

Kelly Goonan

Assistant Professor of Outdoor Recreation at Southern Utah University

Cedar City, UT, US

Outdoor recreation expertise with outdoor safety tips, planning national park visits, and planning and management of outdoor recreation.

Biography

Dr. Kelly Goonan is the program coordinator and associate professor of outdoor recreation in parks and tourism at Southern Utah University. A self-described "hybrid recreation ecologist/recreation social scientist", her expertise is in management of outdoor recreation, natural resources and protected areas. Dr. Goonan's research interests include recreation impact analysis, park sustainability and visitor disturbance projections. She has published academic papers in various national journals, including the Journal of Park and Recreation Administration and the Journal of Environmental Management. Dr. Goonan also taught for the Semester in the Parks and Jumpstart - Our National Parks programs at SUU. She has also led Partners in the Parks projects to introduce Honors students from across the country to our great national parks. Dr. Goonan earned her bachelor's degree in environmental studies and Spanish with a minor in outdoor studies from St. Lawrence University. She earned a master's degree in natural resources from the University of Vermont and a Ph.D. in human dimensions of ecosystem science and management from Utah State University.

Industry Expertise

Education/Learning, Environmental Services, Research

Areas of Expertise

Visitor Use Management, Wilderness First Aid, Resource Management, Recreation Impact Analysis, Recreation Ecology, Outdoor Recreation Management, Outdoor Recreation, Outdoor Education, Natural Resources, National Park Sustainability, Human Dimensions of Ecosystems, Climbing, Americans in the Outdoors

Education

Utah State University

Ph.D. Human Dimensions of Ecosystem Science and Management

University of Vermont

M.S. Natural Resources

St. Lawrence University

B.A Environmental Studies

Accomplishments

Wilderness First Responder

Certified by the Wilderness Medicine Training Institute

Utah Women's Leadership Exchange Associate,
2023

Conservation Representative

Utah Outdoor Adventure Commission

Certificate

Experiential Education Academy

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