

## Massachusetts Ecosystem Climate Adaptation Network - Mass ECAN Conference

*Tuesday, October 30th, 2018*



### **Stefanie Covino, Coordinator of the Shaping the Future of Your Community program, Mass Audubon-**

Stefanie is passionate about helping communities be more sustainable by implementing targeted conservation and nature-based solutions. She helps communities implement sustainable development land use practices through diverse partnerships and encourages systems-thinking approaches that are cost-effective and offer multiple benefits, including climate resilience. Stefanie has a Masters of Environmental Science

and Policy from Clark University. She is a certified MVP provider, Keystone Cooperator, and board member for the Massachusetts Water Coalition.



### **Laura Hilberg, Scientist, EcoAdapt-**

Laura supports the Awareness to Action and State of Adaptation programs at EcoAdapt by conducting research and analysis on a number of projects, preparing for and conducting workshops with other team members, and offering assistance on any other task that needs to be done! She takes a special interest in translating technical concepts into materials that can be easily understood by any target audience and hopes to engage others in a conversation about climate change by connecting the issue with each community's identity, beliefs, and values.



### **Scott Jackson, Extension Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Conservation UMass Amherst-**

Scott's research interests include aquatic connectivity, wetland assessment and monitoring, impacts of roads and highways on wildlife, and landscape-based ecological assessment. Scott has helped develop standards for road-stream crossing structures; survey protocols for assessing passability, risk of failure, and disruption of emergency services; and approaches for prioritizing structures for replacement. He currently coordinates the North Atlantic Aquatic Connectivity Collaborative. Scott helped develop the Massachusetts Wildlife Climate Action Tool and is

interested in helping practitioners access climate science for on-the-ground ecosystem conservation. Scott is chair of the Whately Conservation Commission, serves on the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) and is chair of the Kestrel Land Trust Board of Trustees.



**Julia Knisel, Coastal Shoreline and Floodplain Manager, Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management-**

Julia leads development and implementation of policies and strategies to promote sound adaptation and reduce vulnerability along the coast. Julia coordinates with state and federal agencies, local cities and towns, regional planning agencies, and NGOs to build partnerships and collaborative approaches to improve management of coastal erosion and flooding. She oversees the Massachusetts StormSmart Coasts program to help communities

prepare for and protect themselves from coastal storms and flooding-both now and under higher sea levels. Julia also co-chairs the Northeast Regional Ocean Council's Coastal Hazards Resilience Committee, which coordinates activities related to coastal hazards resilience and climate adaptation in New England.



**Beth Lambert, Director, MA Division of Ecological Restoration-**

Beth has been working in ecological restoration since 2000, and has been River Restoration Program Manager in Massachusetts, Coastal Restoration Coordinator with the New Hampshire Coastal Program, and a member of the Watershed Extension Faculty, North Coast for Oregon Sea Grant. She has a BA from Carleton College and an MS from Oregon State. Beth will discuss the full range of DER's on-the-ground aquatic habitat work, encompassing dam removal, freshwater wetland restoration, and salt marsh restoration.



**Cris Luttazi, Executive Director, Duxbury Beach Reservation-**

Cris is the first Executive Director at Duxbury Beach Reservation (DBR), an institution that is celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> year in 2019. Cris' focus is to advance the Reservation's current strategic plan and guide DBR's future preservation of Duxbury Beach. She has significant experience in project management with both for-profit and non-profit organizations. She also has extensive conservation knowledge, particularly on coastal beaches in Massachusetts. Cris was previously the Program Coordinator for Mass Audubon's Coastal Waterbird Program. She holds a B.Sc First Class Honors degree in Marine and Freshwater Biology from Kingston

University in the United Kingdom and a B.Sc degree in Management Science and Finance and Marketing from Bridgewater State University.



**Bridget Macdonald, Science Writer and Communications Specialist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** - Bridget Macdonald is a science writer and communications specialist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Her interest in helping people engage with complex topics has been informed by experiences as a seasonal interpretive park ranger for Cape Cod National Seashore in Massachusetts, a communications coordinator for a citizen-science project, a student journalist covering business and the environment in Chicago and Washington D.C., and a cheesemaking assistant in Connecticut.



**Kimberly Noake MacPhee, Franklin Regional Council of Governments-** Kimberly Noake MacPhee, P.G., CFM, manages the Franklin Regional Council of Governments' Land Use and Natural Resources Planning Programs. She is a registered Professional Geologist and Certified Floodplain Manager with over 25 years of private and public sector work experience. Her current projects focus on green infrastructure, fluvial geomorphology and erosion hazards, natural hazard mitigation, climate change, and nonpoint source pollution.



**Margot Mansfield, Climate Change and Coastal Hazards Analyst, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management/Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs-** Margot Mansfield is a climate change and coastal hazards analyst with EEA and the Office of Coastal Zone Management. She is a program lead for EEA with the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) Program and leads EEA's work on integrating the new statewide climate change projections into the MVP program, the MA State Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan, and the MA Climate Change Clearinghouse. She also supports CZM's efforts on a regional coastal resilience project developing a monitoring protocol and guidance for living shoreline projects in coastal New England. Margot holds a Master of Science in Earth Science from the University of Maine.





**Melissa Ocana, Climate Adaptation Coordinator, UMass Extension & Dept. of Environmental Conservation** - Melissa coordinates partnerships and encourages climate adaptation with natural resource conservation in mind. Current projects include helping managers incorporate climate impacts into their work, and encouraging aquatic connectivity, transportation infrastructure resilience, and land conservation prioritization. While focused on Massachusetts, she also engages in regional and national climate adaptation efforts, such as the National Adaptation Forum Program Committee. Previously, Melissa ran a capacity building and small grants program for NJ environmental nonprofits, including helping them incorporate adaptation into their work. She was also a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Policy Fellow working on the House Natural Resources Committee Democratic Staff and as Asst. to the National Climate Change Policy Advisor at the US Fish & Wildlife Service in DC. Melissa has a MS in Wildlife Science from Oregon State University.



**Adrienne Pappal, Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Program Manager, Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management**- Adrienne leads the Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Program focused on providing technical assistance and research support to inform management at the state and local levels. She has been involved in coastal ecology for over a decade, serving as the Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator at CZM, with expertise in coastal watershed restoration, tidal marsh assessment and monitoring, climate change research and adaptation strategies, ecological mapping and classification, and marine invasive species. She earned a BS in Marine and Freshwater Biology from the University of New Hampshire and a MS in Marine Science and Technology from the University of Massachusetts, School for Marine Science and Technology.

**Peter Phippen, Selectman, Town of Essex**- Mr. Phippen is a hydrogeologist/coastal scientist with 35 years of experience in the field of water resources management. He is currently the Coastal Coordinator for the Great Marsh region of the MassBays National Estuary Program and the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission. Mr. Phippen has planned, coordinated, and implemented projects for upper north shore municipalities addressing coastal research and restoration issues for over fifteen years. He has extensive experience coordinating with regional environmental organizations and managing a variety of projects to protect and restore the Massachusetts Great Marsh including Invasive Species Control (pepperweed, Phragmites, green crab), Eelgrass Restoration, Living Shorelines, Greenscapes North Shore, Coastal Wetlands Restrictions Remediation Projects, Environmental Outreach Guides, and Smart Growth.

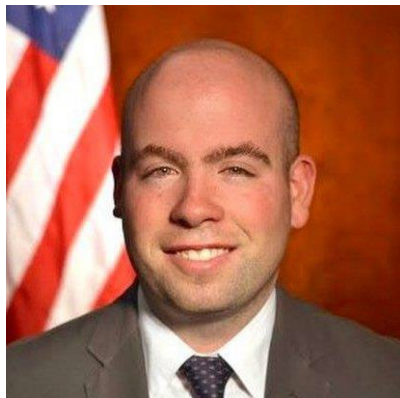


**Rebecca Quinones, River & Streams Project Leader, MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife-** Becca has been studying the impacts of land use and climate change on aquatic ecosystems since 1994. Her survey and research work have taken her to California, Mexico, Australia, and now Massachusetts. Her work to date has focused on the recovery and conservation of native fishes, with emphasis on trout and salmon species. Current projects include the determination of river habitat quality through the use of Target Fish Community models and completion of climate change vulnerability assessments for Species of Greatest Conservation Need.



**Jennifer Hushaw Shakun, Applied Forest Scientist, Manomet-** Jennifer works closely with landowners and land managers in the Climate Smart Land Network and provides guidance on strategies for reducing climate-related risk to managed forests. She is responsible for synthesizing the latest research about climate change, identifying opportunities and challenges these changes pose for forest ecosystems, and integrating this science into forest management and planning. Jennifer also provides geospatial analysis to assist local communities with climate change adaptation and implementation of green infrastructure solutions, as part of on-going coastal watershed projects. Previously, Jennifer was

a Project Manager at a natural resource consulting firm in New Hampshire, where she worked on wood energy and forest sustainability, as well as engagement with small woodland owners and assistance with forestry operations. She holds a B.S. in Biology from St. Michael's College and dual Master's in Forestry and Environmental Management from Duke's Nicholas School. In her spare time, she enjoys using the creative side of her brain, as well as getting outdoors to hike and photograph nature.



**Daniel Sieger, Assistant Secretary for Energy and Environmental Affairs-** Daniel currently serves as the Assistant Secretary for Environment at the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. Prior to that, he was the Chief of Staff at the Department of Environmental Protection. Before DEP, Daniel spent several years assisting in the oversight of Massachusetts' four environmental agencies as Special Assistant to the Undersecretary for Environment. Daniel is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts – Boston.



**Eric Walberg, Senior Program Leader, Climate Services, Manomet**

Working at Manomet provides me with an opportunity to address climate change, certainly one of the major challenges of our time. Manomet is a rare organization in that we place equal emphasis on science-based solutions and the relationship building necessary to deploy the science to solve problems. I enjoy working across this spectrum of issues and approaches. The Climate Services Program takes a natural systems-based approach to climate change adaptation and mitigation. We build partnerships with in the public and private sectors that allow us to progress from awareness to commitment to action. Climate change is a divisive social and political issue. Much of my work involves listening and understanding people's views and perceptions on climate change before progressing to the next step, identifying and capitalizing on opportunities for cooperative solutions.



**Sarah White, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency-** Sarah supervises the Hazard Mitigation Unit including State and Local Hazard Mitigation Planning and Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant Programs. She manages the State Hazard Mitigation Plan, including the statewide natural hazard risk and vulnerability assessment and the framework for hazard mitigation and adaptation activities for the Commonwealth. Sarah is also an instructor at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy and teaches Hazard Risk Management in the MS in Emergency Management

(MSEM) Program. Sarah has worked at MEMA since 2006.



**Jillian Wilson-Martin, Sustainability Coordinator, Town of Natick-**

Jillian leads the Town's climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts. Recent accomplishments include greening the Town's electricity aggregation program, implementing more than \$1M in energy conservation measures, installing nearly two megawatts of municipal solar, expanding curbside recycling services, completing the MVP certification program, and kicking off a microgrid feasibility study. Previously, Jillian worked as a corporate responsibility and sustainability consultant. In this capacity, she advised a range of companies, including Hilton Worldwide, The Walt Disney Company, Johnson & Johnson and CVS, on how to improve and communicate their sustainability performance. She loves applying her experience with big companies to her hometown and is enjoying her first time working in government. When she isn't plotting her next big idea, you can find her playing with her two daughters, Abby and Winnie, exploring local trails or eating pie.





**April Wobst, Restoration Ecologist, Association for Preservation of Cape Cod-** April is responsible for advancing the goals of the Cape Cod Restoration Coordination Center established by APCC and our partners. APCC has worked with Cape communities to identify more than 140 restoration projects aimed at restoring impaired salt marshes, fish runs, and shellfish beds as well as improving water quality through stormwater remediation. As the restoration ecologist, April supports the Center by providing technical, planning, permitting and management support to communities interested in completing restoration projects.



**Julie Wormser, Deputy Director, Mystic River Watershed Association-** Julie joined MyRWA as its Deputy Director in July 2018 and leads its Climate Resilience program. Prior to joining MyRWA, she ran a consulting business and was a senior policy director at a variety of non-profit organizations including Boston Harbor Now, Environmental Defense Fund, Appalachian Mountain Club, and The Wilderness Society. As Executive Director of The Boston Harbor Association, Julie was instrumental in drawing attention to Boston's need to prepare for coastal flooding from extreme storms and sea level rise. She co-authored *Preparing for the Rising Tide* and *Designing With Water* and co-led the Boston Living with Water international design competition with the City of Boston and Boston Society of Architects. Julie holds a BA in biology from Swarthmore College and an MPA from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. She lives in the Mystic watershed with her husband, daughter, well-behaved chickens and misunderstood cats.