

## **Leah Anne Gibala-Smith**

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### **Professional Preparation:**

Northland College, WI	Natural Resources, Biophysical Emphasis	BS 2001
Old Dominion University, VA	Wetlands Ecology	MS 2019

### **Employment, Teaching, and Research Experience Background:**

2022-present	Phytoplankton Analysis Laboratory Manager, Old Dominion University, Norfolk VA
2021-2022	Research Scientist 3, Bureau of Freshwater and Biological Monitoring, Division of Water Monitoring and Standards, Water Resource Management Program, Department of Environmental Protection, Ewing NJ
2016-2021	Phytoplankton Analysis Laboratory Manager, Old Dominion University, Norfolk VA
2014-2016	Graduate Research Assistant, Old Dominion University, Norfolk VA
2012-2014	Graduate Researcher, Old Dominion University, Norfolk VA
2009-2011	Research Assistant, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg VA
2009	Interim Wetlands Specialist, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Odanah WI
2008-2009	Biological Field Technician, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg VA
2004-2008	Wetlands Specialist, Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Odanah WI
2002-2004	Wildlife Technician, Arizona Game and Fish Department, Phoenix AZ
2001	Fisheries Technician, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Odanah WI
2001	Wild Rice Technician, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service and St. Croix Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Spooner WI
2000	Wild Rice Intern, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Odanah WI
1998-2000	Teaching Assistant, Warren Wilson College, Swannanoa, NC
1994-1997	Research Assistant, Northland College, Ashland WI

### **CERTIFICATIONS & PROFICIENCIES**

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**Identification of Harmful Algae in United States Marine Waters Certification** | National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration | 2017

**Algal Toxin Proficiency for Recreational Water Sample Testing** | Abraxis | 2017 - 2022

**Clean Boats, Clean Water Certification** | Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources | 2006

**Project Wild & Project Aquatic Certifications** | Warren Wilson College | 1998

## SPECIAL TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

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- Collection, Identification, Ecology and Control of Freshwater Algae** | North American Lake Management Society (NALMS), virtual symposium | 2020
- Ecology of Cyanobacteria** | NALMS, virtual symposium | 2020
- Collection, Identification, Ecology and Control of Freshwater Algae** | NALMS, Burlington VT | 2019
- Advanced Phytoplankton Ecology Course** | NALMS, Burlington VT | 2019
- Phytoplankton Identification Workshop** | 10<sup>th</sup> US Symposium on Harmful Algae, Orange Beach AL | 2019
- Special Course in Cyanobacteria Taxonomy** | GreenWater Labs, Gainesville FL | 2017
- Identification of Freshwater HABS** | 9<sup>th</sup> US Symposium on Harmful Algae, Baltimore MD | 2017
- Identification of Marine HABS** | 9<sup>th</sup> US Symposium on Harmful Algae, Baltimore MD | 2017
- Taxonomic Identification of Harmful Algae in U.S. Marine Waters** | Bigelow National Center for Marine Algae and Microbiota, Boothbay Harbor ME | 2017
- Cyanobacteria Identification Workshop** | Hood College, Frederick MD | 2016
- Advanced Problems in Wetland Hydrology Course** | ACOE & University of Wisconsin, La Cross WI | 2009
- Regional Supplement for Basic Wetland Delineator's Course** | ACOE & University of Wisconsin, La Cross WI | 2009
- NEPA & Phase 1 Site Assessment** | Bureau of Indian Affairs, Houghton MI | 2004
- Wetland Delineator's Course** | Richard Chinn, Anne Arbor MI | 2003
- Wetlands Restoration Workshop Series** | Wisconsin Wetlands Association, statewide WI | 2003 - 2005

## SELECT PRESENTATIONS, OUTREACH, & PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

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- Millette, N.C., S. Clayton, M. Mulholland, **L.A. Gibala-Smith**, M. Lane. 2023. The Importance of Winter Dinoflagellate Blooms in Chesapeake Bay – A Missing Link in Bay Productivity. *Estuaries and Coasts*. 46(4).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Phytoplankton Analysis Laboratory Freshwater Recap 2022. Virginia Harmful Algae Bloom Task Force annual meeting. Feb 2022 (presentation).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** 2022 Building Capacity for Biotoxins and Imaging Technologies. Feb 2022 (presentation).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.**, M. Mulholland, S. Clayton, and K. Mogatas. 2022. Imaging Technologies Build Capacity and Accessibility in Phytoplankton Species Identification Expertise for Research and Monitoring: Lessons Learned During Covid-19 Pandemic. U.S. Symposium on Harmful Algae, Oct 2022 (poster).
- Clayton, S., **L.A. Gibala-Smith**, K. Mogatas, C. Flores-Vargas, K. Marciniak, and M. Mulholland. Imaging Technologies Build Capacity and Accessibility in Phytoplankton Species Identification Expertise for Research and Monitoring: Lessons Learned During Covid-19 Pandemic. *Frontiers in Microbiology* 13:823109.
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Cyanobacteria and Their Health Effects: A Survey of Potentially Toxic Cyanobacteria Found in New Jersey. New Jersey HAB Summit. Virtual webinar, 2022 (presentation).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Cyanobacteria 101. Association of Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Biologist's Meeting. Virtual webinar, 2022 (presentation).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Potentially toxigenic (PTOX) Cyanobacteria observed in New Jersey during multispecies harmful algal bloom (HAB) events. Association of Mid-Atlantic Aquatic Biologist's Meeting. Virtual webinar, 2022 (presentation).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Phytoplankton Analysis Laboratory Freshwater Recap 2020. Virginia Harmful Algae Bloom Task Force annual meeting. Virtual webinar, Jan 2021 (presentation).

- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Old Dominion University Freshwater Recap 2019. Virginia Harmful Algae Bloom Task Force annual meeting. Richmond VA, Feb 2020 (presentation).
- Egerton, T.A., **L.A. Gibala-Smith**, K. Mogatas, K. Reece. Algal Bloom Succession in Lower Chesapeake Bay: Environmental Niches and Seasonal and Spatial Distributions. 10<sup>th</sup> US HAB Symposium. Gulf Shores AL, Nov 2019 (poster).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.**, K. Mogatas, T.A. Egerton, M.J. Smigo. Freshwater Harmful Algal Blooms in Virginia: Expanding Monitoring and Management Efforts to Meet Emerging Needs. 10<sup>th</sup> US HAB Symposium. Gulf Shores AL, Nov 2019 (poster).
- Smigo, M.J., A. Bassyouni, **L.A. Gibala-Smith**, T.A. Egerton. Cyanobacterial Blooms in Recreational Waters of Virginia: Analytical Challenges and Management. 10<sup>th</sup> US HAB Symposium. Gulf Shores AL, Nov 2019 (poster).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Old Dominion University 2018 Summary of Inland Freshwater Harmful Algae Blooms. Joint HAB Task Force Meeting with Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Virginia Department of Health. Arlington VA, Feb 2019 (presentation).
- Day, Frank P., E. C. Adams, **L.A. Gibala-Smith**, D. J. Graziani, B. McMillan, N. Sedghi, J. Shafer, M. Smith. 2018. Determining Changes in Coastal Barrier Island Dune Vegetation Following a Decade of Nitrogen Fertilization. *Journal of Coastal Research* 34(5): 1100-1104.
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Summary of Freshwater Harmful Algae Blooms in Virginia. Virginia Harmful Algae Bloom Task Force Meeting annual meeting. Richmond VA, Feb 2018 (presentation).
- Egerton, T.A., R. Everton, **L.A. Gibala-Smith**, K. Reese, K. Skiles, M. Smigo, J. Smith. Expanding Algal Bloom Monitoring in Virginia: Collaborative Responses to Freshwater and Coastal HABs in Recreation and Shellfish Waters. 9<sup>th</sup> International HAB Symposium. Baltimore MD, Nov 2017 (poster).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Collection Protocols for HAB Species in Recreational Waters in Virginia. Virginia Department of Health. Virtual workshop Richmond VA, 2017 (workshop).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** Harmful Algal Blooms in Virginia: 2016. Virginia Harmful Algae Bloom Task Force annual meeting. Gloucester VA, Mar 2017 (presentation).
- Gibala-Smith, L.A.** 2015. Carbon Storage in Tidally Influenced Bald Cypress Swamps in the Mid-Atlantic Region. *Wetland Science and Practice*. 32(1): 33.

## **SELECT SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES**

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- LACA Board Commendation Award | 2023
- Primary Task Force Member, Virginia Harmful Algal Bloom Task Force | 2017 – present
- Chair, Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area Committee | 2007 - 2008
- Regional Expert, Wisconsin Wetlands Association | 2004 – 2011
- Volunteer Coordinator, Bad River Watershed Association | 2005 & 2007
- Planning Member, Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy Team Coastal Health Group | 2004 - 2008
- Habitat Team Leader, Lake Superior Binational Program | 2004 - 2008