DR. MARA Y. MCPARTLAND

Alfred-Wegener-Institute Helmholtz Zentrum für Polar- und Meeresforschung (AWI)
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EMPLOYMENT

Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Science (AWI), Potsdam, Germany
Postdoctoral Researcher 2022 – Present
Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Thomas Laepple

EDUCATION

University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota 2017 – 2022
PhD, Geography, Environment & Society
Advisor: Dr. Scott St. George
Dissertation: *What do trees remember? Disentangling climate, biological, and disturbance signals from tree-ring time series*

University of Minnesota, Saint Paul, Minnesota 2015 – 2017
M.S., Natural Resources Science and Management
Advisor: Dr. Rebecca A. Montgomery
Thesis: *Response of boreal peatland ecosystems to global change: A remote sensing approach*

Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont 2008 – 2012
B.A., Liberal Arts
Advisor: Dr. Kerry Woods
Study abroad: School for International Training, Cairns, Australia
Thesis: *Forests and Time: Forest composition as a function of stand age*

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed

McPartland, M. Y., Dolman, A. M., & Laepple, T. (2024). Separating Common Signal from Proxy Noise in Tree Rings. *Geophysical Research Letters,* 51(13). 10.1029/2024GL109282

McPartland, M. Y. (2024). Decadal-scale variability and warming affect spring timing and forest growth across the western Great Lakes region. *International Journal of Biometeorology.* 10.1007/s00484-023-02616-y

McPartland, M. Y., St. George, S., Pederson, G. T., & Anchukaitis, K. J. (2020). Does signal-free detrending increase chronology coherence in large tree-ring networks? *Dendrochronologia,* 63: 1125 – 7865. 10.1016/j.dendro.2020.125755

McPartland, M. Y., Montgomery, R. A., Hanson, P. J., Phillips, J. R., Kolka, R., Palik, B. (2020). Vascular plant species response to warming and elevated carbon dioxide in a boreal peatland. *Environmental Research Letters.* 10.1088/1748-9326/abc4fb

Kattge, J, Bönisch, G, Díaz, S, [*et. al.* including McPartland, M.Y.] (2020) TRY plant trait database – enhanced coverage and open access. *Global Change Biology*. *26*: 119– 188. 10.1111/gcb.14904

McPartland, M.Y., Falkowski, M.J., Kane, E.S. *et al*. (2019). Characterizing Boreal Peatland Plant Composition and Species Diversity with Hyperspectral Remote Sensing. *Remote Sensing*, *11*(14), 1685. 10.1111/gcb.14465

McPartland, M. Y., Kane, E. S., Falkowski, M. J., Kolka, R., Turetsky, M. R., Palik, B., & Montgomery, R. A. (2018). The response of boreal peatland community composition and NDVI to hydrologic change, warming and elevated carbon dioxide. *Global Change Biology*. *25*(1), 93-107. 10.1111/gcb.14465

Under revision

McPartland, M. Y., Dolman, A.M., Hébert, R.., Münch, T. Laepple, T. The Colors of Proxy Noise. Under revisions at *Climate of the Past* [preprint] 10.5194/cp-2024-73.

Dolman, A. M., McPartland, M. Y., Laepple, T. Corals Exaggerate Past Tropical Climate Variability. Under revisions at *Nature Communications Earth & Environment.* [preprint] 10.21203/rs.3.rs-3924954/v1

Under review

McPartland, M. Y., Lovato, T., Koven, C. D., *et al.* CMIP7 Data Request: Earth System Priorities and Opportunities, under review at *Geoscientific Model Development*. [preprint] doi:10.5194/egusphere-2025-3246.

Graduate theses

McPartland, M. Y. (2022). What do trees remember? Disentangling climate, biological, and disturbance signals from tree-ring time series. (PhD, University of Minnesota).

McPartland, M. Y. (2017). Response of Boreal Peatland Ecosystems to Global Change: A Remote Sensing Approach (M.S., University of Minnesota).

AWARDS

Helmholtz Career Center POLMAR Short-term research stay grant 7700 € 2025

University of Minnesota Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, *"Characterizing the persistent effects of drought stress in North American forests"* $26,000 2021

University of Minnesota Interdisciplinary Doctoral Fellowship, *"What do trees remember? Tree rings as archives of climate and tree growth"* $25,000 2020

University of Minnesota Louise T. Dosdall Fellowship, *"What do trees remember? Tree rings as archives of climate and tree growth"* (declined) $25,000 2020

Bell Museum of Natural History Dayton Fund Grant, $2,500 2020

Department of Geography Research & Travel Grant, $1,700 2018, 2019

Forest Resources Fellowship Award; Department of Forest Resources. University of Minnesota, Saint Paul, Minnesota, $18,750 2016

Henry L. Hansen Forest Ecology Award; Department of Forest Resources. University of Minnesota. St. Paul, Minnesota, $18,500 2015

TEACHING

Teaching Assistant, FRNM 2102 – Northern Forests Field Ecology, University of Minnesota Cloquet Forestry Center. Led field exercises, graded and mentored student projects in two-week long upper-level field course.
Summers 2018, 2020 & 2021

Teaching Assistant, GEOG 1403 – Biogeography, University of Minnesota Department of Geography, Environment & Society. Assistant in introductory course, graded student assignments, mentored students during individual meetings. Course taught online.
Spring 2021

Instructor of Record, GEOG 4002 – Environmental Thought and Practice, University of Minnesota Department of Geography, Environment & Society. I designed and taught an upper-level Geography writing course. Taught in hybrid form. Spring 2020

Teaching Assistant, BSE 2001 – Introduction to Biology Society & Environment, University of Minnesota Department of Geography, Environment & Society. Reader and grader of student work. Course taught in person. Fall 2019

SERVICE

Project Lead; CMIP7 Data Request Earth System Group 2023 – 2024
Member; Fresh Eyes on CMIP Model Evaluation Working Group 2023 – 2024
Steering Committee; Past Global Changes (PAGES) Climate Variability Across Scales (CVAS) Working group 2022 – 2024
Board member; Biogeography Specialty Group, American Association of Geographers 2021 – 2022
Graduate representative; Department of Geography Unit Planning Committee 2020 – 2021

Co-chair; Department of Geography Coffee Hour Committee 2018 – 2020
Officer; Supporting Women in Geography 2017 – 2020
Geography Department Representative; Council of Graduate Students 2017 – 2018