Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

Pond Oxygenation Workshop: Learning Through Case Studies Coonamessett Inn, Falmouth

November 8, 2023

SPEAKER & PANELIST BIOS

Maggie Megaw, Steve Monas

Members Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay (CPWB), maggie@bizaffairs.com, steve@bizaffairs.com

Maggie Megaw and Steve Monas have owned their home on Bourne Pond in Waquoit since 2016 and have lived there full time since 2020. Steve's family has summered on Waquoit Bay since 1900, and until recently the Bay and its waters have been our focus of concern. They have been members of Citizens for the Protection of Waquoit Bay for over twenty years, and Maggie is now on CPWB's board. Their more recent concerns about Bourne Pond, and more generally about ponds up and down the Cape, have led them to get involved with the Cape Cod Ponds Network and the Falmouth Pond Coalition, and to form the Waquoit Ponds Association this summer under the auspices of CPWB. They have also been working with neighbors, The 300 Committee, the Falmouth Housing Trust, WBNERR, and DCR to conserve a property abutting the pond that looked to be headed for development.

Tara Nye Lewis

Water Resources Analyst, Cape Cod Commission, tara.lewis@capecodcommission.org

Tara Nye Lewis has been on Cape Cod since 1998, first working at Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve as the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Coordinator. She moved to North Carolina for a few years but returned to work as the Staff Biologist for the Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC). At APCC Tara worked with the Pond and Lake Stewards (PALS) Program, initiated the salt marsh restoration program, and conducted numerous education and training workshops. She next accepted a job at Horsley Witten Group as a Coastal Ecologist. Tara has been with the Cape Cod Commission as a Water Resources Analyst since early 2020. She has a Bachelor of Science in Biology from UMass Dartmouth and a Master of Science in Zoology from the University of New Hampshire.

Dr. Ken Wagner

Manager and President, Water Resources, Inc., kjwagner@charter.net

Dr. Ken Wagner holds degrees from Dartmouth College and Cornell University, with his Ph.D. earned in Natural Resource Management in 1985. He has over 40 years of experience working on a variety of water resources assessment and management projects, including lake, reservoir, river and watershed assessment, rehabilitation, and management, regulatory processes, and educational programs. In 2010 he started Water Resource Services, a small company with a focus on water supply protection and lake management consulting. He is a former President of the North American Lake Management Society and former Editor in Chief of Lake and Reservoir Management, a peer-reviewed journal.

Ashley Fisher

Ashley Fisher is a marine biologist and Director of the Town of Mashpee Department of Natural Resources. She oversees the protection and restoration of aquatic natural resources including the Town's shellfish propagation and water quality monitoring programs, which includes ongoing water quality monitoring of all Mashpee's estuaries and freshwater systems. Ashley manages the Town's initiatives to address harmful algal blooms, nutrient loading, wetland restoration, stormwater mitigation, and watershed planning. Ashley has recently worked on stormwater and water quality improvement plans under the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Action Grant, restoration planning through partnerships with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, municipal, state and federal agencies, and non-profit environmental groups, and watershed planning for Mashpee's delineated watersheds in compliance to EPA's regulated Cape Cod 208 plan for Clean Water.

Judith Bruce

Member & former Board Member, Orlean's Pond Coalition, turtledock@comcast.net

Judith Bruce retired from the position of Sr Vice President and Chief Operating Officer off Metropolitan Jewish Health Systems in New York City 25 years ago and reinvented herself as a tree and frog hugger. Judith is one of the Founders of the Orleans Pond Coalition and served as their first President. Judith currently serves on Orleans Conservation Commission, Marine Fresh Water Quality Committee, Wastewater Management Advisory Committee and, in the past, served on Orleans Water and Sewer Board, Community Preservation Committee, Comprehensive Wastewater Management Planning Committee, Pleasant Bay Alliance Steering Committee, and the Board of the Friends of Pleasant Bay.

Dr. Paul Gantzer

President and Owner, Gantzer Water Resources Engineering, LLC, paul.gantzer@gmail.com

Dr. Paul Gantzer is a civil and environmental engineer with over a decade of experience in lake and reservoir management specifically in oxygenation and aeration review, design, and operation. He is also specialized in water quality monitoring and data analysis. Dr. Gantzer founded Gantzer Water Resources Engineering, LLC in 2008 to provide water quality monitoring in addition to feasibility studies and design specialty for lake and reservoir management, specifically in the field of aeration and oxygenation.

Eli Kersh

President, LakeTech LLC, eli@laketech.com

Eli Kersh received his undergraduate degree from UC Santa Barbara in 2007 where he majored in Geography. After several years working as an independent GIS analyst for Fire & Police Departments, Indian Tribes, and other agencies, he returned to school in 2011 to obtain a Masters degree in Geography with an emphasis in Lake Management. Eli is a Certified Lake Manager from the North American Lake Management Society, where he served as the Director of Region 9 (CA, NV, AZ, HI), and served 4 terms as President of the California Lake Management Society. Eli founded LakeTech, inc. in 2016, a lake management and consulting firm that specializes in lake management with a focus on leveraging real-time water quality monitoring solutions. LakeTech's unique lake management software is used both government and private sector clients across the country and Canada.

Brad Chase

Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist, Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries, brad.chase@mass.gov
Brad Chase is the Diadromous Fish Project Leader for the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries.
This project includes the DMF Fishway Crew that constructs, repairs and maintains sea run fish passageways in coastal Massachusetts, and annual monitoring of river herring, American shad, rainbow smelt and American eel. Locally, Brad has served on the Harwich Conservation Commission for 15 years.

Dr. Julie Hambrook Berkman

Pond & Cyanobacteria Program Manager, Association to Preserve Cape Cod (APCC), ihambrook@apcc.org

Dr. Julie Hambrook Berkman works with the Association to Preserve Cape Cod as the Pond and Cyanobacteria Program Manager. Julie has a Ph.D. in biological sciences from the University of Rhode Island, and her environmental research spans ecosystems from coastal Venezuela to freshwater studies on Baffin Island and the Alaskan North Slope. She worked with the U.S. Geological Survey's National Water Quality Assessment Program (1992-2009) evaluating the biological health of rivers and streams in relation to water chemistry, physical habitat, and watershed land use. In addition to research, she collaborated with state agencies to secure funding for a citizen's lake sample collection training program while president and board member of the Ohio Lake Management Society (2004-2008).

Waquoit Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (WBNERR)
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