The St. Petersburg Ocean Team is the premier consortium for marine science, oceanographic, and environmental research agencies and institutions in the Southeast and one of the top such industry clusters in the nation. Industry “clusters”, like the Ocean Team are groups of competing, complementary, and interdependent firms, economic actors, and institutions that are located near one another and that draw productive advantages from their proximity and connections as well as the similarities between their workforce and vendor needs.

The St. Petersburg Ocean Team is one of the most important economic drivers for the City of St. Petersburg. In addition to being the home of the largest concentration of marine scientists in the southeast, it is estimated that the St. Petersburg Ocean Team and its related cluster agencies and businesses employ over 1,600 people. According to a 2010 economic analysis performed by the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council, these employees generate an estimated $143 million in annual household earnings and contribute $251 million to Pinellas County’s Gross County Product.

The continued growth of the St. Petersburg Ocean Team and its members will mean that like-minded research institutions and agencies, as well as businesses seeking to capitalize on technology transfer will continue to locate nearby. This will amplify the synergies between the organizations along with not only their impact on the scientific community but also their economic impact on the city, surrounding region, as well as the entire state. The Ocean Team representatives meet on an ongoing basis with St. Petersburg Mayor Rick Kriseman and his staff in order to continue the dialogue between the members.

### University of South Florida
College of Marine Science and USF Research Foundation

- CMS is focused on interdisciplinary research in marine science at the graduate level; focusing on the fields of Biological, Chemical, Physical, Geological Oceanography and Marine Resource Assessment.
- In 2013, the 26 ranked faculty members recorded over $15 million in research funding.
- 100 enrolled graduate students and 21 Post Doctoral Fellows.
- Endowments of $16 million promote 22 fellowships averaging from $10,000 to $22,000
- CMS Ocean Technology (COT) Group is comprised of electrical, mechanical and software engineers that provide significant expertise in underwater vessel fabrication, acoustics, RF systems, glider operations, networking, and real-time control systems.
- Ocean Team Representative: Dean Jacqueline Dixon, Ph.D
- [www.marine.usf.edu](http://www.marine.usf.edu)
## USF RESEARCH FOUNDATION

- The Research Foundation was established in June 1989 to promote, encourage and provide assistance to the research activities of USF faculty, staff and students.
- Not-for-profit organization provides a means by which discoveries, inventions, processes and work products of the USF faculty, staff and student can be transferred from the University laboratory to benefit the public. Funds generated by such discoveries are used to enhance research at the University.
- [http://www.research.usf.edu/](http://www.research.usf.edu/)

## Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission/ Fish and Wildlife Research Institute

- State-wide research programs that focus on obtaining the wide ranging information needed by fish, wildlife, and ecosystem resource managers.
- Collaborative partnerships with other government, academic, non-profit, and private fish and wildlife research institutions.
- Ocean Team Representative: Gil McRae, Director, Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
- [http://myfwc.com/research/](http://myfwc.com/research/)

## SRI International – St. Petersburg

- SRI- International is a global independent research and development organization involved with a wide variety of programs associated with technology transfer
- SRI – St. Petersburg’s Marine Technology program was created through a unique collaboration between SRI, the City of St. Petersburg the state of Florida, Pinellas County, local civic organizations, and the University of South Florida's Center for Ocean Technology.
- Ocean Team Representative: Grant Palmer, Director - Marine and Space Sensing Space and Marine Technology Program
- [www.sri.com](http://www.sri.com)

## U.S. Geological Survey Center for Coastal & Wetland Studies (USGS)

- ~60 full time staff persons and ~50 adjunct professionals, including: geologists, biologists, hydrologists, remote sensing specialists, biogeochemists, microbiologists, fish ecologists, and coral reef experts.
- The USGS investigates scientific processes related to societal problems arising in coastal and marine environments, including natural hazards, resources, and environmental change.
- Ocean Team Representative: Cheryl Hapke, Director

## National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

### National Marine Fisheries Service

- NOAA Fisheries is federal agency under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric administration, which is part of the Department of Commerce.
- NOAA Fisheries is responsible for the stewardship of the nation's ocean resources and their habitat. The agency provides vital services for the nation: productive and sustainable
fisheries, safe sources of seafood, the recovery and conservation of protected resources, and healthier ecosystems - all backed by sound science and an ecosystem based approach to management.

- NOAA Fisheries is headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland, with its Southeast Regional Office located in Downtown St. Petersburg. This office hosts 197 NOAA employees.
- Ocean Team Representative: Andy Strelchek, Southeast Regional Deputy Administrator
- [www.nmfs.noaa.gov](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International Ocean Institute (IOI) – St. Petersburg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Non-profit, non-governmental international organization devoted to the sustainable development of the oceans</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Active consultant with the United Nations Council on ethical and worldly principles encompassing oceanic research and activity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ocean Team Representative: Director, Frank Muller-Karger, PhD, and Executive Director, C.J. Reynolds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <a href="http://www.IOInst.org">www.IOInst.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tampa Bay Estuary Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- An intergovernmental partnership that coordinates Tampa Bay research, restoration and protection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Charged with implementing a comprehensive management plan for Tampa Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ocean Team Representative: Lindsay M. Cross, Environmental Science and Policy Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <a href="http://www.tbep.org">www.tbep.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Florida Institute of Oceanography</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Established to provide a central shared use infrastructure to support the state’s ocean science education and research programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Institute was designed to minimize the expensive duplication of sea-going facilities and equipment needed by the state’s academic &amp; agency research and training programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Research vessels that support biological, seismic, geological, environmental, weather, and physical research disciplines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ocean Team Representative: Dr. William Hogarth, Ph.D, Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <a href="http://www.marine.usf.edu/FIO">www.marine.usf.edu/FIO</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. Coast Guard Sector St. Petersburg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- The USCG monitors marine activity for Tampa Bay and Egmont Channel daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- ~ 33 station personnel and ~299 assigned to cutters and cruisers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Responsible for electronic support detachment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Ocean Team Representative: Captain Greg Case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- <a href="http://www.uscg.mil">www.uscg.mil</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
USF - St. Petersburg

- USF-St. Petersburg Campus was established in 1965 adjacent to Bayboro Harbor in St. Petersburg. Currently the campus has nearly 5,000 students attending classes. The University offers 26 undergraduate and 12 graduate degrees.
- USF’s Master Plan calls for at least another 330,000 SF of academic, support services, and office space on campus, intending to have nearly 11,000 students. Key upcoming projects include Science and Technology buildings, support services, student union, acquisition/expansion of current Dali building, and the remaining phases of the student housing complex.
- Ocean Team Representative: Helen Levine, Ph.D., External Affairs
- www.stpt.usf.edu

Secrets of the Sea Marine Exploration Center and Aquarium

- The Pier Aquarium, predecessor to the Exploration Center and Aquarium, was established in 1988 as a 501(c)3, not-for-profit organization.
- Founding sponsors include the USE College of Marine Science, the National Marine Fisheries Services, Florida Sea Grant, Pinellas County Schools, Florida Progress, Inc., St. Petersburg Times and Chase Bank of Florida.
- The Aquarium’s marine education staff – students from local colleges and universities – translates the scientific information on the oceans, aquatic animals, conservation and up-to-date environmental issues to Tampa Bay area students, teachers, residents and visitors.
- Ocean Team Representative: Dr. Mark Luther, Interim President & CEO
- http://www.thesecretsofthesea.org/

Eckerd College

- Located on 188 acres of waterfront property in St. Petersburg, Florida, Eckerd College is a private, coeducational college of liberal arts and sciences known not only for its program in marine science, but for those in environmental studies, and international relations and global affairs.
- Eckerd’s marine science curriculum offers four areas of specialization: Marine Biology, Marine Chemistry, Marine Geology and Marine Geophysics. In addition to these disciplines, we offer a broad range of elective courses, internship and research opportunities, and study abroad programs. Our ideal waterfront location near the Gulf of Mexico allows us to utilize the surrounding coastal environments in our courses and research programs, making it a perfect place to study marine science.
- During summer 2011, the National Science Foundation awarded Eckerd College $870,720 to renovate research spaces within the Galbraith Marine Science Laboratory and contributions to the project bring the total renovation budget to over $1 million.
- Ocean Team Representative: Professor David Hastings, PhD.
- http://www.eckerd.edu/academics/marinescience/
University of Florida
Florida Sea Grant Marine Extension Program – Pinellas County

- UF IFAS Florida Sea Grant Extension in Pinellas County, housed in St. Petersburg at Weedon Island Preserve, is part of a statewide network of marine specialists and extension agents.
- Florida Sea Grant is a university-based program that supports research, education and extension to conserve coastal resources and enhance economic opportunities for the people of Florida.
- We are a partnership between the Florida Board of Education, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Florida’s citizens and governments.
- Signature programs include Salty Topics Marine Research Speaker Series, Going Coastal family education, the 4H Weedon Island Ranger Naturalists, the Clean Marina programs, and Coastal Resiliency planning with local governments.
- Ocean Team Representative: Libby Carnahan, Marine Agent
- [http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/marine/](http://pinellas.ifas.ufl.edu/marine/)

Tampa Bay Watch

- Tampa Bay Watch is working to preserve the delicate ecological balance that exists in Tampa Bay. A nonprofit organization established in 1993, Tampa Bay Watch performs a variety of habitat restoration and protection activities throughout the year, utilizing thousands of volunteers to help the bay recover from its environmental problems.
- Individuals of all ages from community groups, scout troops, schools and others participate in salt marsh plantings, storm drain markings, oyster bar creation, coastal cleanups, and wildlife protection each year, demonstrating environmental stewardship in its purest form.
- Completed in 2005, the Tampa Bay Watch Marine and Education Center houses staff offices, a large community center, a marine education center and a USCG permitted lighthouse.
- Ocean Team Representative: Peter Clarke. President
- [http://tampabaywatch.org/](http://tampabaywatch.org/)

Blue Ocean

- BLUE is dedicated to finding solutions to change the course of the degradation of our oceans, thereby saving the health and well-being of all of humanity. By using the power of film, photography, entertainment, and science to educate, empower, and inspire ocean stewardship around the globe and facilitate collaboration between the arts & science.
- At the heart of BLUE is the international film competition and film festival. Over 100 finalist films are screened and recognized for achieving excellence in more than 20 award categories. Memorable social events provide an intimate environment for networking with the filmmakers and scientists who come together to create some of the most engaging films of our time.
- Renowned explorers, scientists, conservationists, celebrities and policy makers come together from around the globe to share scientific insights, discuss the issues and present innovative solutions in inspiring and thought-provoking sessions.
- Workshops to promote professional and business development and excellence in U/W film making and photography. Attendees participate in panels and master classes to enhance
their professional skills, learn about ground-breaking technologies, engage program funders in pitching sessions, and build partnerships through unparalleled networking opportunities.

- BLUE provides educational programs to leverage our film library and visual media to nurture artistry and creative talents, enhance communication skills, increase understanding of the marine sciences, foster cultural exchange and ensure ocean stewardship.
- BLUE On Tour is our traveling ocean film festival and conservation initiative which makes BLUE’s extensive collection of award-winning ocean films available to communities around the globe. With films from hundreds of filmmakers and the ability to customize each program, BLUE On Tour raises awareness about issues relevant to each community and provides an awe-inspiring window into the ocean.

- Ocean Team Representative: Debbie Kinder, CEO
  - [http://www.blueoceanfilmfestival.org/](http://www.blueoceanfilmfestival.org/)

**Stetson University College of Law**

- Stetson’s **Institute for Biodiversity Law and Policy** serves as an interdisciplinary focal point for education, research and service activities related to global, regional and local biodiversity issues. The Institute hosts international speakers and conferences, and it coordinates courses, seminars and internships on a variety of topics, including wetland law and policy, environmental law, natural resources and international environmental law.
- The **Stetson International Environmental Moot Court Competition** is the world’s largest moot court competition devoted exclusively to global environmental issues.
- The **International Wildlife Law Conference** brings together lawyers, policymakers, scientists, and students interested in wildlife protection efforts.
- Stetson is the only law school in the world with a memorandum of cooperation with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, an international environmental treaty dedicated to conserving wetlands.
- The Stetson Sea Turtle Initiative works to assist the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles, a regional treaty with 15 member countries.
- Each year, the Institute offers the **Edward and Bonnie Foreman Biodiversity Lecture Series**. The lectures are open to the public and provide interdisciplinary perspectives and dialogue about important environmental issues.
- The ELI-Stetson Wetlands Workshop is an annual event held in the fall with the renowned Washington-based Environmental Law Institute. The proceedings are captured in a special issue of ELI’s National Wetlands Newsletter.
- Ocean Team Representatives: Professor Royal Gardner, Director and Erin Okuno Foreman Biodiversity Fellow
  - [http://www.stetson.edu/law/international/biodiversity/index.php](http://www.stetson.edu/law/international/biodiversity/index.php)

**St. Petersburg College**

- Ocean Team Representative: Linae Boehme
  - [http://www.spcollege.edu/](http://www.spcollege.edu/)