

R. Heath Kelsey

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Researchgate: H Kelsey

Research Goals

My work has centered on co-developing science synthesis and communication products that link environmental change to human health and wellbeing. I have worked extensively with community stakeholders, government agencies, and academic partners to translate complex climate, ecological, and health data into accessible materials that inform decision-making and increase public engagement. This contribution is grounded in principles of equity, local relevance, and systems thinking. Through stakeholder engagement, peer-reviewed publications, and over 150 science communication products, I aim to shape new models for transdisciplinary socio-environmental health research and application.

Education

University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health	Ph.D.	2006
University of South Carolina, Arnold School of Public Health	MSPH	2000
St. Mary's College of Maryland	B.A.	1988

Appointments

2019-Present	Director, Integration and Application Network. Associate Research Scientist, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
2015-2020	Adjunct Faculty, Charles Darwin University Research Institute for Environment and Livelihoods (RIEL)
2015-2015	RIEL Visiting Research Fellow, Charles Darwin University, Darwin Australia
2013-2019	Program Director and Science Integrator, Integration and Application Network. Associate Research Scientist, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
2011-2103	Program Manager and Science Integrator, Integration and Application Network. Associate Research Scientist, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
2009-2011	Science Integrator, Integration and Application Network. Assistant Research Scientist, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science
2008-Present	Adjunct Faculty, University of South Carolina Arnold School of Public Health
2006-2009	Ecosystems Modeler, NOAA's Cooperative Oxford Laboratory, JHT Incorporated
2002-2006	GIS Manager and GIS Laboratory Manager, University of South Carolina Belle W Baruch Institute for Marine and Coastal Sciences
2000-2002	Research Associate, University of South Carolina Center for Environmental Policy

Selected Publications

Riechers, M., Baumann, L., Braun,..., **Kelsey, H.,...**, Stockwell, B. 2024. Contributing to sustainable development pathways in the South Pacific through transdisciplinary research: Conference report. Marine Policy 2024: 106124. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpol.2024.106124>

- Ollivier, M., Newton, A., **Kelsey, H.** 2024. Assessment of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed socio-ecological system through the Circles of Coastal Sustainability framework. *Frontiers in Water* 6: 1269717. <https://doi.org/10.3389/frwa.2024.1269717>
- Ollivier, M., Newton, A., **Kelsey, H.** 2023. Socio-ecological analysis of the eutrophication in Chesapeake Bay, USA. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 10: 1237493. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2023.1237493>
- Sandifer, P., Brooks, B., Canonico, G.,..., **Kelsey, R.H.** 2023. Observing and Monitoring the Ocean. In Fleming, E., et al. (Eds.). *Oceans and Human Health, 2nd Edition, Opportunities and Impacts* (pp. 549-546). Elsevier/Academic Press, London. ISBN: 978-0-323-95227-9. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-95227-9.00026-9>
- Altman, K., Yelton, B., Porter, D.E., **Kelsey R.H.**, Friedman, D. 2023. The Role of Understanding, Trust, and Access in Public Engagement with Environmental Activities and Decision Making: A Qualitative Study with Water Quality Practitioners. *Environmental Management*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00267-023-01803-2>
- Carson, M., Doberneck, D., Hart, Z., **Kelsey, H.**,..., Triezenberg, H. 2022. A Strategic Framework for Community Engagement in Oceans and Human Health. *Community Science*. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2022CSJ000001>
- Towle, E., Donovan, E.C., **Kelsey, H.**,..., Williams, I. 2022. A National Status Report on U.S. coral reefs based on 2012-2018 data from NOAA's National Coral Reef Monitoring Program. *Frontiers in Marine Science*. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2021.812216>
- Laumann, K., Nastase, E., Vargas-Nguyen, V., **Kelsey, R.H.**,..., Dennison, W. 2019. Moving beyond the ecosystem in ecosystem health report cards, *Environmental Practice*, 21(4): 216-229. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14660466.2019.1689087>
- Harwell, M., Gentile, J., McKinney, L.,..., **Kelsey, H.**,..., Tunnel, J. 2019. Conceptual Framework for Assessing Ecosystem Health. *Integrated Environmental Assessment and Management* 15: 544-564. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ieam.4152>

Service

Associate Editor, *Anthropocene Coasts*. 2022- Present.

Science Steering Committee, LENS Project (NSF NEON). Translational Ecology Working Group.

Future Earth Coasts International Program Office and Executive Committee. 2018-present.

Future Earth Assembly Delegate. 2023-present, representing the FEC Global Research Network.

International Report Card Network of Practice. 2023-present.

Peer Reviewer. Active peer reviewer in numerous academic journals since 2003.

Proposal Reviewer. South Carolina Water Resources Center Competitive Grants Program 2003, 2014.

National Estuarine Research Reserve Graduate Research Fellowship Program 2008.

Workshop organizer. Various science communication and stakeholder engagement sessions at environmental conferences.

US Peace Corps Volunteer. Community Development and Water Supply. Papua New Guinea. 1995-1998.

Dissertation

Fecal Pollution Modeling, Source Identification, and Management In The Southeastern Coastal Zone.

Dissertation Committee: Dr. Geoffrey Scott, Dr. Dwayne Porter, Dr. Tom Siewicki, Dr. Don Edwards, and Dr. Hank McKellar