

Kelsey J. Solomon

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Ecology**, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 2021
- Dissertation title: *Effects of riparian and basin-wide forest change on stream algal communities and higher trophic levels in the southern Appalachians*
- Post-Degree Certification Program in Science Education**, University of Phoenix/
Teach for America, Phoenix, AZ 2012
- Certified for grades 5-12 in Life Science
- B.Sc., Biology and History**, *summa cum laude*, University Honors Program,
The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 2011

SELECTED RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Postdoctoral Research Associate**, Florida International University, Miami, FL 2022–Present
- Institute of Environment
- Advisor: Dr. Evelyn Gaiser
- Research activities: Paleoecology and diatom ecology and taxonomy in freshwater wetlands. Collaboration with the Big Cypress National Preserve and the Florida Coastal Everglades Long Term Ecological Research program, Miami, FL.
- Graduate Researcher**, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 2015–2021
- Odum School of Ecology
- Advisor: Dr. Catherine Pringle
- Research activities: Algal ecology, diatom taxonomy, and trophic dynamics in headwater streams. Collaboration with the Coweeta Long Term Ecological Research program, Otto, NC.
- Research Technician**, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL 2006–2007
- Department of Biological Sciences
- Advisor: Dr. Hank Heath
- Research activities: Bacterial gene structure.

PUBLICATIONS

Peer-reviewed:

- Solomon, K. J.**, Bixby, R. J., Wenger, S. J., and Pringle, C. M. 2022. Have stream diatom assemblages changed a decade after the loss of a foundation riparian tree species in a headwater Appalachian watershed? *Freshwater Science*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1086/720136>
- Dudley, M. P., **Solomon, K. J.**, Wenger, S. J., Jackson, R., Freeman, M., Elliott, K. J., Miniati, C. F., and Pringle, C. M. 2021. Do crayfish affect stream ecosystem response to riparian vegetation removal? *Freshwater Biology*. DOI: 10.1111/fwb.13728

Miniat, C. F., Oishi, A. C., Bolstad, P. V., Jackson, C. R., Liu N., Love, J. P., Wurzbarger, N., **Solomon, K. J.**, and Pringle, C. M. 2021. The Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory and Coweeta LTER Project. *Hydrologic Processes*. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/hyp.14302>

In preparation:

Larson, C. E., **Solomon, K. J.**, and Roon, D. A. Implications of terrestrial invertebrate pest outbreaks for stream-riparian ecosystems. *Intended for Freshwater Science*.

Solomon, K. J., Sullivan, J. C., Gardiner, N., Scott, M. C., Bixby, R. J., Wenger, S. J., Jackson, C. R., and Pringle, C. M. Evidence for early stages of biotic homogenization in algal and fish assemblages in streams draining suburbanizing landscapes in the southern Appalachian Mountains. *Intended for Ecological Indicators*

Solomon, K. J., Dudley, M. P., Tomczyk, N. J., Miniat, C. F., Elliott, K. J., Bixby, R. J., Wenger, S. J., Jackson, C. R., Pringle, C. M. Riparian rhododendron removal significantly alters algal community composition and trophic dynamics in a southern Appalachian headwater stream. *Intended for Freshwater Biology*

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Early Career Travel Award , Society for Freshwater Science	2022
Blue Key Honor Society , University of Georgia	2021
- Awarded in recognition of outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, and character	
Distinguished Graduate Student Teaching Award , Odum School of Ecology	2020
3rd Place PhD Oral Presentation , Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium	2020
Emerging Leaders Program , University of Georgia	2019
Graduate Research Grant , Odum School of Ecology	2019
Frank Golley Memorial Award , Odum School of Ecology	2018
- Awarded in recognition of outstanding academic and leadership qualities	
Hannah T. Croasdale Fellowship , Phycological Society of America	2018
Charles W. Reimer Scholarship , Friends of Lakeside Lab	2018
2nd Place Rapid-fire PhD Oral Presentation , Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium	2018
Graduate Research Grant , Odum School of Ecology	2017
Graduate Research Assistantship , University of Georgia	2015
Arts & Sciences Distinguished Undergraduate Scholar , University of Alabama	2011
- Awarded in recognition of the highest undergraduate GPA in the College of Arts & Sciences	
Charles Grayson Summersell Memorial Scholarship , University of Alabama	2011
- Awarded in recognition for outstanding academic merit in the History Department	
William Ray Moore Physical Science Scholarship , University of Alabama	2010
- Awarded in recognition for outstanding academic merit in the physical sciences	
Phi Beta Kappa	2010
Capstone Scholarship , University of Alabama	2007

Col. Joe & Claire Shephard Endowed Scholarship, University of Alabama Alumni Association 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Curriculum Writer, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 2021
 - Course: *Water Dawgs* two-week summer program for high school students in freshwater science and water quality monitoring

Guest Lecturer, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 2020
 - Topic: Harmful Algal Blooms
 - Course: Freshwater Sustainability in the Anthropocene

Teaching Assistant, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 2018–2019
 - Courses: Freshwater Science, Ecology

Guest Lecturer, Oglethorpe University, Atlanta, GA 2019
 - Topic: Stream Primary Producers
 - Course: Freshwater Science

Teacher, Lighthouse College Preparatory Academy, Gary, IN 2013–2015
 - Courses: 8th Grade Integrated Chemistry and Physics; 9th Grade Biology
 - Faculty sponsor: Key Club

Teacher and Corps Member, LEAD College Preparatory Charter School/ Teach for America, Gary, IN 2011–2013
 - Courses: 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Science; 9th Grade Biology
 - Faculty sponsor: Cheerleading

SERVICE AND OUTREACH

Co-organizer, John K. Spencer Memorial 5K Run/Walk, University of Georgia 2018–2021
 - Raised >\$4700 for the UGA River Basin Center’s John K. Spencer Research Grant Program

Member, Space and Facilities Committee, Odum School of Ecology (OSE) 2020–2021

Co-president, Graduate Student Organization, Odum School of Ecology 2019–2020

Co-president, Graduate Students, Coweeta Long Term Ecological Research Site 2018–2020

Member, A/V Committee, Graduate Student Symposium, OSE 2018–2020

Academic Adviser, Alpha Omicron Pi, University of Georgia 2016–2020

Co-leader, Graduate Student Orientation Day, OSE 2017, 2019

Mentor, Instars Program, Society for Freshwater Science 2019

Member, New Approaches to Graduate Recruitment Planning Committee, OSE 2018–2019
 - Planned informational and networking events for program attendees aimed at increasing diversity within Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Science

Member, Executive Committee, OSE 2018–2019

Member, Undergraduate Program Committee, OSE 2018–2019

President, EcoReach, OSE, University of Georgia 2016–2018
 - Coordinated outreach events and volunteers aimed at heightening awareness of ecology and the environment in K-12 students of Athens-Clarke County
 - Planned 35 events reaching over 1300 Athens-area students

Member, Education and Diversity Committee, Society for Freshwater Science 2017–2018

Treasurer, Graduate Student Organization, OSE 2017–2018

Member, 50/10 Reunion and Symposium Planning Committee, OSE 2017–2018

Mentor , Clarke County Mentoring Program, Athens, GA	2016–2018
Outreach Coordinator , Women in Science (WiSci), University of Georgia	2016–2017
- Coordinated outreach events and volunteers aimed at increasing representation of women in STEM fields	
- Planned 6 outreach events reaching over 120 Athens-area students	
Co-coordinator , Graduate Student Symposium, OSE	2016–2017
Co-coordinator , EcoBox Fundraising Event, OSE	2016
Member , Food and Beverage Committee, Graduate Student Symposium, OSE	2015–2016
Student Leader , Honors College Mentoring Program, University of Alabama	2008–2010
- Led 6 fifth grade students and their college mentors as classroom teacher to improve math and reading skills	
- Developed weekly math lessons used by 7 student leaders, reaching 30 students	

PRESENTATIONS

National meetings:

Solomon, K. J. , Sullivan, J. C., Gardiner, N., Scott, M. C., Bixby, R. J., Wenger, S., Jackson, C. R., and Pringle, C. M. Evidence for Homogenization in Stream Diatom and Fish Assemblages in Suburbanizing Southern Appalachian Watersheds. Joint Aquatic Science Meeting, May 15–20. <i>Oral Presentation.</i>	2022
Solomon, K. J. , and Capps, K. Water Dawgs High School Training Program in Stream Ecology. Joint Aquatic Science Meeting, May 15–20. <i>Poster Presentation.</i>	2022
Solomon, K. J. , Bixby, R. J., Wenger, S., Jackson, C. R., and Pringle, C. M. How have stream algal communities changed a decade after the loss of a foundation riparian tree species in a headwater Appalachian watershed? Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Virtual Meeting. May 24–28. <i>Oral Presentation.</i>	2021
Solomon, K. J. , Dudley, M. P., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Effects of riparian rhododendron removal and top-down control by crayfish on diatom community structure in southern Appalachian streams. North American Diatom Symposium, Eatonton, GA. July 31–Aug. 3. <i>Oral Presentation.</i>	2019
Solomon, K. J. , Tomczyk, N. J., Cummins, C. S., LaVere, A., Arnold, K. Freshwater based community engagement at the university departmental level: EcoReach at the Odum School of Ecology. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT. May 19–23. <i>Oral Presentation.</i>	2019
Solomon, K. J. , Dudley, M. P., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Effects of riparian rhododendron removal and top-down control by crayfish on diatom community structure in southern Appalachian streams. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, UT. May 19–23. <i>Poster presentation.</i>	2019
Solomon, K. J. , Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Examining potential changes in stream algal communities in the southern Appalachians, pre- and post- hemlock die-off.	2017

North American Diatom Symposium, Put-In-Bay, OH. Sept. 27–Oct. 1. *Oral presentation.*

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Examining potential changes in stream algal communities in the southern Appalachians, pre- and post- hemlock die-off. Society for Freshwater Science Annual Meeting, Raleigh, NC. June 4–9. *Poster presentation.* 2017

Local meetings:

Solomon, K. J., Dudley, M. P., Tomczyk, N. J., Bixby, R. J., Wenger, S. J., Jackson, C. R., and Pringle, C. M. Riparian rhododendron removal significantly alters algal community composition in a southern Appalachian headwater stream. Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. Feb. 5–6. *Oral presentation.* 2021

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Characterizing primary producer communities in headwater streams, before and after the loss of a foundation riparian tree species. Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. Jan. 31–Feb. 1. *Oral presentation.* 2020

Solomon, K. J., Elliott, K. J., Miniati, C. F., and Pringle, C. M. What are the effects of removing a riparian shrub, *Rhododendron maximum*, on stream algal communities of the southern Appalachians? Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. Feb. 1–2. *Rapid-fire oral presentation.* 2018

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Diatom Flora of Coweeta. Coweeta Long Term Ecology Program Summer Meeting, Otto, NC, June 19–20, 2019. *Poster Presentation.* 2019

Solomon, K. J., and Pringle, C. M. What are the effects of removing riparian rhododendron on stream algal communities of the southern Appalachians? University of Georgia River Basin Center Summit, Athens, GA. Dec. 6, 2017. *Oral Presentation.* 2017

Solomon, K. J., Bixby, R. J., and Pringle, C. M. Response of stream algal primary producers to hemlock death from infestations of hemlock woolly adelgids. Odum School of Ecology Graduate Student Symposium, Athens, GA. Jan. 27–28, 2017. *Oral presentation.* 2017

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Society for Freshwater Science
Phycological Society of America
Ecological Society of America

UNDERGRADUATE MENTORSHIP AND TRAINEESHIPS

Lulu Lacy, research technician	2019
Cody Hufstetler, Center for Undergraduate Research Opportunities (CURO) research assistant	2017–2018
Maria Flowers, undergraduate research assistant	2017
Wesley Peebles, undergraduate research assistant	2017
Madeline McDonald, Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) student	2017