

## **Virginia L. Robenski**

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### **Education**

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**Paul Smith's College** (Paul Smith's, NY)

**B.S., Fisheries and Wildlife Science: Wildlife Concentration**

Minor in Geographic Information Systems, Minor in Environmental Studies, May 10, 2014

*Cum Laude* with a Cumulative Grade Point Average of 3.68

Dean's List: Fall 2011 – Spring 2014

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### **Professional Experience**

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#### **National Grid**

November 2020 - Present

*Coordinator, Maps and Records* - Support the maps and records team overseeing mapping personnel involved in the collection and input of mapping data into National Grid geographic information system applications to ensure safety and to achieve line of sight goals. I review, approve and post maps, and assist the team with mapping training and development.

#### **City of Watertown**

April 2018 - October 2020

*GIS Technician* - Assist in the development, design and maintenance of the city's Geographic Information System. Under general supervision, perform field work, database maintenance, cartography, asset management tasks and other GIS related functions.

#### **Contractor with Cherokee Nation Technologies at U.S. Geological Survey, Wetlands and Aquatic Research Center**

January 2017 – January 2018

*GIS Specialist I* - Member of a multi-disciplinary team of wildlife managers and researchers working to define the US Fish and Wildlife Services vision for Gulf of Mexico Restoration. Responsible for characterizing, assessing and mapping the physical and biological environment of the Gulf of Mexico at multiple geographic scales. Researched federal trust species' habitat and population objectives through literature review.

#### **Student Contractor the U.S. Geological Survey, Wetlands and Aquatic Research Center**

January 2015 – January 2017

*Geographic Information Systems Technician* - Member of a multi-disciplinary team of wildlife managers and researchers working to define the US Fish and Wildlife Services vision for Gulf of Mexico Restoration. Responsible for characterizing, assessing and mapping the physical and biological environment of the Gulf of Mexico at multiple geographic scales. Researched federal trust species' habitat and population objectives through literature review

#### **Department of Energy, Brookhaven National Laboratory**

August 2014 – December 2014

*Science Undergraduate Research Program (SULI) Intern* - Assisted ongoing research on a solar facility. Data collection and management included the radio tracking of eastern box turtles, the trapping and tagging of small mammals, conducting vegetation surveys within and alongside the Long Island Solar Farm and then entering all data into the designated database.

*Aquatic Plant Survey Technician* - Researched and assembled spatial information on lakes and ponds prior to conducting aquatic plant surveys. Conducted surface surveys of lakes and ponds, and mapped presence and abundances of aquatic plants using GPS and field data sheets and maps. Through the use of surface surveys, the survey team learned to visually identify approximately 45 aquatic plants to species level.

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## **Publications**

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James P. Cronin, Blair Tirpak, Leah L Dale, **Virginia L Robenski**, John M. Tirpak, Bruce G. Marcot. 2021. Strategic habitat conservation for beach mice: Estimating management scenario efficiencies. DOI: [10.1002/jwmg.21983](https://doi.org/10.1002/jwmg.21983).

Leah L Dale, James P. Cronin, **Virginia Brink**, Blair Tirpak, John M. Tirpak, William E. Pine. 2021. Identifying information gaps in predicting winter foraging habitat for juvenile Gulf Sturgeon. DOI: [10.1002/tafs.10288](https://doi.org/10.1002/tafs.10288).

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## **Data Releases**

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Tirpak, B.E., Cronin, J.P., Dale, L.L., **Brink, V.L.**, and Tirpak, J.M., 2017, Biological planning units and aquatic extensions for the Gulf Coast: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/F7TT4P5C>.

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## **Technical Presentations**

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Tirpak, J.M. , Cronin, J.P., Tirpak, B.E., Dale, L.L., and **Brink, V.L.**, Establishing Explicit Biological Objectives to Guide Strategic Habitat Conservation for the Gulf of Mexico Coast: Case Study with the Brown Pelican. 2016 Gulf of Mexico Oil Spill and Ecosystem Science Conference.

Tirpak, J.M., Cronin, J.P., Tirpak, B.E., Dale, L.L., and **Brink, V.L.**, Project Planning Meeting: Biological Objectives for the Gulf. 2016 Biological Objectives Team Meeting.

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## **Poster Presentations**

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Tirpak, J.M., Cronin, J.P., Tirpak, B.E., Dale, L.L., and **Brink, V.L.**, Establishing Explicit Biological Objectives to Guide Strategic Habitat Conservation for the Gulf Coast. 2016 Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Research, Management and Wildlife Education Symposium.

Tirpak, J.M., Cronin, J.P., Tirpak, B.E., Dale, L.L., and **Brink, V.L.**, Establishing Explicit Biological Objectives to Guide Strategic Habitat Conservation for the Gulf Coast. 2015 South East Partners in Flight Annual Meeting.

Tirpak, J.M., Cronin, J.P., Tirpak, B.E., Dale, L.L., and **Brink, V.L.**, Establishing Explicit Biological Objectives to Guide Strategic Habitat Conservation for the Gulf Coast. 2015 Annual Meeting of the Louisiana Association of Professional Biologists.

**Brink, V.L.**, Davidson, Z., Haines, I., Meyer, V. and Dr. Melanie Johnson. Landcover of the TL2 Region in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. 2014 North East Arc Users Group Spring Meeting. [Presented]

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## **Invited Talks**

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**Brink, V.L.**, Dale, L.L., Tirpak, B.E., Cronin, J.P., and Tirpak, J.M. The Role of GIS in Developing Spatially Explicit Decision Aiding Tools for Landscape Conservation. 2016. Paul Smith's College. [Presented]