**GIANCARLO COPPOLA**

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**EDUCATION**

**M.S. Wildlife, Fisheries, & Aquaculture** May 2018 (Expected)

*Mississippi State University*, Starkville, MS

**B.S. Biology, *magna cum laude*** Jan. 2015

*Salem State University*, Salem, MA

* Marine Biology Concentration, Chemistry Minor
* Dean’s Award for Academic Excellence Fall 2011-Fall 2014

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

**Graduate Research Assistant** Aug. 2016-Present

*Mississippi State University*, Starkville, MS

* Coordinate and lead field sampling operations with state and federal agencies
* Operate boat electrofishing units and deploy trap nets to sample a reservoir fish assemblage
* Organize and oversee agricultural plant establishment on exposed lake shorelines
* Develop a graduate research thesis investigating *The efficacy of agricultural plant establishment on reservoir mudflats and its effect on a reservoir fish assemblage*

**Sea Turtle Intern** May-Aug. 2014

*Bald Head Island Conservancy*, Bald Head Island, NC

* Intercepted, measured, flipper tagged, and inserted Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags into maternal loggerhead and green sea turtles
* Relocated nests that were ovipositted within the intertidal zone or in sand dunes to ensure clutch safety
* Installed anti-predation cages over nests
* Educated members of the community with barrier island and sea turtle ecology and biology
* Assisted with community outreach and non-profit fund raising

**Independent Research Project during Internship** May-Aug. 2014

*Bald Head Island Conservancy*, Bald Head Island, NC

* Searched for the vector of a common bacterial pathogen of loggerhead sea turtle eggs
* Bacterium was undetected in all samples

**Independent Research Project during Undergraduate Studies** Jan.-May 2014

*Salem State University*, Salem, MA

* Investigated the effects of an insecticidal protein, Bt-Cry, on the metabolic processes of different microbes
* Common human gut biota exhibited irregular acid production when in the presence of high concentrations of Bt-Cry
* Corn purchased at local supermarkets contained higher concentrations of Bt-Cry than what was hypothesized and used in the experiment

**Research Intern** Jun. 2012-Aug. 2013

*Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve*, Staatsburgh, NY (seasonal)

* Identified and quantified submergent marsh vegetation to monitor and categorize habitat type at field sites
* Photographed submerged aquatic vegetation beds (SAVs) to assess the status of native species
* Sampled Surface Elevation Tables (SETs) to monitor long term elevation changes of tidal wetlands
* Used handheld multiparameter sampling instruments (YSI meters) to monitor water quality of several tributaries that emptied into tidal marsh sites
* Processed water samples in the laboratory to quantify chlorophyll and suspended solids abundance

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Estuary Educator and Aquarist** Jan. 2015- Present

*AmeriCorps/Student Conservation Association at the Hudson River National Estuarine Research Reserve*, Staatsburgh, NY

* Develop and lead outdoor and indoor estuarine education programs for 2076 students from K-12 and post-secondary institutions
* Lead 590 participants in 34 educational canoe programs through freshwater and brackish tidal marshes
* Connect with 536 students through video conference educational programs
* Develop an online data collection system to record beach seining results for the 2015 World Science Festival Fish Count and the 2015 New York State Department of Environmental Conservation’s Great Hudson Estuary Fish Count
* Attend all animals and maintain all associated holding tanks at the reserve
* Coordinate and train community members in the citizen science program The Hudson River Eel Project

**Peer Tutor** Sept. 2013-Jan. 2014

*Center for Academic Excellence, Salem State University*, Salem, MA

* Tutored undergraduates in cellular biology, chemistry, and organic chemistry

**PRESENTATIONS**

Coppola G. “Analysis of potential vectors of *Serratia marcescens* as a *Caretta caretta* nest pathogen.” Presentation at the Summer Research Symposium. Bald Head Island Conservancy. Bald Head Island, NC. Aug. 2014.

Coppola G. “Analysis of Bt- Cry 1Ab/1Ac protein concentration in locally-purchased corn and its effects on carbohydrate fermentation of *Samonella*, *Escherichia coli*, and common human microbiota.” Poster Presentation at the Microbiology Research Poster Session. Biology 406. Salem State University, Salem, MA. May 2014.

**AWARDS**

**Clear Communication Award**  June 2016

From the *New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*

* For my involvement in developing the Great Hudson River Estuary Fish Count Web Page

**SKILLS**

Field Equipment:

* Boat and backpack electrofishing units, seine nets, cast nets, gill nets, fyke nets (repair, installation, operation, and maintenance), crab traps, minnow traps, and spinning and bait-cast fishing reels
* Tiller outboard motors, bow-mounted trolling motors, trailers, standard transmission vehicles, ultimate terrain vehicles (UTV), and four-wheel drive vehicles
* Film and digital single-lens reflex (DSLR) cameras

Computer Software:

* Google Docs, Forms, Sheets, Maps, and Earth; Microsoft Outlook, Word, Excel, and PowerPoint; SHARP Pen Software; Onset HOBOware Analysis Software

**CERTIFICATIONS**

* Wilderness First Aid, CPR and AED operation Mar. 2016
* SCUBA Open Water Sept. 2014
* New York State Boating Safety Nov. 2004