STAFF SPOTLIGHT
COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Marine educator named EOQ

CRD Marine Educator Cate Williams was named Employee of the Quarter for spring 2023. She was chosen for her outstanding performance, said CRD Director Doug Haymans when he made the announcement April 10.

“This ‘herder of cats’ (also known as students), wrangler of volunteers, and possessor of bright and cheery personality works hard each week to ensure CRD’s message is heard across the coast,” Haymans said in his announcement.

Williams organizes many of CRD’s outreach and education events, including the annual Kids Fishing Events, visits from leadership academy groups, school field trips both off and on campus, and coordination with other environmental conservation organizations like Georgia 4H. She started working for DNR in 2005 with State Parks and Historic Sites, serving at Unicoi Lodge, Stephen C. Foster, Amicalola, Reynolds Mansion, George L. Smith, Laura S. Walker, Tallulah Gorge, and Crooked River state parks. In 2017, she went to work for DNR’s Environmental Protection Division and transferred to her current role with CRD in 2019.

Her husband Sam is a corporal with DNR’s Law Enforcement Division. They have two daughters, Maggie and Mary Belle.

NEW FACES AND ROLES

EPD staffer joins CRD in new role

CRD welcomed Jim Long as a Coastal Management Specialist in May 2023. He will be working with CRD Federal Consistency Specialist Kelie Moore and the Georgia Coastal Management Program team to build capacity in coastal management in multiple facets. Long previously worked for DNR’s EPD as an Environmental Compliance Specialist. He enjoys the beach and exploring the outdoors, he is glad to be back on the coast.

New permit coordinator joins CRD team

CRD welcomed a new Coastal Permit Coordinator, Cheyenne Osborne, in mid March. Cheyenne will assist with private recreational dock applications and bank stabilizations in northern counties. She previously worked in retail and merchandising while obtaining her bachelors degree in Coastal Ecology. She interned with the EPD ambient water quality team in Brunswick before joining CRD. She enjoys the outdoors, especially on the Georgia coast where she has spent most of her life. She also enjoys hiking any where from the Appalachians to the Rocky Mountains.

Field tech promoted to marine biologist

In March of this year, Kaylan Collins started her new role with the Shellfish and Water Quality Unit at CRD. After graduating from UGA in May 2017, Kaylan began working at the CRD with the Coastal Longline Survey. She was then hired full-time in June 2018 to work as a Creel Technician. A year later, she joined the Shellfish Water Quality Unit as a Lab Technician, moved into a Field Position role, and is now a Marine Biologist assisting with the reconnaissance, sampling, data analysis, and GIS mapping activities in support of the program. Kaylan is excited to continue working with the unit and being a part of its development.

Lab tech moves to Compliance & Enforcement

Clayton Davis started a new role at the division in March. Originally hired in September 2020 as a marine technician for the Beach & Shellfish Water Quality lab assisting with sample collection and analysis. In his new role with the Compliance and Enforcement Unit, he will assist with monitoring permit conformity, responding to regulatory complaints, and managing marina waterbottom leases. Davis also previously interned with CRD during his undergrad program at College of Coastal Georgia.

— STAFF REPORT