C. Ashton Drew, PhD

Founder/CEO | Lead Scientist and Data Analyst | ESA Certified Senior Ecologist

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> *Dr. Ashton Drew brings nearly three decades of experience in predictive modeling, ecological data analytics, and decision-support tool development. As Founder/CEO of KDV Decision Analysis LLC, she specializes in strategic planning, sampling design, and adaptive management, with a strong record of scientific programming instruction and research partnerships across academic, government, and industry sectors.*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

KDV Decisions North, Whitehorse, Yukon

Owner, Lead Scientist and Data Analyst (2025 – present)

- Manage dedicated Canadian office under Canadian data and privacy laws
- Expand services in social justice and public health fields
- Support mixed methods data analytics, specializing in sensemaking approaches

KDV Decision Analysis LLC, Cary, NC

Owner, Lead Scientist and Data Analyst (2015 – present)

- Predictive modeling and advanced data analytics for environmental, ecological, & social justice research.
- Sampling design and decision support tools for adaptive management
- Scientific programming course development and instruction

Biodiversity and Spatial Information Center, USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, Department of Biology, North Carolina State University, North Carolina, USA

Research Coordinator, Environmental Decision Analysis (2011 – 2015)

Postdoctoral Research Associate (2006 – 2011)

- Model vertebrate species distribution to support USFWS & USGS Strategic Habitat Conservation
- Field research to validate and improve models in support of adaptive management and monitoring
- Co-develop and teach courses in climate change, conservation planning, and modeling
- Research program advancement: grant-writing, student and technician supervision

Marine Ecology & Conservation Laboratory, Marine, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences Department, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA

Graduate Research Assistant & NSF Graduate Research Fellow (2000 – 2006)

Laboratory Technician (1999 – 2000)

- Investigate behavioral, population, and community level aspects of reef fish spatial ecology
- Manage field research for international (Bahamas) and local (Florida, North Carolina) projects

US Environmental Protection Agency (under contract through the Environmental Careers Organization), Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA

Field Biologist and Crew Supervisor (1998 – 1999)

- Train and supervise field research crews surveying riparian land cover and vegetation communities

AXYS Environmental Consulting Ltd., Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Wildlife Biologist and GIS Technician (1996 – 1998)

- Inventory species in terrestrial, freshwater, and marine habitats of British Columbia
- Mediate stakeholder meetings to negotiate objectives and elicit knowledge
- Write technical reports and produce maps for government and private clients

EDUCATION

PhD, 2006, Marine Science — North Carolina State University, NC

MMM, 1996, Marine Management — Dalhousie University, NS

BA Magna Cum Laude, 1995, Environmental Science — Beloit College, WI

CONTRACTS (2020 – PRESENT)

- Advancing Transportation through Linkages, Automation and Screening (ATLAS) Project (**Axiom, NC Department of Transportation**, 2017–2027)
  - Build and validate state-wide high resolution wetland models
  - Create, validate, and maintain threatened and endangered species models
  - Research design and data analytics for bat culvert use project
  - Provide agency-wide training to staff and consultants on topics relevant to best practice in statistics, modeling, and AI applications
- Survey Data Management and Analytics for the Responder-Perpetrated Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises (RESPONDER) Partnership (**Queens University**, 2025–2029)
- Falls Lake Chlorophyll-a Criterion and Nutrient Management Alternatives to Support Designated Uses (**Brown & Caldwell, UNRBA**, 2020–2027)
- Establishment of Quantitative Conservation Targets for Imperiled Freshwater Mussel Species (**North Carolina State University**, 2025–2028)
- Water Temperature Data Management and Reporting: Integrating CYFN data into the YG Postgres database and R Shiny applications (**Council of Yukon First Nations**, 2026)
- Fisheries Data Management and Statistical Coding in R Course (**Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada**, 2026)
- Paleo Food Web Analysis and Visualization Application (**University of Nevada**, 2026)
- Strategies for Expert Elicitation for Refining Modeling Inputs and Assessing Policy Scenarios in the CTEF Update (**NatureServe Canada**, 2025)
- R Training for Forensic Geomorphometric Analyses (**E. Cuerrier-Richer**, 2025)
- Addressing Impacts of COVID-19 in Venezuela and Colombia (**Queens University**, 2024–2026)
- Convergent and Divergent Patient and Provider Experiences in the Emergency Department (**Queens University**, 2024–2026)
- Examining Gender-based Violence Patterns and Risks in South Sudan/Sudan's Repeated Cross-Border Displacement (**Queens University**, 2024–2025)
- Scope Requirements and Strategy for Proposed Production Shiny Application (**Yukon Finance**, 2023)
- R Coding and Data Analytics Support, Retainer Contract (**Yukon Environment** and **Yukon Finance**, 2022–2023)
- Macrobenthos Data Entry, Summary and Reporting Application (**Michael Baker International**, 2021–2023)
- Yukon Climate Analog Explorer Application for Forestry (**Nadele Flynn**, 2020)
- Application to Visualize and Report Temporal Trends in Survey Data (**Team Elements**, 2017, 2020–2021)
- New Zealand Department of Conservation Budget Exploration Application Rapid Prototype (**NZDOC**, 2019–2020)
- NEPA Solutions Design Sprint (**Sand County Foundation, Walton Family Foundation**, 2018–2020)
- Automated Collection and Reporting of Water Resources Information for National Wildlife Refuges (**USFWS**, 2019–2020)
- Recovery Action Prioritization Tool Refinement and Deployment (**NCSU/USFWS**, 2016–2017)