

# **Samantha Lee McGee (Sammy)**

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## **Objective**

To help protect, preserve, and enhance Florida's ecosystems through stewardship, education, restoration, research, and relationship

## **Education**

*St. Andrews College, Laurinburg, NC*

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Science May 1998

Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies, May 1998

**GPA: 3.99/4.00**

*Brevard Community College, Palm Bay, FL*

Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems

Fundamentals of Global Positioning Systems

*Central Wyoming College, Lander, WY*

Wilderness Emergency Medical Technician Certification

National Outdoor Leadership School Wind River Expedition Graduate

## **Training, Certifications, Awards & Licenses**

- \* Certified Prescribed Burn Manager # 20124387
- \* FL Driver's License M200-792-76-525-0
- \* 2014 Jim Stevenson Resource Manager of the Year
- \* Interagency Basic Prescribed Fire Course
- \* I-100: Incident Command
- \* S-130: Introduction to Fire Behavior
- \* S-190: Introduction Wildland Fire Behavior
- \* Standards for Survival
- \* S-131: Advanced Fire Fighter
- \* S-214: Southern Area Engine Academy
- \* S-211: Portable Pumps and Water Use
- \* S-215: Fire Operations in the Wildland/Urban Interface
- \* S-290: Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior
- \* Florida Fire Behavior/Florida Fuels and Weather
- \* ESRI ArcGIS 9 for Natural Resources Course
- \* Florida Pesticide Applicators License for Natural Areas
- \* Florida Boating Safety Certification
- \* US Forest Service Tree Climbing Certification
- \* US Forest Service Chainsaw Use in Trees Certification
- \* American Red Cross Level I and II Disaster Services Courses
- \* Annual Pack Test and Shelter Refresher since 2005
- \* ATV Rider Course

## Experience

### **Environmental Specialist I**

February 2004 – Present

*Florida Park Service, St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park, FL*

Outline restoration priorities and implement upland and wetland restoration. Prepare, plan, and implement prescribed fire activities. Respond to wildland fires. Directly manage and monitor a variety of protected species including Florida scrub-jay, Red-cockaded woodpecker, Brown-headed nuthatch, Bald eagle, and Gopher tortoise. Prioritize invasive plant eradication strategy and directly treat. Develop and coordinate mitigation projects. Write management plans, grants, land management reviews, and other reports. Participate in public meetings and forums. Develop and implement interpretive programs, public events, guided hikes, ranger talks, and produce various educational materials. Develop and maintain contracts, grant proposals, joint participation agreements, memorandums of understanding and provide budgetary oversight for the above. Help repair and maintain park facilities and public use areas. Provide protection, visitor safety and other visitor services. Maintain equipment such as UTV's, ATV's, fire trucks, chainsaws, tractors, swamp buggies, herbicide pumps/sprayers, and fire pumps. Operate heavy equipment. Supervise 2-4 employees, AmeriCorps teams and members, a robust volunteer program, and all resource management related contractors. Maintain GIS data base and produce various maps using ArcMap. Work closely with other conservation related agencies, non-profits, and cooperators to foster relationships and work toward common goals through teamwork.

### **Volunteer Chairperson**

2018 – Present

*Central Florida Prescribed Fire Council*

Serve as chairperson for the largest prescribed fire council in the country, a certified 501c. Develop long term goals, objectives, and facilitate strategic planning. Plan and execute a variety of prescribed fire related trainings, conferences, webinars, festivals, and workshops for both wildland fire practitioners and the public. Supervise and organize fellow officers and steering committee members. Oversee the preparation of IRS documents. Sponsor and provide an annual meeting, usually drawing between 225-600 participants, with content that meets the requirements to maintain prescribed burn manager certification, Society of American Forester, and Continuing Forestry Education credits. Solicit sponsorships, and raise funds through raffles, T shirt sales, and other fundraising strategies.

### **Certified Prescribed Burn Manager**

2012 – Present

Participated in prescribed fires and wildfire response since 2002, initially with the Brevard County Environmentally Endangered Lands Program and currently with the Florida Park Service. Obtained Prescribed Burn Manager Certification in 2012. Burn throughout the state in all fire type communities with a special focus on flatwoods, scrub, scrubby flatwoods, sandhill, and prairie. Served as crew for 52 prescribed fires, line boss for 84, and burn boss for 7, totaling well over 50,000 acres. Responded to 27 wildfire incidences and served as Incident command for 9 of those responses.

### **Environmental Specialist I**

April 2003 – February 2004

*East Coast Florida Aquatic Preserves, FLDEP, FL*

Monitored submerged aquatic vegetation and other benthic habitats in the Indian River Lagoon. Conducted restoration activities on spoil islands throughout the IRL and Mosquito

Lagoon. Monitored water quality in the Sebastian River using YSI datasondes. Assisted in the creation of management plans and grant proposals.

**Central Region Intern** November 2002 - April 2003

*Environmentally Endangered Lands Program, Brevard County, FL*

Assisted the Central Region Land Manager with invasive plant control, maintenance, and restoration of three conservation lands in Brevard County.

**Recycling Production Coordinator** May 2001 - September 2002

*Resource Revival, Portland, OR*

Assembled and created handmade products for a company dedicated to finding new uses for discarded materials. Managed quality control, packing and shipping, and the timely completion of large orders.

**Eco-Crew Supervisor** February 2001 - April 2001

*Educational Service District 112, Vancouver, WA*

Supervised students involved in an alternative work program focused on riparian zone revitalization. Collaborated with non-profits and state agencies to design and implement habitat revitalization projects.

**Water Educator** July 2000 - October 2000

*Bureau of Environmental Services, Portland, OR*

Educated the public about Portland's water resources and how they could contribute to the efforts to reduce the amount of raw sewage flowing into the Willamette River. Assessed homeowner's properties for possible downspout disconnections.

**Envirocorps Team Leader** August 1999 - July 2000

*AmeriCorps program with Educational Service District 112, Vancouver, WA*

Led a team of ten 18–24-year-olds through a program in which we coordinated volunteers and implemented environmental revitalization projects throughout the Pacific Northwest.

**Corps Member** October 1998- August 1999

*Americorps National Civilian Community Corps, Charleston, SC*

Served on a team and traveled throughout the southeast US and Puerto Rico working on various projects in the areas of environmental revitalization and education, unmet human needs, and disaster relief.

**Resident Director** May 1998 - October 1998

*Yellowstone National Park, Mammoth Hot Springs, WY*

Maintained the facilities, enforced the rules and regulations, and coordinated activities for over 150 employees of AMFAC, the concessionaire for Yellowstone National Park.

**Resident Coordinator** August 1997 – May 1998

*St. Andrews Presbyterian College, Laurinburg, NC*

Coordinated activities and enforced the rules and regulations for a dorm that housed 85 students. Acted as a liaison between the counseling department, health services, and academic services.

**Conference Center Ranger** Summer 1995

*Montreat Conference Center, Montreat, NC*

Maintained grounds and handled finances. Taught trail safety skills to adults and led youth hikes and activities. Educated the public and enforced park regulations.

## **References**

1. Dylan Gavagni, Former Manager of St. Sebastian River Preserve State Park  
Currently the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Natural Heritage SE  
Region Operations Steward  
Relationship: Former Supervisor for 8 years and coworker for additional 5 years  
1548a Holland Rd.  
Suffolk, VA 23434  
Dylan.Gavagni@dcr.Virginia.gov  
(321) 948-0787
2. Maria Zondervan, Former Land Manager with St. Johns River Water  
Management District for over 20 years  
Relationship: Long-term Agency Cooperator  
6197 Linneal Beach Drive  
Apopka, FL 32703  
Mzondervan123@gmail.com  
(407) 832-4242
3. Greg Hagan, Tall Timbers Ecological Research Station  
Upland Ecosystem Restoration Project Coordinator  
Relationship: Long-term Grant Cooperator  
13093 Henry Beadel Drive  
Tallahassee, FL 32312  
[Ghagan@talltimbers.org](mailto:Ghagan@talltimbers.org)  
(850) 508-4437
4. Christina Neaf-Dodge, Former AmeriCorps Member  
Currently with FFWCC Aquatic Invasive Plant Program  
Relationship: I supervised her during her AmeriCorps term of service  
8344 Florida Boys Ranch Road  
Groveland, FL 34736  
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