

2016 Presenter Biographies and Abstracts

[Colopy, Michele](#), Program Director for the Pollinator Stewardship Council has worked there since March 2013. Her father was a beekeeper in Ohio. She keeps honey bees in the city, and has replaced her crabgrass front yard with pesticide-free pollinator flowers for her honey bees and native pollinators. She has nearly twenty years of experience in nonprofit organizations, and holds a Master's degree in Nonprofit Management/Arts Administration from The University of Akron. Her nonprofit experience includes work in the performing arts, housing and homelessness, foreclosure prevention, community development, and health and wellness.

ABSTRACT - *"Understanding the Pollinator Crisis and How You Can Help"* - A discussion on the national pollinator crisis, and the impact upon and value of honey bees and native pollinators to one-third of our food supply. Ms. Colopy will present the issues facing pollinators, and what individuals can do to help reverse the declines in honey bees and native pollinators.

[Considine, Cody](#) is a restoration ecologist for The Nature Conservancy at Nachusa Grasslands. Cody studied natural resource management at Western Illinois University. He earned a master's degree from Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where he studied ecology. He wrote his thesis on the fire history and stand structure of Kankakee Sands, another Nature Conservancy preserve known for its high quality black oak sand savannas. As the restoration ecologist, Cody helps restore and manage the diverse mosaic of prairie, woodland, and wetlands of Nachusa Grasslands.

ABSTRACT - *"Lessons Learned: 29 years of Restoring High Diversity Tallgrass Prairie"* - The Nature Conservancy's Nachusa Grasslands has been restoring tallgrass prairie since 1986. Over the past 29 years, Nachusa has planted over 120 prairie plantings that have been recognized as some of the best examples of prairie restorations in the Midwest. Each season staff and volunteers hand harvest over 6,000 lbs. of seed containing 150-250 species to plant new acres and over-seed previous restorations. Throughout the 29 year journey we have made plenty of mistakes and learned from them. This presentation will highlight the "lessons we've learned" and what we do to create high quality tallgrass prairie restorations.

[Fischer, Ron](#) is living on a 5th generation farm near Orion, Illinois. He started his first colony of bees in 1970 to pollinate a small orchard on his grandparent's farm. He was designated 2006 Beekeeper of the year by the Illinois State Beekeepers Association. Ron is Past President of the Illinois State Beekeepers Association, Northern Director of the ISBA, and Editor of the ISBA Bulletin for 6 years. He is a Member of the American Beekeeping Federation and one of two delegates representing the Illinois beekeepers at national meetings. He is owner and operator of Fischer's Honey Farm and Orchard.

ABSTRACT - *"A Look Inside a Beehive"* An overview of the equipment needed to begin as a beekeeper, including wooden goods, smoker and extractor. The presentation includes an explanation of what constitutes a colony of bees and how the colony members work cooperatively.

[Frank, Paul](#) has been a hobby beekeeper since 2007. He averages about 500 pounds of honey per year. Paul has been a registered nurse since 1996. He received a doctor of chiropractic bachelors in science in 2001 and is currently pursuing a master's degree in nutrition. Since 2006, he has worked for Standard Process which is the whole food nutrition company. He works in patient care research and travels the country speaking on nutrition.

ABSTRACT - “Seasonal Allergies: Honey and Human Health” - Throughout history honey has gained a reputation for helping with seasonal allergies. I will present the science and physiological mechanism by which pollen found in honey can modify the immune system and normalize a response to specific allergens. I will also discuss process in which may destroy these proteins and decrease this effect. These concepts support be keeping the natural way.

[Heller, Mike](#) is an Agronomist for the Iowa Department of Transportation. His primary work consists of developing erosion and sediment control plans and specifications for linear transportation construction projects. Mike has been a team member of the Iowa Department of Transportation for eleven years. He has helped develop the departments Erosion and Sediment Control Certification Program and serves as an instructor for this program as well. He is currently developing criteria to introduce roadway designers to the principles and practices of erosion control design for transportation projects. Mike is also continuing to develop performance related erosion and sediment control specifications for the department. Mike is a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control and received his Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Biology from the Iowa State University in 1996. Mike's other professional experiences includes serving as a Natural Resource Manager with the Corps of Engineers and as a Natural Resources Aid for Shelby County Conservation Board.

ABSTRACT – “Planning and Establishing a Reconstructed Prairie-From Paper to Plants” - Establishing a diverse prairie reconstruction can be challenging with sites varying from less than an acre to several hundred acres. This workshop will detail how the Iowa DOT plans, develops and implements their native grass and wildflower plantings along linear transportation projects. This presentation will focus on site selection and preparation, seed selection and planting. These same tools and planning techniques can be utilized on any scale to assist landowners with their prairie reconstruction.

[Henze, Chris](#) manages the Integrated Roadside Vegetation Management Program (IRVM) in Johnson County, Iowa and has worked with the Secondary Roads Department for 16 years. The IRVM Program conducts roadside native grass and wildflower plantings in the Right of Way, prescribed burns, mowing, and noxious and invasive species management on nearly 2000 miles/6000 Acres of Right of Way. Chris has extensive experience with establishment of native vegetation, herbicides, and erosion and sediment control in difficult roadside habitat situations.

ABSTRACT - “Prairie for Pollinators in the Right of Way: Establishment, Maintenance, and the Difficulties of Working in the Roadside” - This presentation will focus on what to plant and how to establish and maintain your pollinator habitat within a unique roadside setting. The public

Right of Way in Iowa contains over 300,000 acres of potential wildlife and pollinator habitat but can be a challenging location to work and utilize prairie and native species.

Hoehn, Kevin W, Senior Product Safety and Compliance Engineer, John Deere Crop Care. Kevin has over 40 years of design, test and product safety and compliance experience with seeding and tillage equipment during his career at John Deere. He was a member of the working group which developed international standard ISO 17962 dealing with planter vacuum system exhaust design. Kevin will be speaking on behalf of the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) in his discussion of ISO 17962 and its influences on planter design and pollinator protection.

ABSTRACT – “Planter Designs for Seed Treatment Fugitive Dust Mitigation” - *The origins of row crop planter air system exhaust control as a pollinator protection initiative are explained. Seed metering technologies and their effects on seed treatment fugitive dust are reviewed. Structure and developmental procedures for national and international standards are summarized. Evolution, structure and specifications of international standard ISO 17962 Agricultural machinery – Equipment for sowing – Minimization of the environmental effects of fan exhaust from pneumatic systems are covered in detail. The presentation concludes with examples of ISO 17962 compliant designs at several Association of Equipment Manufacturers member companies.*

James, Scott grew up in the Quad Cities and graduated from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale with a B.S. in Zoology. In early-2012, Scott was hired as a Farm Bill Biologist with Pheasants Forever (PF) in Southeast Missouri. In mid-2015, he became a PF Farm Bill Biologist in Northwest Illinois. Pheasants Forever is dedicated to the conservation of pheasants, quail and other wildlife. PF Biologists work to conserve pollinator habitat since it is not only vital to our ecosystem, but excellent pheasant and quail habitat. Scott helps farmers and private landowners create and manage wildlife and pollinator habitat daily. In his free time, he enjoys outdoor sports and training his yellow lab.

ABSTRACT – “Help Pollinators While Gleaning Personal Benefit: Incorporating Pollinators into Your Farm Operation” - *Rural Mid-Westerners can help pollinators while gleaning personal benefit. Learn how to incorporate pollinators into your farm operation, how to manage and enjoy wildflower plots on your property, and how to have excellent wildlife and hunting areas through the creation and management of pollinator habitat.*

Joseph, Andrew is the State Apiarist with the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship. He is also the Eastern Apicultural Society Master Beekeeper. Mr. Joseph runs a small 80 – 100 colony bee and honey business.

ABSTRACT – “2015: A Year in Bees” - *Any beekeeper knows that “all beekeeping is local” and that each year with the bees is unique. That said, whether individual beekeepers realize it or not, we share many similar conditions and circumstances each season across our region. We’ll discuss these experiences summarizing “What’s going on with the bees?” with a focus on techniques for improved management.*

[Lambruschi, Marc](#) is the GIS technician for the Urban Monarch L.C.D. project at The Field Museum in Chicago. His primary interest consists of using GIS to refine our understanding of urban environments and the role they play in Monarch conservation. Prior to working in the Keller Science Action Center, Marc was the Data Migration Specialist in the IT department at The Field Museum. Working with the EMu database, he repatriated and visualized collections data from the various departments in the museum. He has a bachelor's degree in environmental science along with a GIS certification from DePaul University.

ABSTRACT - “A Monarch’s View of Urban Landscapes: Developing a Multi-City Landscape Conservation Design” – *Monarch butterfly habitat—including milkweed host plants and nectar food sources—has declined drastically throughout most of the United States. Observed overwinter population levels have also exhibited a long-term downward trend that suggests a strong relationship between habitat loss and monarch population declines. Preliminary research results from a U.S. Geological Survey led effort suggest that we will need an “all hands on deck” conservation strategy that includes all land types to stabilize monarch populations at levels necessary to adequately minimize extinction risk—and urban areas will likely play a critical role.*

This project, an Ecological Places in Cities (EPIC) initiative, will help provide an understanding of the contribution urban areas can make to monarch conservation both from an ecological and a social perspective. In particular, this effort addresses questions such as how can we optimally utilize the various scales of urban life and landscape to create monarch habitat, and how do we best engage urban sectors (e.g., community organizations, education, transportation, health, utilities) as non-traditional conservation participants?

The overall project is comprised of several components, including: 1) development of an Urban Monarch Conservation Framework that identifies strategies and design elements for habitat creation and community outreach, 2) development of city-based landscape conservation design to guide actions for the monarch butterfly in four cities that provide benefits both socially and ecologically and 3) a workshop that integrates individual landscape conservation designs into a cross-regional approach. Insights into the urban landscape conservation design process and preliminary results to date will be shared.

[Lewis, Donald R., Ph.D.](#) Professor and Extension Entomologist, Department of Entomology, Iowa State University and Iowa Monarch Conservation Consortium. Dr. Lewis is responsible for outreach education on insect pest management in turfgrass, trees and shrubs, fruit, vegetables and households and structures and is a specialist in the ISU Plant and Insect Diagnostic Clinic. Dr. Lewis is the instructor of the online, beginning entomology course for non-majors and is a co-instructor in Turfgrass Pest Management and Tropical Crops Pest Management that travels to Costa Rica every other year. Dr. Lewis is an instructor in the Iowa Master Gardener Program and a regular contributor to the Iowa Public Radio Talk of Iowa Horticulture Show.

ABSTRACT – “Plants, Pollinators and People in the Residential Landscape” – One-third of our food and beverages is made possible by pollination, mainly by honey bees. But other common insects, including native bees are involved in the important work of transferring pollen from one flower to another. This seminar will review Iowa's other pollinators and will discuss what you can do to help pollinators and butterflies in your residential landscape. As a result of attending this session, participants will appreciate the benefits of pollination service provided by insects; Recognize some of Iowa's beneficial insects; Comprehend the multiple causes for the recent population declines of pollinators; Know actions gardeners can take to preserve and protect pollinators and other beneficial insects.

Mays, Paul A., Ph.D. Emeritus Faculty-Biology, Eastern Iowa Community College, Muscatine. Dr. Mays studied Zoology at Southern Illinois University (BS, MS) and the University of Iowa (PhD). He taught at Muscatine Community College-EICCD for 34 years. His research is in Population Ecology and Genetics of Insects. Currently studying pollinators and their interactions with host and nectar plants in the Mississippi Valley. He is conducting a Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) project on these interactions at The Big Sand Mound Nature Preserve in Muscatine and Louisa Counties, Iowa.

ABSTRACT – “Native Butterflies and Moths as Pollinators: Their Identification, Host Plants and Nectar Sources” – Native Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths) are important pollinators of plants, both native and non-native. It is important to encourage the success of populations of these insects through understanding their needs and ecological requirements. Some butterflies are indicators of quality environments and some have become rare, threatened or endangered. Field identification of several of these insects, host plants, nectar plants and methods of maintaining environments for various species will be discussed.

McGuire, Julia, is the creator of the nation's first searchable bee law website, BeeLaws.org. A backyard beekeeper since 2011, she currently coordinates the Des Moines Backyard Beekeepers club, its website, and Facebook group, and sits on the Board of Directors for the Central Iowa Beekeepers Association. Along with being a substitute teacher, she also teaches beginning beekeeping classes in the Des Moines, Iowa, area.

ABSTRACT – “Planning for a Bee-Friendly City: Knowing the Bee Laws” – Informed by researching almost one hundred Iowa cities, Julia presents a diverse range of city policies in regard to honey bees and ways to involve citizens and beekeepers for responsible and responsive policy.

Melius, Tom is the Midwest Regional Director for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Melius has led the Midwest since October of 2008, overseeing 1,067 people, 1.47 million acres of land and field offices in eight states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Under Melius's direction, the Midwest Region is currently leading the Service's national effort to conserve the North American monarch butterfly and working internationally with Canada and Mexico to

ensure a future filled with monarchs. Melius also represents the Service on the Monarch Joint Venture, which brings monarch experts and conservation groups together to help monarchs.

In 2014, Melius was appointed as a U.S. Commissioner on The Great Lakes Fishery Commission. As one of eight commissioners (four from the U.S. and four from Canada), Melius advises the sea lamprey control program, one of the most successful invasive species programs in the history of international conservation. Melius is also the Co-chair of the Plains and Prairie Pothole Landscape Conservation Cooperative.

Prior to his Midwest region post, Melius was in charge of the Service's Alaska region, and served in Service headquarters as Assistant Director for External Affairs and for Migratory Birds and State Programs. He also worked with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and advised the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation and the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. Melius earned his bachelor's degree in wildlife biology and a master's degree in fish and wildlife science from South Dakota State University.

Oberhauser, Karen S., Ph.D. is a Professor in the Dept. of Fisheries, Wildlife and Conservation Biology at the University of Minnesota, where she and her students conduct research on several aspects of monarch butterfly ecology. Her research depends on traditional lab and field techniques, as well as the contributions of a variety of audiences through citizen science, and she and her students have published over peer-reviewed 100 papers that focus on monarch biology and conservation. Her strong interest in promoting a citizenry with a high degree of scientific and environmental literacy led to the development of a science education program that involves courses for both formal and non-formal educators, and opportunities for youth to engage in research and share their findings with broad audiences. In 1996, she and graduate student Michelle Prysby started a nationwide Citizen Science project called the Monarch Larva Monitoring Project, which continues to engage hundreds of volunteers throughout North America. Karen is passionate about the conservation of the world's biodiversity, and believes that the connections her projects promote between monarchs, humans, and the natural world promote meaningful conservation action. She is the chair of the Monarch Joint Venture, and a founding officer of the Monarch Butterfly Fund. In 2013, Karen received a White House Champion of Change award for her work with Citizen Science.

ABSTRACT – “Dwindling numbers for an iconic insect: A conservation biologist ponders moving beyond the documentation of declines” – *Monarch butterflies populations have been declining over the last 20 years. Because insect numbers are notoriously difficult to assess, and because they often show large year to year fluctuations, simply documenting this decline has been a challenge. It is now important to move beyond simple documentation, and toward responding to the challenge posed by monarch conservation, and insect conservation in general. Monarchs are negatively impacted by many human activities, and various scientists and monarch advocates have implicated habitat degradation and loss, pesticide use, climate change, vehicular collisions, invasive species, and pathogen spread in their dwindling numbers. In this presentation, I'll describe the amazing biology of migratory monarch populations, and the work of citizens and scientists in documenting monarch numbers at all stages of their*

migratory cycle. I'll then discuss threats to monarchs, and potential responses to these threats. Because conservation biology must be, at its essence, a science of hope, my focus is on positive changes as well as on the challenges posed by declining monarch numbers.

Parer, Andy has been with the City of Rock Island since 2008, and has been the stormwater technician since 2012. Most of his duties are directly tied to the environmental issues that affect Rock Island and its residents. He completed the University of Illinois Extension Master Naturalist program this fall and enjoys all things nature.

Abstract – “Cost Sharing Rain Gardens for Pollinator Benefits” - *The benefits of rain gardens are numerous. They can improve the drainage in your lawn, reduce urban flooding, they are a natural filter of pollutants, they add beauty that is customizable and easily maintained, and provide a great habitat for pollinators. Since 2005, the City of Rock Island has offered a cost sharing program to encourage Rock Island residents to install rain gardens on their property so each resident is capable of experienced these benefits. To date, we have installed over 250 rain gardens throughout the city. This presentation will go over the environmental and financial benefits you can receive through this program. It will also cover where to plant your garden, what to plant within it, how to maintain it, and other tips and tricks.*

Race, Sara is a Senior Environmental Compliance Specialist for Commonwealth Edison Company, an electric utility company that serves most of northern Illinois. In her role, Sara is responsible for managing environmental compliance programs related to wetlands, land use, and threatened and endangered species. In addition, she oversees the company's stewardship and biodiversity programs, including ComEd's prairie program. Sara is currently involved with Chicago Wilderness as a member of the Corporate Council and works with many NGOs and government agencies to advance common stewardship and land management goals. Sara has been with ComEd since 2005, and has an M.S. in Environmental Management. Prior to graduate school, she worked in the non-profit sector focusing on environmental education and plant science education with institutions such as the Chicago Botanic Garden and The Field Museum.

ABSTRACT – “ComEd's Prairie Program: Background, Opportunities, and Challenges of Prairie Restoration on Utility Corridors” – *ComEd is one of the largest landowners in Illinois, with over 3,000 miles of transmission rights-of-ways within a service territory covering over 11,000 square miles. These rights-of-way serve as important linkages between preserves in urbanized areas such as the Chicago metropolitan area. Started in 1994, ComEd's Prairie Program provides an alternative rights-of-way management framework that promotes conservation initiatives, builds partnerships within the conservation community, and enhances corporate sustainability. The goal of this voluntary program is to manage remnant prairies and reconstruct prairies in strategic locations on ComEd landholdings. ComEd is committed to long-term management of its prairie sites, including ongoing invasive species control, overseeding, and prescribed burning, in order to maintain a quantitative quality standard and to provide meaningful targets for restoration. Partnerships to advance conservation initiatives at the local and regional levels and recent emphasis on pollinator habitat are two current focus areas for expanding the scope of*

the Prairie Program. Specific challenges and lessons-learned from working to restore prairies on rights-of-way in urban areas will also be discussed.

[Savinelli, Caydee](#) is the Pollinator and IPM Stewardship Lead at Syngenta. In this role, she leads the development and implementation of strategies and tactics for pollinator health and stewardship, integrated pest management, insect resistance management and biodiversity conservation initiatives. She is also leading Syngenta's Operation Pollinator program along with its research and implementation efforts. She has focused on pest management, product development and crop production throughout her 31 year career and has worked in the U.S., Europe and Latin America. Caydee holds a Ph.D. in Entomology with a minor in Crop Science from North Carolina State University, a M.S. in Entomology from The Pennsylvania State University and a B.A. in Biology from Gettysburg College. Caydee's interest in agriculture and entomology started in childhood during the time spent at her grandfather's orange grove in Florida.

Abstract Title – “Operation Pollinator: Positive Action for Pollinators in the Golf Industry”-
Operation Pollinator is a global initiative by Syngenta to establish pollinator habitat (floral enhancement) in agricultural landscapes and golf course landscapes. Syngenta has conducted more than 10 years of research on the benefits of establishing an Operation Pollinator habitat. Operation Pollinator provides golf course managers agronomic information to successfully establish and manage attractive wildflower habitat for bees, butterflies and other pollinators. Additionally, managers can use provided communication tools to help explain how Operation Pollinator supports pollinators while also enhancing the visual appearance of the course and the overall playing experience.

[Schmechel, Eric](#), Urban Conservationist, Dubuque County Soil and Water Conservation District. Eric Schmechel is an urban conservationist with the Dubuque Soil and Water Conservation District. Eric has over 10 years of experience working with both agricultural and urban conservation practices that focus on water quality, habitat, and flood control. Eric also serves as the administrator for the Catfish Creek Watershed Authority Board, which has recently developed a watershed management plan that Eric is implementing throughout Dubuque County. Eric also works as the Dubuque County stormwater administrator.

ABSTRACT – “The Importance of Integrating Water Quality Projects with Pollinator Habitats in Urban Settings” -
The importance of urban conservation and the importance of integrating water quality projects with pollinator habitats into urban settings. Eric has worked with builders, developers, and homeowners on implementing water quality practices and will be discussing a couple different projects in Dubuque County that have successfully incorporated habitat features into their design.

[Smith, Tamara](#), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Twin Cities Field Office, Bloomington, MN. Tamara (Tam) primarily works on endangered species recovery planning and implementation, as well as listing and critical habitat decisions. Tam is currently working on species

status assessments for the rusty-patched bumble bee, Canada lynx, the spectaclecase mussel and also focusing on the recovery of the Poweshiek skipperling and several mussel species. Before working at the Twin Cities Field Office, Tam worked as an aquatic ecologist for 6 years with Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program and was Director of Western Pennsylvania Conservancy's Northwest Conservation Programs Field Station. Tam received her M.S. in Fisheries and Aquatic Science from Cornell University, New York, and a B.S. from the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay, with a double major in Environmental Science and Mathematics and a minor in Art. Between undergraduate and graduate school, Tam held various positions and worked at the Service's Maine Fisheries Resource Office, Sacramento San Joaquin Estuary Fisheries Resource Office, Sea Grant, and both the herbarium and land snail research labs at the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay.

ABSTRACT – “Rusty-patched Bumble Bee (*Bombus affinis*): A Native Pollinator in Decline” - *Once widely distributed and abundant, the rusty-patched bumble bee (*Bombus affinis*) has witnessed precipitous declines in recent years. This talk will focus on the biology of the bumble bee, the suspected causes of its decline, and the actions that can be taken to help conserve this, and other important pollinators.*

Taylor, Chip, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Kansas. Founder and Director of Monarch Watch. Trained as an insect ecologist, Chip Taylor has published papers on species assemblages, hybridization, reproductive biology, population dynamics and plant demographics and pollination. Starting in 1974, Chip Taylor established research sites and directed students studying Neotropical African honey bees (killer bees) in French Guiana, Venezuela, and Mexico.

In 1992, Taylor founded Monarch Watch, an outreach program focused on education, research and conservation relative to monarch butterflies. Since then, Monarch Watch has enlisted the help of volunteers to tag monarchs during the fall migration. This program has produced many new insights into the dynamics of the monarch migration. In 2005 Monarch Watch created the Monarch Waystation program, in recognition that habitats for monarchs are declining at a rate of 6,000 acres a day in the United States. The goal of this program is to inspire the public, schools and others to create habitats for monarch butterflies and to assist Monarch Watch in educating the public about the decline in resources for monarchs, pollinators and all wildlife that share the same habitats.

ABSTRACT – “Monarch Butterflies: From Decline to Recovery”- *In this talk I will review the monarch's annual cycle and the reasons for the decline in monarch numbers over the last 20 years. The eastern monarch population occupies a large area east of the Rockies as far north as Winnipeg (50N). Understanding the dynamics of this population requires that we know the key factors that contribute to both the production of new monarchs throughout the growing season as well as those factors that both limit reproductive success and contribute to mortality. Studies utilizing isotopes and tagging indicate that over 90% of the monarchs reaching Mexico originate in the western portion of the Upper Midwest. It follows that knowing the dynamics of the population within the milkweed/monarch corridor from Texas to Minnesota through the season will enable us to understand both inter-annual variation and where best to focus our efforts to restore monarch habitats. Current and potential future habitat restoration efforts will be*

discussed, particularly as they apply to the milkweed/monarch corridor. I will also summarize the major factors that determine monarch numbers from year to year, i.e. the basis for the inter-annual variation in the numbers reaching Mexico. Lastly, I will emphasize that it's more than monarchs that should concern us. At the very least, it's all the species that share their habitats with monarchs, particularly the pollinators whose services support most of the life in the ecosystems that we live in and that support us.

Winter, Alexis - is the Social Science Coordinator for the Keller Science Action Center at The Field Museum in Chicago, where she focuses on Monarch butterfly conservation in and around cities in the Monarch's flyway. For the past five years she has been applying qualitative methods to understanding the social dimensions of urban conservation, climate change, and other environmental issues. She holds a bachelor's degree in anthropology from Boston University and will receive her master's degree in applied anthropology from University of South Florida in August 2016.

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