

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



Jennifer Culbertson is research faculty at the University of North Carolina Wilmington (United States). Her work has included an examination of a range of anthropogenic effects in estuarine environments, from oil spills to dredging and sea level rise. Presently, she is examining the effects of increased tidal ranges on sediment biogeochemistry in brackish marshes and tidal freshwater swamps.

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William C. Dennison is Vice President for Science Applications, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (United States). He leads the Integration and Application Network, which is a collection of scientists interested in solving, not just studying environmental problems. His interest in environmental problem solving is focused on coastal regions of the world, and Dr. Dennison has conducted research in all of the world's oceans. He has published books and papers on a wide diversity of marine topics, in a spectrum of peer-reviewed scientific journals to more generally accessible science communication products.

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Carlos M. Duarte is research professor for the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) at the Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Studies (IMEDEA) in Esporles (Mallorca, Spain). His work has focused on the ecology and conservation of a range of marine habitats (mangroves, coral reefs, seagrass meadows, algal beds) from the tropics to the poles. He has published over 360 papers on the subject and two books. He currently serves as president of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography and as editor-in-chief of the journal *Estuaries and Coasts*.

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Robinson (Wally) Fulweiler is assistant professor of earth sciences at Boston University (United States) and a coastal ecosystem ecologist. Her research has included coastal watershed mass balances of major biogenic elements in New England (C, N, P, Si), the biogeochemistry of nitrogen in coastal marine ecosystems, especially sediments, and wetland ecology in coastal Louisiana. Her recent focus has been on how climate change may influence nitrogen fixation and denitrification in estuarine and shelf systems, and anthropogenic impacts on the coastal silica cycle.
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Terry Hughes is director of the Australian Research Council (ARC) Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, at James Cook University (Townsville, Australia). His research focuses on the interaction between people and coral reef ecosystems, particularly in the context of climate change, reef management, and sustainable livelihoods. His field work is based mainly in Australia, the central and western Pacific, and the Caribbean. In 2008, he was awarded the Darwin Medal by the International Society for Reef Studies, for his leading contribution to coral reef science.
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Erin L. Kinney is a Ph.D. candidate studying salt marsh and estuarine ecology at the Ecosystems Center, Marine Biological Laboratory (Woods Hole, United States). Erin received a B.A. degree from Dartmouth College and an M.A. from Boston University. Her current activities are focused on understanding the nitrogen sources to Great South Bay, NY, and working with local stakeholders to manage nitrogen loading.
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Núria Marbà is a scientist for the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) at the Mediterranean Institute for Advanced Studies (IMEDEA) in Esporles (Mallorca, Spain). Her main research field is the ecology of marine plant populations. She has led and participated in projects on marine ecology, biodiversity, and conservation in European, Australian, Asian, African, and Caribbean coastal regions. Author of around 80 research papers and 2 book chapters, and co-editor of one book, she also sits on the editorial board of the journal *Marine Ecology*.
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Scott Nixon is professor of oceanography and UNESCO/Cousteau Chair in Coastal Ecology at the University of Rhode Island (United States), where he has been on the faculty since 1970. He served for 16 years as director of the Rhode Island Sea Grant College Program and for many years as co-editor-in-chief of *Estuaries and Coasts*. He has published over 100 scientific papers and served on numerous committees of the U.S. National Research Council. He has been recognized with several awards, including the Ketchum Award from the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and the Odum Award from the Estuarine Research Federation.

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Emily E. Peacock is a research assistant at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (United States). She primarily studies the fate and effects of petroleum hydrocarbons in the marine environment. Her recent Masters work in the Boston University Marine Program examined sediment erosion in relation to long-term petroleum contamination of a New England salt marsh.

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Stephen Smith is a plant ecologist at the Cape Cod National Seashore (National Park Service, United States) with expertise in plant physiology and plant community ecology. Stephen received a B.S. degree from Florida State University and an M.S and Ph.D. from the University of Miami. His current activities focus on the dynamics of the spatial and temporal variability of plant communities within the different Seashore ecosystems. A large part of this work involves assessments of tidal restoration of salt marshes and ecogeomorphic change.

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Ivan Valiela has been teaching and doing research since 1969 in Woods Hole (United States) at the Marine Biological Laboratory. He has published over 200 articles on many basic and applied features of coastal environments, and has written *Marine Ecological Processes*, well known as a standard text in marine ecology; *Doing Science*, a guide to design, analysis, and communication of scientific research; and *Global Coastal Change*, a comprehensive overview of the environmental factors changing the marine systems of the world.

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