The Planet Ocean Seminar Series offers four lectures each academic year, featuring prominent speakers from our own faculty and other leading research institutions, from well-known environmental organizations and from government agencies.

The Planet Ocean Seminar Series is free and open to the public. The seminar is held in the Hodder Hall of Mentors, the main auditorium at the UNCW Center for Marine Science, 5600 Marvin K. Moss Lane. The seminar will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. Light hors d'oeuvres will follow.

Due to limited seating, reservations are required. Advance registration for Bluefish Society members will end Apr. 4. The general public may begin registering on Apr. 5.

To make reservations or for further information, please call the UNCW Center for Marine Science at 910-962-2301.

Planet Ocean Seminar:
The Hidden Reefs: Deep-Sea Corals

The World of the Ocean

Bluefish Society membership entitles you to preferred seating at Planet Ocean seminars and much more. Please join our school of Bluefish Society members and help us keep the outreach tradition at CMS afloat. For details, call us at 910-962-2408.

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Dr. Ross is a native of North Carolina and has spent most of his career involved in marine science of the southeast region. He earned a B.S. degree in zoology from Duke University, a Master’s degree from UNC-Chapel Hill, and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University. He was the Research Coordinator for the NC Coastal Reserve Program for 13 years. He is currently a research faculty at UNC-W and also has led offshore studies for the US Geological Survey. His area of specialization is ichthyology (fishes), particularly in areas of ecology and life history studies (age, growth, feeding, reproduction). He has conducted numerous, diverse projects in estuaries and offshore waters and has served as chief scientist on many cruises, including those using submersibles and ROVs. The current work of Dr. Ross and his team involves assessment of the fish communities of unique deep water habitats off the southeastern US, in the Gulf of Mexico, and in the Middle Atlantic Bight. In particular, they are looking at energy flow (trophodynamics) and relationships of animals to various habitats, including coral banks, canyon systems, and rocky areas. Dr. Ross is also involved with European scientists in conducting deep-sea trans-Atlantic ecosystem studies. One ultimate goal of this research program is to provide information for these poorly known areas that will facilitate management and protection of productive and vulnerable habitats.