

ALLISON HAERTLING, AICP

Planner/Research Scientist



ORGANIZATION ROLE

Planner / RS

PROJECT ROLE / FOCUS AREAS

Climate adaptation and
resilience

City and community
planning

Stakeholder engagement

EDUCATION

M.U.R.P., Environmental
& Hazard Mitigation
Planning, University of
New Orleans, 2020

Graduate Certificate,
Disaster Management
and Community
Resilience, University of
New Orleans, 2020

B.F.A. Theatre, New York
University, 2004

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Institute of
Certified Planners (AICP)

American Planning
Association

Louisiana Floodplain
Management Association

Allison Haertling, AICP, is a planner with The Water Institute where she specializes in planning and policy research on environmental justice and equitable climate adaptation and resilience. Her recent work includes resilience planning efforts for Walton County, FL and the cities of Mobile, AL and Jacksonville, FL, policy research to improve the evaluation of nature-based solutions and distribution of project benefits to environmental justice communities in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' projects and programs, and supporting development of a long-term strategic plan for groundwater sustainability in Louisiana's Capital Area (i.e., Baton Rouge and surrounding areas).

Prior to joining The Water Institute, Allison was a research associate at the University of New Orleans Center for Hazards Assessment, Response & Technology (UNO-CHART) where she provided technical assistance to the Louisiana Office of Community Development and local and regional watershed management partners as part of the Louisiana Watershed Initiative. In addition, Allison conducted policy and planning research on the National Flood Insurance Program, the Community Rating System, and flood mitigation strategies and their associated socioeconomic impacts to Louisiana's communities.

Allison received her bachelor's degree from New York University and her master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning, as well as a graduate certificate in Disaster Management and Community Resilience, from the University of New Orleans. Her graduate work focused on migration, coastal and climate gentrification, adaptation planning, and the socioeconomic impacts of recreational development to coastal and rural communities.

Allison is certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners. She is a member of the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association and the American Planning Association.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021–Present: Planner/Research Scientist, The Water Institute

2020–2021: Research Associate, University of New Orleans Center for Hazards Assessment, Response & Technology

2019–2020: Graduate Assistant, CSAP, Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and LA Sea Grant

2007–2018: Administrative Assistant, University of Southern California, Sol Price School of Public Policy



SELECTED PROJECTS

Installations, Energy and Environment Technology Innovation Strategy (TIS). *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2023–2024).* Lead Planner. Developed a TIS in partnership with USACE to support the Army in meeting current and projected modernization requirements, and to ensure that installations and field operations can sustain and integrate the technologies necessary to face the toughest challenges related to IE&E. The TIS was developed in close coordination with the Directors of the Environmental Laboratory (EL) and Construction Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) of the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC), as well as other key USACE personnel, with direct input from the Chief of Engineers and Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations, Energy and Environment.

Long Term Strategic Water Sustainability Planning. *Capital Area Groundwater Conservation Commission (Ongoing).* Public Engagement Facilitator; Planner. Research and synthesize water resource management plans from across the U.S. to develop a strategic plan for the Capital Area Water Conservation District. Co-facilitate public engagement efforts and report on knowledge of the groundwater geology and saltwater intrusion issues associated with the Southern Hills Aquifer System in the Baton Rouge area.

Policy Research to Improve Equity and Environmental Justice in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Programs. *U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (2023–2024).* Investigator. Researched existing methods for evaluating environmental justice (EJ) impacts and benefits in federal projects, and analyzed U.S. Army Corps of Engineers feasibility studies to recommend an approach to ensure that 40% of project investments benefit EJ communities in alignment with Justice40.

Resilient Mobile. *City of Mobile (Ongoing).* Planner. Co-develop a citywide Resilience Assessment and Plan in collaboration with local stakeholders to set a baseline understanding of the city's resilience and develop an actionable plan to ensure that all members of the community are poised to thrive in the face of increasing challenges and changes in the environment, climate, and economy.

Developing Equitable Outcomes to Climate Hazards and Other Disasters. *National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, Gulf Research Program (2022–2023).* Community Engagement Coordinator and Facilitator; Investigator. Facilitated scenario-building workshops with residents of four coastal communities in Louisiana to explore the potential sociocultural and economic impacts of nonstructural mitigation at the household and community levels. Conduct qualitative data analysis to inform a customized resilience index and decision support tool for use by participating communities.

Planning and Policy Research for the Louisiana Watershed Initiative (LWI). *Louisiana Office of Community Development (2021–2022).* Policy Analyst; Investigator. Supported The Water Institute's planning and policy role in LWI through researching mitigation strategies, development standards, long term funding sources, regional watershed governance, and how recent changes to the National Flood Insurance Program and its Community Rating System would impact communities and local governments.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. Hemmerling, S. A., Haertling, A., Shao, W., Di Leonardo, D., Grismore, A., & Dausman, A. (2024). "You turn the tap on, the water's there, and you just think everything's fine": a mixed methods approach to understanding public perceptions of groundwater management in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA. *Frontiers in Water*.
2. Fischbach, J.R., Dalyander, S., Carruthers, T., McHugh, C., DeJong, A., McMann, B., Littman, A., Haertling, A., Kane, P., and Bond, C.A. (2023). Enhancing benefits evaluation for water resources projects towards a more comprehensive approach for nature-based solutions: Case study analysis results and recommendations. The Water Institute of the Gulf. Produced for and funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Engineering with Nature Program.
3. Haertling, A.O. (2020). Paradox in the bayou: Development and displacement in America's wetlands (Publication No. 2814) [Master's thesis, University of New Orleans]. University of New Orleans Theses and Dissertations.