

# **Cristina G. Kennedy**

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## **EDUCATION**

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**University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA**  
Intercampus Marine Science Graduate Program  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Master of Science, May 2013

**Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA**  
Bachelor of Science in Biology, May 2006  
Dean's List First Honors, 2005-2006

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management**  
Coastal Habitat and Water Quality Specialist

Boston, MA  
October 2016- Present

- Coordinate the Coastal Pollutant Remediation Grant Program and the Marine Invader Monitoring and Information Collaborative citizen science monitoring program. Provide technical support for coastal wetlands assessment, seafloor mapping and climate change adaptation planning initiatives.

**Center for Coastal Studies**  
Benthic Ecologist

Provincetown, MA  
2014- 2016

- Led the biological component of a multi-year submerged benthic habitat mapping project in shallow coastal waters of Cape Cod in partnership with the Cape Cod National Seashore, the Friends of Pleasant Bay and the Town of Wellfleet. Collected and identified over 100,000 marine invertebrates.

**Charles River Watershed Association**  
Rita Barron Watershed Science and Management Fellowship

Weston, MA  
2013- 2014

- Coordinated the volunteer water quality monthly monitoring program and the annual Charles River Cleanup. Involved in watershed research, monitoring, restoration and outreach.

**All Out Adventures**  
Program Staff

Easthampton, MA  
2011- 2012

- Led outdoor recreational programs for people with disabilities.

**Department of Environmental Conservation, University of Massachusetts**  
Research Assistant

Amherst, MA  
2008- 2013

- Designed and implemented an independent Masters thesis project on the movement and estuarine habitat use patterns of striped bass, a coastal predatory fish, in Plum Island, MA in partnership with the United States Geological Survey Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Unit, and the Plum Island Long Term Ecological Research network.

**Ecosystems Center, Marine Biological Laboratory**  
Research Assistant

Woods Hole, MA  
2007- 2008

- Collected and processed water chemistry, creek morphology, plant cover, and animal community data for an interdisciplinary, multi-institutional salt marsh ecology project examining the effects of anthropogenic nutrient enrichment on New England salt marshes.

**Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality**  
Stream Monitoring Intern

Sheridan, WY  
June-November 2006

- Monitored habitat and water quality of Wyoming streams and rivers, sampling included water quality, invertebrate and algae, river morphology profiles, substrate composition, and fish habitat quality.

## Publications

- **Kennedy, C.G.**, M.E. Mather, and J.M. Smith. 2017. Quantifying Site-Specific Physical Heterogeneity within an Estuarine Seascape. *Estuaries and Coasts*.
- **Kennedy, C.G.**, M.E. Mather, J.M. Smith, J.T. Finn, and L.A. Deegan. 2016. Discontinuities concentrate mobile predators: quantifying organism-environment interactions at a seascape scale. *Ecosphere* 7(2).
- Mather, M.E., J.T. Finn, **C.G. Kennedy**, L.A. Deegan, and J.M. Smith. 2013. What happens in an estuary doesn't stay there: Patterns of biotic connectivity resulting from long term ecological research. *Oceanography* 26(3).
- Martinez, S., M. Belcher, C. Haak, **C. Kennedy**, A. Koske, D. Stormer, K. Terkanian, and F. Juanes. 2012. Bruce S. Miller and Arthur W. Kendall, Jr. (eds): Review of "Early life history of marine fishes". *Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries* 22:371-373.

## Skills

- Habitat assessment of streams using EPA rapid bioassessment protocols
- Collection of physical and chemical water quality data using grab samples and autosamplers for nutrients in river, estuarine and storm water sampling
- Use of multi-parameter sondes for dissolved oxygen, cyanobacteria, conductivity, temperature and depth
- Benthic macroinvertebrate sampling and identification (freshwater and marine)
- Aquatic invasive plant removal
- Global Positioning System skills used to mark, locate and navigate, including use of Trimble® RTK-GPS receiver
- Fish sampling using electro-fishing, hoop nets and minnow traps
- Salt marsh plant and algae id
- Species presence and relative abundance of estuarine birds, fish, shrimp, and invertebrates
- Small boat piloting
- Data management, analysis and display with Microsoft Excel, Powerpoint and Access, Adobe Illustrator, ArcGIS, Matlab and R

## Awards

- Cronin Fisheries Research Award for excellence in fisheries research in the Department of Environmental Conservation, 2011 (\$600)
- Travel Award from the Estuaries Section of the American Fisheries Society, 2011 (\$500)
- Travel Award from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst Graduate School, 2011 (\$300)
- VEMCO equipment student award discount, 2009 (\$2,900)

## Workshops

- Data Management for Ecologists Workshop (August 14-16, 2012) hosted by the Long Term Ecological Research network information management office
- Scientific Communication for Natural Resource Professionals Workshop (February 7, 2013) hosted by Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

## Memberships

- University of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Conservation Graduate Student Council
- Plum Island Ecosystems Long Term Ecological Research Network
- Ecological Society of America
- Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation
- New England Estuarine Research Society
- American Fisheries Society
- Estuaries Section & Southern New England Chapter of the American Fisheries Society

## Volunteer Experience

- Big Sister Association (2016-present)
- Recreational volunteer with disabled individuals and their families with DCR Universal Access Program (2008-2014)
- Field assistant for a research project investigating the ecosystem services provided by tropical rainforests in the Panama Canal Watershed (May 2013)
- Member of the Greater Boston Access to Recreation steering committee (2012-2013)
- Water quality sampler for the Merrimack River Watershed Council (2007-2008)
- Boston College Best Buddies volunteer and membership coordinator (2003-2006)