

ORGANIZATION ROLE

Planner

PROJECT ROLE / FOCUS AREAS

Planning policy research

Resilience planning

Community engagement

GIS

EDUCATION

M.U.R.P. Hazard Mitigation Planning, University of New Orleans, 2021

GIS Certificate, University of New Orleans, 2021

Disaster Management and Community Resilience Certificate, University of New Orleans, 2021

FEMA Certificate: Mitigation Planning for Local and Tribal Communities, 2020

BA, English Literature, State University of New York, 2014

ABIGAIL LITTMAN, AICP

Planner

Abby Littman, AICP, is a planner at The Water Institute specializing in resilience and adaptation planning and policy research. As a former teacher, Abby's interest in planning resulted from her experience in seeing the disparate impacts that existing infrastructure, or lack of infrastructure, had on her students and their neighborhoods.

Focusing on applied research and an intradisciplinary approach to planning, Abby's experience includes resilience planning at multiple scales, developing vulnerability assessments under the Resilient Florida program to support municipalities in their approach to investment decisions, regional transit analyses, consensus building through structured facilitation methods, and effective community engagement. Abby graduated with a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Geneseo and with a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of New Orleans. Abby is a member of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) and has certificates in GIS, Disaster Management and Community Resilience, and Mitigation Planning for Local and Tribal Communities.

Before joining the Water Institute, Abby was an independent contractor with RIDE New Orleans where she worked to collect, analyze, and communicate spatial data to support transit accessibility for citywide annual reports, and she was a practicum student working with the Louisiana Watershed Initiative where she developed assessments for Louisiana Community Rating System (CRS) communities to improve ratings under the National Flood Insurance Program.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2021–Present: Planner/ RS1, The Water Institute

2021: Independent GIS Contractor, RIDE New Orleans

2021: Practicum Student, Louisiana Watershed Initiative

2020: Educational Outreach Intern, New Orleans City Planning Commission

2016–2021: Second Grade Lead Teacher & Fourth Grade Lead Teacher/ Curriculum Writing Fellow/ KIPP Leadership Social Media Coordinator, KIPP New Orleans Schools

2014–2016: Grade Level Coordinator/ Third and Fourth Grade Lead Teacher/ After-School Literacy Program Interventionist, Greenville Public School District

SELECTED PROJECTS

City of St. Petersburg FDEP Vulnerability Assessment. *City of St. Petersburg, FL (Ongoing). Project Manager and Planner.* Leading the City's FDEP Vulnerability Assessment to evaluate the vulnerability of the City's critical assets and support a more data-driven foundation for the City's future resilience planning decisions and investments.

Walton County FDEP Vulnerability Assessment. *Walton County, FL. (Ongoing). Project Manager and Planner.* Co-leading an FDEP Vulnerability Assessment to support the County in their understanding of critical asset exposure and sensitivity to flood hazards and help inform investments in future resilience projects.

Jackson County Resilience Plan. *Jackson County, MS. (Ongoing). Project Manager and Planner.* Leading a county-wide resilience plan to consider risk and vulnerability across Jackson County and recommend projects, initiatives, and policy changes that can support Jackson County's resilience.

Citywide Probabilistic Compound Flood Model and Real Time Forecasting System. *City of Jacksonville, FL. (Ongoing). Project Coordinator and Planner.* Coordinating across several interdependent modeling tasks and providing support for policy applications for the probabilistic compound flood modeling framework and consequence modeling framework.

Advancing Coastal Resilience in Walton County. *Walton County, FL. (2023–2024). Project Coordinator and Planner*. Led a committee of local subject-matter experts to develop a report assessing Walton County's current state of resilience and facilitating a stakeholder workshop to advance coastal resilience through public-private partnerships.

Houston Pocket Prairies. *City of Houston, TX. (2023-2024). Project Coordinator and Research Associate.* Researched best practices for pocket prairie implementation for the City of Houston and developed a guide to support City staff and their partners in the implementation of different types of pocket prairies across the city based on existing conditions.

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.* Research existing evaluation methods for feasibility studies to recommend an approach to better consider the economic, environmental, and social benefits of nature-based solutions in U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects.

Resilient Jacksonville. *City of Jacksonville, FL. (2022–2024). Project Coordinator and Research Associate.* Developed a roadmap for adapting to a changing climate, accommodating a growing population, guiding new urban development, and planning for uncertain shocks and stressors. The plan leverages local expertise with science-based assessments to identify specific, implementable actions and prioritize investments that will strengthen the city's resilience.

Enhancing Benefits Evaluation for Water Resources Projects: Towards a More Comprehensive Approach for Nature-Based Solutions. *ERDC and EWN. (2021–2023). Research Associate*. Worked to understand ways in which USACE project development teams could better value and consider natural and nature-based features when scoping feasibility studies.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. Eva Windhoffer, Susan Hughes, Thomas Hughes, Audrey Grismore, Abby Littman, Allison Haertling, Jordan R. Fischbach (2022). Consideration of Nature-Based Solutions in USACE Planning Studies. The Water Institute of the Gulf. Funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS.

   Kiskaddon, Erin, Dalyander, Soupy, DeJong, Allison, McHugh, Colleen, Parfait, Jessi, Littman, Abby, Hemmerling, Scott, Dausman, Alyssa. "Evaluation of emission reduction and other societal and environmental outcomes: Structured decision making for the Louisiana climate action plan." *Journal of Environmental Management*, vol. 345, 2023, p. 118936.