Dr. Tyler Smith is a coral reef ecologist interested in the dynamics of coral reef populations, physical and anthropogenic forcing of ecological systems, and human health aspects of coral ecology. As the research coordinator for the US Virgin Islands Coral Reef Monitoring Program Dr. Smith seeks to conduct investigations and form collaborations that strengthen our understanding of the workings and fates of coral reefs. His current research focuses on the impacts of natural and man-made disturbances on coral reefs, the ecology of deeper coral ecosystems that form below 30m of water depth, reef refugia, and ecological aspects of Ciguatera Fish Poisoning. Dr. Smith has been a researcher, teacher, and student mentor at the University of the Virgin Islands for ten years and has received and directly managed over four and a half million dollars in funding and published over 30 peer-reviewed publications.