UPDATED MARCH 2026

Meghan Ward

80 Lynch St • Peterborough, Ontario • Canada K9J5A9
meghanward@trentu.ca

Education

Trent University **2024 - Present**
PhD in Biology
Environmental and Life Sciences.

Trent University **2021-2023**
Master of Science in Biology (Conservation)
Environmental and Life Sciences.

Laurentian University – Dissolved due to CCAA Filing **2020-2021**
Master of Science in Biology (Conservation)
Department of Biology, Graduate Studies

Trent University **2015-2020**
Bachelor of Science in Honors Biology
Specialization in Conservation

Professional Experience

External Consultant – Research (6 months) **January 2026 - Present**
The Invasive Species Center
Identify key gaps and outdated information in the Invasive Species Center's online resources and update recommendations for aquatic and terrestrial Phragmites management.

Freshwater Monitoring and Mentoring (6 months) **December 2025 - Present**
The Land Between Charity, Leora Berman
Mentor undergraduate students at Trent University through the Trent Center for Community Research with The Land Between. Provide guidance on project design, analysis, and writing.

Restoration Fellow (6 months) **Nov 2024- May 2025**
The Society For Ecological Restoration
As a Restoration Fellow with SER, I am a team member involved in designing Project Certification. This includes designing scoring metrics for international restoration programs, liaising with insurance bodies, and engaging with global certification practitioners. I am also updating Version 3 of the SER Restoration Standards, an internationally recognized Standard.

Wetland Restoration Team Lead (May-Sept) **2022-Present**
Point Pelee National Park, Tommy Thompson Park, Lynde Shores Marsh
Trent University, Dr. Jeff Bowman
Lead field team (ranging from 2-4 persons) through data collection including ARU and field camera deployment, vegetation surveys, historic muskrat surveys, and invertebrate collections. Remote field location.

Graduate Student Research Assistant **2022-2024**
Position: GTR Assistant, Centre for Teaching and Learning at Trent University

Worked part-time during M.Sc. with the Centre for Teaching and Learning at Trent University where I created resources for graduate students to help them become stronger Teaching Assistants. Design workshops, build micro-credentials, and assist in various pilot projects.

Wetland Education Specialist (6 months) **2024**

The Land Between Charity, Leora Berman

Designed educational and accessible modules geared toward councilmembers in Ontario. These modules were instructional about the importance of wetland conservation and preservation in Ontario.

Wildlife Research Biologist (4 months) **2023**

Wildlife and Research Monitoring Section, OPS

Organize and manage six (6) Ontario Public Service Summer Wildlife Tech students; organize daily tasks, manage working hours, daily check-ins

Science Education Assistant, Remote (8 months) **2021**

University of Toronto, Dr. Fiona Rawle

Research and publish about the role of "Failure in Science" and scientific misconceptions.

Northern Ontario Museum Display Design, Remote (4 months) **2021**

Nipissing University, Dr. Kirstin Greer

Design museum displays about historic Geographers, research about the effects of soundscapes on historic and current biodiversity levels

Resource Management Student, Peterborough (4 months) **2020**

Parks Canada, Trent Severn Waterway

Conduct invasive species surveys in the Trent Severn Waterways

***Ambystoma* Salamander Species at Risk, Pelee Island (4 months)** **2019**

Trent University, Dr. Thomas Hossie

Conduct fieldwork related to BSc thesis and publication. Assist graduate students in fieldwork, laboratory work, and data collection.

Academic Services

Ad Hoc Peer Review Requests **2026**

- Biological Invasions 2026
- Insect Conservation and Diversity 2026
- Wetland Ecology and Management 2026
- PeerJ 2025

Grant Reviewer **2026**

- Invasive Phragmites Control Fund (IPCF)

Editor; Canadian Herpetological Society **2020-Present**

- Edit and publish The Canadian Herpetologist, a publication produced twice annually. Edit all blog submissions to The Drift Fence, CHS's online blog forum

Scholarships, Grants, Awards (total: +$215,000 CAD)

Award for Community Commitment to Student Learning ($1000 CAD)	2026
Queen Elizabeth Scholarship; International Institute for Environmental Studies ($8000 CAD)	2026
Students on Ice + Blue Future Pathways' Water Education Grant ($2000 CAD)	2026
Ontario Biodiversity Summit Best PhD Poster ($100 CAD)	2025
Ontario Biodiversity Summit People's Choice Award ($100 CAD)	2025
Trent University Best Conference Presentation ($1000)	2025
Trent University Travel Grant ($1000)	2025

NSERC Canadian Graduate Scholarship – Doctoral ($120,000 CAD)	2024
Ontario Graduate Scholarship ($15,000 CAD)	2024
Queen Elizabeth II Science and Technology Scholarship ($15,000 CAD)	2023
Trent University Curtin Scholarship ($3,000 CAD)	2023
Ontario Graduate Scholarship ($15,000 CAD)	2023
NSERC Canadian Graduate Scholarship – Master's ($17,500 CAD)	2022
Trent University Curtin Scholarship ($3,000 CAD)	2022
NSERC Student Ambassador Grant ($1,000 CAD)	2021
Trent University Graduate Entrance Scholarship ($1,000 CAD)	2021
Sportsman Fish and Wildlife Protection Scholarship ($1,000 CAD)	2021
George Toland Award for Research on North American Herpetofauna ($200 USD)	2021
Ontario Graduate Scholarship ($15,000 CAD)	2020
Laurentian University Graduate Entrance Scholarship ($1,500 CAD)	2020
Trent University's Conservation Biology Prize ($100 CAD)	2020
Peterborough Field Naturalist Scholarship ($300 CAD)	2020
NSERC CREATE Mine of Knowledge Grant ($3,000 CAD)	2020
Excellence Entrance Scholarship ($2,000 CAD)	2016

Peer-Reviewed Publications

Sherbourne*, A., **Ward, M*.,** Stager, M., Cohen, S., van Haaften, L., Burgess, T., Hughes, B., Bowman, J. 2026 Community science: big insights from small mammal data. Ecology and Evolution. Accepted. *co-leads

Ward, M.. DiLeo, M., Bowman, F. 2026. Lessons Learned in Invasive *P. australis* Treatment: Rolling Leads to Reduction in Native Vegetation Diversity. Management of Biological Invasions. In Review.

Ward, M. Abberger M, Russell-Bleackley J., Bowman, J. 2026. Effects of Phragmites australis invasion and management on Great Lakes coastal wetland fauna: a taxon-based review. Journal of Great Lakes Research. DOI: 10.1016/j.jglr.2026.102777

Ward, M.. 2026 Desiccated Turtles Found in Dense *Phragmites australis* and *Typha x glauca* Habitat at Point Pelee National Park, Ontario. The Canadian Field Naturalist. 139(1) https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v139i1.3567

Ward, M. Fitzgerald, S,. Bowman J. 2026. Invertebrate community composition is similar to non invaded sites after *Phragmites australis* treatment in a Great Lakes coastal wetland. FACETS 11: 1-11 10.1139/facets-2025-0244

Ward, M. Degazio, T. Bowman J. 2024 Great Lakes coastal wetland plant biodiversity increases following the manual removal of invasive *Phragmites australis*. Wetlands Ecology and Management. 33(2): https://doi.org/10.1007/s11273-024-10021-4

Ward, M., Nunes, K., Laliberté, N., Rawle, F. 2024. How Failing in Science Helped Solve the Coho Salmon Mystery. National Center for Case Study Teaching in Science. https://www.nsta.org/ncss-case-study/how-failing-science-helped-solve-coho-salmon-mystery?srsltid=AfmBOopUlvHNT_hvHMDGjKheTFe6TX5x8M7EkSjlvzQ0n-nN8VmQJXUq

Baici, J., Martin, K., Newar, S., Burgess, T., Greenhorn, J., Keilar, S., Menelon, L., Melvin, G., Persad, R., Sadowski, C., Solmundson, K., Tozer, D., **Ward. M**., Bowman, J. 2024. Relationships between muskrat density and avian and anuran richness in Great Lakes coastal wetlands. Wetlands. 44(38) https://doi.org/10.1007/s13157-024-01791-x

Ward, M., Rawle, F. 2022. Teaching the process of science through COVID-19 pandemic themes. Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Education. DOI: 10.1002/bmb.21616

Ward, M., Hossie, T. 2020. Do existing constructed ponds on Pelee Island, Ontario match the habitat requirements of endangered *Ambystoma* larvae? Wetlands. 40(43): 1-12.

Conference Presentations

Ward, M. Degazio T, Bowman J. Great Lakes coastal wetland biodiversity increases following treatment of invasive Phragmites australis at Point Pelee National Park. International Association of Great Lakes Research 2025. International

Ward, M. Degazio T, Bowman J. Great Lakes coastal wetland biodiversity increases following treatment of invasive Phragmites australis at Point Pelee National Park. North American Conference of the Society of Ecological Restoration. 2024. International

Ward, M. Degazio T, Bowman J. The effects of invasive *Phragmites* treatment on vegetation and invertebrate communities in a Great Lakes coastal wetland. International Conference of Invasive Aquatic Species. 2024. International.

Ward, M. The impact of invasive *Phragmites* removal on vegetation at Point Pelee National Park. Ontario Invasive Plant Council Conference; Poster. Virtual 2023.

Ward, M. The impact of invasive *Phragmites* removal on wetland biodiversity at Point Pelee National Park. Coastal Wetland Working Group. Virtual 2022.

Ward, M, Hossie, T. Do Existing Constructed Ponds on Pelee Island, Ontario match the habitat requirements of engendered *Ambystoma* larvae? The Midwest Fish and Wildlife Conference. Virtual. 2021.

Ward, M, Hossie, T. Do Existing Constructed Ponds on Pelee Island, Ontario match the habitat requirements of engendered *Ambystoma* larvae? Ontario Chapter and the Canadian Section of the Wildlife Society. Virtual. 2021.

Ward, M. Opportunities for research: frogs and salamanders. Trent University Herpetology Society. Invited guest. Remote. 2020.

Ward, M, Hossie, T. Do Existing Constructed Ponds on Pelee Island, Ontario match the habitat requirements of engendered *Ambystoma* larvae? Canadian Herpetology Society. Virtual. 2020.

Ward, M, Hossie, T. Do Existing Constructed Ponds on Pelee Island, Ontario match the habitat requirements of engendered *Ambystoma* larvae? Kansas Herpetology Conference. Virtual. 2020.

Academic Outreach

Environmental and Life Science Student Society (Elected) **2025 - Present**

- Position: Event Coordinator
  Collaborated with the student society to plan social event for ENLS graduate students. Co-planned the ENLS Student Conference (annual)

Let's Talk Science Coordinator + Volunteer **2021-Present**

- Initiated Let's Talk Science involvement with Trent University, creating the Trent branch and creating partnerships with local elementary schools and high schools
- As the Site Coordinator, I plan and facilitate all science related outreach with students in the Kawartha region; workshops, presentations, online events

Trent University Graduate Student Association (Elected) **2024-2025**

- Position: Vice President of Student Affairs
  Liaised with University administration on behalf of the graduate student body, representing all graduate students across all disciplines

Graduate Student Podcast; Fellowship of the Research **2021-2024**

- Position: Founder, Producer
  Founded the podcast in 2021 and currently partner with Graduate Studies and Communication to highlight the graduate research at Trent University. Produce the podcast with a team of four graduate students

Emerging Leaders for Biodiversity (Invited) **2021**

- Position: Invited Panelist
  Present resources and contacts that are useful for emerging professionals pursuing careers in biology and conservation. I represented the Graduate Student voice

Trent University Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society **2021-2023**

- Position: Graduate Student Representative
  Organize and participate in events geared toward environmental issues and wildlife concern for graduate students

Gradaute Teaching Experience

Supervisory Experience

- Ms. Esme Batchelor, Trent Center for Community Research **Oct – Apr 2026**
- Ms. Karmin McDonald, Trent Center for Community Research **Oct – Apr 2026**
- Ms. Rhylee Lawlor, Guelph University + MNRF: MSc Placement **May – Aug 2025**
- Ms. Emma Boswell, Ottawa University + MNRF: Independent Study Project **May – Aug 2023**
- Ms. Courney Arnestad, Trent University: Reading Course **Jan – April 2024**
- Mr. Joshua Russel-Bleakley, Trent University: Conservation Internship **Sept 2023 – April 2024**

Teaching Assistant Positions

- Entomology BIOL 4090 **2024 - 2025**
- Invasion Biology BIOL 4250 **2025 + 2026**
- Evolution BIOL 2600 **2024**
- Evolution BIOL 2600 **2023**
- Ecology BIOL 2260 **2023**
- Biology of Insects BIOL 3090 **2022**
- Introduction to Ecology and Evolution BIOL 1020 **2022**
- Urban Ecology BIOL 4090 **2021**
- Introduction to Molecular Biology BIOL 1050 **2021**
- Introduction to Ecology and Evolution BIOL 1020 **2020**

Academic Assistant / Student Marker Positions

- Advanced Science Communication BIOL 4410 **2025**
- Evolution BIOL 2600 **2024**
- Undergraduate Thesis Class BIOL 4020 **2021**
- Epidemiology BIOL 3360 **2021**

- Introduction to Ecology and Evolution BIOL 1020 **2021**

Training

STEM For All: Foundations for Equitable Outreach; Let's Talk Science	**2026**
Unconscious Bias Training, Trent University	**2024**
Indigenizing the Academy, Trent University	**2024**
Trans Sensitivity Training, Trent University	**2023**
ORCKA Level 2 Certification	**2022**