Montana Airey, M.A.

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EDUCATION

Cornell University

Ithaca, NY

PhD Candidate in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

September 2019 - Present

Advisor: Dr. Peter B. McIntyre

Trophic ecology and community ecology of mesopredators in temperate lakes

Columbia University

New York, NY

M.A. in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology

September 2017 - May 2019

Advisor: Dr. Joshua Drew

Invasive lionfish dispersal between shallow- and deep-water habitats within coastal Floridian waters

Boston University

Boston, MA

B.A. Double Major: Marine Science, Environmental Science

September 2013 - May 2017

Magna Cum Laude with honors

Seabird foraging ecology through stable isotope analysis

Publications

Published

- 1. Airey, M.E., Fogg, A. Q., and Drew, J. A. (2023). Invasive lionfish dispersal between shallow-and deep-water habitats within coastal Floridian waters. Biological Invasions, 1-9.
- 2. Drew, J., Kahn, B., Locatelli, N., **Airey, M.E.**, and Humphries, A. (2021). Examining stakeholder perceptions of oyster ecosystem services using fuzzy cognitive mapping. Conservation Science and Practice, 3(11), e531.
- 3. Wollmuth EM, Sless TJL, Airey, M.E., France ED, Stump EM, Sundstrom MA, Wilkins RL, and Smith MK. (2022). Is Earth currently undergoing a sixth mass extinction? CourseSource.

In Prep - manuscript available upon request

1. Detmer, T.M.*, Airey, M.E.*, Jirka, K.J., Randall, E.A., Zarri, L., McIntyre, P.B., Kraft, C.E. Transient demographic responses of prey and competitors to long-term suppression of an invasive predatory fish. (2024). In Prep. *indicates co-first authors

Funding

Research Grants (\$34,636)

- o (\$7,000). 2023 Atkinson Sustainable Biodiversity Fund. Cornell University.
- (\$1,250). Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Departmental Graduate Student Research Fund. Cornell University.
- (\$10,000). 2022 Kieckhefer Award. Cornell University.
- $\circ~(\$1,\!000)$ 2022 Sigma Xi Award. Sigma Xi Chapter at Cornell University.
- o (\$1,636). 2021 Betty Miller Francis '47 Fund for Field Research. Cornell University.
- (\$10,000). 2020 Kieckhefer Award. Cornell University.
- o (\$1,500). Columbia University Department Grant for Conservation. 2018. Columbia University.
- o (\$250). Columbia University Matching Grant. 2018. Columbia University.
- o (\$2,000). Undergraduate Research Program. 2015. Boston University.

Travel Grants (\$1,350)

- (\$500). 2023 Student Travel Grant. Cornell University.
- \circ (\$1,000). 2022 Student Travel Grant. Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography.
- o (\$750). Columbia University Earth Institute Travel Grant. 2018. Columbia University.

Fellowships (\$31,380)

o Cornell Fellowship. (\$31,380). 2019. Cornell University.

Stream Ecology: Teaching Assistant

Fall 2021 and Fall 2023

- o Lead two field- and lab-based lab periods each week
- Taught and organized activities that taught students fundamentals of stream ecology field sampling techniques

Introduction to Ecology and the Environment: Teaching Assistant

Fall 2019 and Spring 2021

Introduction to Ecology and the Environment: Writing in the Majors Instructor

Spring 2023

- Designed and lead an independently created curriculum centered on scientific writing
- Taught activities and created assignments that instructed students on how to write a scientific paper

Presentations

Oral Presentations

- Ecological Society of America. Patchy habitats create patchy responses of native fish communities to the removal of an invasive predator. (2023, August).
- Adirondack Research Forum The native-side of an invasive species suppression. (2023, February).
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology December Symposium Cornell. Patchy habitats create patchy responses of native fish communities to the removal of an invasive predator. (2022, December).
- Joint Aquatic Science Meeting. The Varied Roles of Small Fish as Mesopredators in Lake Food Webs. (2022, May).
- Adirondack Research Forum Trophic niches, community structure, and niche overlap of mesopredators within Adirondack lakes. (2022, February).
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology December Symposium Cornell. The Varied Roles of Small Fish as Mesopredators in Lake Food Webs. (2021, December).
- Student Conference on Conservation Science Annual Meeting Connecting the Dots: Lionfish Dispersal Between Shallow and Deep Water habitats. (2021, October).
- Adirondack Research Forum Understanding the Trophic Webs of Adirondack Lakes with Stable Isotope Analysis and Gut Contents. (2021, February).
- Ecology and Evolutionary Biology December Symposium Cornell Connecting the Dots: Lionfish Dispersal Between Shallow and Deep Water habitats. (2019, December).
- Ecological Society of America Ornate Invaders: The movements of invasive lionfish (Pterois volitans) in Floridian coastal waters. (2019, August).

Poster Presentations

- Columbia University Departmental Symposium. Connecting the Dots: Lionfish Dispersal Between Shallow and Deep Water habitats. (2019, May).
- Columbia University Earth Institute Travel Grant Symposium Dispersal and Settlement Patterns of Invasive Lionfish. (2019, March).

Invited Talks

• Wilmurt Club. Beneath the surface: benthic macroinvertebrates of Adirondack Lakes. (2023, July).

MENTORING

Demetra Williams Cornell University

Spring 2021 - Present

- o Honors Thesis Graduation May 2022
- \circ Use of d18O and d13C of otoliths to understand thermal habitat use of brook trout in thermally stressed lakes.

Mathew Woo Brown University

Summer 2023 - Present

o Honors Thesis - Expected Graduation May 2024

• Community analysis of littoral benthic macroinvertebrate communities to determine the influence of man-made structures on invertebrate community structure and function.

Adirondack Fishery Research Program Interns Cornell University

Summer 2021 - Summer 2023

- Introduced field station in terms to common field techniques and field safety
- o Regularly led field efforts with interns to achieve programmatic data collection
- Oversaw one to three college interns each year and up to five high school interns.

SERVICE

University Service

Equity Committee - Cornell Graduate Student Assembly

September 2020 - September 2022

- * Conducted climate surveys on graduate student and postdoc communities within the department
- * Organized meetings with faculty to discuss departmental DEI issues
- * Worked with graduate student to identify priorities within the department
- * Co-lead departmental meetings designed to discuss DEI issues and identify solutions or action-items

Departmental DEI Committee - Cornell University

September 2021 - September 2022

* Represented graduate student interests in DEI on a committee of faculty, staff, postdocs, and graduate students.

Curriculum Content: DEI Working Group

September 2021 - September 2022

* Contributed to a working group dedicated to making DEI recommendations for faculty. Assisted in building DEI statements, policies, and resources for course syllabi and first day of class activities.

Student Representative - Boston University Marine Program

September 2016 - May 2017

* Promoted BU Marine Program at recruitment and prospective student events

Marine Science Laboratory Tour Guide - Boston University

January 2014 - May 2015

OUTREACH

• Letters to a Pre-Scientist

September 2022 - May 2023

o Corresponded with a middle school student about the field of STEM through letters

Society Memberships

- Ecological Society of America
- Association for Limnology and Oceanography