

26th Annual International Submerged Lands Management Conference
Access to the Waterfront: Issues and Solutions Across the Nation

Speaker: Thomas Murray

Abstract: Over 140 Sea Grant agents, coastal zone managers and other individuals recently responded to a survey on coastal access issues throughout the country. The purpose of the survey, which was hosted by Maine Sea Grant and an advisory committee from the Sea Grant network and CZM programs, was to identify the causes and effects of coastal access threats throughout the country, how Sea Grant programs and their partners are addressing it, and what approaches have become success stories in protecting coastal access for a diversity of stakeholders. The intent of the ISLMC presentation is to offer a nationwide perspective on the scope of the problem. The goal is to inform a discussion on the development of a nationwide strategy for addressing coastal access problems through consolidated and targeted programming.

Speaker Information: Thomas J. Murray currently holds a faculty appointment in Marine Business at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science at the College of William & Mary. He has practiced applied natural resource economic analysis for over thirty years. He has broad experience in economic development, finance, marine industry economics, teaching and research. His work has addressed financial feasibility analysis and forecasting; marine industry infrastructure development; product market development; economic impact analysis; and industry consensus building and conflict resolution.