

## 2020 Eagle Hill Natural History Science Seminars . . . on the coast of eastern Maine

## FARMERS IN THE MARSH: AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO HOLISTIC SALT MARSH RESTORATION

Susan Adamowicz, David Burdick, and Geoff Wilson

July 12 - 18, 2020

This course enables students to identify historical and recent salt marsh alterations that have an effect on marsh condition and ecology. This awareness leads to an innovative path for marsh restoration including such concepts as tideshed, marsh secondary succession, oxidative and saturated pathways for elevation loss. We address these concerns with a series of low tech and low(er)-cost innovative techniques for restoring resilient trajectories for "high marsh"/marsh platform biotic and abiotic processes. We will also incorporate monitoring techniques appropriate for the innovative restoration measures. This course will be a mixture of classroom and field instruction. Students are encouraged to bring information on their own salt marshes and research or restoration projects.





## about the instructors

**Susan C. Adamowicz**, Ph.D. (susan\_adamowicz@fws.gov) is a Land Management Research and Demonstration biologist for the US Fish and Wildlife Service at the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge. She is an estuarine ecosystem scientist specializing in salt marshes of the northeast US. With over 20 years' experience in coastal issues, Adamowicz's current focus is on innovative restoration techniques, preservation of existing marsh acreage and planning for the future marsh footprint.

**David Burdick**, Ph.D. (david.burdick@unh.edu) is director at the Jackson Estuarine Laboratory, and research associate professor in the Department of Natural Resources at the University of New Hampshire. Burdick's study of coastal ecology spans 35 years, concentrating on coastal habitats by assessing human impacts, planning, implementing and monitoring habitat restoration. He has taught wetlands courses over the past twenty years and recently published a book with Charles Roman to translate and extend lessons learned from tidal restoration of salt marshes.

**Geoff Wilson** is founder and owner of Northeast Wetland Restoration, a consulting firm that specializes in restoring wetlands in difficult locations. Wilson's ~30 years of hands-on experience runs from salt hay farming to mosquito control to restoration. Wilson is also the creator and Sanctuary Manager for Bear Creek Wildlife Sanctuary in Saugus, Massachusetts where he leads monthly bird walks, collaborates with nearby schools and edits the monthly sanctuary newsletter.