



Photo: The Nature Conservancy

**MANAGEMENT
PRIORITY #5**

Coral Reef

Meet Our March Presenters

MP #5

NOAA Habitat Blueprint: The West Hawaii Habitat Focus Area

Shannon Lyday Ruseborn received her undergraduate degree in Environmental Science from the University of Colorado and her master’s degree in Marine Science from Hawaii Pacific University. Shannon’s master’s thesis focused on using seabirds as ecosystem indicators for commercial fishery species in the California Current. Shannon worked on science and policy programs for the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries in both California and Hawaii. Currently Shannon works for NOAA Fisheries (also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)) Habitat Conservation Division as the Habitat Blueprint Assistant Coordinator and conducting Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultations.

Stuart Goldberg conducts EHF consultations for all of the main Hawaiian Islands and also assists with program coordination for the NOAA Habitat Blueprint West Hawaii Habitat Focus Area program. Prior to working at NMFS, Stuart was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Hawaii Manoa, the University of California Santa Barbara, and Scripps Institution of Oceanography where he developed expertise in water quality and microbial ecology in open-ocean, coral reef, and high elevation lake ecosystems. He also spent one year as a science policy fellow in Washington D.C. working for the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, an environmental non-profit organization. Stuart earned his B.S. in marine science from the University of Maine, Orono, and his PhD in marine science from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Habitat Blueprint program works to protect natural infrastructure around the nation. The West Hawaii Habitat Focus Area supports a multitude of unique habitat types, endangered and threatened species, and one of the state’s longest contiguous coral reefs. Our March presenters will address the many issues faced by the region, and elaborate on the innovative projects combatting these threats to preserve and strengthen the Habitat Focus Area ecosystem.

For more information on NOAA’s Habitat Blueprint, visit the [West Hawaii Storymap](#).

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Goal A: Improve the health and productivity of coral reef ecosystems at priority sites identified by the Hawaii Coral Reef Program

Goal B: Implement place-based projects that demonstrate effective stewardship practices that can be applied to other areas

Questions?

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Hawaii CZM Program
Coastal Zone Management
HAWAII STATE OFFICE OF PLANNING