediments and the exchange processes between the seafloor and overlying water column. Markus will be talking about the degradation of buried Deepwater Horizon oil in Florida sandy beaches.

For more information on this seminar, please contact Larissa Graham with Mississippi-Alabama Sea Grant at [Larissa.Graham@auburn.edu](mailto:Larissa.Graham@auburn.edu) or 251-348-5436.

