

## **Eric Reyier**

### Kennedy Space Center Ecological Program

Eric Reyier works as a marine biologist in the Kennedy Space Center Ecological Program at nearby Cape Canaveral. Originally from Seattle, he fell in love with sunshine and is now on year seventeen of a planned two year Florida adventure. He received his doctorate here locally at Florida Institute of Technology in 2005 and has since studied everything from tiny larval fishes to adult sharks. The KSC Ecological Program has been a member of the FACT Network since 2008 and their current research focuses on using acoustic telemetry and other technologies to resolve habitat preferences, migrations, and spawning locations of coastal fishes and sea turtles in the Canaveral region and throughout the southeastern United States. Current species under study include several shark species (lemon, blacknose, finetooth, sharpnose, and scalloped hammerheads), economically valuable sportfish such as red and black drum, bluefish, mackerel, and cobia, and green and loggerhead turtles. A central theme of this research is to document how protected waters of KSC export fish to the rest of the Indian River Lagoon, and how human actions such as sand dredging for beach renourishment, pile driving, and military sonar influence fish and turtle behavior.