



SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Ferin Davis Anderson, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community



Ferin Davis Anderson is the Natural Resources Manager for the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community's Natural Resources Department. Ferin is an enrolled citizen of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa in North Dakota. She is responsible for stewarding and restoring natural areas for the SMSC. She works to weave Indigenous knowledge and western science to practice holistic land stewardship. This includes using cultural indicators in wetland assessment methods to understand the ecological and cultural importance of wetlands on the

landscape. The SMSC used funding from the Wetland Program Development grant to work with contractors to develop several geospatial tools to evaluate wetland condition. This included an updated wetland inventory, a wetland condition assessment tool (RAM), a decision support tool for wetland preservation and restoration and a threats and stressors analysis tool. The SMSC Natural Resources Department strives to ensure that the members of the community have access to diverse, healthy, and culturally accessible wetlands.

Ben Beardmore, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



Ben Beardmore has 25 years of research experience in the fields of natural resource and environmental management. In that time, he has worked on projects involving diverse stakeholders ranging including Canadian National Park visitors, German anglers, subsistence farmers in Sri Lanka, and Wisconsin deer hunters. His interdisciplinary approach underscores his strengths in both qualitative and quantitative research methods, applying social-psychological theory and behavioral economic methods to understand stakeholder preferences and behaviors. With a discrete choice modeling,

Ben has played a key role in projects to derive measures of stakeholder support, predict behavioral responses to regulatory change, consolidate expert policy recommendations, assess thresholds for risk tolerance, and estimate economic values for environmental services. He joined the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources team of social scientists in 2014.

Dr. Beardmore holds a Bachelor of Science in Biology from McGill University, a Master of Resource Management and PhD from the interdisciplinary School of Resource and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University in British Columbia, Canada, and a post-doc with University of Wisconsin – Madison's Center for Limnology.

Jeff Boyles, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency



Jeff Boyles is an Environmental Supervisor at the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency within the Division of Surface Water. He oversees Wetland Ecology, Mitigation Compliance and Transportation projects as part of the 401 Permitting Group. Jeff participates on the Ohio IRT in addition to other responsibilities related to grants, mitigation and permitting. Jeff has worked at Ohio EPA since 2000, with most of that time spent on resource permitting, wetlands, and water resource restoration. In addition to his career experience, Jeff has a B.S Degree in

Zoology from Ohio University, in Athens. He is blessed to have a caring and supportive wife, and they are both very proud of their two sons.

Sally Jarosz, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



Sally Jarosz is the Wetland Monitoring & Assessment Coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Bureau of Water Quality. She has been with the WDNR working on wetland regulatory, restoration, and monitoring issues for 14 years. Sally has a bachelor's degree in biology from Mary Washington College and a master's degree in botany from the University of Wisconsin – Madison.

Mike Jones, Stockbridge-Munsee Community



Mike Jones is the wetland specialist for the Stockbridge-Munsee Community (WI). Since 2017, he has managed the Tribe's Wetland Program, which focuses on protecting, monitoring, and restoring wetlands on Tribal lands and within the greater watershed. Like many staff from small tribes, he is also involved in a variety of non-wetland activities, including everything from wolf monitoring to log scaling to electrofishing. In 2021, Mike began serving as co-lead of the newly formed Region 5 Tribal Wetlands Working Group (TWWG). The TWWG helps facilitate networking and

collaboration among Region 5 tribes to help build tribal wetland program capacity. 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.

Chelsey Lundeen, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources



Chelsey Lundeen is the Wetland Mitigation Coordinator for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), based out of Peshtigo, WI. She has served in this position since July of 2023, originally starting with the DNR as a Wetland Identification Specialist in March of 2022. Prior to her time with the DNR, she was a Wetland Biologist with NRCS in Minnesota for a year and the Botany and Wetlands Biologist for the Forest County Potawatomi Tribe for 6 years. Chelsey graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Stout with a Bachelor

of Science in Environmental Science with minors in Plant Science and Geographic Information Systems. In her spare time, she enjoys long distance running, camping off-grid with her family, baking, roller blading, and crawling around on the floor with her giggly 1-year-old daughter.

Erin O'Brien, Wisconsin Wetlands Association



Erin O'Brien joined the staff of Wisconsin Wetlands Association in 2004. Her current work focuses on strengthening state laws and regulations governing wetland protection and restoration, 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 University of Wisconsin-Madison and more than twenty-five years of experience managing projects for non-profit organizations.

Tyler Orgon, Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians



Tyler Orgon (last name pronunciation: or-gone) is an Aquatic Biologist/GIS Specialist and lead field coordinator with the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians in the Water Resources Department located in northern Minnesota. Born and raised in Minnesota, Tyler is a graduate of Bemidji State University with a MS in Biology, and has ten years of wetland management experience with the Tribe working on projects ranging from wetland mapping to detailed mercury analysis. In his free time, Tyler enjoys family time, hunting, fishing (well, pretty much all the outdoor activities), and woodcarving which was passed on by his late grandfather. During his time with Red Lake, Tyler has participated in wetland working groups, regionally and nationally, to help other Tribes with their wetland programs. One passion of his work life is providing the opportunity for graduate students to obtain their Master's degree through Bemidji State University. A recent graduate student, Collin Glass from Idaho, was provided this opportunity to help us determine if peatlands were contributing a disproportionate mercury load to the Red Lakes. This chapter of the mercury dynamics in the Red Lake ecosystem aims at trying to determine why there is a significantly higher mercury concentration in Upper Red Lake Walleye.

Ken Powell, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources



Ken Powell is the Wetland Conservation Act Operations Supervisor for the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR). He has been with BWSR for the past 17 years working with state's wetland regulatory program. He is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (B.S.) and Kansas State University (M.S.). He previously worked as a wetland specialist for a watershed district, as a private consultant, and as a biologist for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Katie Quesnell, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



Katie Quesnell has been with the EPA for five years in the wetlands section. She primarily works as wetland mitigation lead in region 5. She also works with 404 public notice review, is the botany lead for the National Wetlands Condition Assessment, and assists in state and tribal grants review. Prior to the EPA, she worked in the private industry as a wetland consultant.