

SESSION: 078 – THE FUTURE OF AQUATIC SCIENCE: AN EDUCATIONAL SESSION PARTICULARLY FOR UNDERGRADUATES

TITLE: CHOOSING A CAREER PATH IN WETLAND SCIENCE: ADVICE FROM A YOUNG SCIENTIST

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ABSTRACT:

Having graduated with a PhD in wetland ecology and recently completed a post-doctorate fellowship with Mary E. Kentula at the US Environmental Protection Agency, I have a lot of practical advice for undergraduates who are interested in pursuing a career in aquatic sciences. The goal of this informational presentation is to provide students with guidance of how to decide on a career path, what to consider with applying to graduate school, and to highlight some of the established and emerging leaders in the field of wetland science. I will also share some of my personal experiences and discuss the skills I've found particularly useful in conducting wetland research in academic and government settings.

WORD COUNT: 112/180

ADDRESSES KEY SESSION QUESTIONS:

How did you get interested in your field?

What things did you consider when applying to graduate school/to your advisors lab?

Who are the emerging leaders in this field/theme?

What skills are/were important for you to obtain to do your work well?

TOUCHES ON KEY SESSION QUESTIONS:

How is your job different than a "traditional" academic position?