

Nicole A Freidenfelds

nicole.freidenfelds@uconn.edu

860-486-6933

Education

Teacher Certification: Secondary Biology & Chemistry Sacred Heart University, Griswold, CT
M.S. Natural Resources: Wildlife Ecology University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
B.S. Biology with Chemistry minor Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, CT

Professional Experience

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 08/2019 – present
Visiting Assistant Extension Educator: Natural Resources & the Environment

Capitol Region Education Council, Hartford, CT 09/2018 – 01/2019
Per Diem Certified Education Specialist: Science

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT 08/2012 – 07/2014
Laboratory Manager: Ecology and Evolution

MA Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program, Westborough, MA 06/2012 – 06/2012
Independent Contractor: Box Turtle Surveys

Rice University, Houston, TX 08/2011 – 04/2012
Laboratory Manager: Ecology and Evolution

Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 04/2008 – 08/2011
Laboratory Manager: Ecology and Evolution

Safe Harbor, Wellfleet, MA 10/2007 – 03/2008
Environmental Consultant

National Park Service, Cape Cod National Seashore, Wellfleet, MA 02/2007 – 09/2007
Biological Technician (GS-5)

Teaching Experience

Tolland High School, Tolland, CT 08/2015 – 06/2019
Teacher (Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science)

Tolland Board of Education, Tolland, CT 08/2014 – 06/2015
Intern & Tutor (Biology, Integrated Science, Botany, Chemistry)

University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH 09/2004 – 05/2006
Teaching Assistant (Wildlife Techniques, Freshwater Resources)

Professional Development

- Culturally Responsive and Equitable Evaluation Virtual Learning Series – eeVAL
- Environmental Education for Sustainability – Mass Audubon
- Community Engagement Fellows: Beyond Boundaries – Western Washington University Center for Community Learning
- Co-Designing Conservation with Communities – Conservation Psychology Coaching Service
- Advanced Placement Environmental Science Workshop – TAFT Educational Center
- NGSS Curriculum-Writing Workshops (Biology & Chemistry) – Capitol Region Education Council
- Our Changing Forests Summer Institute for Teachers – Harvard Forest
- Redesigning for NGSS – JASON Learning
- Building with Biology; Should We Edit the Genome? – Center for Research on Interface Structures and Phenomena
- The Secret World Inside You – AMNH Educator Evening

Organizations & Outreach

- UConn Institute of the Environment Belonging, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (BEDI) Committee (2023-present)
- Connecticut Outdoor & Environmental Education Association – Board Member (2021-present)
- 4-H Adventures in STEM (2019)
- Sisters in STEM (2019)

Grants & Awards

- 2023 Environmental Education Grant - *Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut*: Lead (\$60k)
- 2023 Environmental Education Grant - *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*: Lead (\$133k)
- 2023 Teaching Enhancement Grant - *UConn CAHNR*: Team (\$13k)
- 2022 Environmental Education Grant - *Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut*: Lead (\$30k)
- 2021 Facilitators' Choice Recognition - *STEM for All Video Showcase*: Team
- 2021 STEM Achievement Organization Award - *Connecticut Science Center*: Organization
- 2020 Excellence in Land Conservation - *Connecticut Land Conservation Council*: Organization
- 2020 Public Choice Recognition - *STEM for All Video Showcase*: Team
- 2019 David & Nancy Bull Extension Innovation Award - *UConn CAHNR*: Team (\$5k)
- 2019 Provost's Award for Excellence in Community Engaged Scholarship - *UConn*: Team
- 2017 Education and Outreach Grant - *Society for the Study of Evolution*: Individual (\$900)

Professional Workshops & Presentations

- 2023 Connecticut Outdoor & Environmental Education Association Workshop. Virtual. **Freidenfelds, N.** *Environmental Education Messaging.*
- 2023 Connecticut Land Conservation Conference. Wesleyan, CT. Cane, C., Cisneros, L., **Freidenfelds, N.**, Gichuru, L., and Seldon, S. *Culturally-relevant youth mentorship for inclusive environmental action.*
- 2022 Connecticut Outdoor & Environmental Education Association Annual Conference. Simmons, J., **Freidenfelds, N.**, Campbell, T., and Volin, J.C. *Measuring the impact of an informal science education program.*
- 2022 National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase. **Freidenfelds, N.**, Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Cisneros, L., Dickson, D., Simmons, J., and Volin, J.C. *Impacts of intergenerational community conservation.* <https://stemforall2022.videohall.com/presentations/2495>
- 2022 American Chemical Society New Haven Local Section Seminar Series. Virtual. Cisneros, L. and **Freidenfelds, N.** *Program design principles to support teen-adult conservation efforts.*
- 2022 NARST Annual International Conference. Vancouver, BC. Simmons, J., Campbell, T., Moss, D.M., Volin, J., Arnold, C., Cisneros, L.M., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., and **Freidenfelds, N.** *Intergenerational Family Learning in Conservation Science.*
- 2021 National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase. **Freidenfelds, N.**, Campbell, D., ... Volin, J.C. *Socially-Distanced Community Conservation Partnerships.* <https://stemforall2021.videohall.com/presentations/2079>
- 2020 National Science Foundation STEM for All Video Showcase. Campbell, T., Arnold, C., Chadwick, C., Cisneros, L., Dickson, D., **Freidenfelds, N.**, Moss, D.M. Rodriguez L., Simmons, J. and Volin, J.C. *Designing for intergenerational community conservation.* <https://stemforall2020.videohall.com/presentations/1788>
- 2020 CT GIS Day. Virtual. Freidenfelds, N.A. *Team-Up to Apply Geospatial Tools toward Local Environmental Action.*
- 2020 North American Association for Environmental Education. Virtual. **Freidenfelds, N.A.**, ... and Willig, M. *Investigating Human Impact on Local Water Resources: An NGSS-Designed Approach.*
- 2020 North American Association for Environmental Education. Virtual. Cisneros, L.M., **Freidenfelds, N.A.**, Campbell, T., Volin, J., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Moss, D. and Simmons, J. *Program Design Principals to Support Teen-Adult Community Partnerships' Conservation Efforts.*
- 2020 Ecological Society of America. Virtual. Cisneros, L.M., Volin, J.C., Simmons, J., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., and **Freidenfelds, N.A.** *Conservation in action: supporting teen-community partnerships and demonstrating collective environmental impacts.*
- 2010 Alabama Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation. Andalusia, AL. **Freidenfelds, N.A.**, and Langkilde, T.L. *Consequences of envenomation: red imported fire ants have delayed effects on survival but not growth of native fence lizards.*
- 2005 Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists. Tampa, FL. **Freidenfelds, N.A.**, and Babbitt, K.J. *Initial response of wood frogs (*Rana sylvatica*) to experimental manipulation of buffer widths around vernal pools in Maine.*

Publications

- Freidenfelds, N.A.**, J. Deitloff and T. Langkilde. *In review*. Lessons from Lizards: Adaptation to Invasive Ants. *Lessons in Conservation*.
- Cisneros, L., Campbell, T., **Freidenfelds, N.**, Lindemann, A., Elliot-Famularo, H., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., & Park, B. 2023. Eco-digital storytelling: Engaging historically excluded populations in environmental action through mentoring, geospatial technology, and digital media storytelling. *Frontiers in Education*. 7:1083064. [10.3389/educ.2022.1083064]
- Simmons, J., Campbell, T., Moss, D. M., Volin, J. C., Arnold, C., Cisneros, L. M., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D. & **Freidenfelds, N.** 2022. 'Part of our DNA': intergenerational family learning in informal science. *International Journal of Science Education, Part B Communication and Public Engagement*. [10.1080/21548455.2022.2099032]
- Freidenfelds, N. A.**, Cisneros, L. M., Cabaniss, A. D., Colby, R., Meadows-McDonnell, M., Arnold, C., Campbell, T., Chadwick, C., Dickson, D., Moss, D., Simmons, J., Singh, A. K., & Volin, J. C. 2022. Pivoting during a pandemic: Transforming in-person environmental STEM field programs into immersive, experiential distance learning. *Connected Science Learning*. 4(2).
- Cisneros, L. M., Simmons J., Campbell T., **Freidenfelds N.**, Arnold C., Chadwick C., Dickson D., Moss D., Rodriguez L., & Volin J. C. 2021. Program design principles to support teen-adult community conservation efforts. *Frontiers in Education*, 6,674667. [10.3389/educ.2021.674667]
- Urban, M.C., **N.A. Freidenfelds** and J.L. Richardson. 2020. Microgeographic divergence of functional responses among salamanders experiencing antagonistic selection from apex predators. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*. 287: 20201665. [10.1098/rspb.2020.1665]
- Freidenfelds, N.A.**, Cisneros, L.M., Rodriguez, L., Byung-Yeol, P., Campbell, T., Arnold, C., Chadwick, C., Dickson, Moss, D., Volin, J. and M. Willig. 2020. Investigating Human Impact on Local Water Resources & Exploring Solutions. *The American Biology Teacher*. 82(9): 613–617. [10.1525/abt.2020.82.9.613]
- Freidenfelds, N.A.** 2019. Community connections through conservation. *Connecticut Wildlife*. 39(6):16-18.
- MacLeod, K.J., **N.A. Freidenfelds**, G.M. Leighton, and T. Langkilde. 2019. Tree selection is linked to locomotor performance and associated noise production in a lizard. *Journal of Zoology*. 307(3):195-202. [10.1111/jzo.12632]
- Gallagher, A.J., P.F. Trull, M.S. Faherty, **N. Freidenfelds**, J. Heimbuch and M.J. Cherry. 2019. Predatory behaviors of coyotes (*Canis latrans*) living in coastal ecosystems. *Ethology Ecology & Evolution*. 31(2):198-204. [10.1080/03949370.2018.1521874]
- Urban, M.C., J.L. Richardson, **N.A. Freidenfelds**, D.L. Drake, J.F. Fischer and P.P. Saunders. 2017. Microgeographic adaptation of wood frog tadpoles and potential evolutionary resilience to an expanding predator. *Copeia*. 105(3):451-461. [10.1643/CG-16-534]
- Graham, S.P., **N.A. Freidenfelds**, C.J. Thawley, T.R. Robbins and T. Langkilde. 2017. Are Invasive Species Stressful? The Glucocorticoid Profile of Native Lizards Exposed to Invasive Fire Ants Depends on the Context. *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology*. 90(3):328-337. [10.1086/689983]
- Snyder, K.T., **N.A. Freidenfelds** and T.E.X. Miller. 2014. Consequences of sex-selective harvesting and harvest refuges in experimental meta-populations. *Oikos*. 123:309–314. [10.1111/j.1600-0706.2013.00662.x]
- Urban, M.C., J.L. Richardson and **N.A. Freidenfelds**. 2014. Plasticity and genetic adaptation mediate amphibian and reptile responses to climate change. *Evolutionary Applications*. 7:88–103. [10.1111/eva.12114]
- Robbins, T.R., **N.A. Freidenfelds** and T. Langkilde. 2013. Native predator eats invasive toxic prey: evidence for increased incidence of consumption rather than aversion-learning. *Biological Invasions*. 15:407–415. [10.1007/s10530-012-0295-9]
- Freidenfelds, N.A.** 2012. Natural history notes: *Acris crepitans* (Northern Cricket Frog). Fire Ant Envenomation. *Herpetological Review* 43:117.
- Freidenfelds, N.A.**, T. Robbins and T. Langkilde. 2012. Evading invaders: the effectiveness of a behavioral response. *Behavioral Ecology* 23:659–664. [10.1093/beheco/ars011]
- Graham, S.P., **N.A. Freidenfelds**, G.M. McCormick and T. Langkilde. 2012. The impacts of invaders: Basal and acute stress glucocorticoid profiles and immune function in native lizards threatened by invasive ants. *General and Comparative Endocrinology* 176:400–408. [10.1016/j.ygcen.2011.12.027]
- Freidenfelds, N.A.**, J.L. Purrenhage and K. Babbitt. 2011. The effects of clearcuts and forest buffer size on post-breeding emigration of adult wood frogs (*Lithobates sylvaticus*). *Forest Ecology and Management* 261:2115–2122. [10.1016/j.foreco.2011.03.005]
- Langkilde, T. and **N.A. Freidenfelds**. 2010. Consequences of envenomation: red imported fire ants have delayed effects on survival but not growth of native fence lizards. *Wildlife Research* 37:566–573. [10.1071/WR10098]
- Freidenfelds, N.A.** and T. Langkilde. 2009. Natural history notes: *Sceloporus undulatus* (Eastern Fence Lizard). Diet. *Herpetological Review* 40:439.
- Lance, S.L., C. Hagen, T.C. Glenn, **N.A. Freidenfelds** and T. Langkilde. 2009. Development and characterization of seventeen polymorphic microsatellite loci in the eastern fence lizard, *Sceloporus undulatus*. *Conservation Genetics Resources*

1:233–236. [10.1007/s12686-009-9057-0]

Skelly, D.K., S.R. Bolden, L.K. Freidenburg, **N. Freidenfelds**, and R. Levey. 2007. *Ribeiroia* infection is not responsible for Vermont amphibian deformities. *EcoHealth* 4:156–163. [10.1007/s10393-007-0103-7]

Skelly, D. K., S.R. Bolden, M.P. Holland, L.K. Freidenburg, **N.A. Freidenfelds**, and T.R. Malcolm. 2006. Urbanization and disease in amphibians. *in* Collinge, S.K., and C. Ray, (eds.). *Disease Ecology: Community structure and pathogen dynamics*. Oxford University Press. 264 p.