



Right Fish, Wrong Place: Invaders in the Coastal Zone

A PILOT PROGRAM FOR JOURNALISTS TO EXPLORE THE SCIENCES AND THEIR CRAFT

Saturday, September 6, 2014 (10 am—3 pm): free event, lunch included

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)

647 Contees Wharf Rd., Edgewater, MD 21037

Louise Lief, a longtime journalist now at the Wilson Center working on the project *Science and the Media* and the Smithsonian Institution are collaborating on an educational initiative to enable all journalists to explore and enjoy the sciences while learning new craft skills.

During this experiential pilot program, journalists will:

- **Roam** the grounds and canoe in the waters of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, a beautiful 2500 acre preserve 25 miles east of Washington, D.C. You will search the marshes and rivers that feed into the Chesapeake Bay for creatures that don't belong, accompanied by SERC scientists who work with the Coast Guard and fisheries.
- **Learn** from Smithsonian experts in an interactive session about software they are designing to enable the U.S. and international public to contribute images and information to citizen science and crowdsourcing projects, and mine big data in easy, highly visual ways. The largest museum and research complex in the world, the Smithsonian has 30 million annual visitors, and 140 million unique yearly visitors to its website.
- **Hear** from the senior executive of a major seafood distributor who created a national market for what he prefers to call "overabundant" seafood.
- **Eat** snakehead and blue catfish (two delicious species that don't belong in the Chesapeake) prepared by professional chefs.

This is the second of two pilot programs to test an interactive professional development model featuring science content combined with a journalism craft component. The first program, "Hidden Light," in collaboration with New York's American Museum of Natural History, explored the realm of marine animals that glow and underwater photography.

We will ask journalists to fill out an evaluation form at the event's conclusion to tell us what they thought of the experience. Participants do not need to be science journalists. *Each news organization may send up to three staff members. Independent journalists are welcome.*

Questions? Contact Louise Lief 202-607-4428 / llief@mediaandscience.org

RSVP TODAY

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