



## **Faith Coleman**

PhD Candidate, Federation University Australia

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### **Background:**

I attended my first ISSLR conference in 1994 in Beijing, China, followed by the 2008 Conference in Saltlake City, Utah USA and the 2021 virtual conference in Murcia, Spain. In between, I have often appeared in the ISSLR agendas as a secondary or co-author with Peri Coleman.

With all of my parents and step-parents working with the ecology and productivity of salinas, saltlakes and estuaries, I was (quite literally) born with my feet firmly planted in saline muds. I spent my childhood exploring tidal deltas and saline wetlands in some of the most remote regions of Australia. I have spent extensive periods developing deep understandings of estuarine and lagoonal ecological and biophysical processes, developing integrated approaches to estuarine and salt lake management, adaptive management of landscapes, climate change adaptation and sustainable natural resource use, mainly within the private sector.

### **Education and experience**

I have a Post Graduate Diploma in GIS and Remote Sensing and is currently taking a mid-career sabbatical to complete a PhD in the historic ecology of the hypersaline South Lagoon of the Coorong, South Australia.

I was the youngest ever Fellow of the Royal Society of South Australia and I am a Fellow of the South Australian Governor's Leadership Foundation. In 2018, I was co-recipient of the South Australian Unsung Hero of Science Award. I regularly present as a guest lecturer at South Australian or Victorian Universities and Colleges.

I have worked as a consultant, advising political, government, NGO, Traditional Owner, community and private sector clients for twenty-five years. One of my most significant achievements over the last three years was co-creating and shepherding the Coorong Environmental Trust Bill (soon to be Act) through both houses of the South Australian Government. This Act will aid in the establishment of effectively a Natural History Museum for the Lakes and Coorong Wetland Complex, collating, storing and curating historic research, ensuring ongoing monitoring, supporting future research and producing an annual report into the health of this Ramsar-listed wetland.

## Representative Papers

As a predominately private sector researcher, most of my work is not in the public domain, however the following papers and report provide a representation of the types of work I have been doing. For the period 2001-2012 I was publishing under the name Faith Cook.

**Coleman, F. S.** (1999). Note on *Zoobotryon verticillatum* (Bryozoa) in a solar saltfield. *International Journal of Salt Lake Research*, 8(1), 71-74. (19 citations)

Coleman, P., & **Coleman, F.** (2000). *Local recovery plan for the yellowish sedge-skipper and thatching grass*. Adelaide: Delta Environmental Consulting. (14 citations)

**Cook, F. S.**, & Coleman, P. S. (2007). Benthic diatoms in the salinas of the Dry Creek saltfields, South Australia. *Hydrobiologia* 576(1), 61-68. (7 citations)

Coleman, P. S., & **Cook, F. S.** (2009). Habitat preferences of the Australian endangered samphire *Tecticornia flabelliformis*. *Transactions of the Royal Society of South Australia* 133(2), 300-306. (6 citations)

Coleman, P., **Coleman, F.**, & Fotheringham, D. (2017). Thornbills, samphires & saltmarsh tipping points. *Report prepared for Natural Resources Adelaide & Mt Lofty Ranges. Delta Environmental Consulting, Adelaide*. (3 citations)

## Candidate statement

I have been a part of the ISSLR community for the best part of three decades, with many of my mentors being prominent members of the society. While my career path has strayed into the policy, management and outreach fields over the last two decades, rather than being purely research focussed, I have been enjoying returning to a more purely research focus during my PhD candidature and am hoping to continue with more in-depth natural history research in the years to come.

I believe my non-traditional career trajectory which has included significant scientific outreach, along with my links to NGO and private sector organisations will be of value to the ISSLR Board in promoting the use of and gaining funding for future research, as well as helping attract mid-career scientists to the society.