

**2021 WRI Annual Conference: Virtual Networking Session**  
**March 25, 5:45-6:45 p.m. ET**

Below are the professionals participating in the networking session. They are grouped by sector and listed alphabetically by last name. Each group will have their own breakout room.

**Breakout Room 1: Industry Representatives:**



**Jason C. Doll, CPSWQ, KCI Associates of NC, PA**

**Website:** <https://careers-kci.icims.com/jobs/search?ss=1&hashed=-626006866>

After growing up in one of the most remote parts of northeastern North Carolina, Jason Doll attended N.C. State University where he studied Fisheries & Wildlife Science. Since then, he has accumulated more than 26 years' experience as an environmental scientist and project manager specializing in watershed planning, water quality modeling, stormwater management, and ecological restoration for both public and private sector clients throughout North America. In particular, he has completed numerous watershed planning projects utilizing multi-disciplinary approaches to integrate ecological restoration with point and nonpoint source management measures to develop comprehensive strategies to improve and protect watershed functions. Mr. Doll also provides significant experience in urban/suburban stream restoration, as well as individual drainage improvement projects and green stormwater infrastructure. He is formally trained in natural channel design principles and low impact development.

**Job opportunities:** KCI job openings can be found using the link above, where they can be filtered by category and location.



**Johnny Foster, President, Foster Lake & Pond Management, Inc.**

**Website:** [www.FosterLake.com](http://www.FosterLake.com)

Johnny Foster founded Foster Lake & Pond Management (FLPM) in 1983 after working for N.C. State University for 9 years. He has served in various advisory roles for the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, N.C. Biotechnology Center, N.C. Farm Bureau Federation, Brookside Farms Laboratory Association, a Governor's Task Force and is a SePRO Corporation Preferred Applicator. Foster is a licensed General Contractor and licensed Landscape Contractor. He is a Certified Professional in Stormwater Inspection and Maintenance and a licensed Aquatic Pesticide Applicator. With membership in over 12 professional organizations Foster is an Accredited Member of the Society of Lake Management Professionals. He is a Past President of the North Carolina Lake Management Society.

Foster Lake & Pond Management is the North Carolina Stormwater Specialist. For 35 years we have been providing an Integrated Pest Management approach to aquatic vegetation, providing our own fish for stocking lakes and ponds, utilizing electro-fishing and habitat enhancement to improve fish populations and has become a licensed General Contractor operating our Construction & Repair Services Division for stormwater devices. We are also experts with underwater mapping, fountains and aeration and floating dock systems.

FLPM's net-zero energy consumption headquarters building is located near Garner, NC. The facility includes various demonstrations as well as providing the full range of products necessary for lake, pond and stormwater device management and maintenance. Our Charlotte Metro Division serves western

North Carolina. Our commitment to North Carolina means we know the environmental characteristics, local preferences, complementary service providers, regulatory officials and best local restaurants better than anyone.

We are down to earth, friendly people operating as one big family. We emphasize client communication and urge you to read our blog, subscribe to our newsletter, connect with us on social media and ask for information on our web site: [www.FosterLake.com](http://www.FosterLake.com).

**Job opportunities:** Garner, NC branch and Concord, NC branch

- Paid internships
- Aquatic Services Technician Trainee
- Aquatic Services Technician
- Construction & Repair Services Assistant Project Manager
- Construction & Repair Services Assistant Project Manager



**Michael J. Paul, Ph.D., Senior Scientist/ Director, Ecological Sciences, Tetra Tech**  
**Websites:**

- For general corporate openings: <https://www.tetratech.com/en/careers>
- Active opening in RTP, NC for a water resources modeler/engineer:

<http://p.rfer.us/TETRATECHq6vAPI>

Dr. Michael Paul is an aquatic ecologist with more than 25 years' experience in the research and management of aquatic ecosystems. He is an expert in urban stream ecology, biological assessment and water quality criteria development. He lives in Carrboro with his wife, daughter and an entourage of pets.

**Job opportunities:** Tetra Tech job opportunities can be found using the links above.



**Dan Penczak, Territory Manager, OTT Hydromet**

**Website:** <https://jobs.danaher.com/global/en/ott-hydromet-search-results>

Dan Penczak has 19 years of capital equipment, products, solutions, and service sales and engineering within various water treatment industries.

His background includes time spent in drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and environmental monitoring and weather. He has 8 years of experience working with instrumentation in water monitoring applications.

Dan joined OTT Hydromet as the Mid-Atlantic Region Territory Manager in November 2018

Dan has a chemical engineering degree from Villanova University. In his spare time, he enjoys many forms of outdoor athletic activities including running, hiking, and biking.

**Job opportunities:** OTT Hydromet job opportunities can be found using the link above. You can also visit <https://www.otthydromet.com/en/> for more information.

## **Breakout Room 2: Academic Representatives:**



### **Dr. Jamie DeWitt, Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology of the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University**

Jamie DeWitt is an Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmacology & Toxicology of the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University. Her laboratory's research program focuses on functional effects of environmental chemicals on the immune system and its interactions with the nervous system during development and adulthood. She has B.S. degrees in Environmental Science and Biology from Michigan State University and Ph.D. degrees in Environmental Science and Neural Science from Indiana University-Bloomington. She completed postdoctoral training in ecotoxicology at Indiana University-Bloomington and in immunotoxicology at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in partnership with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

I mostly deal with students who want to go to graduate school.

The ECU graduate school web page is here: <https://gradschool.ecu.edu/>.

I also find the **Science Careers website** to be valuable: <https://www.sciencemag.org/careers>.



### **Tatiana Height, NC State University and Partners for Environmental Justice**

**Website:** <https://heightenvironmentaljusticeplanning.com/>

Tatiana Height (she/they) is a native of Chicago, IL but has made NC home for over three years. Tatiana holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) with a major in Great Plains Studies and minors in Environmental Studies, Agribusiness Entrepreneurship, and Community Regional Planning. As a part of the Great Plains Studies Program, they pursued two emphasis areas in Land & Environment and Culture & Community. Later, they received a Master of Community & Regional Planning degree while also working full-time as an Integrated Water Management Planner for the State of Nebraska. Presently they are pursuing a Doctor of Education in Agricultural Extension Education and work in the environmental justice sector.



### **Dr. Astrid Schnetzer, Ph.D., North Carolina State University**

**Website:** <https://sites.google.com/a/ncsu.edu/schnetzerlab/home>

Astrid Schnetzer is a biological oceanographer and plankton ecologist at the rank of associate professor within the department of Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at NCSU and she also serves as the associate department head in her department. She received her MS in Zoology/Ecology and PhD in Marine Biology from the University of Vienna, Austria. Her research interests focus on how natural and anthropogenic processes, such as ocean pollution, impact plankton assemblages and how changes in community structure and diversity impact matter and energy flux through aquatic systems (e.g. harmful algal blooms). She investigates these topics in freshwater, coastal and oceanic environments using molecular techniques in combination with traditional approaches (i.e. microscopy and culture) in the field and in laboratory settings.

**Job opportunities:** NCSU Marine, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences (MEAS) Undergraduate student opportunities can be by following this link: <https://opportunity.wordpress.ncsu.edu/category/jobs/>

### **Breakout Room 3: State Government Representatives:**



**Amin Davis, NC DEQ Division of Water Resources & Partners for Environmental Justice**

**Website:** <https://www.pejraleighnc.org/>

Amin Davis was born and raised in the New Haven, CT area. He obtained a BS degree in Marine & Environmental Science from Hampton University (VA) and a Master of Zoology degree from NC State University. Amin is an Environmental Scientist with over 20 years of professional experience conducting environmental and water resource management work in public, private and nonprofit sectors across nine states in the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions. His work has included watershed improvement and restoration activities, the integration of Geographic Information Systems and GPS into environmental assessments and regulatory permitting coordination.

Amin has been employed by the NC Department of Environmental Quality since 2008 and is currently a community grant manager for the Division of Water Resources. He also co-leads the Walnut Creek Watershed Action Team with a DWR colleague and is a Board member of Partners for Environmental Justice, a nonprofit based in SE Raleigh.



**Dr. Albert J. Lang, Watershed & Conservation Staff Forester, NC Forest Service**

**Website:** [https://www.ncforestservice.gov/jobs/career\\_opportunities.htm](https://www.ncforestservice.gov/jobs/career_opportunities.htm)

Dr. Lang has been with the NC Forest Service (state government) for the past 5 years. In this role, he serves as a staff specialist on a range of topics related to forestry operations, including water quality, forestry best management practices, road and stream crossing construction and maintenance, silviculture in wetlands, and training & education for loggers, students, and professionals. He received his undergraduate (2011) and graduate degrees (2013 & 2016) in Forestry from Virginia Tech. He is also an adjunct faculty member at NCSU where he co-teaches Forest Operations and Analysis and provides guest lectures for forestry-related curriculum.

**Job opportunities:** NC Forest Service jobs can be found using the link above.



**Cam McNutt, NC DEQ, Division of Water Resources**

**Website:** [State of N.C. Job Opportunities](#)

Cam McNutt has been with the Division of Water Resources (Water Quality) for 22 years as a basin planner and for the last 17 years as the water quality assessment coordinator. He develops the state water quality assessment reports (303d list) and tracks implementation of various water quality programs in North Carolina. Current efforts include developing online and field based tools and workflows to streamline water resource restoration planning efforts. He has previously worked for the Durham County Health Department permitting wells and septic systems and was a high school science while in the Peace Corps in the South Pacific. He has a B.S in Biology from Texas Tech University and an M.S in Zoology from North Carolina State University.

**Job opportunities:** State of NC job opportunities can be found using the link above.



**Shannon Deaton, P.E., Division Chief, Habitat Conservation Division, NC Wildlife Resources Commission**

**Website:** <https://www.ncwildlife.org/>

After growing up in eastern North Carolina, Shannon Deaton attended NC State University and received a B.S. in Biological and Agricultural Engineering and a Masters in Natural Resources with a hydrology concentration.

For the past 22 years, Shannon has worked with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission in a variety of roles. Currently she is the Division Chief of the Habitat Conservation Division. Shannon's experience includes environmental compliance, Environmental Assessments, landscape-scale planning, stream restoration, habitat restoration, boating and fishing access area design, fish and wildlife resource planning, as well as climate change and resiliency focused efforts. Shannon also works to develop partnerships, collaborate for project resources, and develop outreach initiatives for the NC Wildlife Action Plan.

**Job opportunities:**

- Can be found using this link: <https://www.ncwildlife.org/Careers>
- [Wildlife Conservation Technician - Butner Depot](#)
  - Durham County, NC
  - Permanent Full-Time; Recruitment Range - \$34,602 – 45,416 Annually
  - Category: Facility Management / Trades / Parks and Recreation / Natural Resources / Wetlands / Wildlife / Geographic Information Systems
  - Closing 3/29/2021 at 5pm

**Breakout Room 4: Local Government Representatives:**



**Hannah Barg (she/they), Education and Outreach Coordinator, Clean Water Education Partnership**

**Website:** <https://nc-cleanwater.com/>

Hannah Barg is a climate change educator, stormwater educator, and Masters student in the Experiential and Outdoor Education program at Western Carolina University. Before coming on as part-time staff for the Clean Water Education Partnership, I served as a 10-month AmeriCorps member. Ask me about: AmeriCorps, planning community action projects, mentoring high school students and going to grad school while working.

**Job opportunities:** The Clean Water Education Partnership is a program of the Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG). TJCOG regularly posts job openings for our organization and our member governments. We also hire student interns to help with specific projects on a semester basis. There is also a potential AmeriCorps position for CWEP starting this fall. More details for this position will be posted in April. <https://www.tjcog.org/about/our-job-opportunities>



**Veronica Carter, Town of Leland**

**Website:** <https://www.townofleland.com/career-opportunities>

As a US Federal employee, she served as the Director of Administration and Logistics for Military Ocean Terminal, Sunny Point. As an International Civil Servant at United Nations Headquarters, Ms. Carter worked in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, as a Logistics Officer supporting existing or new peacekeeping missions in Sierra Leone, Burundi, Liberia, Ivory Coast (Cote d'Ivoire) and Congo (Zaire).

The Governor of North Carolina appointed Veronica to the Coastal Resources Commission, from 2008 through 2012.

She has served on the Board of Directors for Cape Fear and Brunswick County's Habitat for Humanity affiliates. She has served on the Town of Leland's Parks and Recreation Board.

Veronica has devoted much of her time to ensuring Environmental Justice by empowering, advocating, and educating EJ communities in southeastern NC. She currently serves on the North Carolina Coastal Federation Board of Directors, the Duke Superfund Advisory Board and the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality Secretary's Environmental Justice and Equity Board.

Veronica was instrumental in starting the Brunswick County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD), the County's Long-Term Recovery Group. Nonprofits and faith-based organizations now work with the County and municipalities to help Brunswick County residents trying to recover from storms.

A native of Brooklyn New York and a product of New York City Public Schools, she now calls Leland, North Carolina home. Veronica received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Fordham University and her Master of Public Administration degree from Troy State University. She is a graduate of the United States Army's Command and General Staff College.

In November 2019, Veronica was elected and is currently serving as a Council member for the Town of Leland, North Carolina.



**Caroline Loop, Deputy Director, Wake County Environmental Services Department**

**Website:** <https://www.wakegov.com/departments-government/human-resources>

Caroline Loop is the Deputy Director of the Wake County Environmental Services Department. The Department includes the Water Quality, Environmental Health and Safety, Solid Waste, and Animal Services Divisions. Dr. Loop first joined Wake County as the Hydrogeologist in the Groundwater Section in 2013. Prior to that she worked as an environmental consultant with expertise in groundwater contamination. She was an expert witness in groundwater contamination litigation that resulted in the highest-ever jury award in the United States. Dr. Loop is a licensed geologist with a bachelor's degree in geology and economics from Smith College and a doctorate degree in geosciences from The Pennsylvania State University.



**Evan Kane, Groundwater Manager, Wake County Department of Environmental Services**

**Website:** <https://www.wakegov.com/departments-government/human-resources>

Evan Kane is the manager of the Groundwater Section of the Wake County Department of Environmental Services. He oversees programs for permitting and inspection of private drinking water wells and programs for outreach, testing, and technical assistance for private well users. Prior to coming to work for Wake County, Evan worked for the North Carolina Division of Water Quality/Water Resources for 14 years, developing and implementing programs for groundwater protection and monitoring. Evan is also chair of the City of Raleigh's Stormwater Management Advisory Commission. Evan is a North Carolina-licensed geologist and has bachelor's and master's degrees in geology from NC State University.

**Job opportunities:** Wake County employment job openings can be found at the website linked above. Our department also occasionally hires students for short-term special projects, subject to need and availability of funding.

**Breakout Room 5: McAdams Representatives:**

**Website:** <https://mcadamsco.com/careers/>



**Jennifer Burdette, Senior Environmental Consultant**

Jennifer Burdette leads the Natural Resources group at McAdams. She has 28 years of experience with surface water, wetland and riparian buffer identification, delineation and permitting primarily as an environmental consultant. Ms. Burdette manages all aspects of any required wetland and water quality permitting and mitigation needs including protected species and cursory cultural resources assessments and prepares environmental assessment documents under State Environmental Protection Agency requirements. Prior to McAdams, Jennifer served as the 401 / Buffer Coordinator for the North Carolina Division of Water Resources (DWR). She conducted technical reviews of applications for Individual 401 Certifications and Major Variances from the Riparian Buffer Rules.



**Cameron Jernigan, EI, Designer II, Water Resources**

Cameron Jernigan is a recent hire that serves as a Water Resources Designer II for the McAdams stream restoration team. He brings a variety of experiences in stormwater management and stream restoration to the group. His areas of expertise include assessment, design, implementation, and applied field research for stream restoration, ecological engineering, and stormwater management practices. Cameron has worked for NC Biological and Agricultural Engineering Extension and private consulting firms during his career, and served various government agencies, municipal clients, non-profit organizations, and mitigation bankers.



**Heather Rosa, PE, Project Engineer, Water Resources**

Heather Rosa has served in the Water Resources department since July of 2015. Her focus is water resources and stormwater management design. Heather has been involved in numerous stormwater management and land development projects. Heather has significant experience in preparing stormwater impact analyses addressing both water quality and quantity concerns, analyses of open and closed stormwater systems and stormwater control measure design. Recently, she completed the modeling of a proposed regional wetland which will treat a large area of Downtown Durham. She also has experience with local and FEMA related floodplain modeling.



**Josh Shinn, PE, Technical Manager, Water Resources**

Josh Shinn has been a part of the Water Resources Department at McAdams since 2010. During that time, he has progressed from a Designer I to his current role as Technical Manager, gaining experience at each position along the way. While with McAdams, Josh gained experience in SCM design for land development, watershed studies, sustainable design initiatives and water harvesting, high hazard dam design and breach routing analysis, flood studies, stormwater infrastructure retrofits and stormwater master planning. He has worked with clients in both the public and private sectors.

**Job opportunities:** McAdams job opportunities can be found using the link above.

## **Breakout Room 6: Nonprofit Organization Representatives:**



**Scott Berry, Director of Policy and Government Affairs, US Water Alliance**

**Website:** <http://uswateralliance.org/about/jobs>

Scott Berry is the Director of Policy and Government Affairs for the US Water Alliance, a national nonprofit organization advancing policies and programs that build a sustainable water future for all. He is responsible for developing and executing the Alliance's policy engagement strategy at the federal and state levels, heading up their Washington DC office. Previously, he was Director of the Utility Infrastructure Division, Environment, and Trade at the Associated General Contractors of America. There he spent nine years as their head lobbyist on water infrastructure and water policy issues, and member services lead for water, sewer, power, telecommunications, and underground construction. He has served in leadership of the Water Infrastructure Network, the Sustainable Water Infrastructure Coalition, the Common Ground Alliance, and the Waters Advocacy Coalition.

**Job opportunities:** US Water Alliance job openings can be found using the link above.



**Rick Savage, President of Carolina Wetlands Association**

**Website:** [www.carolinawetlands.org](http://www.carolinawetlands.org)

Rick Savage originally worked for IBM as a Systems Engineer, then got a second masters degree and worked for the state of NC (Dept. of Environment and Natural Resource) doing wetlands research paid by the EPA. During that time we established a top-level wetlands monitoring program. Rick shared this work in NC with other states. In 2015, after the wetlands monitoring program ended, Rick left the state to form the Carolina Wetlands Association, a science based organization advocating for wetlands in the Carolinas.

**Job opportunities:** We will be hiring a part time volunteer coordinator for our Volunteer Wetlands Monitoring Program.



## **Breakout Room 7: Climate and Resilience Representatives:**



**Kirsten Lackstrom, Research Assistant Professor, CISA**

**Website:** <https://cisa.sc.edu>

Kirsten Lackstrom is a Research Assistant Professor in the University of South Carolina's Geography Department and a Co-Principal Investigator with the Carolinas Integrated Sciences and Assessments (CISA). CISA is an interdisciplinary research program that seeks to advance understanding of climate impacts and processes and support climate adaptation efforts in the Carolinas. Kirsten's projects focus on the intersections between climate and water resources. She's worked with federal and state agencies, university partners, and citizen scientists to develop new resources, tools, and communications products to improve the incorporation of climate information into water management decisions.

**Job opportunities:** CISA doesn't have any open positions at this time. We do advertise our job openings, and other climate-related opportunities, through our Carolinas Climate listserv. Students can sign up here: <https://cisa.sc.edu/contact-form.html>



**Rebecca Ward, Assistant State Climatologist, NC State Climate Office**

**Website:** <https://climate.ncsu.edu>

Rebecca Ward's work at the NC State Climate Office centers around delivering climate extension and education to a variety of audiences and working with various sectors in the state to provide climate data and information to support decision making. Previously, she was an active member of the NC Drought Management Advisory Council, helping to monitor drought conditions across the state, and also worked on several research projects to explore and analyze new drought indicators and indices and systematically develop and evaluate new informational resources to communicate current drought information. Recently, she has worked closely with NC State Extension and N.C. Cooperative Extension to deliver climate-focused workshops, and to develop decision support tools that incorporate climate data and expertise to inform planting and management decisions for agricultural crops.