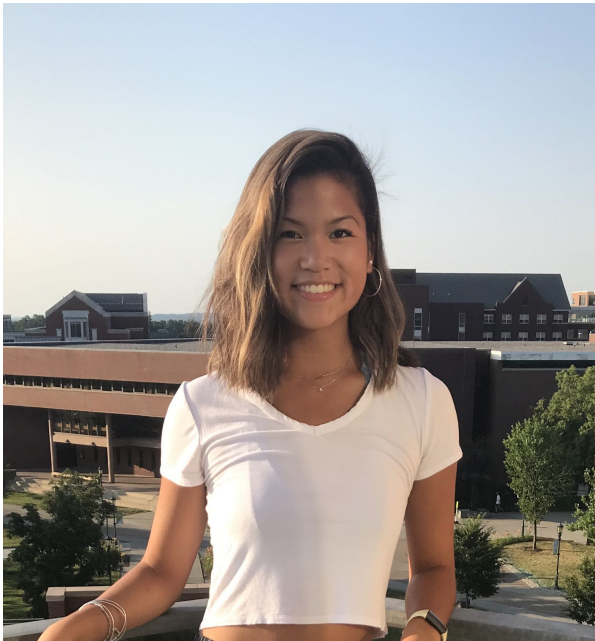


# Watershed Alliance - Spring 2020 Watershed Educators

## UVM Extension Program Interns



**Margaret Polifrone**  
BSc in Science & Arts

Margaret is majoring in biological sciences and is considering going pre-med. She is from southern New Hampshire, and enjoys spending time outdoors like running, hiking, or swimming. Her favorite foods are coffee and dried mango.

**Alexis Chagnon**  
BSc Wildlife and Fisheries Biology

Alexis was born and raised in St. Albans, Vermont. She is currently studying Wildlife and Fisheries Biology at the University of Vermont and is in her junior year. Her education started at the University of New Hampshire, but came home to Vermont to finish her undergraduate degree. While studying at UVM she discovered her interest in education and would like to further her studies in education in the future.





## Paige Carpenter

### BSc Environmental Studies

Paige is from Long Beach, New York where she loves to swim, surf and play beach volleyball. She loves helping and teaching others, as she spends her summers as an ocean lifeguard and swim instructor. However, when she is not on the beach, you can find her hiking and skiing. As a current freshman at UVM she is excited to explore Vermont and hopefully learn how to snowboard.

## Cameryn (Cami) Dondero

### BSc Environmental Studies

Cami is a sophomore Elementary Education major at UVM. As a future teacher, she looks forward to raising awareness in her classroom about the positive and negative ways that humans affect the environment. Cami is excited to learn more about what can be done to help local communities and pass on that knowledge. She grew up in Long Island, New York and enjoys kayaking, paddle boarding, hiking, swimming, skiing, running, babysitting, and yoga.





Gabe Frigo

## BSc Mechanical Engineering

Gabe is from South Burlington, Vermont. He enjoys being outdoors, especially around the lake. He loves pond hockey, hikes, and running in the mornings. He enjoys working for Watershed Alliance because he has grown up here and feels very attached to the area.

Katherine Helmer

## BSc Environmental Science

Katherine is a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences studying Environmental Science with a concentration in Water Resources. She grew up in Massachusetts, where she first discovered her love for the outdoors in the woods and ponds of her hometown as well as on the shores of Cape Cod. Since then, she has worked as a research assistant in the Pespeni Lab at the University of Vermont studying sea urchins and copepods and as a deckhand on the research vessel *Melosira*. In addition to working as a Watershed Alliance Intern, she has also worked as a Clean Boating Intern for Lake Champlain Sea Grant. In her spare time, Katherine likes to hike, swim, and watch sunsets on Lake Champlain.





## Rachel Pierson

### MSc Natural Resources

Rachel grew up on the waters of the Chesapeake Bay near Annapolis, Maryland. After completing college at Salisbury University with degrees in Environmental Studies and Geography, she began graduate school at UVM and is a second-year Master's student in the Water, Education, Science, and Policy Lab. Rachel's research is an international citizen science collaboration to study what motivates people to volunteer for stream-based water monitoring programs and to determine what actions people may take as a result of their participation.

## Elizabeth Beall

### BSc Environmental Science

Elizabeth has lived in NYC almost all her life and was ready for a change of scenery. She realized she loved being in a quieter and more natural setting. She is excited to continue in her passion for environmental science for the next three years of college, hopefully building a focus in a water resources concentration.





## Mary Lynch

### BA Environmental Studies & Anthropology

As a sophomore at UVM, Mary is pursuing a double major in Environmental Studies and Anthropology. She is originally from the southern tier of New York but loves Vermont just the same. During the summer, Mary works as an environmental education summer camp in the Adirondack State park. She is very excited to continue her work in unconventional classrooms with the Watershed Alliance.

## Jack Goldman

### BSc Environmental Science

Jack is a senior at The University of Vermont. At UVM, Jack has developed a new found love of forestry and is pursuing this through a self-designed concentration in Forest Hydrology with hopes to teach and continue to take part in research. Growing up, he lived in a small village on the outskirts of the Big Apple along the Hudson River where he cultivated his love for water, including the physical, chemical or recreational properties. Currently his favorite activities are hiking, biking, swimming, reading and listening to new music. Perhaps best of all, Jack loves Peanut Butter (I always carry a jar with me), bananas, and any type of bread.





## Jillian Duprey

### BSc Secondary Education

Jill attends the University of Vermont studying Secondary Education with a concentration in Math. She loves spending time outdoors, and during her free time she can be found hiking, walking, or swimming. During the summer she works as a lifeguard and swim instructor. She started as a Watershed Educator in the Fall of 2018 and loves to work with youth and help them discover a passion for the environment.

## Naomi Chandler

### BA Zoology

Naomi Chandler is a sophomore at the University of Vermont. She is pursuing a zoology major with a strong passion for conservation and the environment. She was drawn to Burlington in part by Lake Champlain and the beautiful waterfront. She is more than excited to help as much as she can to educate about and aid in the preservation of the lake and the life it holds.





## Lindsay VanFossen

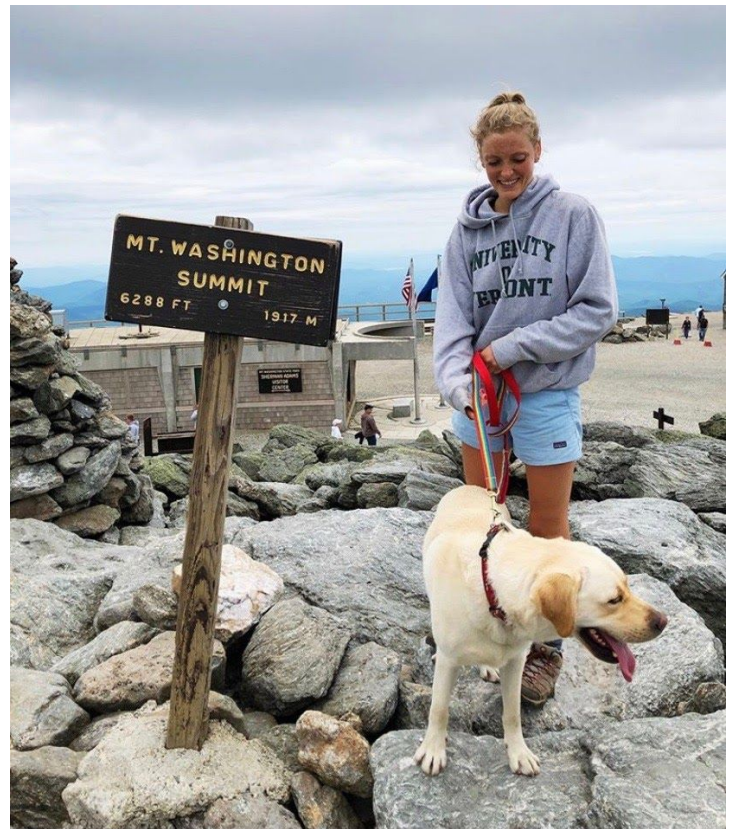
### BSc Environmental Science

Lindsay is a sophomore in the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources studying environmental science with a concentration in water resources. She's from Pennsylvania, an hour north of Philadelphia. In her free time, Lindsay enjoys photography, hiking, painting, and watching the sunset whenever possible. She wants to help better the environment as well as educate others on how to do so!

## Grace Turnbull

### Elementary Education

Grace grew up living on a pond in Harvard Massachusetts. She is studying Elementary Education at UVM. She loves hiking and spending time outside exploring especially with her dog Bare. She also enjoys spending time in the kitchen making cookies and Vietnamese food! Grace loves teaching because she has the opportunity to inspire children about the wonderful world that surrounds them. Grace feels a responsibility to be a steward of our environment and wants to share this passion with others. She is excited to be a watershed educator and educate people about their local resources and how to protect them.



## SUNY Watershed Alliance Interns

Heather Thompson

MS Environmental Science



Heather studied Conservation Biology as an undergrad at St. Lawrence University and is currently pursuing a MS in Environmental Science at SUNY Plattsburgh. Heather grew up in rural St. Lawrence County and visited 2 different continents as an undergrad, though she still prefers her home here in the Adirondacks because she lives for fall foliage and apple cider. Heather's favorite part of her job is having the opportunity to engage students in a field that she is passionate about, while teaching them about the issues facing their watershed and giving them hope for a better future for Lake Champlain.

Grace Dawson

Social Work

Grace is currently pursuing an undergraduate degree from SUNY Plattsburgh in the Social Work program. Grace's favorite part of her job is getting to see the interactions people have with their environment and thinking about how we can positively change how humans experience the outdoors. Grace is from Illinois, she moved out here after falling in love with the mountains, a lot of her free time is spent outside hiking and camping in the mountains that drew her out here in the first place.







## Kierstyn Higgins

### BS Environmental Science

Kierstyn is majoring in environmental science, with a minor in ecology. Kierstyn is passionate about aquatic ecology, particularly in fisheries. What Kierstyn loves most about her job is that she gets to influence the next generation of scientists in a positive way. Seeing students become involved in their community and caring about their environment gives Kierstyn hope for the future! Kierstyn enjoys painting in her spare time. The medium that she uses is acrylic, although she would like to try using oil paints as well!