

ROSS P. CLARK IV

DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL COAST WETLANDS GROUP

MOSS LANDING MARINE LABORATORIES

RCLARK@MLML.CALSTATE.EDU

831-771-4411

WWW.CENTRALCOASTWETLANDS.ORG

EDUCATION

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

Masters of Science, Marine Sciences; Ecology

June 1996

University of California, Santa Barbara

Bachelor of Arts Degree. Aquatic Biology Major

June 1990

SUMMARY

Coastal Ecologist and Environmental Program Director managing research and conservation programs for coastal ecosystems including: wetland restoration success and environmental benefits, estuarine ecological analysis of ocean and marsh plain connectivity, applied uses of aquaculture for habitat remediation, and impacts to coastal habitats from sea level rise. Has successfully orchestrated numerous multi-partner monitoring and research projects with a combined 10 year budget of over \$14 million dollars.

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Director of the Central Coast Wetlands Group

July 2010-present

Charged with developing regional programs to improve the restoration and management of wetland resources and reduce ambient nutrient loading on the Central Coast. Manages a team of six field scientists responsible for state wetland monitoring and implementation of a coastal habitat restoration program. Initiated coastal climate adaptation research and coastal resiliency planning within the Monterey Bay focused on natural habitat restoration strategies. Founding Partner of Sustainable Seaculture Technologies aquaculture program. Drives integration of dune and wetland restoration within regional planning and resource management efforts intended to improve water quality and natural coastal processes. Principal lead on State Estuarine Marine Protected Areas monitoring program development project. Leads implementation of the Moro Cojo Slough Management Plan.

Climate Change Action Coordinator, City of Santa Cruz

2007- 2016

Tasked with developing the city's strategic plan for reducing green house gas emissions, establish programs to encourage reductions from city businesses and residence and identify key threats and appropriate responses to climate change and sea level rise. Focused on a multi-faceted program that engages all sectors of the community. Analyzed short and long-term options for the adoption of renewable energy sources including wind, biofuels and solar PV. Established the Santa Cruz Go Solar campaign.

Environmental Scientist, California Coastal Commission

1998-2010

Principal investigator responsible for State water quality and wetland restoration program development. Projects established to expand the State's capacity to improve water quality and wetland habitat and the ability to evaluate success. Aided implementation of numerous State grant programs.

Watershed Restoration Monitoring Coordinator, CSU Monterey Bay

1995-1998

Contract Manager for EPA/State Water Resources Control Board-319 grant (1995&1997 FFY). Responsible for developing work plan and budget, assuring task completion and preparing quarterly and final reports. Coordinated monitoring efforts for all watershed restoration projects including wetland ecology, GIS surveying, native plant survivorship and abundance, photo and video documentation, and a long term monitoring data base.

PUBLICATIONS

- Ross Clark and Kevin O'Connor (2019). A systematic survey of bar-built estuaries along the California coast. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*. Vol. 226
- Walter N. Heady, Ross Clark, Kevin O'Connor, Cara Clark, Charles Endris, Sierra Ryan, Sara Stoner-Duncan. (2015) Assessing California's Bar-built Estuaries Using the California Rapid Assessment Method. *Ecological Indicators*.
- Suzanne M. Langridge, Eric H. Hartge, Ross Clark, Katie Arkema, Gregg Verutesa, Erin E. Prahlerrb, Sarah Stoner-Duncan, Margaret R. Caldwell, Anne Guerry, Mary Ruckelshaus, Adina Abeles, Chris Coburn, Kevin O'Connor. (2014) Key lessons for incorporating natural infrastructure into regional climate adaptation planning. *Ocean and Coastal Management*.
- Christopher W. Solek, Martha A. Sutula, Eric D. Stein, Chad Roberts, Ross Clark, Kevin O'Connor, and Kerry J. Ritter (2012) Determining the Health of California's Coastal Salt Marshes Using Rapid Assessment. *Water Science and Technology*.
- Stein, Fetscher, Clark, Wiskind, Grenier, Sutula, Colins, & Grosso (2009) Validation of a wetland rapid assessment method: use of EPA's level 1-2-3 Framework for method testing and refinement. *Wetlands*. Vol. 29, No. 2, pp. 648-665
- Sutula, Stein, Collins, Fetscher & Clark (2006) A practical guide for the development of a wetland assessment method: The California experience. *Journal of American Water Resources Association*.
- Clark, Edwards & Foster (2004) Effects of shade from multiple kelp canopies on an understory algal assemblage. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*. 267, 107-119.
- Fairey, R. et al. (1998) Assessment of sediment toxicity and chemical concentrations in the San Diego Bay region, California, USA *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, Volume 17, Issue 8, pages 1570–1581
- Fairey, R. et al. (1997) Organochlorines and other environmental contaminants in muscle tissues of sportfish collected from San Francisco Bay. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*. Vol. 34, No. 12, pp. 1058-1071.

Reports & Documents

- Earth Matters, Santa Cruz Sentinel monthly article 2012-present
- Storm Water Resources Plan for the Greater Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Region 2019
- Considerations for Management of the Mouth State of California's Bar-built Estuaries. 2018
- Coastal Climate Change Vulnerability Reports; Moss Landing, Capitola, Monterey and Santa Cruz counties. 2017
- Assessment and Management Prioritization Regime for the Bar-built Estuaries of San Mateo County 2016
- Using New Methodologies to Assess Bar-built Estuaries along California's Coastline. 2013
- Moro Cojo Slough Management and Enhancement Plan, Status Report. 2013
- City of Santa Cruz Climate Action Plan. 2012
- California's Wetland Demonstration Program Pilot. 2008
- California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM) for Wetland and Riparian Areas. 2006
- Wetland and Riparian Restoration Management Measure Tracking. Draft report 2005. California Coastal Commission & Tetrattech
- Statewide Snapshot Day Report 2003. Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary & California Coastal Commission
www.mbnms.nos.noaa.gov/monitoringnetwork/events.html
- California's nonpoint source pollution control program. 2000. State Water Resources Control Board & California Coastal Commission. www.coastal.ca.gov/nps/
- Northern Salinas Valley watershed restoration plan. 1997. AMBAG & Watershed Institute.
- Comprehensive watershed management solutions to nonpoint source pollution in the Salinas Valley. 1997. Final Report. Regional Water Quality Control Board. (primary author)
- Natividad Creek wetland and upland habitat restoration plan (Phase II). 1997. Creative Environmental Solutions & Moss Landing Marine Labs.

Commissions and Technical Committees

- Santa Cruz County Commission on the Environment, Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary Research Activities Panel, Monterey County Integrated Regional Water Management Program, Salinas Valley Groundwater Agency - Eastside Committee