Presenter: **Mikaela Heming [10:45 to 11:15]**

Presentation Title: **Resilience to Future Flooding in the Gulf of Mexico**

Abstract: The Gulf of Mexico is an area of rich culture and beautiful coastlines; however, coastal living comes with ever-increasing risk. Communities are already experiencing increased flooding and magnified storm surge—both due in part to sea-level rise (SLR). Many Gulf communities are already taking steps to become more resilient to current and future hazards, helping them reduce storm damage and prepare for future conditions. This effort seeks to simultaneously inspire and provide resources for communities in the northern Gulf of Mexico to complete their own SLR resilience project. Communities can learn and obtain ideas through five case study videos that highlight Gulf communities undertaking various resilience projects. Within each video, there is local information about these types of strategies and available resources for the northwest Florida coast. Additionally, this project generated three (3) SLR informational videos specific to the northern Gulf of Mexico region. These videos cover basic information about SLR in the northern Gulf, how SLR will change storm surge, and how SLR resilience can be integrated into planning. In addition to the videos, the project provides a funding opportunity for northern Gulf communities to conduct their own SLR resilience project. Altogether, this project aims to help local communities prepare for this pressing issue by reducing fiscal and communication barriers.

Mikaela Heming
Mikaela Heming is a Project Coordinator specializing in science communication. After working on a climate tool for the DOI NE Climate Science Center, she moved south to tackle sea-level rise by working with the Northern Gulf of Mexico Sentinel Site Cooperative to make sea-level rise science more accessible to a multitude of stakeholder groups. Heming received a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and specialized in Journalism.