

# Brighton Heard, PWS, CF, CERP

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## EDUCATION

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### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE | 2007 | LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

- Major: Natural Resource Ecology and Management
- Area of Concentration: Wetland Science

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Westervelt Ecological Services, LLC Senior Conservation Project Planner

6/2022 - Present

This role involves providing project management of the entitlement of several mitigation and conservation banks simultaneously. Duties include using landscape-scale habitat assessment models to identify suitable lands for acquisition, land reconnaissance, mitigation plan development, environmental permitting, conservation easement holder negotiations, recording conservation easements, endowment coordination and funding, scheduling and coordinating Phase I Environmental Site Assessments and Mineral Assessment Reports, client coordination, and state and federal agency outreach. This position also requires being solely responsible for the preparation of documents and agency coordination in support of establishing compensatory mitigation banks and permittee-responsible mitigation projects to offset ecological impacts. In addition to supporting the establishment of mitigation sites, duties also include piloting a UAV to collect aerial imagery and helping to support wetland delineation efforts in the field.

Entitling the Zacharias Ranch Mitigation Bank in Sacramento County, a 600-acres tidal emergent wetland floodplain restoration project, within the shortest timeframe in company history was a major accomplishment. Successfully navigating the treacherous regulatory environment of California to entitle a mitigation bank within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is an incredible accomplishment that few have achieved.

### Resource Environmental Solutions, LLC. (RES)

10/2010 – 08/2021

#### Wetland Specialist/Project Manager/Regulatory Specialist

The primary focus of responsibilities of this position were designing, permitting, maintaining compliance, and coordinating credit releases of wetland and stream mitigation banks. Leading, educating and managing teams to complete all wetland delineation and preliminary site assessments for wetland and stream mitigation projects within Louisiana was required from this position. In the field and in the office on a GIS platform, hydric soil data, floodplain data, NWI data, LIDAR, true color and color infrared imagery were used to assess site potential. Establishing baseline conditions for restoration projects was a common task. Used real time kinematic (RTK) surveying before, during and after all phases of construction of streams and most wetlands. Completed and submitted annual monitoring reports to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for compliance of stream and wetland mitigation bank and permittee responsible mitigation sites. Met final success criteria and effectively completed several long-term mitigation projects. Developed invaluable personal relationships and a trustworthy reputation with regulatory personnel across several agencies within Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas. Assessed project potential using the Louisiana Rapid Assessment Methodology (LRAM). Managed prescribed fires for several different purposes on RES projects. Obtained a drone pilot license to take photos and videos for commercial purposes. Served as the Safety Coordinator in charge of all Job Safety Analysis forms and daily safety briefings on a mitigation bank owned by Chevron. Listed as the Certified Forester and one of ten "Key Personnel" in the largest mitigation project (Riverby Ranch) ever approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the North Texas Municipal Water District, located north of Bonham, Texas. Led a corporate sustainability initiative project for BHP which involved building and planting terraces in the marsh east of Chauvin, LA.

#### Recent Restoration Projects Contributed to:

- Bayou Manchac-Oakely Mitigation Bank MVN-2008-03143 MB
- Bayou Pierre Mitigation Bank MVK-2013-178
- Bayou St. Clair Mitigation Bank MVN-2009-01939 MB
- Bayou Terrebonne Mitigation Bank MVN-2006-05098-MS
- Big Bend Mitigation Bank MVN-2013-01824-MR
- Black Bayou Mitigation Bank, Phases 1, 2, 3, and 4 MVK-2007-00690

- Bayou Paul Mitigation Bank MVN-2008-557-CZ
- Caney Creek Mitigation Bank MVN-2011-00382-MA
- Comite Properties Mitigation Bank MVN 2008-03135
- Grand Canard Mitigation Bank and Addendum One MVN-2009-0436-MS
- Lake Long Coastal Mitigation Bank MVN 2005-1759 MR
- Pecan Bayou Mitigation Bank MVN 2009-02470 MR
- Petit Bois Mitigation Bank and Addendum One MVN-2008-03779-MS
- Center Bayou Mitigation Bank and Addendum One MVK-2010-188
- Little Eva Mitigation Bank and Addendum One MVK-2011058
- Plain Dealing Mitigation Bank MVK-2011-185
- Brooks Creek Mitigation Bank SWF-2009-00343
- Permittee Responsible Mitigation for Denbury Green Pipeline Project MVN-200801709-WII
- Permittee Responsible Mitigation for Sabine Pass Liquefaction Expansion Project SWG-2004-02523
- Permittee Responsible Mitigation for Aegis Ethane Header – Segment 3 MVN2013-02944-WII
- Permittee Responsible Mitigation for The Kansas City Southern Railway Company MVN-2014-02752-WII
- Permittee Responsible Mitigation for Air Products and Chemicals, INC. MVN2010-02421 WII
- Permittee Responsible Mitigation for Lake Charles Liquefaction Project MVN2014-01575 MB
- Permittee Responsible Mitigation for Crosstex LIG LLC Reroute of Weeks Island to St. James Pipeline MVN-2013-00152 WLL and P20112640
- Permittee Responsible Mitigation for Enterprise Products Operating LLC Chico Pipeline Relocation Project MVN-2012-02996 WII and P2012600

#### **Natural Resource Professionals, LLC.**

**08/2006 – 10/2010**

#### **Wetland Biologist**

Duties in the field included delineating and classifying wetlands in accordance with state and federal criteria, hydric soil identification, wetland assessments, natural resource damage assessments, natural resource restoration and enhancement, wildlife habitat evaluations, endangered species surveys, environmental impact studies, vegetation sampling, stream-flow velocity monitoring, conducting required monitoring events on wetland mitigation banks, plant identification, conducting habitat and timber inventories, testing soil and water for various parameters, biological control of exotic and/or invasive species, use of Trimble GPS, operation and maintenance of field equipment such as boats and outboard motors, ATV's, 4-wheel drive vehicles, tractors, chainsaws, YSI data sonde, depth sounders, digital cameras, Trimble GPS units, as well as a variety of other electronic and mechanical equipment.

Office responsibilities included writing a wide range of technical reports including those which accompany wetland delineations, assisting in GIS tasks, creating and manipulating GIS data, drafting various maps in ArcGIS including those associated with delineations, color infrared aerial photograph interpretation, downloading and evaluating LIDAR and topographic images, completing cost estimates, writing proposals, developing budgets, running wetland value assessment and Charleston method models to quantify changes in habitat quality, monitoring hydrographs, completing section 10 and 404 permit applications, assisting in mitigation bank establishment and design, writing mitigation banking instruments, meeting with clients to provide technical guidance, participating in informative ecological video series segments, providing comments and interviews to local news media on public relations issues, and meeting regularly with various state and federal agencies (USACE, EPA, DEQ, DNR, USFWS, LDWF) to discuss regulatory compliance issues.

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS**

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Professional Wetland Scientist- Society of Wetland Scientists

Certified Forester- Society of American Foresters

Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner – Society for Ecological Restoration

Certified in Wetland Delineation- Richard Chinn Environmental Training, Inc.

Completed Regional Supplement to U.S. Corps of Engineers 1987 manual training- Richard Chinn Environmental Training, Inc.

Completed Level 1 Applied Fluvial Geomorphology Course- Dave Rosgen, Wildland Hydrology Inc.

Certified Prescribed Burn Manager for Marsh land- Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry

Certified Prescribed Burn Manager for Forest- Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry  
Licensed Remote Pilot- Federal Aviation Administration  
Member of the Society of Wetland Scientists  
Member of the Society for Ecological Restoration  
Member of the Society of American Foresters  
Member of Coastal Conservation Association of Louisiana  
Member of Coastal Conservation Association of Florida  
Member of Delta Waterfowl  
Member of Ducks Unlimited  
Member of Quality Deer Management Association