



# 2019 Eagle Hill Natural History Science Field Seminars...

... on the Coast of Maine, just east of Acadia National Park

## MARINE BENTHIC INVERTEBRATES

July 7 – July 13, 2019

The diverse marine habitats of downeast Maine hold a rich array of boreal benthic invertebrates that contribute to the high productivity of the region. This seminar provides an introduction to the natural history and ecology of the macroinvertebrates. Primary topics are benthic communities and habitats, taxonomy, biogeography, ecological health, and ecosystem services. Field trips to intertidal mudflats and by small boat to subtidal soft-bottom habitats provide samples for identification and quantification. Labs provide opportunities to key out common benthic invertebrates. Computer software used to analyze community data is introduced, using a nearshore Gulf of Maine data set. This seminar is intended for marine researchers, environmental consultants, conservation biologists, teachers, natural historians, and others curious about what lives on the bottom and how these communities contribute to marine ecosystems.



### About the instructors

**Niels-Viggo Hobbs** (nvshobbs@uri.edu) is a postdoctoral research fellow with the Environmental Protection Agency and a lecturer at the University of Rhode Island. His research focuses on invasive marine invertebrates, the ecology of marine crustaceans, and the effects of ocean acidification and hypoxia on coastal invertebrates.

**Stephen Hale** (stephenshale@gmail.com) is a marine benthic ecologist retired from the Atlantic Ecology Division laboratory of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Narragansett, Rhode Island. His interests include marine invertebrate biodiversity, ecosystem services, and historical ecology.