

2020/2021 CONSERVATION BANKING WEBINAR SERIES

SPEAKER BIOS

Webinar #8: Programmatic Approaches to Mitigation

Katie Allen leads The Conservation Fund's Conservation Leadership Network (CLN) in the development, execution and evaluation of The Fund's range of services related to innovative partnership programs, capacity building trainings, sustainability consulting and technical assistance. Katie works with community, governmental, and corporate partners to build capacity among leaders to enable on the ground conservation solutions and reach sustainable economic development goals.

Since 2010, Katie has designed and led several national and place-based initiatives for The Fund including the Federal Lands Livability Initiative, the National Workshop on Water Quality Trading, and Appalachian Gateway Community workshops and sustainable tourism assessments. She serves as facilitator for CLN's long-standing and highly-acclaimed Balancing Nature and Commerce Course, Mitigation Banking for Inter-Agency Review Teams Course, and Conservation Banking Course, as well as their regional offerings across the country. She holds a Masters of City and Regional Planning in Environmental and Land Use Planning from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Science in Communications from Boston University.

Shauna Everett is a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She has worked on all aspects of the Endangered Species Act, with current focus on Pacific Northwest forest management. Related to mitigation, Shauna functions as the primary representative for policy and technical assistance on environmental market programs in the region including conservation and wetland mitigation banks. She is also a policy lead for Greater sage-grouse mitigation programs across the species' range. Shauna has worked on several national policies, co-authored white papers and a book chapter on compensatory mitigation, and has taught national conservation banking training courses for the last decade. She holds a master's degree in Wildlife Ecology from Oklahoma State University and Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology from the University of Arkansas.

Jennifer Oelke-Farley serves as the Natural Resources Program Lead in the Environmental Planning and Conservation Division at Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Headquarters, located at Washington Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. Jennifer manages marine and terrestrial resources programs providing support and services to U.S. Navy installations world-wide. Additionally, Jennifer provides leadership and guidance for the development of conservation focused encroachment partnering initiatives and advanced mitigation solutions and tools. Jennifer joined the Navy team as a Natural Resources Specialist in 2008 and has completed tours at NAVFAC Marianas in Guam and NAVFAC Europe, Africa, Southwest Asia based in Naples, Italy. Jennifer holds a Master's degree in Wildlife Biology and Management from James Cook University, Townsville, Australia and a BS in Marine Biology from the University of New England, Biddeford, Maine.

Jeff Phillips, BA, MA, is a senior fish and wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field office in Ventura, California. Mr. Phillips started with the Fish and Wildlife Service under the Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) while earning his Master's degree at the University of California Santa Barbara's Donald Bren School of Environmental Science & Management in 2004. He was appointed to a full-time Presidential Management Fellowship position upon completion of his Master's degree in June 2005. Since then, he has worked as an environmental contaminants biologist specializing in natural resource damage assessment and oil spill

response for the Ventura field office (2005-2007) and the Pacific Islands field office in Honolulu, Hawaii (2007-2010), then as the geographic division supervisor for the Ventura field office South Coast division (2010-2015), and most recently as the Ventura field office Conservation Banking Coordinator.

From 2005 to 2007 Mr. Phillips was a member of the City of Santa Barbara Creeks Restoration and Water Quality Improvement Program Advisory Committee, appointed as a land use / environmental specialist. The Creeks Committee advises the Santa Barbara city council on an approximately \$2 million annual budget devoted to water quality improvement and creek restoration. From 2010 to 2015 Mr. Phillips served on the board of directors for Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, a grassroots non-profit organization whose mission is to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds through science-based advocacy, education, field work and enforcement.

Prior to entering graduate school, Mr. Phillips worked as a scientific advisor to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region IX Emergency Response Office, contracted under the Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START). He performed a variety of emergency response duties in the U.S. and abroad, focusing on environmental sampling and reporting. He was honored with a letter of commendation in 2001 for service during the Washington D.C. anthrax attacks.

In 1999 and 2000, Mr. Phillips lived in Argentina to open a satellite office for Artesian Environmental Consultants. While in Buenos Aires, he focused on marketing and startup operations for the company while also executing environmental site assessment and remediation projects throughout the country and becoming fluent in Spanish.

Mr. Phillips received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Conservation with a minor in Environmental, Population and Organismic Biology from the University of Colorado – Boulder in 1994. He has always loved the outdoors and spends his free time surfing, fishing, traveling and hiking with his wife, son, and family dogs.

Heather Richards is the Virginia State Director and Program Manager for Mitigation Solutions for the Conservation Fund. She coordinates the activities of the Fund's Acquisitions field staff who are engaged in deploying mitigation solutions across the country and is also responsible for implementing mitigation and other conservation acquisitions projects with partners in Virginia. Her experience with land trusts includes chairing the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, as well as more than 10 years of leadership with Virginia's United Land Trusts (VaULT). Prior to coming to the Fund, Heather developed and managed robust land conservation programs at the Piedmont Environmental Council and Potomac Conservancy. She also coordinated species conservation and reintroduction programs for Defenders of Wildlife.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more information, go to the [Webinar Series Information](#) page. All webinars will be recorded and uploaded to this website.