



PEOPLE
ON THE
MOVE IN A
CHANGING
CLIMATE

NEMA PEMOCC WORKSHOP PANELIST BIOSKETCHES

Andrew Lewis: Author and Contributing Writer to Outside Magazine, NY Times, Orion and others



Andrew S. Lewis is a contributing writer for Outside Magazine and has also written for The New York Times Magazine, Orion, and others. He is also the author of "The Drowning of Money Island: A Forgotten Community's Fight Against the Rising Seas Threatening Coastal America." In 2019, he was awarded a Connected Coastlines grant from the Pulitzer Center. Currently, he covers environmental issues on New Jersey's Atlantic and Delaware Bay coasts for NJ Spotlight News — work that earned a 2020 New Jersey Press Association award. He loves to write stories that inhabit the narrow corners where water and humans collide.

Matt Hauer: College of Social Science & Public Policy, Florida State University



Mathew Hauer is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Florida State University who studies the impacts of climate change on society. Recently, his research has focused on how migration induced by sea level rise could reshape the U.S. population distribution. The New York Times, National Geographic, Time Magazine, Popular Science, USA Today, and others have featured his research. Before coming to Florida State University, Dr. Hauer spent eight years directing the Applied Demography Program at the University of Georgia where he provided valuable demographic research to local, state, and federal governments.

Osamu Kumasaka: Co-Founder, Buy-In Community Planning, Inc.



Osamu Kumasaka (he/him) is the co-founder and program director of Buy-In Community Planning, an organization which helps vulnerable households move out of flood-prone homes. Osamu is a planner and disaster researcher dedicated to helping Indigenous communities, communities of color, and communities living in poverty prepare for and prevent the health impacts of climate change.

Previously, as a junior associate at the Consensus Building Institute in Cambridge, MA, Osamu worked with senior



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mediators to facilitate collaborative planning, policymaking, and stakeholder engagement for sustainable mobility, large-scale renewable energy development, water quality, wetland restoration, and climate resilience projects across the Northeast. Osamu was a summer fellow in the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA), where he drafted an equity and environmental justice toolkit for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness program and the scope of work for a statewide climate impact assessment. Osamu is a Master of City Planning candidate in MIT's Department of Urban Studies and Planning. He holds a BA in Environmental Studies from Lewis & Clark College.

Radley Horton: Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University



Radley Horton is a Research Professor at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory. His research focuses on climate extremes, tail risks, climate impacts, and adaptation. He is the Lead Principal Investigator for the NOAA-Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments-funded Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast, and Columbia's Lead PI for the NSF-funded Megalopolitan Transformation Hub. Radley was a Convening

Lead Author for the Third National Climate Assessment and is a member of the New York City Panel on Climate Change. Radley also teaches in Columbia University's Sustainable Development department.

Linda Shi: Department of City and Regional Planning, Cornell University



Linda Shi is Assistant Professor at Cornell University's Department of City and Regional Planning. Her research concerns how to plan for urban climate adaptation in ways that improve environmental sustainability and social justice. She studies how aspects of urban land governance – including the fiscalization of land use, property rights regimes, and metropolitan regional institutions – shape climate vulnerability and adaptation responses. She comes at these issues having worked on watershed restoration, water and sanitation, and development planning all over the world for AECOM, the World Bank, the Institute for International Urban Development, and Rocky

Mountain Institute. She has a PhD in urban and regional planning from MIT.



Gerald Torres: Yale School of the Environment & Yale Law School



Gerald Torres is a Professor of Environmental Justice at the Yale School of the Environment and Professor at the Yale Law School. He is former President of the Association of American Law Schools and has taught at Stanford Law School and at Harvard Law School, where he served as the Oneida Nation Visiting Professor of Law. Professor Torres served as Counsel to the Attorney General on environmental matters and Indian affairs at the U.S. Department of Justice. Professor Torres has served on the board of the Environmental Law Institute, the EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, and the National Petroleum Council. He is board chair of Earth Day Network and founding Chairman of the Advancement Project, the leading Civil Rights advocacy organization in the country. He is a trustee of the Natural Resources Defense Council. Professor Torres has just been appointed to the Advisory Council of The Connecticut Sea Grant. He has served as a consultant to the United Nations on environmental matters and is a life member of the American Law Institute and the Council on Foreign Relations.

Kelly Pflicke: Community Planner, FIMA Resilience, FEMA



Kelly Pflicke, AICP serves as a Community Planner for the Planning and Safety Branch within the Risk Management Directorate, Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, Resilience at the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Kelly is responsible for the development of strategic partnerships and communications to advance the Hazard Mitigation Planning Program, a key resource for states, locals, tribes and territories in breaking the cycle of disaster damage and reconstruction. She has focused her career on helping communities adapt and build resilience to hazards exacerbated by climate change with particular attention to coastal communities and at-risk populations most impacted by disasters. Kelly holds a Master of City and Regional Planning from Rutgers University and a Bachelor of Arts in Geography from Georgia Southern University.



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Lauren E. Wang: Senior Policy Advisor, NYC Mayor's Office of Climate Resiliency



Lauren E. Wang is a Senior Policy Advisor at the New York City Mayor's Office of Climate Resiliency. She advises climate policy and programs on housing mobility, land use, and equitable adaptation planning. She has collaborated with partners in the public, private, and non-profit sectors to design and deliver hurricane recovery and climate adaptation services to homeowners and renters across New York City and has developed long-term plans, including the NYC Comprehensive Waterfront Plan and Resilient Edgemere Community Plan. Ms. Wang holds a Masters in City and Regional Planning from UNC

Chapel Hill and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Princeton University.

Anamaria Bukvic: College of Natural Resources and Environment, Virginia Tech



Anamaria Bukvic is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and an Associate Director of the Center for Coastal Studies at Virginia Tech. Her research is focused on coastal adaptation, resilience, vulnerability, security, population displacement, and migration. Anamaria is further interested in whether relocation can serve as a viable adaptation strategy to sea-level rise in coastal communities, and what opportunities could emerge from this process. She uses mixed-methods qualitative and quantitative approaches to study complex emerging issues in coastal urban and rural settings related to

flooding. Anamaria's current projects are funded by the National Science Foundation and the State of Virginia to study impacts of chronic and episodic coastal flooding on coping capacity, resilience, and population mobility in coastal communities. She is also a Fellow of 2019 Early Career Innovators Program at the National Center for Atmospheric Research and co-organizer of the Rotating Resilience Roundtables events designed to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers and stakeholders on different coastal resilience themes.



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Thomas Flynn: Floodplain Manager, Township of Woodbridge, NJ



Thomas C. Flynn holds a Bachelor's of Science degree from Rutgers University and a Master's degree from the City University of New York. Mr. Flynn is the Township of Woodbridge Environmental Specialist, Floodplain Administrator, and FEMA – CRS Coordinator. He was named New Jersey Association for Floodplain Management's 2018 local floodplain management official of the year, and has over twelve years of combined experience in protecting ecological resources, flood mitigation, and policy analysis. As the Township's Floodplain Administrator, his role focuses on enhancing the manner by which people live safely within and near floodplains, as well as providing ecological uplift to sensitive natural areas.

Donovan Finn: Sustainability Studies Program, SUNY Stony Brook



Donovan Finn is an Assistant Professor of Environmental Design, Policy and Planning in the Sustainability Studies Program and School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences at Stony Brook University. His research examines how communities address the challenges of resilient and sustainable development and long-term disaster recovery, and how these goals intersect with social equity and participatory decision-making. From 2019 to 2021 he is a member of the inaugural cohort of the Early Career Faculty Innovator Program at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, CO, where he is studying how to better integrate climate science into public policy and urban planning. He holds Ph.D. and MUP degrees in urban and regional planning from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.



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Kevin Geiger: Senior Planner, Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission



Kevin works across brownfields, water quality, climate change, emergency management, and housing policy areas. However, his strengths lie in being the senior staff person on land use regulations. He is a great resource for towns to call with land use questions. As a Senior Planner he has led the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission's award-winning sustainability plan and buyout program. Kevin brings over 25 years of planning experience in assisting over 80 Vermont towns. Off hours in March, Kevin can now be found pruning apple trees, as well as moderating the Pomfret Town Meeting and Member of the Upper Valley Adaptation Workgroup. Years ago, he was also a National Park Service wildlands firefighter. He received his BA in Human Ecology from the College of the Atlantic and an MS in Resource Management and Administration from Antioch New England Graduate School. Kevin is accredited as a Certified Flood Manager (CFM) and American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP)

James Elliott: Kinder Institute, Rice University



James (Jim) Elliott is Professor and Chair of Sociology at Rice University, and Faculty Affiliate at the Kinder Institute of Urban Research. He is a former advisor to the National Science Foundation's program in Sociology and past editor of the journal *Sociological Perspectives*. His recent research on social inequities of disaster recovery is cited by the recent National Advisory Council report to FEMA and has been covered in media outlets that include Houston Public Media, National Public Radio, and the New York Times. He has presented related work to U.S. Government Accountability Office.

