

Marcus W. Beck, Ph.D.

Tampa Bay Estuary Program
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St. Petersburg, FL 33701

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Education

Ph.D., Conservation Biology, Fisheries and Aquatic Biology track Jun. 2013
Statistics minor

Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, MN
Thesis title: Minnesota macrophytes: Linking aquatic plants, lake health, and human activities
Advisors: Drs. Bruce Vondracek, Lorin Hatch

M.Sc., Conservation Biology, Fisheries and Aquatic Biology track Jun. 2009

Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, MN
Thesis title: Development of an ecological assessment method for Minnesota lakes
Advisor: Dr. Lorin Hatch

B.Sc., Zoology *summa cum laude* Dec. 2006

Department of Zoology, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Thesis title: Reproductive characteristics of the green treefrog *Hyla cinerea*: effects of agricultural contaminants.
Advisor: Dr. Krista McCoy

A.A., Zoology Apr. 2004

Santa Fe Community College, Gainesville, FL

Professional Appointments

Program Scientist Nov. 2019 - Present
Tampa Bay Estuary Program

Scientist Sep. 2017 - Sep. 2019
Biology Department, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project

Post-Doctorate Researcher Dec. 2015 - Sep. 2017
Ecosystem Dynamics and Effects Branch, Gulf Ecology Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency

Post-Doctorate Research Fellow Jul. 2013 - Nov. 2015
Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education, Ecosystem Dynamics and Effects Branch, Gulf Ecology Division, United States Environmental Protection Agency

Research Fellow Sep. 2012 - Jun. 2013
Water Resources Center, Conservation Biology Graduate Program, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota

Research Assistant, University of Minnesota Sep. 2007 - Sep. 2012
Conservation Biology Graduate Program, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota

Intern Jun. 2009 - Aug. 2009

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Creel Clerk

Jan. 2007 - May 2007

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Undergraduate Researcher

Jan. 2006 - Dec. 2006

Department of Zoology, University of Florida

Biological Technician

summer 2006

Florida Integrated Science Center, United States Geological Survey

Teaching Experience

Remote Workshop Instructor

Apr. 2021

NERRS Ecosystem Metabolism R Training, Remote Webinar ([link](#))

Remote Workshop Instructor

Feb. 2021

Peconic Estuary Program R Training, Remote Webinar ([link](#))

Remote Workshop Instructor

Jun. 2020

Tampa Bay Estuary Program R Training, Remote Webinar ([link](#))

Workshop Co-Instructor

Sep. 2019

Tampa Bay Estuary Program Open Science Workshop, St. Petersburg College STEM Center ([link](#))

Workshop Co-Instructor

Oct. 2018

Special Cal SFS workshop: Visualizing and mapping bioassessment data in R, California Aquatic Bioassessment Workgroup ([link](#))

Workshop Co-Instructor

May 2018

Fundamentals of spatial data access and analysis in R, Annual meeting of the Society of Freshwater Science ([link](#))

Workshop Co-Instructor

Nov. 2017

Introduction to R for analysis of coastal and estuarine data, Biennial meeting of the Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation ([link](#))

Workshop Co-Instructor

Nov. 2016

R, SWMP, SWMP,prats for non-beginners, System Wide Monitoring Program, National Estuarine Research Reserve System, NOAA. ([link](#))

Workshop Co-Instructor

Oct. 2015

An Introduction to SWMP, System Wide Monitoring Program, National Estuarine Research Reserve System, NOAA. ([link](#))

Workshop Co-Instructor

Nov. 2014

NERRS/SWMP Data Analysis (Time-series) Workshop, System Wide Monitoring Program, National Estuarine Research Reserve System, NOAA.

Workshop Co-Instructor

May 2013

Using Available Software for Basic Analysis, Restoring Minnesota, University of Minnesota.

Primary Instructor, University of Minnesota

Jan. 2012 - May 2012

FW 5604 (Fisheries Ecology and Management), Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota

Undergraduate Advisor, University of Minnesota

Mar. 2009 - May 2011

Justine Koch (Gustavus Adolphus College), Kristan Maccaroni (University of Minnesota)

Teaching Assistant, University of Minnesota

Sep. 2008 - Dec. 2008

ESPM 4061/5061 (Water Quality and Natural Resources), Department of Environmental Sciences, Policy, and Management, University of Minnesota

Service

Reviewer

Acta Oecologica, 2015 • *Aquatic Botany*, 2011, 2014 • *Aquatic Ecology*, 2018 • *Aquatic Sciences*, 2015, 2018, 2020 • *Chemosphere*, 2019 • *Coastal Management*, 2020 • *Development in Practice*, 2012, 2013 • *Ecological Indicators*, 2010, 2019 • *Ecological Modelling*, 2016, 2020(2) • *Ecological Research*, 2012 • Elsevier book chapter, 2014 • *Engineering Computations*, 2016 • *Environmental Management*, 2010 • *Environmental Modelling & Software*, 2015 • *Environmental Science & Technology*, 2019 • *Environments*, 2019 • *Estuaries and Coasts*, 2014, 2015, 2018 • *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*, 2016(2), 2017 • *Expert Systems with Applications*, 2019 • *Freshwater Science*, 2019, 2021 • *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*, 2019 • *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 2021 • *Frontiers in Plant Science*, 2017 • *Geocarto International*, 2017 • *Hydrobiologia*, 2012 • *International Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation*, 2013 • *International Journal of River Basin Management*, 2013 • *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*, 2017 • *Journal of Applied Phycology*, 2015 • *Journal of Environmental Management*, 2020 • *Journal of the American Water Resources Association*, 2020 • *Journal of the North American Benthological Society*, 2011 • *Journal of Statistical Software*, 2020 • *Lake and Reservoir Management*, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2017(2) • *Limnology & Oceanography*, 2013 • *Marine Chemistry*, 2020 • *Marine Ecology*, 2014 • *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 2014 • Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 2011 • *New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research*, 2019 • *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2016 • *PeerJ*, 2018 • *PLOS Computational Biology*, 2021 • *Polar Biology*, 2011 • *The R Journal*, 2016(3) • *Remote Sensing*, 2014, 2015, 2016(2), 2017 • *rOpenSci*, 2016 • *Science of the Total Environment*, 2011 • *Scientific Reports*, 2018 • *Thalassas*, 2018 • USEPA Office of Research and Development, 2014, 2015, 2021 • *Water Research*, 2015, 2016

Graduate Student Representative

Jan. 2013 - May 2013

Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota

Student Activities Committee Co-Chair

Jun. 2010 - Aug. 2012

2012 annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society

Fundraising Coordinator

spring 2011, spring 2012

Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Minnesota

Seminar Coordinator

2009, fall 2011, spring 2012

Conservation Biology Graduate Program, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota

Student Representative

Aug. 2009 - Aug. 2012

Minnesota Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

Student Club Officer

Sep. 2010 - May 2012

Fisheries and Wildlife Club, Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology, University of Minnesota

*Peer-reviewed Publications**In Review*

1. **Beck, M.W.**, Schrandt, M.N., Wessel, M.R., Sherwood, E.T., Raulerson, G.E., Prasad, A.A.B., Best, B.D. **In review.** tbeptools: An R package for synthesizing estuarine data for environmental research. *Journal of Open Source Software*.
2. **Beck, M.W.**, de Valpine, P., Murphy, M., Wren, I., Chelsky, A., Foley, M., Senn, D.B. **In review.** Multi-scale trend analysis of water quality using error propagation of generalized additive models. *Science of the Total Environment*.
3. Skripnikov, A., Wagner, N., Shafer, J., **Beck, M.W.**, Sherwood, E.T., Burke, M. **In review.** Using localized Twitter activity for red tide impact assessment. *Harmful Algae*.
4. Sun, H., Le, C., Long, S., **Beck, M.W.** **In review.** Linking phytoplankton variability to atmospheric blocking in an eastern boundary upwelling system. *Journal of Geophysical Research - Oceans*.
5. Wessel, M.R., Leverone, J.R., **Beck, M.W.**, Sherwood, E.T., Hecker, J., West, S., Janicki, A. **In review.** A nutrient-based framework for tidal creeks in Southwest Florida. *Estuaries and Coasts*.

In Press or Published

1. Rogers, J.B., Stein, E.D., **Beck, M.W.**, Flint, K., Kinoshita, A.M., Ambrose, R.F., **In press.** Modeling future changes to the hydrological and thermal regime of unaltered streams using projected changes in climate. *Ecohydrology* ([10.1002/eco.2299](https://doi.org/10.1002/eco.2299))
2. Bednaršek, N., Newton, J., **Beck, M.W.**, Alin, S.R., Feely, R.A., Christman, N., Klinger, T. 2021. Severe biological effects under present-day estuarine acidification in the highly variable Salish Sea. *Science of the Total Environment*. 765:142689. ([10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.142689](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.142689))
3. Schrandt, M.N., MacDonald, T.C., Sherwood, E.T., **Beck, M.W.** 2021. A multimetric index for monitoring, managing and communicating ecosystem health status in an urbanized Gulf of Mexico estuary. *Ecological Indicators*. 123:107310. ([10.1016/j.ecolind.2020.107310](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2020.107310))
4. Meyers, S., Landry, S., **Beck, M.W.**, Luther, M. 2021. Using logistic regression to model the risk of sewer overflows triggered by compound flooding with application to sea level rise. *Urban Climate*. 35:100752. ([10.1016/j.uclim.2020.100752](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.uclim.2020.100752))
5. Rogers, J.B., Stein, E.D., **Beck, M.W.**, Ambrose, R.F. 2020. The impact of climate change induced alterations of streamflow and stream temperature on the distribution of riparian species. *PLoS ONE*. 15(11):e0242682. ([10.1371/journal.pone.0242682](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0242682))
6. Theroux, S., Mazor, R.D., **Beck, M.W.**, Ode, P., Stein, E., Sutula, M., 2020. Predictive biological indices for algae populations in diverse landscapes. *Ecological Indicators*. 119:106421. ([10.1016/j.ecolind.2020.106421](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2020.106421))
7. Larkin, D.J., **Beck, M.W.**, Bajer, P.G. 2020. An invasive fish promotes invasive plants in Minnesota lakes. *Freshwater Biology*. 65(9):1608-1621. ([10.1111/fwb.13526](https://doi.org/10.1111/fwb.13526))
8. **Beck, M.W.**, O'Hara, C., Stewart Lowndes, J., Mazor, R.D., Theroux, S.T., Gillett, D.J., Lane, B., Gearheart, G. 2020. The importance of open science for biological assessment. *PeerJ*:e9539. ([10.7717/peerj.9539](https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.9539))

9. Bednaršek, N., Feely, R.A., **Beck, M.W.**, Alin, S.R., Siedlecki, S.A., Calosi, P., Norton, E.L., Saenger, C., Štrus, J., Greeley, D., Nezlin, N.P., Spicer, J.I. 2020. Carapace dissolution, growth decline and mechanoreceptor damages in Dungeness crab related to severity of ocean acidification gradients. *Science of the Total Environment*. 716:136610 ([10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.136610](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2020.136610))
10. **Beck, M.W.**, Mazor, R.D., Johnson, S., Wisenbaker, K., Westfall, J., Ode, P.R., Hill, R., Loflen, C., Sutula, M., Stein, E.D. 2019. Prioritizing management goals for stream biological integrity within the developed landscape context. *Freshwater Science*. 38(4):883-898. ([10.1086/705996](https://doi.org/10.1086/705996))
11. **Beck, M.W.**, Sherwood, E.T., Henkel, J.R., Dorans, K., Ireland, K., Varela, P. 2019. Assessment of the cumulative effects of restoration activities on water quality in Tampa Bay, Florida. *Estuaries and Coasts*. 42(7):1774-1791. ([10.1007/s12237-019-00619-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12237-019-00619-w))
12. **Beck, M.W.**, Mazor, R.D., Theroux, S.T., Schiff, K.C. 2019. The Stream Quality Index: A multi-indicator tool for enhancing environmental management communication. *Environmental and Sustainability Indicators*. 1(2):100004. ([10.1016/j.indic.2019.100004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.indic.2019.100004))
13. Le, C., Wu, S., Hu, C., **Beck, M.W.**, Yang, X. 2019. Phytoplankton decline in the eastern North Pacific transition zone associated with atmospheric blocking. *Global Change Biology*. 25(10):3485-3493. ([10.1111/gcb.14737](https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.14737))
14. Bednaršek, N., Feely, R.A., **Beck, M.W.**, Glippa, O., Kanerva, M., Engström-Öst, J. 2018. El Niño-related thermal stress coupled with ocean acidification negatively impacts cellular to population-level responses in pteropods along the California Current System with implications for increased bioenergetic costs. *Frontiers in Marine Science*. 5(486):1-17. ([10.3389/fmars.2018.00486](https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2018.00486))
15. Bokde, N., Martínez Álvarez, F., **Beck, M.W.**, Kulat, K. 2018. A novel imputation methodology for time series based on pattern sequence forecasting. *Pattern Recognition Letters*. 116:88-96. ([10.1016/j.patrec.2018.09.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.patrec.2018.09.020))
16. **Beck, M.W.** 2018. NeuralNetTools: Visualization and analysis tools for neural networks. *Journal of Statistical Software*. 85(11):1-20. ([10.18637/jss.v085.i11](https://doi.org/10.18637/jss.v085.i11))
17. **Beck, M.W.**, Jabusch, T.W., Trowbridge, P.R., Senn, D.B. 2018. Four decades of water quality change in the upper San Francisco Estuary. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*. 212:11-22. ([10.1016/j.ecss.2018.06.021](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2018.06.021))
18. Zhang, Z., **Beck, M.W.**, Winkler, D. A., Huang, B., Sibanda, W., Goyal, H. 2018. Opening the black box of neural networks: methods for interpreting neural network models in clinical applications. *Annals of translational medicine*. 6(11):1-11. ([10.21037/atm.2018.05.32](https://doi.org/10.21037/atm.2018.05.32))
19. **Beck, M.W.**, Bokde, N., Asencio-Cortés, G., Kulat, K.D. 2018. R package imputeTestbench to compare imputation methods for univariate time series. *The R Journal*. 1-16.
20. Bajer, P.G., **Beck, M.W.**, Hundt, P. 2018. Effect of non-native versus native invaders on macrophyte richness: are carp and bullheads ecological proxies? *Hydrobiologia*. 817(1):379-391. ([10.1007/s10750-018-3592-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10750-018-3592-1))
21. Murrell, M.C., Caffrey, J.M., Marcovich, D.T., **Beck, M.W.**, Jarvis, B.M., Hagy, J.D. 2018. Seasonal oxygen dynamics in a warm temperate estuary: Effects of hydrologic variability on measurements of primary production, respiration, and net metabolism. *Estuaries and Coasts*. 41(3):690-707. ([10.1007/s12237-017-0328-9](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12237-017-0328-9))
22. **Beck, M.W.**, Cressman, K., Griffin, C., Caffrey, J. 2018. Water quality trends following anomalous phosphorus inputs to Grand Bay, Mississippi, USA. *Gulf and Caribbean Research*. 29(1):1-14. ([gcr.2901.02](https://doi.org/10.2901/02))
23. **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D., Le, C. 2018. Quantifying seagrass light requirements using an algorithm to spatially resolve depth of colonization. *Estuaries and Coasts*. 41(2):592-610. ([10.1007/s12237-017-0287-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12237-017-0287-1))

24. Sutula, M., Kudela, R., Hagy, J.D., Harding, L.W., Senn, D., Cloern, J.E., Bricker, S., Berg, G.M., **Beck, M.W.** 2017. Novel analyses of long-term data provide a scientific basis for chlorophyll-a thresholds in San Francisco Bay. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*. 197:107-118. ([10.1016/j.ecss.2017.07.009](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2017.07.009))
25. **Beck, M.W.**, Lehrter, J.C., Lowe, L.L., Jarvis, B.M. 2017. Parameter sensitivity and identifiability for a biogeochemical model of hypoxia in the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Ecological Modelling*. 363:17-30. ([10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2017.08.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolmodel.2017.08.020))
26. **Beck, M.W.**, Alahuhta, J. 2017. Ecological determinants of *Potamogeton* taxa in glacial lakes: assemblage composition, species richness, and species-level approach. *Aquatic Sciences*. 79(3):427-441. ([10.1007/s00027-016-0508-x](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00027-016-0508-x))
27. Le, C., Lehrter, J.C., Hu, C., MacIntyre, H., **Beck, M.W.** 2017. Satellite observation of particulate organic carbon dynamics in two river-dominated estuaries. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Oceans*. 122(1):555-569. ([10.1002/2016JC012275](https://doi.org/10.1002/2016JC012275))
28. **Beck, M.W.**, Murphy, R. 2017. Numerical and qualitative contrasts of two statistical models for water quality change in tidal waters. *Journal of the American Water Resources Association*. 53(1):197-219. ([10.1111/1752-1688.12489](https://doi.org/10.1111/1752-1688.12489))
29. Bajer, P.G., **Beck, M.W.**, Cross, T.K., Koch, J., Bartodziek, B., Sorensen, P.W. 2016. Biological invasion by a benthivorous fish reduced the cover and species richness of aquatic plants in most lakes of a large North American ecoregion. *Global Change Biology*. 22(12):3937-3947. ([10.1111/gcb.13377](https://doi.org/10.1111/gcb.13377))
30. **Beck, M.W.** 2016. SWMPPr: An R package for retrieving, organizing, and analyzing environmental data for estuaries. *The R Journal*. 8(1):219-232.
31. Le, C., Lehrter, J.C., Schaeffer, B.A., Hu, C., Murrell, M.C., Hagy, J.D., Greene, R.M., **Beck, M.W.** 2016. Bio-optical water quality dynamics observed from MERIS in Pensacola Bay, Florida. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*. 173:26-38. ([10.1016/j.ecss.2016.02.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2016.02.003))
32. **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D., Murrell, M.C. 2015. Improving estimates of ecosystem metabolism by reducing effects of tidal advection on dissolved oxygen time series. *Limnology & Oceanography: Methods*. 13(12):731-745. ([10.1002/lom3.10062](https://doi.org/10.1002/lom3.10062))
33. **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D. 2015. Adaptation of a weighted regression approach to evaluate water quality trends in an estuary. *Environmental Modeling and Assessment*. 20(6):637-655. ([10.1007/s10666-015-9452-8](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10666-015-9452-8))
34. **Beck, M.W.**, Tomcko, C.M., Valley, R.D., Staples, D.F. 2014. Analysis of macrophyte indicator variation as a function of sampling, temporal, and stressor effects. *Ecological Indicators*. 46:323-335. ([10.1016/j.ecolind.2014.07.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2014.07.002))
35. **Beck, M.W.**, Wilson, B.N., Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K. 2014. Application of neural networks to quantify utility of indices of biotic integrity for biological monitoring. *Ecological Indicators*. 45:195-208. ([10.1016/j.ecolind.2014.04.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2014.04.002))
36. Vondracek, B., Koch, J.D., and **Beck, M.W.** 2014. A comparison of survey methods to evaluate macrophyte index of biotic integrity performance in Minnesota lakes. *Ecological Indicators*. 36:178-185. ([10.1016/j.ecolind.2013.07.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2013.07.002))
37. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B. Hatch, L.K. 2013. Between- and within-lake responses of macrophyte richness metrics to shoreline development. *Lake and Reservoir Management*. 29(3):179-193. ([10.1080/10402381.2013.828806](https://doi.org/10.1080/10402381.2013.828806))
38. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K., and Vinje, J. 2013. Semi-automated analysis of high-resolution aerial images to quantify docks in glacial lakes. *ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*. 81:60-69. ([10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2013.04.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isprsjprs.2013.04.006))

39. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., and Hatch, L.K. 2013. Environmental clustering of lakes to evaluate performance of a macrophyte index of biotic integrity. *Aquatic Botany*. 108:16-25. ([10.1016/j.aquabot.2013.02.003](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.aquabot.2013.02.003))
40. **Beck, M.W.**, Claassen, A.H., and Hundt, P.J. 2012. Environmental and livelihood impacts of dams: Common lessons across development gradients that challenge sustainability. *International Journal of River Basin Management*. 10(1):73-92. ([10.1080/15715124.2012.656133](https://doi.org/10.1080/15715124.2012.656133))
41. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., and Valley, R.D. 2010. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Ecological Indicators*. 10:968-979. ([10.1016/j.ecolind.2010.02.006](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2010.02.006))
42. **Beck, M.W.**, and Hatch, L.K. 2009. A review of research on the development of lake indices of biotic integrity. *Environmental Reviews*. 17:21-44. ([10.1139/A09-001](https://doi.org/10.1139/A09-001))

Technical Reports

1. Meyers, S.D., Landry, S., **Beck, M.W.**, Luther, M.E. 2020. Understanding risk at wastewater treatment plants in Tampa Bay during extreme high-precipitation events. Tampa Bay Estuary Program Technical Report #14-20. St. Petersburg, FL. ([link](#))
2. **Beck, M.W.**, Mazor, R.D. 2020. A decision framework for evaluating bioassessment samples and landscape models. Technical Report #1115. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Costa Mesa, CA. ([link](#))
3. Taylor, J.B., Stein, E.D., **Beck, M.W.**, Flint, K., Kinoshita, A. 2019. Vulnerability of stream biological communities in Los Angeles and Ventura counties to climate change induced alterations of flow and temperature. Technical Report #1084. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Costa Mesa, CA. ([link](#))
4. **Beck, M.W.**, Mazor, R.D., Theroux, S.T., Schiff, K.C. 2019. The Stream Quality Index: A multi-indicator tool for enhancing environmental management communication. Technical Report #1080. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Costa Mesa, CA. ([link](#))
5. **Beck, M.W.**, Kittleson, K., O'Connor, K. 2019. Analysis of the Juvenile Steelhead and Stream Habitat Database, Santa Cruz County, California: Web products and recommendations. Technical Report #1082. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Costa Mesa, CA. ([link](#))
6. Afrooz, N., **Beck, M.W.**, Hale, T., McKee, L., Schiff, K. 2019. BMP performance monitoring data compilation to support reasonable assurance analysis. Technical Report #1081. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Costa Mesa, CA. ([link](#))
7. Mazor, R.D., **Beck, M.W.**, Brown, J. 2018. 2017 report on the SMC Regional Stream Survey. Technical Report #1029. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Costa Mesa, CA. ([link](#))
8. **Beck, M.W.**, Mazor, R.D., Stein, E.D., Maas, R., De Mello, D., Bram, D. 2017. Mapping of non-perennial and ephemeral streams in the Santa Ana region. Technical Report #1012. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Costa Mesa, CA. ([link](#))

Software¹ and Websites

1. **Beck, M.W.**, Schrandt, M., Wessel, M., Sherwood, E., Best, B. 2020. tbeptools: Data and Indicators for the Tampa Bay Estuary Program, v0.0.1. R package. ([link](#))

¹software version numbers with .9000 indicate under development

2. Bokde, N., **Beck, M.W.** 2019. imputeTestbench: Test bench for the comparison of imputation methods, v3.0.3. CRAN R package. ([link](#))
3. **Beck, M.W.** 2019. SWMPPr: An R package for the National Estuarine Research Reserve System, v2.3.1. CRAN R package. ([link](#))
4. **Beck, M.W.**, Kittleson, K., O'Connor, K. 2019. Juvenile Stream Survey Habitat Web (JSSH web). ([link](#))
5. **Beck, M.W.**, Villarroel, P., Padfield, D. 2019. rStrava: Functions to access data from Strava's v3 API, v1.1.0. R package. ([link](#))
6. **Beck, M.W.** 2019. ggord: A take on ordination plots with ggplot2, v1.1.4. R package. ([link](#))
7. **Beck, M.W.** 2018. SCCWRP R training. ([link](#))
8. **Beck, M.W.** 2018. WRTDStidal: Weighted regression for water quality evaluation in tidal waters, v1.1.1. CRAN R package. ([link](#))
9. Payton, Q., Olsen, T., Weber, M., McManus, M., Kincaid, T., **Beck, M.W.** 2018. micromap: Linked micromap plots, v1.9.3. CRAN R package. ([link](#))
10. **Beck, M.W.** 2018. NeuralNetTools: Visualization and Analysis Tools for Neural Networks, v1.5.2. CRAN R package. ([link](#))
11. **Beck, M.W.** 2016. Jabbrev: Convert journal names from long to short formats, v0.0.1.9000. R package. ([link](#))
12. **Beck, M.W.** 2016. Aggregation of SWMP parameters within/between reserves. Shiny Web Application. ([link](#))
13. **Beck, M.W.** 2016. CTDplot: Plot CTD water quality data along an estuarine axis, v0.0.4.9000. R package. ([link](#))
14. **Beck, M.W.** 2015. WtRegDO: Supplementary package to support the manuscript "Improving estimates of ecosystem metabolism by reducing the effects of tidal advection on dissolved oxygen time series", v0.0.7.9000. R package. ([link](#))
15. O'Brien, T.D., **Beck, M.W.** 2015. Time series and data analysis information and tool resource for NERRS/SWMP. Website. ([link](#))
16. **Beck, M.W.** 2015. Trends in SWMP parameters. Shiny Web Application. ([link](#))
17. **Beck, M.W.** 2015. Monthly and annual summary of SWMP parameters. Shiny Web Application. ([link](#))

Outreach and Non-Technical Documents

1. **Beck, M.W.** 2020. Automated reporting in Tampa Bay with Open Science. OpenScapes blog, National Center for Ecological Analysis & Synthesis, University of California Santa Barbara. ([link](#))
2. **Beck, M.W.**, DeCicco, L. 2016. EGRET plotFlowConc using ggplot2. US Geological Survey, Office of Water Information Blog. ([link](#))
3. **Beck, M.W.** 2012 - 2017. R is my friend - numerous posts. R-bloggers: R news and tutorials contributed by R bloggers. ([link](#))
4. **Beck, M.W.** 2012. 2nd annual bike across Minnesota fundraiser June 1st through 4th: Mission accomplished! The Cons Bio Blog, Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Minnesota. ([link](#)).

5. **Beck, M.W.** 2012. Biking for bread. The Cons Bio Blog, Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Minnesota. ([link](#)).
6. **Beck, M.W.** 2011. Are values and conservation inseparable? The Cons Bio Blog, Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Minnesota. ([link](#)).
7. **Beck, M.W.** 2011. What I do: An exercise in hyperbole. The Cons Bio Blog, Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Minnesota. ([link](#)).

Invited Presentations

1. **Beck, M.W.**, Wren, I., Murphy, R.R., de Valpine, P., Senn, D. 2019. Tracking San Francisco Bay water quality using generalized additive models in an R Shiny framework. *Oral presentation*. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation biennial meeting, Mobile, AL.
2. **Beck, M.W.** 2018. Actionable bioassessment data: Using visualization to bridge the research - management divide. *Oral presentation*. California Aquatic Bioassessment Workgroup, Davis, CA.
3. Mazor, R., **Beck, M.W.**, Ode, P., Johnson, S., Wisenbaker, K., Westfall, J., Markle, P. 2018. Supporting management decisions with a landscape model to predict biotic condition in California. *Oral presentation*. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Detroit, MI.
4. **Beck, M.W.**, Sherwood, E., Dorans, K., Henkel, J.R., Ireland, K., Varela, P. 2018. Use of open science to inform restoration projects in estuaries: A Tampa Bay example. American Water Resources Association GIS Spring Specialty Conference, Orlando, FL.
5. **Beck, M.W.**, Senn, D., Novick, E., Bresnahan, B., Hagy, J.D., Jabusch, T. 2016. Four decades of water quality changes in the upper San Francisco Estuary. *Poster presentation*. Interagency Ecological Program Annual Workshop, Folsom, CA.
6. **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D. 2015. Adaptation of a weighted regression approach to evaluate water quality trends in an estuary. *Oral presentation*. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation Biennial Conference, Portland, OR.
7. **Beck, M.W.**, O'Brien, T.D. 2015. SWMPrats: A community of practice for NERRS data analysis. *Oral presentation*. NERRS research coordinators virtual meeting, USEPA NHEERL ORD, Gulf Breeze, FL.
8. **Beck, M.W.** 2014. The search for truth in numbers: Quantitative approaches for evaluating trends in water quality data. *Oral presentation*. Biology Department seminar (PCB 3930/4922/5924), University of West Florida, Pensacola, FL.
9. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Wilson, B., and Hatch, L.K. 2013. Understanding indicators of lake health and the utility of a plant-based index. *Oral presentation*. Gulf Ecology Division seminar series, USEPA NHEERL ORD, Gulf Breeze, FL.
10. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K., and Wilson, B. 2013. Minnesota macrophytes: Linking aquatic plants, lake integrity, and human activities. *Poster presentation*. Doctoral Research Showcase, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.
11. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., and Hatch, L.K. 2012. Between and within lake responses of macrophyte richness metrics to shoreline development. *Oral presentation*. MN Department of Natural Resources Fall research meeting, Itasca State Park, MN.
12. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K. 2011. Biological assessment of aquatic macrophytes in Midwest glacial lakes. *Oral presentation*. University of Minnesota Water Resources Graduate Program student symposium, Stillwater, MN.

13. **Beck, M.W.** 2009. Perspectives on sustaining Minnesota's lakes: Biological monitoring, IBIs, and stressor identification. *Oral presentation*. University of Minnesota Water Resources Graduate Program seminar, St. Paul, MN.
14. **Beck, M.W.** 2009. The Minnesota macrophyte IBI for lake assessment. *Oral presentation*. Habitat research meeting, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, St. Paul, MN.
15. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2009. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. Aquatic plant assessment meeting, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, St. Paul, MN.
16. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2009. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. Fisheries research meeting, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Cloquet, MN.

Contributed Presentations

1. Wessel, M., **Beck, M.W.**, Leverone, J., Sherwood, E.T., Hecker, J., Raulerson, G., Janicki, T. 2020. Tidal tribulations: Overcoming hurdles in identifying a stressor-response relationship to develop a water quality management framework for Southwest Florida tidal creeks. American Water Resources Association Virtual Conference.
2. **Beck, M.W.**, Wessel, M., Leverone, J., Sherwood, E.T., Raulerson, G., Janicki, T. 2020. Using an applied open source toolbox for tidal creek assessment in Southwest Florida. American Water Resources Association Virtual Conference.
3. Bednaršek, N., Feely, R.A., Alin, S.R., Siedlecki, S.A., **Beck, M.W.**, Calosi, P., Pelletier, G., Saenger, C., Spicer, J.I. 2019. Modelling carapace dissolution and growth under present-day low pH gradients in larval Dungeness crab. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation biennial meeting, Mobile, AL.
4. Sherwood, E., **Beck, M.W.**, Henkel, J.R., Dorans, K., Ireland, K., Varela, P. 2019. Assessing the cumulative effects of restoration activities on improving water quality in Tampa Bay, Florida. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation biennial meeting, Mobile, AL.
5. **Beck, M.W.**, O'Hara, C., Stewart Lowndes, J., Mazor, R.D., Theroux, S.T., Gillett, D.J., Lane, B., Gearheart, G. 2019. The importance of open science for biological assessment. *Oral presentation*. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT.
6. **Beck, M.W.**, Sherwood, E., Kirsten, D., Ireland, K., Varela, P., Henkel, J. 2019. Use of open science to inform restoration projects in estuaries: A Tampa Bay example. *Oral presentation*. Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill & Ecosystem Science Conference, New Orleans, LA.
7. **Beck, M.W.**, Kittleson, K., O'Connor, K. 2018. Customized web-based exploration of a long-term fisheries monitoring program. *Ignite presentation*. California Estuarine Research Society, Long Beach, CA.
8. **Beck, M.W.**, Sutula, M., Howard, M., Stein, E. 2018. Landscape scale risk assessment of cyanobacteria blooms in California lakes. *Oral presentation*. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Detroit, MI.
9. Wan, Y., **Beck, M.W.**. 2017. Comparative analysis of long-term chlorophyll data with Generalized Additive Model. *Oral presentation*. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation biennial meeting, Providence, RI.
10. **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D., Le, C. 2017. Quantifying seagrass light requirements using an algorithm to spatially resolve depth of colonization. *Oral presentation*. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation biennial meeting, Providence, RI.

11. **Beck, M.W.**, O'Brien, T.D., Cressman, K., St. Laurent, K., Eslinger, D. 2016. SWMPrats.net: A web-based resource for exploring SWMP data. *Poster presentation*. National Estuarine Research Reserve System annual meeting, Williamsburg, VA.
12. **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D., Le, C. 2016. Quantifying seagrass light requirements using an algorithm to spatially resolve depth of colonization. *Oral presentation*. Gulf Estuarine Research Society biennial meeting, Pensacola Beach, FL.
13. **Beck, M.W.**, O'Brien, T.D., Bundy, M.H. 2016. Integrated analysis tools for the NERRS System-Wide Monitoring Program Data. *Oral presentation*. National Water Quality Monitoring Council biennial meeting, Tampa, FL.
14. Cressman, K., Caffrey, J., **Beck, M.W.**, Griffin, C. 2016. Understanding long-term changes by linking monthly chlorophyll measurements to high-frequency water quality data. *Oral presentation*. National Water Quality Monitoring Council biennial meeting, Tampa, FL.
15. Senn, D., Otten, T., Stewart, R., Bresnahan, P., **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D., Guerin, M., Jabusch, T., Kendall, C., Novick, E., Trowbridge, P., Young, M. 2016. Probing archived samples and historic data for improved understanding of nutrient cycling and ecosystem response in the Bay-Delta. *Oral presentation*. Interagency Ecological Program Annual Workshop, Folsom, CA.
16. Hagy, J.D., **Beck, M.W.**, Murrell, M.C. 2015. Improving estimates of ecosystem metabolism by reducing effects of tides on DO time series. *Oral presentation*. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation Biennial Meeting, Portland, OR.
17. Bundy, M.H., **Beck, M.W.**, O'Brien, T.D. 2015. Synthesis of NERRS System-Wide Monitoring Program data: Using integrated analysis tools to detect trends. *Oral presentation*. Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation Biennial Meeting, Portland, OR.
18. **Beck, M.W.** 2015. SWMPPr: An R package for estuarine water quality time series. *Oral presentation*. USEPA R User Group meeting, USEPA NHEERL ORD, Gulf Breeze, FL.
19. **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D., Murrell, M.C. 2014. A novel approach for evaluation of water quality trends in Gulf Coast estuaries. *Oral presentation*. Bays and Bayous Symposium, Mobile, AL.
20. Murrell, M.C., Hagy, J.D., Aukamp, J., **Beck, M.W.**, Beddick, D., Craven, G., Duffy, A., Jarvis, B.M., Marcovich, M., Yates, D., Caffrey, J. 2014. Environmental drivers of ecosystem and plankton metabolism in Pensacola Bay, Florida. Bays and Bayous Symposium, Mobile, AL.
21. Hagy, J.D., Jarvis, B.M., Murrell, M.C., **Beck, M.W.** 2014. Modeling remediation of aquatic life impacts of episodic and diel cycling hypoxia via nutrient loading rate reduction. Bays and Bayous Symposium, Mobile, AL.
22. **Beck, M.W.** 2014. ggplot2 redux. *Oral presentation*. USEPA R User Group meeting, USEPA NHEERL ORD, Gulf Breeze, FL.
23. **Beck, M.W.**, Tomcko, C.M., Valley, R.D., and Staples, D.F. 2014. Analysis of macrophyte indicator variation as a function of sampling, temporal, and stressor effects. *Poster presentation*. Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting, Portland, OR.
24. **Beck, M.W.**, Hagy, J.D. 2014. Adaptation of a weighted regression approach to evaluate water quality trends in Tampa Bay, Florida. *Oral presentation*. National Water Quality Monitoring Council biennial meeting, Cincinnati, OH.
25. **Beck, M.W.** 2014. The nuts and bolts of Sweave/Knitr for reproducible research. *Oral presentation*. USEPA R User Group meeting, USEPA NHEERL ORD, Gulf Breeze, FL.

26. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K., and Wilson, B. 2013. Evaluating the utility of a plant-based index of lake condition using neural networks. *Oral presentation*. Ecological Society of America annual meeting, Minneapolis, MN.
27. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Wilson, B., and Hatch, L.K. 2013. Understanding indicators of lake health and the utility of a plant-based index. *Oral presentation*. Conservation Biology Graduate Program seminar, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
28. Vondracek, B., Koch, J.D., and **Beck, M.W.** 2013. A comparison of survey methods to evaluate macrophyte index of biotic integrity performance in Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. Minnesota chapter of the Am. Fisheries Society annual meeting, St. Cloud, MN.
29. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Wilson, B., and Hatch, L.K. 2013. Understanding indicators of lake health and the utility of a plant-based index. *Oral presentation*. Conservation Biology Graduate Program seminar, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
30. **Beck, M.W.** 2012. Effects of shoreline development on aquatic macrophytes: Summary of analyses. *Class lecture*. Ecological Modeling (FW 8200), University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
31. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K., and Vinje, J. 2012. Image analysis techniques to evaluate effects of lakeshore development on aquatic habitat. *Oral and poster presentation*. Am. Fisheries Society annual meeting, St. Paul, MN.
32. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K., and Vinje, J. 2012. Image analysis techniques to evaluate effects of lakeshore development on aquatic habitat. *Oral presentation*. Water Resources Conference, St. Paul, MN.
33. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K., 2012. Identifying covariates of a lake assessment index to improve biological assessment. *Oral presentation*. Minnesota chapter of Society for Conservation Biology annual meeting, St. Paul, MN.
34. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K. 2011. Image analysis techniques to evaluate effects of nearshore lake development on aquatic macrophytes. *Oral presentation*. Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Des Moines, IA.
35. **Beck, M.W.** 2011. R is my friend: Or how I learned to stop worrying and love the machine. *Oral presentation*. Conservation Biology Graduate Program breakfast seminar, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
36. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K. 2011. Image analysis techniques to evaluate effects of nearshore lake development on aquatic macrophytes. *Poster presentation*. Water Resources Conference, St. Paul, MN.
37. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K. 2011. Image analysis techniques to evaluate effects of nearshore lake development on aquatic macrophytes. *Oral presentation*. Am. Fisheries Society annual meeting, Seattle, WA.
38. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K. 2011. Image analysis techniques to evaluate effects of nearshore lake development on aquatic macrophytes. *Oral presentation*. Minnesota chapter of the Am. Fisheries Society annual meeting, Sandstone, MN.
39. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2010. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Poster presentation*. Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Minneapolis, MN.
40. Koch, J.D., **Beck, M.W.**, Carlin, J. 2010. A comparison of survey methods to evaluate macrophyte index of biotic integrity performance in Minnesota lakes. *Poster presentation*. Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference, Minneapolis, MN.

41. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2010. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. International Congress for Conservation Biology, Edmonton, Alberta.
42. **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B., Hatch, L.K. 2010. Assessing the health of Minnesota's lakes using indices of biotic integrity. *Oral presentation*. Joint meeting of the Minnesota chapters of Am. Fisheries Society, Society for Conservation Biology, and The Wildlife Society, Nisswa, MN.
43. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2009. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. Water Resources Conference, St. Paul, MN.
44. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2009. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Poster presentation*. Land Conservation and Clean Water Summit, Chaska, MN.
45. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2009. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. Symposium for best student paper, Am. Fisheries Society annual meeting, Nashville, TN.
46. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2009. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. Minnesota chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology annual meeting, St. Paul, MN.
47. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2008. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Poster presentation*. Water Resources Conference, St. Paul, MN.
48. **Beck, M.W.** 2008. The index of biotic integrity: A review. *Class lecture*. Water quality and natural resources (ESPM 4061), University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
49. **Beck, M.W.**, Hatch, L.K., Vondracek, B., Valley, R.D. 2008. Development of a macrophyte-based index of biotic integrity for Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. Conservation Biology Graduate Program seminar, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN.
50. Hatch, L.K., **Beck, M.W.**, Vondracek, B. 2007. Ecological assessment method development for Minnesota lakes. *Oral presentation*. North Am. Lake Management Society annual meeting, Orlando, FL.

Grants, Contracts, Awards, and Honors

Penn State University Contract No. OCE 19-24559	\$42441	Jan. 2020
San Francisco Estuary Institute Contract No. 1456	\$18952	Jan. 2020
Southern California Coastal Water Research Project Task Order No. 17171	\$21893	Jan. 2020
Janicki Environmental, Inc. TBEP Tech Support Contract for Work Order 1	\$10600	May 2019
Aquatic Bioassay and Consulting Labs, Inc. PR No. SCC0419.003	\$99488	Apr. 2019
County of Santa Cruz, California PR No. BR410375	\$5000	Oct. 2018
San Francisco Estuary Institute Contract No. 1358	\$10000	Aug. 2018
US EPA Gulf Ecology Division Green Award		May 2017
ORISE post-doctorate research highlights		Feb. 2015
LaBounty Best Paper Award nomination, N. Am. Lake Management Society		Oct. 2014
Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowship, University of Minnesota	\$22500	Sep. 2012
Best student paper award, MN chapter for Society of Conservation Biology		Mar. 2012
Carolyn Crosby Fellowship, University of Minnesota	\$1000	Jan. 2012
Best student paper award, MN chapter of Am. Fisheries Society	\$200	Feb. 2011
Fenske Memorial Award finalist, Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference		Dec. 2010
Travel award, Strategic Env. Research and Development Program	\$700	Jul. 2010
Travel award, Graduate and Professional Student Assembly	\$200	Jul. 2010

Finalist in best student paper symposium, Am. Fisheries Society	Sep. 2009
Conservation Biology Graduate Program summer fellowship \$3500	Jun. 2008
Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society	Dec. 2006
Dean's list for academic excellence duration of undergraduate education	2004 - 2006
Florida Bright Futures undergraduate scholarship \$5250	2003 - 2006

Professional Society Membership

Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation	Sep. 2013 - Present
Society for Conservation Biology	Feb. 2008 - Present
Society for Freshwater Science	Apr. 2018 - Present

Technical Training and Additional Experience

Expert knowledge in open science tools and their application, including R, RStudio,
 R Shiny, Git, GitHub, L^AT_EX, Sweave, knitr
 Workshop participant, Master R Developer, San Francisco, CA
 Webinar participant, The Grammar and Graphics of Data Science
 Workshop participant, New Tools for Water Quality Data Access and Trend
 Analysis. An Overview of the USGS R Packages: dataRetrieval and EGRET
 Workshop participant, An Introduction to the Fundamentals of Linear
 Quantile Regression in R
 Workshop participant, Aquatic Plant Identification, Itasca State Park, MN
 SCUBA open water and advanced Nitrox certification
 CPR and first aid certification