

Rebecca Rachel Shortland
30 Romney Place
Savannah, GA 31406
Mobile: 912-655-4369
Day Phone: 912-598-2381
Email: becky.shortland@noaa.gov

WORK EXPERIENCE

Gray's Reef NMS
Savannah, GA US

10/1998 - Present

Resource Protection Coordinator

As Resource Protection Coordinator I have been responsible for planning and programs that contribute directly toward management, enhancement, sustainable use, and protection of NOAA's Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary (GRNMS) as a part of the National Marine Sanctuary System. Key responsibility areas include:

- facilitation of management planning and policy;
- resource protection program development and coordination;
- stakeholder involvement through coordination of the sanctuary advisory council (planning, budgeting, implementing and staffing council meetings; managing communications and follow-up activities; support for development of national council policy);
- law enforcement coordination with NOAA, US Coast Guard and state partners;
- annual operating plan development, coordination, and reporting;
- support to regional and national efforts in stakeholder involvement, resource protection, and management planning and policy.

Among my accomplishments is development of the 2006 and 2014 GRNMS Final Management Plans along with the necessary environmental analysis documents and regulations that integrated and organized national policies into a site-specific plan. The multi-year processes involved extensive public involvement, knowledge of the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and other statutes influencing sanctuary designation and management. Writing, multiple computer skills, communications, facilitation and the ability to work independently are also among the skills employed for this and other projects. Other accomplishments include authoring environmental analysis documents and facilitating the processes to regulate spearfishing gear and designate a no-take research area in the sanctuary.

(Contact Supervisor: Yes, Supervisor's Name: Sarah Fangman, Supervisor's Phone: 912-598-2428)

The Georgia Conservancy
Savannah, GA US

1/1990 - 12/1997

Vice President for Coastal Programs

The Georgia Conservancy is a state-wide, non-profit, environmental advocacy and education organization. As vice president for coastal programs, I served on, and chaired, numerous boards and committees including the Governor's Environmental Advisory Council and the Governor's Coastal Advisory Committee. The latter committee was charged with advising the State of Georgia on development and implementation of the Georgia Coastal Management Program. Beginning at this time and extending into my position with GRNMS, I served on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Habitat and Environmental Protection and Marine Protected Areas advisory panels. I also served for many years on the Sapelo Island National Estuarine Research Reserve Advisory Committee.

During my years with The Georgia Conservancy, I convened a number of unique workshops and seminars focused on coastal habitat and species protection initiatives. These experiences and my accumulated knowledge of coastal environments and living resources led naturally to my role as GRNMS resource protection coordinator.

EDUCATION

Triton College
River Grove, IL US
Associate Degree

Relevant Coursework, Licensures and Certifications:
Course work toward a BA - Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah, GA - 2007-
present

JOB RELATED TRAINING

CEQ NEPA Certification, Duke Environmental Leadership Program - 2005-2007
Regulatory Drafting and Process - 2004
Public Issues & Conflict Management - 2003
OPM Facilitative Leadership Program - 2002
Meeting Planning Facilitation & Management - 2001
NOAA NEPA Course - 2000

PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS

GRNMS Draft Management Plan/Environmental Assessment 2013
GRNMS Final Management Plan/Environmental Assessment 2014
GRNMS Draft Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement 2003
GRNMS Final Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement 2006
Draft Environmental Assessment on the Regulation of Spearfishing Gear in GRNMS
2008
Final Environmental Assessment on the Regulation of Spearfishing Gear in GRNMS
2009
Draft Environmental Impact Statement Sanctuary Research Area Designation GRNMS
2010
Final Environmental Impact Statement Sanctuary Research Area Designation GRNMS
2011

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Prior to taking the position with Gray's Reef NMS, I was awarded the 1996 NOAA Environmental Hero Award along with Drs. Jim Henry and Matt Gilligan for leadership in coastal and marine conservation. I was also awarded the U.S. Department of the Interior's Wetlands Conservationist of the Year award in 1997. Two Georgia organizations awarded me their 1998 Georgia Conservationist of the Year awards in 1998.