

Supporting the Blue Economy - SECOORA Annual Meeting

Hyatt House Charleston/Historic District, 560 King Street, Charleston, SC 29403

May 22-24, 2018 | [Website](#) | *Speaker Biography*

Kelly Thorvalson



Kelly Thorvalson
South Carolina Aquarium

Kelly Thorvalson is a native of Georgetown, SC and received her Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Biology from the College of Charleston. Kelly began working with the South Carolina Aquarium as an Aquarist in 1999, a year before the Aquarium opened its doors. In addition to helping build the initial animal collection, Kelly helped with the first sea turtles admitted for rehabilitation in 2000. From 2004-2016, Kelly managed the Sea Turtle Care Center, greatly developing the program including a major expansion that opened in 2017. Kelly's current position is Conservation Programs Manager. In this role she is helping to advance sea turtle conservation initiatives beyond the Aquarium's walls. These initiatives include Good Catch, the Aquarium's sustainable seafood program, the Resiliency Initiative for Coastal Education working to arm coastal communities with information and tools to understand rising sea levels, and strategic plastics initiatives to reduce the negative environmental impacts of plastics.