

UF Water Institute  
Lightning Talk Series  
“Use of Thermal Refuge Habitat to Set Flow Regulations in River Systems:  
Research and Collaboration Needs”  
December 2, 2020  
2:00pm – 3:00pm  
[Zoom Registration](#)

**Abstract:** Thermal refuge from groundwater springs provides winter habitat for tropical/subtropical species such as expanding snook populations and manatees in northern Florida. However, changes in spring flow due to droughts and water withdrawals could influence availability of thermal refuge habitat during winter. Management agencies are exploring the use of thermal refuge availability when setting minimum flow and level regulations to protect aquatic systems. These presentations will highlight ongoing work in the region for thermal refuge monitoring and evaluation, with a focus on refuge habitat for snook populations, which support popular fisheries. The webinar will provide opportunities for academics and state agency partners to discuss methods for monitoring and predicting thermal refuge habitat, and we encourage participation from those interested in spring flow and thermal imaging of freshwater systems.



The banner features a dark blue top section with two orange lightning bolts on either side. Below this is a teal section with a large image of a snook fish swimming over a sandy bottom. The text is arranged in a clean, professional layout.

**University of Florida Water Institute**  
**LIGHTNING TALK SERIES**

**Use of Thermal Refuge Habitat to Set Flow Regulations in River Systems: Research and Collaboration Needs**

**December 2, 2020, 2:00-3:00pm**  
**Zoom Registration: <https://bit.ly/3oGKnxV>**

**Moderator:**  
**Dr. Micheal Allen**  
Professor, Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences  
University of Florida

**SPEAKER PANEL FEATURING:**

- ▶ Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- ▶ Southwest Florida Water Management District
- ▶ Suwannee River Water Management District

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