

Laura R. Ludwig

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Relevant Professional Experience

Marine Debris & Plastics Program Founder/Manager, Center for Coastal Studies (2012-present) **Provincetown, MA**

- Collaborate with other CCS programs, marine research organizations and commercial fishing industry to conceptualize and fulfill marine debris projects, prepare proposals and create reports
- Curate and engage 400+ member Beach Brigade in shoreline debris cleanup and data collection
- Design and coordinate at-sea derelict fishing gear assessment, removal and disposal programs
- Broker collected debris for use by artists, craftsmen or other interested stakeholders
- Represent organization and program at regional, national and international marine debris conferences, workshops and presentations
- Oversee marine plastics initiatives including recycling, microplastics and impact investigations
- Administer staffing, grant proposal and fulfillment of program initiatives (\$500k/yr+)

Project Director, Gulf of Maine Lobster Foundation (2006-2011) Kennebunk, ME

- Designed and implemented first regional derelict fishing gear recovery and recycling program
- Directed 5-year, \$4 million+ state-wide commercial lobster rope exchange and recycling project
- Collaborated with fishermen, fisheries managers, artists, rope manufacturers, vendors, and recycling companies on gear design, inventory, rope repurposing and research initiatives

Whale Plan Coordinator, Maine Dept of Marine Resources (2001-2005) West Boothbay Harbor, ME

- Implemented the inaugural Maine State Large Whale Take Reduction Plan
- Performed outreach to fishing communities state-wide regarding the Maine Whale Plan
- Designed and conducted field research on industry vessels to test fishing gear modifications
- Wrote RFPs for personnel, equipment and vessels for research and disentanglement training
- Drafted, edited and submitted annual federal grant applications and reports (\$300k/yr+)

Other Professional Experience

Lobster Sea Sampler, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources (2005-2006) Maine coast
Director of Operations, Maine Island (2000-2001) Georgetown, Maine
Bridgebuilder, Flatiron Structures Company (1999-2000) Sagadahoc Bridge, Bath, Maine
Lobster Fishery Sternman, F/V *The Real Thing* (1998-1999) Popham Beach, Maine
Director, Stage Front: The Arts Downeast (1996-1997) University of Maine at Machias
Field Research Assistant, Mingan Island Cetacean Study (1994-1996) Québec and Mexico
Programming/Operations Assistant, Flynn Center for the Arts (1989-1994) Burlington, Vermont

Education

Bachelor of Arts in Music and French, with honors
Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vermont, 1988

Memberships and Affiliations

Member, NOAA Marine Debris Program Gulf of Maine and Southern New England Marine Debris Action Plan Working Groups (2012-present)
Advisory Board, Woods Hole Sea Grant Marine Outreach Guidance Group (2020-present)
Member, Provincetown Dahlia Society (2012-present)