

ORGANIZATION ROLE

Gulf Research Policy Fellow

PROJECT ROLE / FOCUS AREAS

Coastal Ecology

Field data collection

Community Engagement

EDUCATION

PhD Integrative Biology, Louisiana State University, 2026

BS Earth and Environmental Science, University of New Orleans, 2020

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Academy of Underwater Science

LUMCON Marine Biology Club, UNO Chapter

United Campus Workers

Step Up Louisiana

BENNETT PRICE, PH.D.

Gulf Research Policy Fellow

Bennett Price, Ph.D., Gulf Research Policy Fellow at The Water Institute brings his expertise in fish behavior and morphology to the Coastal Ecology team.

Bennett earned his B.S. in Earth and Environmental Sciences from the University of New Orleans, where he worked as a lab assistant studying the gill morphology of Gulf Killifish and conducted research on prey naivete and anti-predator chemosensory responses in Mosquitofish. He earned his Ph.D. in Integrative Biology in 2026, his research focusing on using passive acoustic monitoring to document shifts in fish spawning choruses in relation to anthropogenic noise pollution and abiotic variables. During his studies, he worked as a graduate teaching assistant, course instructor, and mentored undergraduate students.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2026-Present: Gulf Research Policy Fellow, The Water Institute

2020-2026: Graduate Researcher, Fish Behavior and Morphology lab, University of New Orleans

2025: Instructor of Record, University of New Orleans

2020-2025: Graduate Teaching Assistant, University of New Orleans

2018-2020: Undergraduate Researcher, Pontchartrain Institute for Environmental Science, University of New Orleans

2018-2020: Lab Assistant, Comparative Physiology Lab, University of New Orleans

SELECTED PROJECTS

NOAA Damage Assessment, Remediation and Restoration Program (DARRP). *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries. (Ongoing).* Conducting targeted data collection and analysis to establish reference ranges and restoration targets for focal nekton associated with Louisiana's estuarine and coastal habitats of Barataria and Terrebonne Basins. Conducting lower trophic level monitoring in Barataria Basin to set ecological baselines to support restoration planning in response to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

1. Price, B.H., Brunetti, D., Kirkland, A., Cox, T.E., & Boyle, K.S. Effects of vessel noise on Red Drum (Sciaenops ocellatus) spawning choruses in Saint Andrew Bay, Florida. PLOS ONE
2. Kirkland, A.M., Frick, A.J., Beaulieu, H.R., Granier, M., Price, B.H., Wiley, J.B., Boyle, K.S., & Cox, T.E. A widely distributed clam, Chama macerophylla, exhibits mixed responses to single and combined warming and acidification stress. Marine Biology
3. Boyle, K.S., Cox, T.E., Kirkland, A.M., & Price, B.H. Influences and interactions of vessel noise and environmental factors on Silver Perch and seatrout spawning choruses in northern Gulf of Mexico estuaries. Marine Pollution Bulletin
4. Boyle, K.S., Cox, T.E., Kirkland, A.M., & Price, B.H. Temporal dynamics of the summer soundscape near oil platforms of the shallow continental shelf off Louisiana. Marine Environmental Research
5. Price, B.H. & Boyle, K.S. Red drum (Sciaenops ocellatus) interactions with vessel noise in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Effects of Noise on Aquatic Life: Principles and Practical Considerations (Springer)
6. Boyle, K.S. & Price, B.H. Implications of spatial, diurnal, and broader temporal variation of vessel noise pollution in fish habitats in the northern Gulf of Mexico. Effects of Noise on Aquatic Life: Principles and Practical Considerations (Springer)