

Kate Chatman

EDUCATION

M.S., Environmental and Sustainability Studies | *College of Charleston* | *GPA: 3.974* | *Pending Graduation May 2027* | Thesis: Mapping the Blue Economy: A Spatial Suitability Assessment and Policy Gap Analysis of Shellfish Mariculture in South Carolina

Master of Public Administration | *College of Charleston* | *GPA: 3.974* | *Pending Graduation May 2027*
Specialty: Environmental Policy, Environmental Law, Marine Spatial Planning

Graduate Certificate, Geospatial Science | *College of Charleston (2025)*

Graduate Certificate, Urban and Regional Planning Sciences | *College of Charleston (2025)*

B.A., Anthropology | *University of South Carolina, magna cum laude (2018)* | *Specialty: Archaeology*

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

Shellfish Aquaculture Research Graduate Assistant *June 2024 – Present*

South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium, Charleston, South Carolina

- Developed the Salinity Stability Index, a novel four-factor composite spatial index derived from 26 years of statewide water quality monitoring data, integrated into the publicly accessible South Carolina Mariculture Siting Tool, South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium
- Build and maintain public-facing decision-support tools using ArcGIS Experience Builder, ArcGIS StoryMaps, and ArcGIS Online for prospective mariculture leaseholders and agency staff
- Conduct stakeholder interviews and coordinate with commercial growers, state agency personnel, municipal representatives, and researchers across local, state, and federal government
- Project lead and coordinator of the South Carolina Sea Grant Student Connections Network, a professional development network for Sea Grant-supported graduate students including journal club, shared resources, and an Adopt-a-Stream collaborative initiative
- Support science communication products, fact sheets, outreach materials, and public programming for South Carolina Sea Grant extension activities

Citizen Science Project Assistant (Contractor) *March 2026 – Present*

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, North Charleston, South Carolina

- Conduct QA/QC review on shallow water grouper and snapper release data submitted by recreational fishermen participating in the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) Release citizen science program
- Write original R scripts for data cleaning and management of Release program datasets
- Communicate directly with program participants regarding data, protocols, and program participation, building collaborative partnerships with citizen scientists

Merit Research Assistant *June 2026 – May 2027* | *Competitively selected*

College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina Merit Research Assistantship Award, \$13,200

- Conducting original thesis research on spatial suitability assessment and regulatory gap analysis for shellfish mariculture permitting in South Carolina
- Developing two peer-reviewed journal manuscripts from thesis chapters for submission to *Aquaculture and Marine Policy*

Research Assistant *August 2023 – May 2026*

College of Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina USDA SARE Grant No. 2021-38640-34723, Total Award: \$376,295

- Supported shellfish mariculture policy research under former MPA program director, including stakeholder network analysis in RStudio producing a publicly accessible 103-node interactive network map across four functional sectors of the South Carolina mariculture industry
- Conducted baseline research regulatory frameworks and permitting structures for shellfish mariculture industry in South Carolina

PRESENTATIONS AND PRODUCTS

- Chatman, K. (2026). South Carolina Shellfish Aquaculture Stakeholder Network Analysis. Interactive dashboard. Published using R Shiny frameworks; publicly available on Posit Cloud and Github
- Chatman, K. (2026). Salinity Stability Index. Spatial data layer integrated into the South Carolina Mariculture Siting Tool. South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium.
- Chatman, K. (2025). Salinity Stability Index for SC: Methodology and Development. ArcGIS StoryMap. South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium.
- Chatman, K. (2025). Harvesting Wild Oysters in South Carolina. Extension factsheet. South Carolina Sea Grant Consortium.
- Chatman, K. (2025). From Imports to Outbreaks: Tracking Malaria Spillover Risk in Coastal South Carolina. Three Minute Thesis (3MT) presentation, College of Charleston.
- Chatman, K. (Spring 2027, scheduled). Thesis research. College of Charleston Graduate School Poster Session.
- Chatman, K. (Spring 2027, scheduled). Thesis research. College of Charleston Research Expo.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

- Chatman, K. & Levine, N. (in preparation). A Salinity Stability Index for Shellfish Mariculture Site Selection in South Carolina. Target journal: Aquaculture or Journal of Shellfish Research.
- Chatman, K. & Stewart, K. (in preparation). Regulatory Gap Analysis and Stakeholder Network Structure in South Carolina Shellfish Mariculture Permitting. Target journal: Ocean and Coastal Management or Marine Policy.

LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE

Project Lead and Creator | SC Sea Grant Student Connections Network 2026 – Present

Created and coordinated a peer network for Sea Grant-affiliated graduate students including a journal club, shared resources, and an Adopt-a-Stream collaborative initiative. Facilitate meetings and social events aligned with Sea Grant's mission, building a cohesive space for resource sharing and professional development across all career stages.

Site Captain | Beach Sweep/River Sweep, Folly Beach 2024 – Present

Coordination and logistical planning, sponsorships, and data tracking for over 100 volunteers annually during South Carolina's largest organized cleanup; synthesize and distribute aggregated data back to head of programming, local educators and citizens.

Board Member | Master of Environmental Studies Student Association 2024 – 2025

Served as Board Secretary to coordinate program-wide events, planning, and community initiatives for a multidisciplinary environmental science student body.

Founding Member/ Organizer, Gear and Equipment Program | Girls Rock Columbia 2012 – 2018

Built and managed a circular equipment lending/repair program to outfit 12 youth bands annually at minimal cost. Facilitated small group workshops and camp programming.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Spatial Analysis: ArcGIS Pro, ArcGIS Online, ArcGIS Experience Builder, ENVI
- Programming and Data: R (tidyverse, ggplot2, visNetwork, igraph)
- Science Communication: Canva, Adobe Suite, Microsoft Office, ArcGIS StoryMaps

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Lindstedt Fellowship for Academic Excellence (2023-2025) (\$3,750)
- Graduate Scholars Award for Academic Excellence (2024) (\$2,000)
- Summer Research Award (2024) (\$3,750)
- CofC Study Abroad Scholarship (2023-2024) (\$1,750)
- Tom Bonner Award for Excellence in Writing (\$500)
- Phi Theta Kappa | Phi Sigma Pi | Sigma Gamma Epsilon | SCLA | NAEP-SC