

Jean Cowen, MS
 Senior Project Manager
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EDUCATION

University of South Alabama	Mobile, AL	Marine Biology	MS, 1995
University of Virginia	Charlottesville, VA	Environmental Sciences	BA, 1987

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Ecosystem restoration, restoration planning and implementation, project management, consensus-building, research and monitoring.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

The Water Institute	Senior Project Manager	2022–Present
Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council	Director	2020–2022
	Associate Director Science, Planning and Programs Operations	2017–2020
	Ecosystem Restoration Specialist	2016–2017
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Marine Habitat Resource Specialist	2007–2016
Louisiana Department of Natural Resources	Coastal Resources Scientist	2002–2007
University of Maryland, Chesapeake Biological Lab, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Louisiana State University	Research Associate	1987–2002

NOTABLE PROJECTS

Director of Ecosystem Restoration Programs/Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council 2016–2022

Led development of programmatic decision documents for the Council. Maintained schedules, managed teams, ensured timely completion of dependent tasks; facilitated discussions to reach consensus among Council members; Provide leadership in the development and implementation of a science-based monitoring and adaptive

management approach; coordinated with other restoration funding streams, technical experts, and the public on restoration priorities to ensure effective, comprehensive Gulf-wide ecosystem restoration was being supported by Council funding

Senior Team Member/Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan Development 2010–2016

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Senior NOAA team member to develop the programmatic Damage Assessment and Restoration Plan. Led restoration component of the document that was basis for resolution of the case; coordinated NOAA staff activities, and with multiple agency and academic technical experts to identify restoration and science priorities to best compensate for injuries to all affected natural resources and habitats

Senior Team Member/Louisiana Master Plan for Sustainable Coast 2005–2007

Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority

Developed the first Louisiana State Master Plan. Oversaw document creation; managed activities including development of decision process, data collection and analyses, modeling, and stakeholder and public meetings; delivered presentations to interest groups and the public. This document provided the foundation for today’s State Master Plan.

Staff Ecologist/Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection, and Restoration Act (CWPPRA) Projects 2002–2005

CWPPRA

Aided in the design and implementation of Louisiana coastal restoration projects, applying best available science and adaptive management strategies to ensuring success of a variety of projects. Wrote project evaluation documents; performed literature searches; data retrieval, synthesis, and analyses of scientific literature and technical reports to increase likelihood that project designs meet ecological goals; worked with other agency personnel to improve project design based on findings of above activities.

Senior Research Technician/Mobile Bay Water Quality Monitoring Program 1997–1999

Mobile Baykeeper

Managed the Water Quality Monitoring Program in Mobile Bay through an EPSCoR EPA grant. Supervised the organization and execution of monthly 2-day research cruises to collect and process water from 31 stations in Mobile Bay, Mississippi Sound, and the Gulf of Mexico for analysis of water quality parameters; supervised the organization and performance of sample analyses for this project; supervised the entry, verification, and processing of data. Aided in the production of two reports; helped organize and participated in two 2-week long research cruises in the Gulf of Mexico.

PUBLISHED WORKS

Peer-Reviewed Publications

- Twilley, R. R., Cowan, J. L., Miller-Way, T., Montagna, P. A., & Mortazavi, B. (1999). Benthic nutrient fluxes in selected estuaries in the Gulf of Mexico. In *Biogeochemistry of Gulf of Mexico Estuaries* (pp. 163–209). John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Cowan, J. L., Pennock, J. R., & Boynton, W. R. (1996). Seasonal and interannual patterns of sediment-water nutrient and oxygen fluxes in Mobile Bay, Alabama (USA): Regulating factors and ecological significance. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 141, 229–245.

Technical Reports

- Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. (2022). *Draft 2022 Comprehensive Plan Update: Restoring the Gulf Coast's Ecosystem and Economy* (p. 62).
- Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. (2020). *Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council funded priorities list 3a* (p. 26).
- Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. (2021). *Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council funded priorities list 3b* (p. 26).
- Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council. (2019). *Planning framework* (p. 90).
- Deepwater Horizon Natural Resource Damage Assessment Trustees. (2016). *Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: Final programmatic damage assessment and restoration plan and final programmatic environmental impact statement* (Final 16–2; p. 70). National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority. (2007). *Integrated ecosystem restoration and hurricane protection: Louisiana's Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast* (p. 117).