

Jen lle L. Dowling, Ph.D.

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Qualifications

Proven conservation leader with 13 years of experience managing projects grounded in scientific research. I specialize in building and leading multi-disciplinary collaborations and guiding staff to reach program goals at nonprofit organizations. I bring a diverse toolkit, which includes foundational scientific knowledge, experience in communications and fundraising, and a talent for compassionate and responsive staff management.

Education

Ph.D. Cornell University, Behavioral Ecology

B.A., B.S. University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Biology, Psychology

Professional Positions

Scientific Director, Adventure Scientists. Bozeman, MT, 2019-present

- Program*
 - Create Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs) with rigorous QA/QC, oversee management of all conservation projects including budgeting, staffing, risk, permitting, reporting, etc.
 - Ensure scientific integrity and alignment with organizational goals.
 - Build and manage partnerships within academia, industry, NGO, indigenous leaders and government.
 - Present to advocacy groups, coalitions, and other decision-makers about projects to build support and contribute to conservation action/policy change.
- Management*
 - Supervise project management department (6 permanent staff, 1-4 contractors).
 - Guide nonprofit organization strategy as a member of the senior leadership team and liaise with our scientific advisory board and board of directors.
- Development and communications*
 - Write and review grant proposals, engage with donors, and support communications about projects and/or science.
 - Promote the organization through conferences, donor events, and scientific and informal publications.
- Equity and Justice*
 - Founded and chairing the organization's first equity, inclusion & justice committee.

Staff Scientist, Montana Natural History Center. Missoula, MT, 2016-2019

- Program*
 - Co-founded and built an international program on Osprey conservation.
 - Created and maintained long-term partnerships with industry, university, and NGOs.
 - Led program evaluation across the organization; managed and analyzed data.
- Management*
 - Served as head of research for the organization and provided scientific oversight for education programs, exhibits, and outreach.
 - Supervised program staff (1 employee, 3-7 seasonal staff).
- Development and communications*
 - Fundraised through extensive grant writing and building donor relationships.
 - Promoted the organization at events and conferences.
- Equity and Justice*
 - Worked with tribal communities to include indigenous perspectives from start to finish as we designed and implemented programs; aligned curricula with Indian Education for All essential understandings.
 - Created diverse program advisory boards that brought BIPOC perspectives into decision-making.

Post-doctoral Researcher, Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Ithaca, NY, 2015-2016

- Program* - Ran several simultaneous ecological research projects and built vibrant collaborations across disciplines and worldwide.
- Management* - Developed and taught two advanced ecology courses; trained and mentored students to design and manage research studies, test hypotheses, and collect and analyze field data.
- Development* - Prepared grant proposals for large and small federal agencies, foundations, international fellowships, local advocacy groups, and more.
- Equity and Justice* - Worked with STEM diversity committee and department leadership to build faculty understanding and support for diversity initiatives, and implement policy changes.

Project manager, Red-backed Fairy-wren project, Cornell University, Queensland, Australia, 2009-2014

- Program* - Ran long-term field research program while also conducting PhD research.
- Developed methods and project plans, led data collection, maintained large database.
- Independently managed all project logistics, solved problems, and managed risk in dangerous field setting (fires, floods, venomous everything).
- Management* - Hired, trained, supervised six field staff each year. Supported early-career professionals through important pivot points, and maintained long-term mentorship relationships.
- Development* - Wrote, received, and reported on grants from large and small federal agencies, foundations, conservation groups, etc. (see selected awards).
- Equity and Justice* - Co-founded a student-led cross-departmental STEM diversity committee, the first ever in Cornell's College of Arts and Sciences.

Research Technician, Smithsonian's Conservation Biology Institute, Washington, DC, 2007-2010

Designed and managed conservation projects independently, promoted the organization through formal and informal reports and publications. Supervised field research in remote areas of Jamaica and California.

Selected awards

- 2019 NAAEE/UL Innovative STEM Education Award Winner: \$25,000**
- 2018 Montana Environmental Education Association Sense of Wonder Recognition
- 2018 Institute of Museum and Library Services Museums Empowered Award: \$8,500
- 2016 NASA Montana Space Grant Consortium Education Enhancement Award: \$50,000**
- 2010 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship: \$180,000**

Selected publications

- Cronn, R., Finch, K., Hauck, L., Parker, M., Milligan, B., Erickson D., **Dowling J.** In prep for Forensic Science International. Range-wide assessment of SNP panel for individualization & geolocalization of bigleaf maple.
- Dowling, J.**, Toshack, M., Force, A. In prep. Reducing bias in community science: an innovative approach to public participation in scientific field research.
- De Jong, A., **Dowling, J.**, Greene, E. and Miles, S. 2020. Wings over water: museums, scientists, & teachers collaborate to spark student interest in science through study of ospreys. Connected Science Learning, 2(1).
- Mathers-Winn, C. A., **Dowling, J.**, & Webster, M. S. 2018. Forest fire reduces dawn singing effort in a passerine bird. Australian Field Ornithology, 35, 75–82.
- Dowling, J.** & Webster, M. S. 2017. Working with what you've got: unattractive males show greater mate-guarding effort in a duetting songbird. Biology Letters, 13.
- Dowling J.**, Colombelli-Négrel, D., Webster M.S. 2016. Kin signatures learned in the egg? Fairy-wren songs similar to mother's in-nest calls. Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, 4 (48).
- Dowling, J.**, Luther, D.A., Marra, P.P. 2012. Comparative effects of urban development and anthropogenic noise on bird songs. Behavioral Ecology, 23 (1): 201-209.

Selected presentations and seminars

Stepenuck, K., Dowling, J.L., Volunteer fieldwork during the COVID-19 pandemic. Citizen Science Association webinar series, May 2020.

Dowling, J.L., Volunteer management on a global scale. Oral presentation. Public Lands Alliance convention. Washington, DC, March 2020.

Dowling, J.L., An adventurer network supporting research. Oral presentation. International Society of Arboriculture Annual conference. Eugene, OR, 2019.

Dowling, J.L., Greene, E. Wings Over Water, a STEM program that connects students to research. N. American Envir. Ed. Assn, UL Innovative Education Award summit. Oral presentation. Chicago, IL, 2019.

Dowling, J.L., Webster, M.S. Vocal duetting and male mating strategy in an Australian songbird. Ithaca College, Department of Biology. Invited departmental seminar. 2015. Ithaca, NY.