Scientist Spotlight

Jordan Logarbo

What is your educational background?
I received my B.S. in biology with a concentration in marine biology from Nicholls State University in May 2017.

What inspired you to become a scientist?
I was inspired to become a scientist first by my dad and him sharing his love of nature with me and my siblings our whole life.
Secondly, I had an amazing teacher in high school, Mrs. Keller. She definitely inspired me to love biology and pursue biological studies in my collegiate career. She loved science and sharing it with all of her students. She's my scientific hero.

Can you describe what you enjoy the most about conducting scientific research?
What I enjoy most about conducting scientific research is being able to experience nature and extract information from the environment so that we can better assess the overall health of the marsh.

What is your role as a scientist for CWC?
I am a Research Assistant in the Biogeochemistry lab at LUMCON. We are involved in a variety of projects that evaluate nutrient cycling in salt marshes and the effects the Deepwater Horizon oil spill has had on them. My responsibilities range from field sampling to analyzing nutrients using various machines in the lab, such as the Lachat (nutrient auto analyzer).

Can you summarize your oil spill research and describe any surprising findings you have come across?
Our lab is interested in the effect the oil spill has had on the salt marshes of Terrebonne and Barataria Bay. We compare oiled vs. unoiled sites to understand the impact the oil spill continues to have on the marshes. What is surprising to see is the resilience of the marsh to the oil spill, and how quickly coastal land loss is occurring at a few of the sites we evaluate.

The Coastal Waters Consortium's mission is to assess the chemical evolution, biological degradation, and environmental stresses of petroleum and dispersant within Gulf of Mexico coastal and shelf ecosystems.

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