



29th Annual Florida Marine Turtle Permit Holder's Meeting

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2026 Agenda

The Agenda for the Saturday, February 28th, 2026 Meeting is shown below.

All times are Eastern Standard Time (EST)

FWC and Partners

Time	Presentations
9:00	Welcome. Maria Merrill, FWC
9:05	Update on Florida's Sea Turtle Stranding Trends. Brice Burlison, FWC
9:25	Update on the 2025 Marine Turtle Nesting Season in Florida. Simona Ceriani, FWC
9:55	Marine Turtle Management Update. Maria Merrill, FWC
10:15	2025 Disorientations and Obstructed Nesting Attempts. Brittany Gordon, FWC
10:30	Break
11:00	Florida's Artificial Reef Program and Marine Turtle Conservation Considerations. Keith Mille, FWC.
11:15	Invasive Fish and Wildlife in Florida. Danielle Montesdeoca, FWC
11:30	Imperiled Beach-Nesting Birds. Kristin Taylor, FWC
11:45	Questions from Morning Session
12:00	Lunch
1:30	Wildlife Alert Reward Association. Patrick Walsh, Wildlife Alert
1:45	Social Science. Phillip Rodgers, FWC
2:00	The Evolution of Sea Turtle Monitoring in Volusia County. Beth Libert, Volusia County MTPH
2:15	History of Beach Management for Sea Turtle Protection in Volusia. Jennifer Winters, Volusia County Environmental Management.
2:30	Fertility Rates of Leatherback (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>) Eggs in Southeast Florida. Emily Turla, FAU.

Time	Presentations
2:45	Turtle nesting on Nourished Beach with Different Designs: A Case Study in Southeast Florida. Lara Nov alvos, USF.
3:00	Questions from Afternoon Session
3:10	Break

Marine Turtle Grant Presentations

Time	Presentations
3:30	Sea Turtle Tag and Sea Turtle Policy Update. Stacey Gallagher, Sea Turtle Conservancy
3:50	Sea Turtle Endoscopy: Oh, The Places You Will Go! Dr. Heather Barron, LMC.
4:05	Nesting Strategies of Loggerhead and Green Turtles Revealed by Satellite Telemetry. Sarah Hirsch, LMC.
4:20	Beyond the Data: A Case Study on Building Conservation Through Trust and Education. Yvette Fernandez, IRG.
4:35	Student Scientists for Sea Turtle Conservation. Deborah Prochaska, Nova Eisenhower Elementary (Research and Educational Institute).
4:50	Questions
5:00	Adjourn

FWC = Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MTPH = Marine Turtle Permit Holder

FAU = Florida Atlantic University

USF = University of South Florida

LMC = Loggerhead Marinelifelife Center

IRG = Inwater Research Group

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