

The Coastal Waters Consortium Presents:

Scientist Spotlight



Logan McPherson

What is your educational background?

I received my B.S. in Environmental Science from Louisiana Tech University in November of 2017.

What inspired you to become a scientist?

My inspiration comes from my childhood and always being fascinated with marine environments. Because of that, I wanted to know as much as I could about the animals that lived in these environments. And as I got older I knew science was right for me. So the opportunity to get to study parts of these ecosystems and to be able to go out into the field regularly are two of the many reasons I became a scientist.

Can you describe what you enjoy the most about conducting scientific research?

In the Biogeochemistry Lab... The mud, definitely the mud. I really enjoy the opportunity I have to go out into the field on a regular basis. Not having to sit inside every day at work is something I always considered a bonus, and at the same time being able to do meaningful work is my favorite part of research. This is a big reason why I love what I do.



What is your role as a scientist for CWC?

I am a Research Technician in Dr. Brian Robert's Biogeochemistry Lab at LUMCON Marine Center. I help to set up projects, run samples and data, and other everyday lab operations.

Can you summarize your oil spill research and describe any surprising findings you have come across?

Right now our primary focus is on our oil spill study, we work to see how oil effects the marsh environment around us and in surrounding waters. We are also able to look at the loss of our marshes on a regular basis to compare with past years to see just how rapidly they are retreating.

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.