

National Association of Wetland Managers Annual State/Tribal/Federal Coordination Meeting

Filling the Gaps & Embracing Change

National Conservation Training Center
Shepherdstown, WV

June 17-20, 2024



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

(Please note, not all speakers have submitted biographies.)



Julia Anastasio joined the Association of Clean Water Administrators in May 2014 as the Executive Director and General Counsel. ACWA is an independent, nonpartisan national organization of state and interstate water program managers, who on a daily basis implement the water quality programs of the federal Clean Water Act. At ACWA, Ms. Anastasio focuses on working with state water program directors and EPA's Office of Water on ensuring that the states have the flexibility and resources they need to implement the Clean Water Act in their home states. Ms. Anastasio has over two decades of experience in government, administrative and environmental law and federal policy development. She began her career with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection as an Executive Policy Specialist and returned to Washington, DC in 2005 to work for the America

Public Works Association (APWA). While at APWA, she focused on environmental, sustainability and infrastructure development at the local, state and federal levels. Ms. Anastasio earned her B.A. from Franklin Marshall College, her Masters in Environmental Law and Policy from Vermont Law School, and her J.D. from American University.



Dana Ashford-Kornburger is a National Climate Coordinator at the USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), is an innovative leader with expertise in agricultural policy, USDA conservation programs, sustainable crop production, and resource management. Leading the NRCS Climate Office since October 2022, she coordinates and provides oversight for all agency efforts related to climate change, including mitigation, adaptation, and resiliency. Dana has worked most of her 23-year career at NRCS at the national, state, area, and field levels, however she also served as the Director of the Farm Service Agency's Conservation Division and started her USDA career as an agronomist with the Agricultural Research Service. She holds a B.S. in Agricultural Systems and Environment - Sustainable Production Option from UC Davis and a M.S. in Agronomy and Soils from Auburn University.



Tyler Bell is the Director of Westervelt Ecological Services' Rocky Mountain Region. Her responsibilities include agency coordination, permitting, establishment, monitoring and success of mitigation/restoration projects, staff management, and oversight of business development efforts. In 2013, Ms. Bell received her Professional Wetland Scientist designation from the Society of Wetland Scientists, where she served as South Central Chapter Board Member and Secretary for several years. She served as Rocky Mountain Chapter secretary for over 2.5 years. In 2017, Ms. Bell received her Certified Wildlife Biologist certificate from The Wildlife Society. Tyler is a recent graduate of the Sustainability Master's Degree Program at Harvard University. Her capstone comprised working with the Blackfeet Environmental Office (BEO) to support BEO Wetland Program Plan Goals.

Specifically, she developed a comprehensive wetland conservation and restoration site spatial analysis geodatabase for quick identification of suitable sites on the Reservation, a list of prioritized wetland conservation and restoration sites, and developed enhanced compensatory wetland mitigation guidance for the permitting and oversight of impacts occurring on the Reservation.



Joe Berg is a Senior Systems Ecologist at Biohabitats, Inc., where he is the Practice Lead for Ecological Restoration. Joe has been working in environmental consulting in the mid-Atlantic for 40 years and is focused on improving restoration through challenging the restoration community to recognize and understand at a deeper level that we are all working in novel ecosystems where 'normal' and 'contemporary reference' paradigms offer little to guide our efforts. Ecological solutions founded on this understanding of anthropogenic context need to lead ecological and engineering practices to restore ecosystem process and services above form.



Chad Berginnis is the Executive Director at the Association of State Floodplain Managers. In 2011, Mr. Berginnis joined the staff of the Association of State Floodplain Managers (ASFPM). For more than 30 years, his work has focused on floodplain management, hazard mitigation, and land use planning at the state, local and private sector levels. As a state official, Chad worked in the Ohio Floodplain Management Program and was Ohio's State Hazard Mitigation Officer. As a local official, he administered planning, economic development and floodplain management programs in Perry County, Ohio. In the private Sector, he was the national Practice Leader in hazard mitigation for Michael Baker Jr. Inc. Chad has served in an ASFPM volunteer leadership capacity for over a decade as ASFPM Insurance Committee Chair, Mitigation Policy Committees' Coordinator, Vice Chair, and Chair. He has a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources from Ohio State University.



Mark Biddle is a lead wetland scientist with more than 30 years of experience working for the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control. Located within the Watershed Assessment Section, Mark manages the Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program, the Watershed Management Program, Stream Habitat and Biology Program, and the Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Program. Mark has been involved in Delaware’s regulatory and permitting responsibilities for tidal wetlands, subaqueous lands, 401 water quality certification, and drafting legislation and regulations for non-tidal wetlands. His work has involved the Delaware Wetlands Conservation Strategy, wetland restoration, compensatory mitigation and wetland banking, assessing restored wetlands for nutrient assimilation, serving as team leader for Delaware Whole Basin

Management, and on various ecological and green infrastructure initiatives. Mark has participated on statewide and regional planning groups and represents Delaware on national wetland mapping and mitigation issues. Mark continues to produce reports on status and changes of Delaware wetlands using updated statewide wetland mapping efforts in partnership with the National Wetlands Inventory. Mark holds degrees in Natural Resource Management and Soil and Water Management and attended both Delaware State University and the University of Delaware.



Robyn S. Colosimo, P.E. is Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Project Planning and Review) in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works). In this role, she serves as the principal advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works) on the development, evaluation, authorization, and implementation of Corps of Engineers water resources projects, including flood damage reduction, harbor and inland navigation, ecosystem restoration, hurricane and storm damage reduction, recreation, water supply, and hydropower projects. She also has oversight responsibilities for the Corps' water resources planning and Civil Works technical and policy review functions.



Donna Downing is the Senior Legal Policy Advisor at the National Association of Wetland Managers. Donna was the Jurisdiction Team Leader in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds from 2007-2020. Donna worked on a variety of issues at EPA, with a focus in recent years on the geographic scope of the Clean Water Act (CWA) in light of the U.S. Supreme Court decisions. She also served as EPA’s staff lead for CWA section 401 water quality certification, and on wetland-related legal issues. Prior to joining EPA in 1998, Donna worked for the U.S. Congress Office of Technology Assessment and in private law practice. She has a BA magna cum laude from Harvard University, an MPP from the University of California at Berkeley, a JD cum laude from

Georgetown University Law School, and an LLM in Environmental Law summa cum laude from George Washington University Law School. Donna has been an adjunct professor at George Washington University Law School since 1996, teaching environmental law.

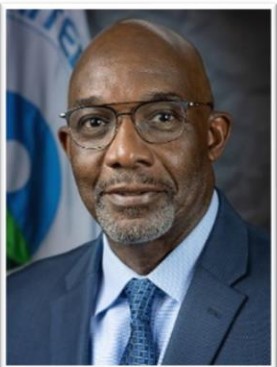


Dr. Rachel R. Fern is the Statewide Wetland Program Leader for the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department. She is responsible for the statewide administration of wetland habitat projects and research benefiting migratory game birds and works with partners outside the agency to identify research needs, secure funding, and promote public engagement. She is responsible for the design, coordination, and efficient operation of state and national programs related to wildlife and wetland habitats. Dr. Fern also serves as Wildlife Chair for the Society of Wetland Scientists hosting national and international symposia as well as graduate faculty at Texas A&M University-Kingsville to facilitate state-university research initiatives on the Texas coast.



Kurtis Fisher is a western North Carolina native who has spent the last five years living and working throughout the gulf coast region. He has a BS (Natural Resource Management & Conservation) from Western Carolina University and is currently pursuing a MS (Natural Resource Management) at Auburn University. With over 5 years of ecology-based field experiences, his professional and research interests pertain to habitat management, and topics in spatial and community ecology. His current work assesses the use of rapid assessment models to determine land use impacts on headwater wetland function and deep learning frameworks to improve forested wetland mapping. His work on wetland mapping utilizes the wetland intrinsic potential (WIP) tool, by incorporating multi-scale topographic indices, vegetative indices, and hydrologic proxies into a random forest model. Kurtis'

research explores relationships between headwater wetland presence, absence, and extent in coastal Alabama with land feature associations. He now seeks to provide guidance on the use of such tools for wetland mapping and bridge geospatial and field-based approaches for improved natural resource assessments. When he is not mapping or surveying wetlands, Kurtis spends his time trail running, hiking, birdwatching, and songwriting.



Brian Frazer is the Director of EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds. In this capacity, Brian oversees monitoring, assessment, nutrients, watershed restoration and protection, and non-point source pollution control efforts at the national, state, and local levels. Additionally, he manages a diverse portfolio of regulatory and non-regulatory programs focused on protecting and restoring the nation's waters. More specifically, Brian leads critical regulatory efforts associated with the Clean Water Act sections 312, 401, and 404 and the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act. Brian oversees several non-regulatory programs, including the National Estuary Program, Urban Waters, Coral Reefs, and Trash Free Waters. Brian has over 35 years of environmental experience and has worked at EPA for 25 years.



Matthew Gilbert began his role as the Pittsburgh District Regulatory Program Manager in 2023. He oversees and administers the District's mitigation portfolio under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Pittsburgh District's mitigation program is dedicated to improving the administration of these Acts by arriving at fair and timely decisions regarding replacement of lost aquatic resource functions through high-quality, innovative restoration. Prior to this role, Mr. Gilbert served as a Regulatory Project Manager at the North Atlantic Division Technical Regional Execution Center in 2023. He was responsible for administering the Corps' Regulatory Program throughout the entire Division. From 2014 to 2023, Matthew served as a Regulatory Project Manager in the Pittsburgh District. Matthew came to the Corps by way of

the National Park Service. He did work on the Yampa and Green Rivers at Dinosaur National Monument, the Buffalo River at Buffalo National River, and on the Devils, Pecos, and Rio Grande Rivers at Amistad National Recreation Area. He started his career with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service on the Missouri River at the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge in Montana.



David Goerman is a Water Program Specialist at the PA Department of Environmental Protection in the Division of Wetlands, Encroachment and Training, Bureau of Waterways Engineering and Wetlands. He's responsible for providing permitting and technical expertise on a wide range of issues involving waterways, wetlands, floodplains, and stormwater management. His most recent work has focused on aquatic resource headwater research, large-scale watershed restoration, and compensatory mitigation banking. He has worked on projects involving over 42 miles of stream restoration and 127 acres of wetland restoration work. David has worked in the Division since 1993 and has a B.S. Degree in the Biological Sciences from Clarion University, Clarion, PA.



Adam Gold is a Manager on EDF's Climate Resilient Coasts and Watersheds team, where he works on flood resilience research and policy. Adam's research mainly focuses on the flood resilience benefits of natural infrastructure, and he supports EDF's work on flood resilience policy development in North Carolina and Virginia. Prior to joining EDF, Adam was a postdoctoral researcher at the UNC Institute for the Environment where he researched the impacts of recurrent "sunny day" flooding on coastal communities. Adam is from the Raleigh, NC area and attended UNC Chapel Hill for his undergraduate and graduate degrees. His research during graduate school focused on the impacts of land use change on coastal water quality and hydrology in North Carolina.

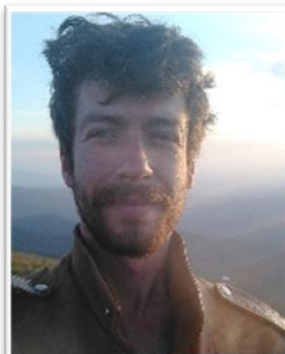


David Gordon currently is Chief, Branch of Science and Planning, with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Migratory Bird Program working out of Headquarters in Washington, DC. He has been with the Migratory Program since 2011 primarily focused on programs supporting public/private partnerships across the U.S., Canada, and Mexico to implement landscape scale conservation planning and delivery. These include the North American Waterfowl Management Plan partnership and associated Migratory Bird Joint Ventures; other continental bird conservation partnerships including Partners-In-Flight Landbird Plan, U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, and North American Waterbird Conservation Plan; the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Program (Duck Stamp); and North American Wetlands Conservation Act Grant Program. David received a B.S. and Ph.D. in wildlife

ecology from Michigan State University in 1977 and 1985, respectively, and an M.S. in wildlife biology from Oklahoma State University in 1981. He previously worked with Ducks Unlimited, Inc. as a Regional Biologist and Research Scientist, and with the Delta Waterfowl and Wetland Research Station, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, Canada, as a Research Scientist. His primary interests are wildlife-habitat relationships and their applications to large-scale conservation planning and ecosystem management.



Emerald Grant, III is the Blackfeet Nation, Blackfeet Environmental Office (BEO) Wetlands Manager. Emerald is a Blackfeet Nation Tribal member with an education in criminal justice and an interest in water rights administration. His primary work within the BEO comprises working to protect and inventory wetlands occurring within the Blackfeet Reservation in northwestern Montana. In this role, he assists with wetland permitting, water quality testing, floral and faunal surveys, and other efforts defined by the Tribal Nation's wetland and climate resiliency initiatives and goals.



Ian Grosfelt is an Environmental Analyst with NAWM wearing a variety of hats and working on a variety of projects. He has a BS in Agriculture from Cornell University and a Masters of Environmental Management from the Yale School of the Environment. Ian has a decade of experience working in environmental fields starting as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Senegal and continuing with environmental education organizations throughout New England as a facilitator, school gardener, and trainer. He is also trained in data analysis and geospatial mapping and has a passion for using these tools to further effective conservation. For side projects you can find Ian trying (and hopefully keeping) his hand at woodworking, biking new routes in Maine and building up a kitchen repertoire.



Tracy Hames is the Executive Director of the Wisconsin Wetlands Association. Tracy obtained a BA in Biology and Environmental Studies from Macalester College in 1984, and an MS in Natural Resources from the University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point in 1990. In 1989 he moved west to work as a Waterfowl and Wetlands Biologist for the Yakama Nation, where he stayed for 22 years. At Yakama he helped build one of the largest agricultural-based wetland protection and restoration projects in the Pacific Northwest. This project, located on the Yakama Reservation, made use of the cultures and traditions of the Yakama People along with science-based techniques to produce an approach to restoration combining traditional knowledge and ecological concepts.

Encompassing over 22,000 acres and hundreds of river/creek miles, this project emphasized the restoration of historic conditions in an incredibly disturbed landscape. Restoration activities targeted floodplains, river and creek channels, wetlands, riparian forests, and grasslands. Tracy moved back to Wisconsin in 2012 to take the position of Executive Director with Wisconsin Wetlands Association. In this position, he works across the state to help communities understand how wetlands can be solutions to the habitat, water quality, flooding, and other issues they face.



Mike Jones is a co-lead for the recently-formed Region 5 Tribal Wetland Working Group (R5 TWWG). The R5 TWWG is a tribally-led group made up of wetland staff from tribes in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. The group is focused on providing collaboration, networking, and training opportunities to help build staff expertise and program capacity. Before the R5 TWWG was formed, Mike was active in the Wisconsin TWWG, a similar group that included all 11 Wisconsin tribes. For the past seven years, Mike has been the Wetland Specialist for the Stockbridge-Munsee Community (SMC), a federally recognized tribe located in Northeast Wisconsin. He manages the Tribe's wetland program, which includes protection, monitoring, and restoration. Recent work has focused on monitoring and mitigating the impacts of emerald ash borer on black ash swamps and

restoring hydrologic connectivity through improved design and construction of wetland and stream crossings. Like many staff from small tribes, Mike is also involved in a variety of non-wetland activities, including everything from wolf monitoring to log scaling to electrofishing. Mike has a B.S. in Biology and Wildlife Ecology from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and an M.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Resources from West Virginia University.



Lauren Krohmer is an Oak Ridge Associated Universities contractor with the Center for Public Health and Environmental Assessment at the U.S. EPA. Lauren supports geospatial work that investigates links between human health and ecosystems, utilizing novel techniques to highlight these connections. This work is part of the EnviroAtlas tool, a public repository of spatial data and literature concerning ecosystem services and human-ecosystem interactions. Her past research includes investigating impacts of ecosystem management and alteration on ecosystem behavior and ecosystem connectivity. She also has a background in teaching environmental science in school and community settings and creating different forms of translational science media to communicate science to different audiences. She has a B.S. in Environmental Science from Northeastern University and a master's degree from the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management.



Ted LaGrange has worked as the Wetland Program Manager for the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission since 1993. As Wetland Program Manager he works on a wide variety of wetland issues throughout Nebraska including partnerships, private lands restoration programs, public lands management, research, regulations, and outreach. Prior to moving to Nebraska, he worked for 8 years as a Waterfowl Research Technician for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. Ted received B.S. and M.S. degrees in wildlife biology from Iowa State University. His professional interests are in prairie wetlands and waterfowl/water bird ecology.



Jeff Lapp is NAWM’s Senior Science Policy Advisor. He previously spent over 32 years with the Environmental Protection Agency, primarily in the wetlands program. Starting out in the wetlands enforcement program in Region 3, he conducted many wetland inspections and has testified as both an expert and fact witness in civil and criminal federal cases. For the past 12 years, Jeff has been the Chief of the Wetlands Branch at EPA Region 3 overseeing both the regulatory and non-regulatory wetlands programs, the oceans disposal program and the Watershed Resource Registry. He has also had a host of acting positions including the Deputy Director for the Environmental Assessment and Innovation Division, the Deputy Director for the Office of Public Affairs, the Wetlands Regulatory Branch Chief at EPA Head Quarters and the Wetlands Technical Enforcement Lead at EPA Head Quarters. His technical skills include

conducting wetlands identification training for both novice and experienced delineators from state and federal programs. In addition to teaching wetlands delineation, he has taught classes in hydric soils and plant identification and been a guest lecturer at Penn and Temple University on wetlands and horticultural issues.



Stacy Laravie (Ponca Tribe of Nebraska): My Ponca name is Star, and my English name is Stacy Laravie. I am Ponca, I am a 3x great granddaughter to Chief Standing Bear of the Ponca. I am a Mother and Matriarch first. I am a former THPO and NAGPRA consultant; I have traditional knowledge in cultural resources and am traditional knowledge keeper. I have a background with plant & indigenous foodways and traditional ecological knowledge in the sciences. It is my humble honor to protect and honor the sacred work that THPOs do. I am a Mother of 3 and a cat mom to my bowtie-wearing cat, Binx. I am based in Nebraska and in my spare time: I have a Nebraska history podcast and I am a chef specializing in indigenous foods and ancestral foods of the Ponca. Food preservationist, writer, artist, forager, seed keeper, and land water protector. I enjoy anything out in the trees, on the water, and involving music.



Brenda Mallory is the 12th Chair of the White House Council on Environmental Quality and the first African American to serve in this position. As Chair, she advises the President on environmental and natural resources policies that improve, preserve, and protect public health and the environment for America's communities. She is focused particularly on addressing the environmental justice and climate challenges the nation faces while advancing opportunities for job growth and economic development. Chair Mallory has decades of experience in both the private and public sector, including spending nearly 20 years at the Environmental Protection Agency and CEQ, serving in a number of senior roles. In Chair Mallory's first stint at CEQ as the General Counsel, she helped shape many of President Obama's signature environmental and natural resource policy

successes. Now, as Chair, she is advancing President Biden's ambitious climate and environmental justice agenda. Chair Mallory was the first in her family to attend college, graduating from Yale with a double major in history and sociology and then from Columbia Law School as a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar.



John McCombs is the Geospatial Lead with Lynker at the NOAA Office for Coastal Management (OCM). Over the past 20 years at OCM he has served as the contract lead in the development of NOAA's Coastal Change Analysis Program (C-CAP) data starting with the 30m land cover and now the 1m high-resolution product line. He comes from a natural resource background with degrees in Fisheries and Wildlife Management during which he started working in the geospatial field.



Scott McGill is the Founder and former CEO of Ecotone, a design-build ecological restoration company located in Forest Hill, MD. He currently serves on the board of both Ecotone and The Beaver Institute. Scott has over 35 years of applied experience in both design and construction of ecological restoration projects throughout the United States. He is a thought leader in the field of ecological restoration and has brought many new ideas and methods into the mainstream, including the use of native materials and the North American beaver to drive ecological and water quality outcomes. His "less is more", using nature to restore nature, approach to environmental restoration that incorporates conservation biology and adaptive management provides an innovative model for sustainable cost-effective ecological restoration. He currently resides in Forest Hill, MD, has three grown children, and three grandchildren. Scott is also a certified Reiki Master Teacher and enjoys cycling, dog training, fly fishing, and adventure travel.



Karen Menetrey works for Rio Grande Return, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring New Mexico’s rivers, streams, and wetlands. Karen recently retired from the New Mexico Environment Department where she worked for 30 years as an environmental scientist in various surface water and groundwater quality protection programs. For more than a decade she managed the New Mexico River Stewardship Program that restores rivers, wetlands, and riparian areas, and worked in the Wetlands Program on wetland mapping, planning, and restoration projects. Recently she managed a program focused on remediation of contaminated groundwater and brownfields revitalization through environmental assessment and cleanup. Karen has a BA in Geological Sciences from the University of California, Santa Barbara, and she completed graduate coursework in Hydrogeology at the University of Wyoming.



Mackenzie Moore is an environmental scientist for the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. She has a background in soil and water chemistry and molecular biology and graduated from the University of Arizona. Since starting at ADEQ in 2021, her work has focused on Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) evaluations, flow regime research, assessing water quality data, and developing surface water quality standards. She also provides support to volunteer groups collecting data in southern Arizona. She is currently working on preparing Arizona’s 2026 Clean Water Act Assessment.



Alex Clayton Moya works to incorporate conservation and restoration of coastal blue carbon and peatland habitats in state and national climate policies for Pew’s U.S. conservation project. She leads efforts to engage with state agencies as they seek to incorporate wetlands into their climate change planning, helping to connect science and research to the policy choices of decision-makers. Before joining Pew, Moya worked for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on nonpoint source pollution and Columbia River salmon issues in the Pacific Northwest. Earlier in her career, she worked on international environmental policy with an emphasis on wildlife conservation and served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Nepal. Moya holds a bachelor’s degree in biology from Bucknell University and master’s degrees in public policy and in natural resources and environment from the University of Michigan.



Erin O’Brien has served as Policy Programs Director for Wisconsin Wetlands since 2004. Her current work focuses on strengthening state laws and regulations governing wetland management, building capacity to help integrate wetland conservation into state-sponsored programs, and providing support to communities interested in restoring wetlands to solve problems. Erin has a Master’s degree in Land Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and more than twenty-five years of experience managing projects for non-profit organizations.



Portia Osborne is a Project Manager at the National Association of Wetland Managers, where she provides program support including managing and implementing individual projects, coordinating overall project schedules, tracking project deadlines and outputs, delivering workshops and trainings, facilitating and coordinating various work groups, and moderating webinars. Portia has a decade of experience working in environmental consulting, during which time she conducted natural resource assessments and wetland delineations and prepared state and federal-level permit applications for transportation, oil and gas, and renewable energy projects located across the country. Portia earned her MS in Ecology and BS in Environmental Biology from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF).

Brandon Parsons is a Director of River Restoration for American Rivers in the Pacific Northwest. He is a registered Landscape Architect with over a decade of experience working closely with local communities to develop integrated watershed plans and projects that increase community and agricultural resilience in the face of climate change. Brandon now works closely with industry leaders, NGOs, Federal and State agencies, policymakers, and private foundations to develop win-win solutions across interests. Brandon has a B.S. from Colorado State University and has been a visiting lecturer at his alma mater.



Andy Robertson is currently Executive Director of GeoSpatial Services at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. In this role, Andy is responsible for oversight and management of all GeoSpatial Services projects, activities and staff. GeoSpatial Services is engaged in a wide variety of projects across the Lower 48 and Alaska including: wetland inventory and functional assessment, NHD updates; stakeholder consultation; and natural resource condition assessments. They have been a key partner of the USFWS and have been working for over 20 years to update legacy National Wetland Inventory data across the nation. Andy earned a Forest Technology Diploma from Sault College of Applied Technology in Ontario, Canada, a B.Sc. in Environmental Science from the University of Waterloo and completed postgraduate work in forest management at the University of

Toronto. He is a board member for the National Association of Wetland Managers, steering committee member for the NAWM Wetland Mapping Consortium and is past chair of the Alaska Wetland Technical Working Group.



Alison Rogerson is an environmental scientist for DNREC's Wetland Monitoring and Assessment Program. Alison has been with DNREC for 15 years, working to increase the acreage and function of wetlands statewide. Alison's program focuses on research, science-based assessment methods, outreach and education, and restoration demonstration to improve the state of wetland conservation and management in Delaware. Alison's background is in wildlife ecology, ornithology and wetland ecology. She is an active member of several wetland work groups and contributes to two estuary programs.



Amanda Santoni is an Ecologist at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Specifically, she works in the Ocean and Coastal Management Branch on the Coastal Wetlands Initiative. She leads the Interagency Coastal Wetlands Workgroup (ICWWG) which helps to address coastal wetland loss, management, and restoration by bringing together seven federal agencies with programs and authorities that protect and manage coastal wetlands.



Matt Stahman has over 25 years of professional experience in the environmental consulting and mitigation, and ecological restoration industries. Matt serves as Director of Regulatory for RES, an ecological restoration firm providing client-focused wetland, stream and species mitigation offsets, green stormwater infrastructure and corporate sustainability solutions nationwide. He serves as RES project manager on the ~17,000-acre ecological restoration and enhancement project for North Texas Municipal Water District's Bois d'Arc Lake, one of the largest permittee-responsible mitigation projects in the Nation. Matt previously served as an environmental consultant conducting environmental permitting for the oil & gas, electric transmission, generation, land development,

mining, water resources, and transportation sectors. Matt specializes in Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act permitting, compliance and mitigation and is a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) through the Society of Wetland Scientists and Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner (CERP) through the Society for Ecological Restoration.



Marla Stelk is the Executive Director at the National Association of Wetland Managers (NAWM) where she has worked on wetland policy and management issues since 2013. Marla has over 25 years of experience working on wetland, water, and wildlife issues, climate change, environmental policy and research, land use planning, communications and organizational leadership. Marla has led research at NAWM on topics such as ecosystem service valuation for wetland restoration, the role of wetlands in floodplain and natural hazard management, wetlands and watershed health, wetland mapping and communications. Prior to coming to NAWM, Marla worked for a variety of environmental and social nonprofit organizations helping to build organizational capacity, manage projects and improve internal processes. Marla earned her MA in Community Planning and Development with a focus on Land Use and the Environment at the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service and her BA in Environmental Issues from Colorado College.



Jessica Tapp was raised in rural Western Kentucky with a 140-acre backyard. Her childhood playmate was a chocolate lab and she spent most of her time exploring and collecting anything interesting she could find. Jessica went to Murray State University in Southwest Kentucky to acquire a B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. After that, she held several temporary positions and internships around the U.S., with focuses on oak-savanna restoration, waterbirds, and small mammals. These varied experiences helped her narrow down her career path and desired graduate research focus. She then attained a graduate research assistantship with the U.S. Geological Survey Cooperative Research Unit/University of Missouri and evaluated waterbird habitat and food availability on Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) easements. For the next 7 years she gained invaluable

hands-on experience facilitating WRP enrollment, managing wetlands and other wildlife habitat, working with the public, and building leadership skills. Jessica eventually migrated to Lincoln, NE in November of 2020 and, after a couple of years managing the state's environmental review program, she is now the statewide Wetland Biologist for Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. She is also a Certified Wildlife Biologist.



Sehoy Thrower received her Bachelor's degree in Environmental Science from Georgia State University in 2016 before moving back to her home with the Poarch Band of Creek Indians (PBCI) in Alabama. She worked as a contractor for the tribe's community garden and a supervisor at the Tribal Youth Conservation Corps in the PBCI Cultural Department for about three years. In that time, she performed educational outreach within and outside the Poarch community on traditional ecological knowledge, with a special interest in native plants, invasive plant removal, and prescribed burning. In 2019, she became the Environmental Protection Specialist at the PBCI Environmental Department, overseeing the Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program. In 2021, she started a new Wetlands Program at the tribe, and has been working ever since to complete a comprehensive inventory that brings the interests of the Environmental Department, Natural Resources Division, and Cultural Departments of the tribe together for optimal land stewardship.



Samantha Vogeler has worked for the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection since 2015. She is the Supervisor for the Water Quality Certification Section. She has served on the National Association of Wetland Managers Board of Directors as since 2019, currently as Vice Chair, and has participated in the NAWM Energy Workgroup and Capacity Building Workgroup. Her background is in regulatory, where she has experience implementing state and federal regulations for the Clean Water Act and the Safe Drinking Water Act. Samantha has conducted field research in Belize, Costa Rica, and South Africa and has a passion for all things science. She has a B.S. in Biological Sciences from Northern Kentucky University. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family, coaching track, playing sports, traveling, and being outdoors.

Frederic C. Wurster, Hydrologist / Geomorphologist, Infrastructure Management Division, National Wildlife Refuge System, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Mr. Wurster is a wetland hydrologist, with more than 20 years’ experience developing water management strategies and implementing hydrologic restoration on National Wildlife Refuges in the United States. He has worked in a variety of wetland ecosystems, from riparian wetlands in Hawai’i to spring-fed wetlands in Nevada and the coastal salt marshes of the eastern U.S. His work is grounded by extensive experience in the field but also includes regional-scale perspective from developing multi-refuge threat [assessments](#), hydrologic monitoring [protocols](#), and refuge habitat management [plans](#). His most recent accomplishment has been leading the hydrologic restoration of more than 50,000 acres of forested peatland at Great Dismal Swamp National Wildlife ([article about this work here](#) and [here](#)). Mr. Wurster has an M.S. in watershed science from Colorado State University.

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