

Heather M. Leslie, PhD: Interdisciplinary scholar of coastal community resilience

Professor, School of Marine Sciences, University of Maine, Walpole, Maine 04573 USA

Ph: +207 563 8115 (office); email: heather.leslie@maine.edu

Education

1992-1996 AB cum laude in Biology, Harvard University

1998-2004 PhD in Zoology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

Professional Appointments

7/2021-on Professor, University of Maine

8/2015-5/23 Director, University of Maine Darling Marine Center

8/2015-8/21 Associate Professor, University of Maine

7/2007-7/15 Sharpe Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies & Biology, Brown Univ.

2004-2007 Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Princeton University

Publication Record (see <https://umaine.edu/leslie-lab/publications/> for full list)

- Leslie's Google Scholar h-index: 34; All citations = 9395, as of 11.30.24
- Leslie has authored 65 peer-reviewed publications, including one co-edited volume, *Ecosystem-Based Management for the Oceans* (2009), and research articles in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *Science*, *Annual Review of Marine Science*, *Global Environmental Change*, and *Ecological Applications*.

Grants Record

- Leslie has served as PI or co-PI on state, federal and private foundation grants totaling more than \$36 million, between 2016-2024.
- Funders of her research, education and infrastructure grants include the US National Science Foundation, NOAA, and the Economic Development Administration.

Major Honors include USC Storymakers Fellow (2023); AAAS Fellow (2022); UMaine Faculty Fellow (2017); and Leopold Leadership Fellow (2015)

Synergistic Activities

1. *Scientific leader in sustainability research and graduate education.* Leslie leads interdisciplinary, multi-institutional research and graduate training programs focused on the social-ecological systems associated with Maine and Mexico coastal communities and fisheries.
2. *Actively engaging with local, state, and federal decision makers,* Leslie shares her knowledge to support policy and action related to ecosystem-based management, community resilience, and protected areas. She also is an active science communicator and writer of creative nonfiction.
3. *Contributing to economic and workforce development and climate resilience,* Leslie served as founding chair of the Alliance for Maine's Marine Economy (2017-2018) and as co-lead of the Maine Climate Council's Coastal & Marine Working Group (2019-22).

Teaching & Mentoring: Dr. Leslie has taught courses in conservation science, ecology, and science communication at multiple universities, and supervised a total of 65 undergraduate theses, summer internships, and capstones; 17 graduate student theses; and seven postdocs.