

Matt Ajemian

Florida Atlantic University

Dr. Matt Ajemian is as an Assistant Research Professor at Florida Atlantic University's Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute. Ajemian, originally from Long Island, NY, earned his Ph.D. in Marine Sciences at University of South Alabama / Dauphin Island Sea Lab in 2011 and spent four years as a postdoc and research scientist at the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. His major research interests lie in the ecology and conservation of exploited and vulnerable fish species such as sharks and rays. Over the course of his career Ajemian has conducted telemetry research on topics such as ray foraging behavior and predator-prey interactions, shark habitat use, migration, and post-release behavior of exploited reef fishes. His work has spanned a continuum of marine and estuarine ecosystems from Alaska to the Caribbean and ranging from confined inshore lagoons to offshore reefs. Ajemian has fitted and tracked hundreds of animals with acoustic and satellite tags over the years to provide ecological data necessary to management and conservation. His current work includes biotelemetry studies to track shark and ray use of fixed and dynamic habitats in Florida's Indian River Lagoon and adjacent coastal waters, as well as developing novel technology to reveal intra- and inter-species interactions among fishes and other organisms.