



To enter the challenge, go to
www.bluegreenconnections.org



The Hope for the Future Challenge
is a collaboration of:



Blue-Green Connections is a non-profit organization whose goal is to educate and inspire people to protect our land and waters.



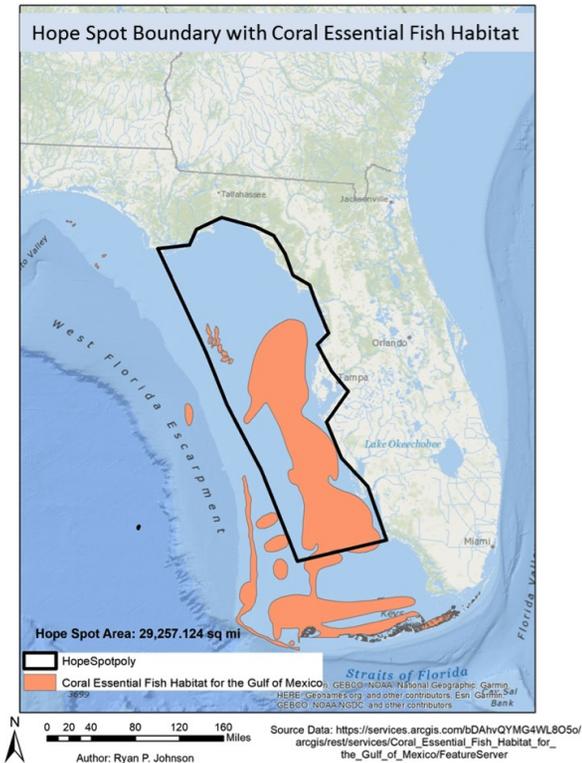
The mission of the Tampa Bay Estuary Program is to build partnerships to restore and protect Tampa Bay, Florida's largest open-water estuary and an "estuary of national significance."



Protect Our Florida
Gulf Coast Hope Spot!

For Tampa Bay Area
Students K-12

Hope Spots are special places that are critical to the health of the ocean. But did you know that every time you go the beach or to a waterfront park or to downtown Tampa on the Riverwalk, you are in our Hope Spot? Now that know where our Hope Spot is located, think about how you can help.





Think Chippo the Hippo for threats to our Gulf Coast Hope Spot?



- ◆ Climate Change
- ◆ Habitat Loss
- ◆ Invasive Species
- ◆ Pollution
- ◆ Population-Human
- ◆ Overharvesting

Here are some organizations to help you learn more about these threats.

[Blue-Green Connections](http://www.bluegreenconn.org/)

www.bluegreenconn.org/

[The Tampa Bay Estuary Program](http://www.tbep.org/)

www.tbep.org/

[The Ocean Conservancy](http://www.oceanconservancy.org/)

www.oceanconservancy.org/

[U.S. Fish and Wildlife](https://www.fws.gov/)

<https://www.fws.gov/>

[Gulf Coast Preservation Society](https://gulfpreserve.org/)

<https://gulfpreserve.org/>

[International Union for Conservation of Nature](http://www.iucn.org/) www.iucn.org/



Join the challenge! Tips for Getting Started

- ◆ How do you and your family enjoy being in a Hope Spot? Do you hike, swim, fish, collect shells, canoe, kayak, birdwatch, eat at restaurants, shop?
- ◆ How you would feel if something happened to our Hope Spot? What have you noticed that might harm or help our Hope Spot?
- ◆ What can you do to help others see what you see so that your idea might change their behavior?
- ◆ How would you express all of these ideas in a project?

Types of Projects

- ◆ Video
- ◆ Song
- ◆ Artwork
- ◆ Photograph
- ◆ Game
- ◆ PowerPoint
- ◆ Your own idea
- ◆ Poster
- ◆ Flyer
- ◆ Brochure
- ◆ Essay
- ◆ Letter
- ◆ Poem
- ◆ Science Fair Project

Multiple ways to participate

- ◆ As an in-person or at home student
- ◆ As a Florida Virtual School student
- ◆ As an extra credit or homework assignment
- ◆ As an individual or group project



Who can win?

Challenge

- ◆ 15 students with most creative and influential projects each win \$100.
- ◆ 3 teachers with the most participants each win \$100.
- ◆ Winning students will be publicly recognized as well as participating schools and teachers.
- ◆ Select winning projects displayed in Tarpon Springs Aquarium.
- ◆ Your family, friends, and community win as they are educated about the Hope Spot and how to protect it.

How can you win?

Your project should address the following questions.

- ◆ Why is the ocean important to you and to everyone?
- ◆ How do our human actions affect our waters—positively or negatively?
- ◆ How would your idea for changing our everyday behaviors help make our Gulf waters cleaner and healthier for us and the many animals that call it home?
- ◆ How creative is your project?
- ◆ Does your project have the ability to influence others?