

Acknowledgments

I would like to acknowledge the many sources of financial assistance that made this research possible, specifically:

- the University of South Florida College of Arts & Sciences, for two University Graduate Fellowships
- the USF College of Marine Science, for the John B. Lake Fellowship, the St. Petersburg Progress Fellowship in Coastal Science, and the Marine Science Fellowship
- the Office of Naval Research, Grant #N00014-96-1-5032, “Utilizing Autonomous Underwater Vehicles for Seafloor Mapping, Target Identification, and Predictive Model Testing”

I would also like to acknowledge and thank my co-major professors, Albert Hine and David Naar, for their seemingly unlimited help and guidance, and my committee members Dawn Lavoie, Peter Howd, Stan Locker, and David Mallinson for their ideas and creativity in helping me complete this work.