NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Charity Nonkes

University of Ottawa; Sea Lamprey Research & Management–Indigenous Input & Inclusion Project

About my work



In partnership with the Saugeen Ojibway Nation (SON), we conducted a study on the opportunities and challenges of engaging Indigenous communities and bridging knowledge systems (e.g., Indigenous Knowledge and Western science) in sea lamprey management. We did this through a case study of Denny's Dam, which is a sea lamprey control barrier within SON Territory that needed to be rehabilitated. The rehabilitation started from a place of conflict and delay, but became possible after knowledge coexistence, respect, and partnership between SON and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission was established.

Favorite part of work

The best part has been collaborating with the SON and learning about the power and importance of knowledge coexistence and Two-Eyed Seeing in environmental stewardship!

Something else about myself

As someone who is non-Indigenous, I think it is very important to learn about and build relationships with the Indigenous groups whose Territory your research is taking place on. By doing this in a good way, you can bridge knowledge systems and create a more robust and complete picture of your research. This has been a game changer for me, and I hope to carry this into my career once I graduate.

Sovannara Uk

Recent graduate of Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan

About my work



I have recently graduated from the Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan, where I did a research study on phosphorus dynamics and its role in primary production in a tropical shallow lake with a monotonal flood pulse. Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia, which is the largest freshwater lake in South East Asia, is the study area of my research. This lake is a large and complex data-deficient ecosystem in which there exist many interactions among various components, while our understanding of this ecosystem is fragmented and immature.

Favorite part of work

The most interesting part of my work is that I have a chance to be involved in an international project where I could collaboratively work with other researchers from different countries and fields of study. I've also come to realize that transdisciplinary research collaboration in the broad fields of study is essential to address the complex environmental issues facing freshwater lakes globally.

Something else about myself

To me, to be able to make a contribution to society and scientific communities through my research studies is meaningful. I am excited to meet other members of IAGLR and sincerely hope that my participation in IAGLR will allow us to collaboratively work to make an impacts on the world.

Welcome new members who joined May–July 2022

Donnata Alupot
Joshua Benjamin
Gladys Chigamba
Ruth Duncan
Marie Claire Dusabe
Simon Freeman
Catherine Fridolin
Ruby Ghosh
Kyle Glenn
Clare Helmer
Maria Hernandez Limon
Esther Kagoya
Michelle McCrackin
Justin Meyer
Lizy Michaelson
Richard Micka
Grite Mwaijengo
Christine Mwirigi
Mary Nantongo
Charity Nonkes
Rajendra Poudel
Daniel Sandborg
Margret Sinda
Sovannara Uk
Diane Umutoni
Catherine Wachira
Kira Yerofeev

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Together we can advance understanding of the world's large lake ecosystems to better manage and protect them for generations to come.

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