Research Capabilities

The 65-ft R/V Apalachee is the flagship vessel of the FSU Coastal & Marine Laboratory (FSUCML) fleet. This floating laboratory travels through the coastal zone (minimum depth of 6') to the deep-sea allowing scientists and students to conduct research on the ocean's biological, chemical, geological, and physical features of coastal and oceanic waters. With an average cruising speed of 12-16 knots and the capability of remaining at sea for 5-6 days, the R/V Apalachee is a great choice for both single and multi-day research cruises.

The R/V Apalachee provides a platform for research in habitats ranging from coastal seagrass meadows to hardbottom reefs on the continental shelf and beyond. The wide work deck is equipped with an A-frame and associated deck winch that facilitate deployment and recovery of field gear (e.g., traps, longlines, sediment-coring devices; sidescan sonar, CTDs, and ROVs) and large animals. It also has high-intensity lighting for night-time operations.

The vessel accommodates scientific research that requires scuba diving, providing divers with easy access to and from the water from stable dive platforms and extended ladders. The portable dive compressor provides on-site scuba tank air fills, so that divers can remain at sea for days at a time.

The R/V Apalachee sleeps 6 scientists, has a full galley, and is equipped with a reverse osmosis watermaker that produces 30-40 gallons of freshwater per hour.
The Small Boat Fleet

The small (12-ft to 28-ft) boats in the FSUCML fleet accommodate research in the shallow bays and coastal areas of the northeastern Gulf of Mexico. All boats have USCG approved and required safety devices, as well as VHF radios, GPS, and depth-sounding devices. FSUCML boat captains are available to captain any vessel, if needed, and are required for boats exceeding 26 ft.

BOATS AVAILABLE FOR USE


KAYAK – FSUCML has three tandem (two person) kayaks and five single person kayaks ranging from 12.5-ft -13.5-ft.

TO RESERVE any of the FSUCML Vessels, please visit marinelab.fsu.edu/facilities/reservations for the online registration form.

If you have any questions about vessels or registration, contact the Reservations Desk at fsucml@fsu.edu or (850) 697-4120.
Housing and Research Facilities

THE FSUCML is the perfect spot for extended stays for research, class field trips, and institutional retreats. The five dormitories can accommodate up to 40 people—4 smaller dorms each sleep 6 (two of which are ADA compliant and have kitchenettes); and one larger dorm that sleeps 16 and has a fully-equipped kitchen.

We offer a broad range of meeting, classroom, and research spaces. Meetings or classes can be held in the Auditorium (maximum 70 people), Conference Room (max. 10), Large Classroom (max. 42), Small Classroom (max. 18), or the Herrnkind Greenhouse (max. 15). Research space is available in individual or communal-use laboratories (e.g., analytical lab, microscope lab, aquarium room), in three greenhouses, and in a tank array beneath the main laboratory. A marine technician is available to assist with equipment in the lab or in the field.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about FSUCML facilities or to plan your stay, visit marinelab.fsu.edu/facilities or contact the Reservations Desk at fsucml@fsu.edu or call (850) 697-4120.