

**DEEPEND**  
DEEP PELAGIC NEKTON DYNAMICS OF THE GULF OF MEXICO



**Heather Bracken Grissom**

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**Prosanta Chakrabarty**

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**Tamara Frank**

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**Heather Judkins**

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**Isabel Romero**

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**Mahmood Shivji**

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**Tracey Sutton**

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**Joseph Warren**

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Research funded by Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative award #GOMRI2014-IV-914

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[www.whaletimes.org](http://www.whaletimes.org)

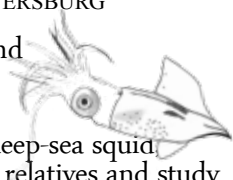
**HEATHER JUDKINS, PhD**  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA  
ST. PETERSBURG

**STUDIES:**  
Squid, octopus and their relatives

**DEEPEND Focus**  
Identification of deep-sea squid, octopus and their relatives and study where and how they live in the ocean

**HAS STUDIED:**  
Marine invertebrates and vertebrates in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans as well as the Gulf of Mexico

**THREE THINGS HEATHER DOES TO HELP THE EARTH:**  
I recycle, keep shades closed in the summer, and buy products made from recycled material



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**TAMARA FRANK, PhD**  
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

**STUDIES:**  
Deep-sea crabs, lobsters, and shrimp; vision and bioluminescence of deep-sea animals

**DEEPEND Focus**  
Diversity and abundance of deep-sea shrimp

**HAS STUDIED:**  
From ships and submersibles has studied deep-sea life off the Bahamas, Canary Islands, Costa Rica, Cuba, Iceland, Samoa, California, Florida, and Hawaii

**THREE THINGS TAMARA DOES TO HELP THE EARTH:**  
I recycle everything I can, use canvas shopping bags, and use biodegradable bags to pick up my dogs' waste



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**Prosanta Chakrabarty, PhD**  
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

**STUDIES:**  
Systematics and evolution of fish

**DEEPEND Focus**  
Identifying deep-sea fishes

**HAS STUDIED:**  
How fishes can help us better understand Earth history and evolution

**THREE THINGS PROSANTA DOES TO HELP THE EARTH:**  
Discover new and rare organisms (13 new species so far), examines distribution patterns of fishes in harms way (like during oil spills), and as curator of fishes, I am a bookkeeper for the world's fish



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**HEATHER BRACKEN GRISSOM, PhD**  
FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

**STUDIES:**  
Shrimp, crabs, and lobsters

**DEEPEND Focus**  
Study deep-sea shrimp, squid and octopus genetic diversity. We are also interested in discovering new species!

**HAS STUDIED:**  
Has collected organisms in shallow waters to depths of 6000 ft in the Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean, and Pacific

**THREE THINGS HEATHER DOES TO HELP THE EARTH:**  
I recycle and try to eat sustainable foods, I teach about the importance of all ocean organisms from microscopic creatures to giant ones



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**JOSEPH WARREN, PhD**  
STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY

**STUDIES:**  
Like a dolphin, I use sound to "see." I use sound (acoustics) to determine where and how many creatures are in the ocean

**DEEPEND Focus**  
Study the vertical migration of ocean creatures. That means I watch them as the move up and down in the water

**HAS STUDIED:**  
From rowboats to 300-foot long ice-breakers, led research projects worldwide including Sierra Nevada mountain lakes, New York City coastal waters, Jamaican coral reefs, and Antarctica

**THREE THINGS JOSEPH DOES TO HELP THE EARTH:**  
I recycle and compost. I ride my bike to work whenever I can



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**TRACEY SUTTON, PhD**  
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

**STUDIES:**  
Deep-sea ecology and ecosystem structure

**DEEPEND Focus**  
Deep-pelagic fishes, food webs, and is the DEEPEND Director

**HAS STUDIED:**  
Deep-sea life off Iceland, Azores, Sargasso, Antarctica, and the Gulf of Mexico

**THREE THINGS TRACEY DOES TO HELP THE EARTH:**  
Promote deep-ocean conservation and management, study who eats whom, and raise awareness of deep-sea biodiversity

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**MAHMOOD SHIVJI, PhD**  
NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

**STUDIES:**  
The ecology, migrations and DNA of sharks, rays, billfish and coral reef fish

**DEEPEND Focus**  
Identify the hidden deep-sea fish species by examining their DNA.

**HAS STUDIED:**  
Sharks and billfishes all over the world by tracking them with waterproof, mini-computers we attach to the fish.

**THREE THINGS MAHMOOD DOES TO HELP THE EARTH:**  
I recycle all containers, compost kitchen waste, and use my own cloth grocery bags



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**Isabel Romero, PhD**  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA

**STUDIES:**  
Geochemical indicators of environmental disturbance

**DEEPEND Focus**  
Measures chemicals in animals to know their contamination levels

**HAS STUDIED:**  
Colombia, Panama and Belize mangrove forests; Santa Barbara Basin salt marshes, California and Nevada lake systems; Gulf of Mexico deep sea

**THREE THINGS ISABEL DOES TO HELP THE EARTH:**  
Recycle, take shorter showers to save water, buy recycled and natural products when possible

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