

# UConn

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Department of Marine Sciences  
Presents a Seminar by

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**Environmental stressors and the loss of bivalve ecosystem services**

Bivalves provide a variety of ecosystem services, and are recognized for their potential to contribute to developing Blue Economies around the globe. From water quality improvement to sustainable maintenance of good habitat condition, bivalves can contribute to Nature-based Solutions to restore impaired aquatic ecosystems. Fossil records provide evidence that these essential services have been developed for millennia but bivalve stocks have decreased worldwide as a consequence of overfishing, habitat loss, and poor water quality, and with their disappearance, coastal ecosystems have also lost their water quality and habitat services. Further declines in water quality and habitat serve as stressors to the bivalves that remain, which may lead to increased disease prevalence or feeding suppression, which can be estimated and added to the loss of services provided. Understanding the goods and services we have lost in aquatic ecosystems and the critical need for their recovery are key topics to provide valuable data for conservation and management worldwide.

**Host:** Penny Vlahos

**Time & Date:** 11:00 am, Friday, March 26, 2021

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