



SMS Fall 2017 Seminar Series

October 6, 2017

11:00 a.m. ~ 354 Aubert Hall

Using Molecular Biology to Solve Intractable Questions Concerning Harmful Algal Bloom Species

Wayne Litaker, Ph.D.
Supervisory Ecologist
NOAA National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science
Beaufort, NC



Molecular methods have afforded incredibly powerful tool sets to address previously unanswerable questions regarding Harmful Algal Bloom species (HABs). This seminar presents an overview of how our laboratory has used molecular methods to tackle major issues in HAB research over the past 15 years. These include: (1) whether *Pfiesteria*, the cell from Hell, is or is not a major environmental threat; (2) identification and detection of *Gambierdiscus* species that cause ciguatera fish poisoning, the largest cause of nonbacterial seafood poisoning globally; and (3) assessment of toxic *Alexandrium* species densities and associated environmental factors to predict when the risk of paralytic shellfish poisoning in Alaska is greatest. Emphasis will be placed on how molecular methods can be used to address other important challenges in marine science.

Polycom availability with Darling Marine Center, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, and Bigelow Laboratories

Host: David Townsend (davidt@maine.edu)

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