



# DEP Linkups

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SOUTH DISTRICT

## Balancing Population Pressures & Nature Needs in Aquatic Preserves

### Speaker Bio:

**Melynda Brown**, Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection - Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves

Mindy Brown has been with the Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserves since 2004 and is currently the Aquatic Preserve Manager. Mindy has a B.S. degree in Environmental Science from the University at Buffalo, NY, (go Bills!) and has taken graduate level courses at Florida Gulf Coast University. She oversees management and monitoring activities and coordinates with partners to accomplish management plan goals. She was recently awarded a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant to remove marine debris from artificial reefs, and she also leads numerous projects to analyze monitoring data. She enjoys boating and diving in the local aquatic preserves and watching her kids play soccer!