

Seán McGlynn has spent his whole life absorbed with aquatic systems. As a youngster he was a competitive swimmer and a recreational diver. He has studied aquatic ecosystems from the bayous of the Mississippi to the coral reefs of the Florida Keys. As an undergraduate at Louisiana State University he worked at the Center for Coastal Research restoring Louisiana's disappearing wetlands. As a graduate student at Florida State University he was a director at the Center for Aquatic Research and Resource Management where he performed ecosystem studies in the Apalachicola, Escambia, Perdido and Amelia Bays and Estuaries. After graduating with a PhD in Biological Science under the legendary ecologist, Robert J. Livingston, he started an environmental water quality laboratory and undertook the management of numerous lakes in the Florida Panhandle. He became interested in the unique karst hydrology of the region and the interaction of the karst lakes with the largest and deepest spring vent spring in Florida, Wakulla Spring, only to discover that the karst system was intimately linked to the coast at Spring Creek and other Marine Springs. Now he is documenting the changes in this intricately complex karst system and the rising sea levels which are changing everything.

He earned a Master's Degree and finished with a Doctorate at FSU. His dissertation concerned the biological cycling of PAHs, their metabolism by aquatic plants and their fate in the food chain, in a karst lake, Lake Jackson. Seán analyzes samples from all over the world specializing in plant pigments like chlorophyll, phaeophytin and phycoerythrin. He has conducted fluorescent dye studies connecting sinkholes in the karst lakes to the caverns and the boil at Wakulla Spring. He is currently studying the optical properties in Wakulla Springs as this historic spring is restored and the nitrates are reduced, the visibility is improving and the natural native aquatic plants are returning, a perfect habitat for the gentle manatee. He combats invasive exotics and has developed patented innovative biological control technologies and testing methodologies. Dr. Seán E. McGlynn has been the Chapter President for the North West Florida Chapter of the Florida Lake Management Society, a board member on the Florida Water Resources Monitoring Council, a member of Friends of Wakulla Springs and the Wakulla Spring Alliance as well as the Technical Director for McGlynn Laboratories Inc.