Sapelo Island NERR Uses Reserve System Data to Train (STEM) Teachers

STEM Teachers Participate in System Wide Monitoring Workshops (SWMP) at the Sapelo Island NERR in Georgia
Photo Credit: Real STEM Cooperative

Earlier in July, the Sapelo Island NERR teamed with Georgia Southern University to host a three day Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) workshop focused on helping teachers better understand System Wide Monitoring Program (SWMP) data and the relevance of the local, regional and national SWMP programs. The workshop was funded by a "Real STEM" grant through the Governor's Office of Student Achievement/Georgia Race to the Top Innovation Fund. The teachers involved in the workshop were trained to interpret real-time SWMP data transmitted from our GOES telemetry weather and water quality stations. They also enjoyed working in the estuary on various monitoring projects. Ultimately, the teachers will take SWMP back to the classroom for hands-on student exposure and interaction with everything from data downloading and querying, to graphic interpretation and ultimately, hypothesis testing, using all of the functions of SWMP from a remote classroom location.

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