

THE HARVARD CLUB OF SARASOTA www.SarasotaHarvardClub.Org

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THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY

NEWS About the Gulf of Mexico!



With

Dr. Steven Murawski

University of South Florida
College of Marine Science

Friday, April 13 — 11:30 am to 1:30 pm
Alumni & Guests @ \$25 per person

Michael's on East, 1212 South East Ave. Sarasota 34239 Michael's Exquisite Plated Lunch with Dessert • Soft Drinks, Coffee & Tea Business Casual • Cash Bar

World-renowned fisheries biologist and marine ecologist Steve Murawski understands the impacts of human activities on the

sustainability of ocean ecosystems. As Chief Scientist at NOAA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Fisheries Service, he supervised 1400 employees, 600 contractors, 11 ocean-going research vessels and 25 laboratories from Maine to the western Pacific islands.

BAD OR UGLY NEWS?: On April 20, 2010, the Deepwater Horizon offshore oil platform explosion caused the largest marine oil spill in history. For the next 86 days, people watched in horror as five million barrels of oil flowed into the ecologically fragile Gulf of Mexico. The unsuccessful attempts to stop the flow of oil drove in-depth discussions about measuring and managing the impacts of offshore drilling. Is the Gulf recovering or dying from that disaster?

GOOD NEWS: In 2011, for the first time in a century, U.S. fishermen won't overfish any species from our seas. The New England fleet deteriorated in the mid-1990s from 1,200 boats to about 580 today. Murawski believes fishermen have endured their worst times. The end of overfishing comes during a turbulent fishing year when New England fishermen switch to a radically new management system. It signals increasingly healthy fish stocks and better days for fishermen who've suffered financially.



Dr. Murawski retired last year from NOAA and is currently the "Peter Betzer Endowed Chair" Research Professor at USF, College of Marine Science in St. Petersburg. He received his Ph.D. from UMass Amherst. He received the Presidential Award For Meritorious Service from President Obama in 2009 and the Gold Medal from the US Dept. of Commerce in 2007. His current areas of interest include understanding how to recover the Gulf of Mexico from effects of the oil spill, loss of juvenile nursery areas, nutrient enrichment, overfishing and other factors.

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