

## Webinar Series: Submerged NC



Images Courtesy of Jenna Harley

## Meet the Presenter



Jenna is a PhD student in the Parks, Recreation, & Tourism Management department at North Carolina State University. As both a social and environmental scientist, Jenna thinks about how people can be both the cause of and the solution to many environmental challenges. As a former classroom science teacher for almost a decade, she is particularly interested in the roles that young people play in creating solutions. Under the advisement of Dr. Kathryn Stevenson, Jenna's research examines the role of students as environmental change-agents in their communities, specifically on the topic of marine debris or plastic pollution.

### Additional Resources

[Click here](#) to read abstract and forthcoming research paper, *Frontiers in Political Science*.

Free [marine debris resources](#) and curriculum from Dr. Liz DeMattia & the Duke University Marine Lab.

[Watch here](#), youth-made YouTube videos associated with this project.

NOAA's [Marine Debris Program](#). Resources and more.

Jenna is a fierce advocate for education as a form of empowerment, especially as it pertains to environmental grand challenges. Her passions for learning, teaching, and the environment were cultivated at Beloit College, where she earned her undergraduate degree in Environmental Geology. She went on to obtain an MS in Secondary Science Education from CUNY-Lehman College as part of the New York City Teaching Fellows program and an MS in Environmental Sciences & Engineering from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Prior to enrolling at NC State, Jenna worked as a Fellow at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, where she developed K-16 environmental education materials based on the geospatial decision-making tool, EnviroAtlas. She continues to work at the EPA part-time and demonstrates the EnviroAtlas materials to teachers and students across the country.

In her spare time, Jenna volunteers as the student seat on the *Monitor* National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and enjoys spending time outdoors with her growing family in her hometown of Hillsborough, North Carolina.