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KEEP LAFAYETTE BEAUTIFUL

RESUME LIST:

Anderson, Arnanda

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Amanda Anderson, MS

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Key Strengths

Conservation Biology ▪ Wildlife Ecology

- Environmental and biological sciences
- Bird ecology and bird conservation
- Stakeholder outreach and collaboration
- Research and conservation project management
- Authoring and presenting science products

Career & Achievements

U.S. Geological Survey-Wetland and Aquatic Research Center, Lafayette, LA

02/14/2019-Present

ECOLOGIST

Execute avian research projects that include monitoring and evaluating the effect of coastal processes and management on coastal birds across their annual life cycle in the Gulf of Mexico. Provide expertise on coastal birds in regard to ecology and conservation, science needs, study design, data management, and reporting to ensure the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) delivers scientific products that informs coastal bird and habitat conservation planning across the Gulf of Mexico. Facilitate program building activities that supports biological research for informing species recovery and advancing USGS missions by obtaining cyclical funding, sustaining interagency partnerships, and leading avian science studies.

- **Received 7 employee performance merit awards.** Received the 2021 Joseph L. Moore award for exceptional and meritorious accomplishments in the performance of my duties that supported biological research and advanced USGS missions.
- Aid supervisor in **sustaining partnerships with federal, state, and non-profit collaborators to advance** and complete shore/seabird research projects. **Interact with science partners** regularly through digital correspondence and meetings to formulate project proposals, discuss contract requirements and logistics, and reporting science products.
- **Produce scientific outreach materials** and fulfill informational requests by center supervisors and interagency collaborators like project description sheets, scientific posters and presentations, and weekly highlights of avian lab projects and accomplishments. Peer review outreach materials when requested by supervisor.
- **Provide technical assistance and consultation to supervisor and collaborators** on shore/seabird science needs, study design and research logistics, data collection and analysis processes; field information and data requests from partners and plan field activities with partners. Provide in-kind field and administrative support on other avian research projects **when requested by partners**
- Assist supervisor with **obtaining cyclical funding by developing and preparing funding proposals and scope of works.** Collaborated with supervisor on proposals and scope of works that resulted in 3 externally funded science projects totaling \$532K. Aid supervisor in preparing annual internal funding proposals that has resulted in \$23K of center funds.
- **Engage in agency support activities** that include attending branch, avian lab, and agency-wide administrative meetings; agency science symposiums. **Support branch and center supervisors** with in-kind science support on non-avian projects when requested. **Coordinate with interdisciplinary center supervisors** on delivering science products for avian projects.

U.S. Geological Survey-Wetland and Aquatic Research Center (cont.)

ECOLOGIST

- **Oversee data management plans** for each scientific study that entails executing data collection, processing, and analysis. Implement quality assurance and quality control protocols to ensure data standards are met. Execute metadata and data archiving practices and prepare USGS data releases for supervisor. Develop field datasheets and MS Access databases for data storage, and query data to build datasets for analysis using MS Access and MS Excel.
- **Adhere to scope of work** schedule and task requirements by **delivering products to science partners** that include final model datasets, geodatabases and maps, metadata, results, and co-authoring final technical reports and manuscripts.
- **Co-author avian manuscripts and technical reports** and perform related tasks assigned by supervisor that includes literature searches, data queries and dataset creation, figure design, drafting manuscript sections, and providing expertise on shore/seabird ecology and science. Conduct final draft manuscript reviews and address peer review comments.
- **Perform administrative duties** and reporting like travel authorizations, federal credit card purchases and bankcard logs, budget reporting and requests, supply and purchase tracking, travel reservations, maintenance requests, and mandatory annual training.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Yankton, SD

04/16/2018-11/24/2018

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE TECHNICIAN

Assisted with the Interior Piping Plover and Least Tern breeding program on the Missouri River for the threatened and endangered species section. Provided logistical support and direction to six research teams to successfully achieve components of the Missouri River Recovery Program. Ensured that all research protocols were followed according to permit conditions set forth by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 10.

- Worked closely with **senior staff** to **address program challenges**, improve monitoring protocols, prepare technical documents, and **coordinate intra-agency meetings and trainings**.
- **Trained seasonal technicians** on avian ecology, research methods, data collection; **monitored and resolved deviations** from protocols.
- Co-authored the draft **2016 International Piping Plover Census report** by proofing survey data and preparing tables and maps to summarize survey results for the Great Plains region.
- Documented habitat conditions and incidental take for the purposes of the **Section 10** Habitat Conservation Plan.
- **Collected and managed biological data** with Trimble Geo 7x, Tern and Plover Data Management System; managed spatial data using ArcMap.

Gulf Coast Bird Observatory, Lake Jackson, TX

03/01/2016-09/01/2017

SHOREBIRD TECHNICIAN

Directed the Breeding and Non-breeding Shorebird Stewardship projects on the upper Texas Coast. Surveyed and monitored shore/seabirds to document productivity, abundance, survival, and distribution. Assessed conservation needs of birds and their habitats and implemented local stewardship activities to conserve shore/seabirds. Oversaw all field and administrative duties including survey protocols, field equipment, data management, report writing, and stakeholder agreements.

- **Executed stewardship activities** that included managing citizen scientists, presenting interpretive programs, attending community events, and contributing to media outlets and websites
- Served on an **interdisciplinary committee** of agencies, NGOs, and community members to **resolve issues between land use and birds**, implement conservation actions, and satisfy regulatory requirements of Texas Open Beaches Act, Texas Dune Protection Act, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, and Section 7.
- Facilitated partnerships by providing **technical advice**, fulfilling programmatic **requests**, preparing **seasonal reports**, participating in **seasonal meetings**, and assisting with **grant proposals**.
- **Identified critical habitat**, fostered **habitat improvement projects**, and monitored avian response to habitat availability, disturbance, and restoration.

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Gainesville, FL

01/05/2015-11/30/2015

AVIAN BIOLOGIST

Managed the breeding and non-breeding avian projects on the Gulf and Atlantic Coasts. Surveyed and monitored shore/seabirds to document productivity, abundance, survival, distribution. Determined factors threatening avian productivity and recommended conservation and research actions. Ensured that all research and management objectives of the Florida Shorebird Alliance were met.

- Oversaw the completion of regional surveys within prescribed **statewide survey windows**.
- Collaborated with **state and federal partners** to complete state prescribed surveys and habitat conservation.
- **Trapped and banded** American Oystercatchers, resighted avian leg bands.
- Provided weekly project tracking by entering all field data into the **Florida Shorebird Alliance Database**. Managed spatial data using GPS units, Google Earth, Garmin BaseCamp, ArcMap.

Environmental Institute of Houston, Houston, TX

09/01/2012-12/15/2014

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Oversaw the American Oystercatcher breeding and behavior thesis study on the upper Texas Coast. Assisted with environmental surveys for wetlands, surface waters, vegetation, and wildlife species in Gulf Coast habitats. Key role in study design, implementing standardized survey protocols, database management, technical writing, managing field equipment, and engaging stakeholders.

- **Promoted avian conservation** by coordinating with governmental and NGO personnel, posting signage on breeding islands, **engaging recreational boaters**, and documenting human disturbance.
- **Trained and managed** five undergraduate volunteers to assist with surveys and data collection.
- Managed thesis databases, oversaw data entry and data quality control, performed data queries for analysis, performed data analysis.
- Presented thesis research at scientific conferences and to stakeholders.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Cache River National Wildlife Refuge, Augusta, AR

05/25/2012-08/15/2012

WILDLIFE INTERN

Planned and conducted vegetation, amphibian, bat, and bird surveys on refuge property. Conducted moist soil vegetation surveys to measure waterfowl food availability. Managed data using Trimble unit and MS Access.

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, Chincoteague, VA

05/25/2011-08/15/2011

SHOREBIRD INTERN

Surveyed and monitored breeding Piping Plovers and American Oystercatchers on the Atlantic Coast. Censused breeding birds, documented breeding behaviors, conducted nest and young searches, tracked nest and young fate, recorded causes of reproductive failure, erected nest enclosures, posted symbolic fencing.

Education & Technical Skills

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-CLEAR LAKE, Houston, TX

Master of Science in Environmental Science, 2014

Thesis Title: *The factors affecting productivity and parental behavior of American Oystercatcher (Haematopus palliatus) in Texas.*

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-STEVENS POINT, Stevens Point, WI

Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Ecology, 2012

Graduated Cum Laude (3.5-3.74)

Technical Proficiencies:

ArcMap, R Programming, Microsoft Office 365, Garmin BaseCamp, Google Pro Earth, Garmin and Trimble units, Reconyx cameras, digital cameras, spotting scopes, binoculars, trailering, outboard motorboats, 4WD vehicles.

Professional Development:

National Conservation and Training Center, USFWS: Introduction to R (December 2020), Species Distribution Modeling in R (April 2021), Data Carpentry: Geospatial Data (May 2021), Making Sense of Biological Data (December 2021), Field Data Management using MS Access (January 2022).

ESRI: Migrating from ArcMap to ArcGIS Pro (April 2022)

Certifications

Class A, 1 Motorboat Operator (MOCC)	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	2019-Present
Defensive Driving	National Safety Council	2021-Present
First Aid/CPR/AED	American Heart Association	2021-Present
Wilderness First Aid	U.S. Geological Survey	2023-Present
Animal Welfare Act	Oregon State University	2023-Present

U.S. Geological Survey Science Products

Science Projects

Understanding Avian Habitat Availability and Use After Barrier Island Restoration in Coastal Louisiana.
<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/wetland-and-aquatic-research-center/science/understanding-avian-habitat-availability-and>

Monitoring Effects of Barrier Island Restoration on Piping Plovers in Louisiana.
<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/wetland-and-aquatic-research-center/science/monitoring-effects-barrier-island-restoration>

Seasonal Surveys of Shorebird and Coastal Waterbird Utilization of Dredged Material Islands in the Baptiste Collette Bayou, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) New Orleans District, Louisiana.
<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/wetland-and-aquatic-research-center/science/seasonal-surveys-shorebird-and-coastal>

Adapting to Climate Change: Trends and Severe Storm Responses by Migratory Landbirds and Their Habitats. <https://www.usgs.gov/programs/climate-adaptation-science-centers/science/adapting-climate-change-trends-and-severe-storm>.

Publications

Zenzal, TJ, **Anderson, AN**, Geary, B, Schulz, J, Dobbs, R, Barrow, W, and Waddle, JH (*in prep*) *Immediate Impacts of Tropical Storms on a Barrier Island's Avian Breeding Community*. U.S. Geological Survey, Wetland and Aquatic Research Center, Lafayette, LA, USA.

Oral Presentations

Anderson, AN 2020. *Restoration compliance monitoring of birds and habitats at Whiskey Island, Louisiana*. U.S. Geological Survey Workshop: Using climate science and emerging technologies to advance wetland and waterbird research. Wetland and Aquatic Research Center, Louisiana.

Scientific Posters

Anderson, AN, Zenzal, TJ, Waddle, H, Enwright, N, LeBlanc, D, Lee, D. 2022. *Understanding Avian Habitat Availability and Use before, during, and after Barrier Island Restoration in Coastal Louisiana, USA*. Poster presented at: Wetland and Aquatic Research Center, Lafayette, LA, USA.

Publications

- Anderson, AN**, S. Heath, and G.J. Guillen. 2016. *A time activity budget for American Oystercatchers breeding in Texas*. The Wilson Journal of Ornithology 128:656-663.
- Anderson, AN**, J. Brush. 2016. *Observation of American Oystercatchers incubating a foreign object*. The Wilson Journal of Ornithology 128:939-941.

Oral Presentations

- Anderson, AN** 2020. *Restoration compliance monitoring of birds and habitats at Whiskey Island, Louisiana*. U.S. Geological Survey Workshop: Using climate science and emerging technologies to advance wetland and waterbird research. Louisiana.
- Anderson, AN** 2017. *Non-breeding Shorebird Stewardship Project in Texas*. Texas Master Naturalists. Texas.
- Anderson, AN** 2016-2017. *Beach Nesting Birds Project in Texas*. Matagorda Lions Club, Houston Canoe Club, Freeport Police Department, Texas Master Naturalists, Freeport and Matagorda Libraries. Texas.
- Anderson, AN** and J. Brush. 2015. *A summary of the 2015 American Oystercatcher breeding season*. Florida Shorebird Alliance Regional Meeting. Cedar Key, FL.
- Anderson, AN** 2014. *The factors affecting productivity and parental behavior of American Oystercatchers in Texas*. Thesis defense. University of Houston-Clear Lake.
- Anderson, AN**, S. Heath, and G.J. Guillen. 2014. *Measuring life history characteristics and factors affecting American Oystercatcher behavior on the upper Texas coast*. Gulf Coast Master Naturalist Chapter Meeting. La Marque, TX.
- Anderson, AN**, S. Heath, and G.J. Guillen. 2014. *The factors affecting nest and brood survival and chick body condition of American Oystercatchers*. American Oystercatcher Working Group Annual Meeting. Lake Jackson, TX.
- Anderson, AN**, S. Heath, and G.J. Guillen. 2014. *The effect of Laughing Gulls on American Oystercatcher reproductive success and parental behavior along the upper Texas coast*. American Oystercatcher Working Group Annual Meeting. Lake Jackson, TX.
- Anderson, AN**, S. Heath, and G.J. Guillen. 2014. *A time activity budget for American Oystercatchers and the effect of Laughing Gulls on parental behavior*. Gulf Estuarine Research Society. Port Aransas, TX.
- Anderson, AN**, S. Heath, and G.J. Guillen. 2014. *The effect of Laughing Gulls on American Oystercatcher reproductive success and parental behavior along the upper Texas coast*. Waterbirds Annual Meeting. Baja California, Mexico.

References

Available upon request.

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