

## Jodie Murray Burns bio

Mrs. Burns is an Arkansas native, born in Fayetteville, with a Masters degree in biology who has 11+ years of experience working as an environmental consultant performing wetland delineations, endangered species surveys, and stream-related work. She enthusiastically enjoys giving presentations on the complexities of the Clean Water Act, implementation of any current definitions of Waters of the U.S. and convoluted court cases that influence those issues. Mrs. Burns is the owner of Cattails Environmental, a wetlands and environmental consulting firm, and resides in Bentonville, AR, with one husband, four sons, and a dog.

# Jodie Murray Burns, M.S.

## Wetland Scientist & Stream Ecologist



### EXPERTISE

Wetland Delineations and Determinations  
CWA 401/404 Permit Coordination  
Wetland & Stream Mitigation  
Stream Bioassessments & Monitoring  
Natural Resource Inventories  
Habitat Assessments  
Watershed Inventories  
NEPA Report Writing  
Environmental Regulations Seminars

### EDUCATION

M.S. Biological Sciences, 2001, University of Arkansas (Stream Ecology emphasis)  
M.Ed., School Supervision, 1993, Abilene Christian University  
B.S., Biology, 1988, Harding University (Chemistry minor)

### PERMITS / CERTIFICATIONS

USFWS Federal Permit #TE97824A-O, Exp. 5/31/2023, American burying beetle, Sub-permittee of Dr. Amy Smith  
State of OK Scientific Collector's Permit, ID 5237055, Exp. 12/31/2019 (*renewal in process*)  
State of AR Scientific Collector's Permit, #071220191, Exp. 8/1/2020  
Society of Wetland Scientists, Wetland Professional In Training (WPIT), No Exp.  
Rosgen's Applied Fluvial Geomorphology Level 1 Certified, Nov. 2018  
Wilderness Medicine Training Center, Wilderness First Aid Certified, Exp. Feb. 2021

### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Society of Wetland Scientists, South Central Chapter President-Elect (2019-2021) & Arkansas Education and Outreach Coordinator (2017-present)  
Society of Wetland Scientists, Central Chapter Member  
Society of Freshwater Science, South-Central Chapter Member

### QUALIFICATIONS

Jodie Murray Burns has over 11 years of experience working nationwide with environmental regulations associated with the Clean Water Act (Section 401/404 permits), Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act for commercial and residential developments, transportation projects, oil & gas projects, conservation/restoration projects, and clean energy projects. Ms. Burns has worked with the implementation of these federal environmental regulations within the states of AR, OK, MO, KS, TX, KY, LA, TN, IN, and UT and the respective (project specific) US Army Corps of Engineers' districts.

Ms. Burns regularly presents training seminars covering recent regulation changes, judicial decisions, and legislative actions regarding the Clean Water Act in regards to "Waters of the U.S." and specific areas of the Endangered Species Act to update fellow environmental professionals, graduate and undergraduate students, and clients of impending regulatory changes.

### PROJECT EXPERIENCE

**Federal Highway Administration, Mark Twain National Forest, Audubon Trail Relocation Project, Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri, & Low Water Crossing Reconstruction Project, Ripley County, Missouri. July 2019.** A delineation of Waters of the U.S. was performed on a 1-mile length (13-acre area) of the Audubon Trail in Ste. Genevieve County, Missouri. A total of eight sample plots documented upland or wetland conditions within the assessment area. Eleven waters of the U.S., including two wetlands and nine streams, were found in the project areas. Also, a 1-acre area of a low water crossing on Big Barren Creek that needed reconstruction was assessed for Water of the U.S. No wetlands were found within the proposed project area, but 0.16 acres of Waters of the U.S. were mapped within the intermittent stream by identifying the OHWM. Written reports of both projects were submitted to client for future submittal to the US Army Corps of Engineers.

**Multiple Wind Farm Developments, Oklahoma, American Burying Beetle Surveys, 2014-2019.** Presence/Absence surveys were performed per the USFWS guidelines to assist clients in meeting ESA regulations and permitting requirements. A total of 122 assigned trap locations were surveyed and collected data was submitted to client for compilation into project-specific reports. Surveys were performed on the wind farms' main property and the linear transmission lines associated with the wind farms.

**Lone Star Express & West Texas 2 Transmission Line, West Texas, April-May 2019.** Delineation of Waters of the U.S on a proposed linear project (60+ miles of the team's 180-mile assignment) in West Texas - Rio Grande & Colorado River watersheds. Approximately 30+ features were documented and mapped using a Trimble Geo 7X.

**Glen Road Townhomes Residential Development, Bentonville, Arkansas, July 2018-Oct 2019.** Assessed 2-AC proposed project property for Waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Submitted report and coordinated permit with the US Army Corps of Engineers. Assisted client in meeting the mitigation requirements for the permit. Findings were a 0.45-acre area of wetlands with the development filling 0.18 acres of wetlands, along with impacting 181 total linear feet of intermittent and ephemeral drainageway.

**Shoal Creek Stream Inventory, southwest Missouri, Fall 2017- Winter 2018.** Project Manager: Coordination of a 55+ mile stream survey documenting bank stability conditions and environmental feature mapping effort was completed to document current conditions. GIS database developed to assist in conservation and watershed-scale restoration efforts on the stream, a state Conservation Opportunity Area (COA).

**Plains & Eastern Clean Line Transmission Line, Oklahoma & Arkansas, American Burying Beetle Surveys, Summer 2016.** Presence/Absence surveys were performed per the USFWS guidelines on an approximately 80-mile length of the transmission line by Ms. Burns' one-person crew (entire team's total ABB habitat survey length was 250 miles). Survey responsibilities included studying assigned trap locations within project work boundaries and road access via GeoAMPS on-line portal and Google Maps, and contacting client's land agents (and sometimes landowners) to obtain access permission, besides documenting all landowner interactions and making daily progress reports.

**City of Hulbert, Oklahoma, Environmental Assessment, Nov 2014-Feb 2015.** NEPA report writer as a wetland scientist and assisted client in obtaining required USACOE Nationwide Permit for project.

**Northwest Arkansas Water Transmission Line (Two Ton Loop), 1995.** Co-Project Manager: Responsible for coordinating endangered species survey, documenting pre-impact stream habitat and wetlands, and performing landowner notification prior to daily survey activities for the rural 70+ mile-long, 2-county water transmission line.

## **ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

### ***Publications / Presentations***

Society of Wetland Scientists - South Central Chapter Meeting, Galveston, TX. October 25, 2019. Presentation title: CWA Federal Policy Update – Recent Proposed Rule Changes by EPA & USACOE.

Status of WOTUS in Arkansas & A Case Study of Jurisdictional Issues Regarding Groundwater Protection, Arkansas Water Resources Center's Annual Water Conference, Fayetteville, AR, July 31, 2019.

Public Comments to the US EPA and US COE for the Society of Wetland Scientists' Policy & Regulation Section at the only Public Hearing for the 2019 Proposed Water of the US Re-Definition, Kansas City, KS, Feb 28, 2019.

The Clean Water Rule: A Review & Current Status, Keeping Up with Current Federal Policy, Society of Wetland Scientists South Central Chapter Meeting, North Little Rock, AR, Oct. 12, 2018.

Presented preliminary findings of a 55+ mile survey of Shoal Creek, Newton County, MO, at The Nature Conservancy's Western Ozark Waters Initiative forum. Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, March 15, 2017.

Smith A., **Burns J.M.**, and Burba E. (coauthors). January 27, 2015. Draft Environmental Assessment of the Proposed Hulbert, Oklahoma, Water Treatment Plant Improvements. Prepared by S.E.A.R.C.H. LLC, Siloam Springs, AR. 228 pages. (Technical Report)

**Burns, Jodie Janeen Murray.** December 2001. Thesis: Changes in Watershed Land Use, Geomorphology, and Macroinvertebrate Assemblages in Clear Creek, NW Arkansas, From 1948-1999. University of Arkansas. 97 pages.

**Burns J.M.**, and Barnes J.M. 1995. Environmental Assessment. Proposed Retail Development, West Lafayette, Indiana. Details mammal survey, bird sightings, plant inventory, wetlands, and cultural resources. 26+ pages. (Technical Report)

**Burns, J.M.**, Barnes J.M., and Mastrostefano D. 1994 Stream Enhancement/Mitigation Project for Kentucky Water Quality Certification, Middlesboro, KY. 19+ pages. (Technical Report)

**Burns, J.M.** 1994. Mitigation Plan for A.B. Shopping Center Properties, Inc., Lebanon, TN. Sheets 1-3. (Technical Report & Drawings)

**Burns, J.M.** 1994. Preliminary Wetland Assessment and Needs/Alternative Analysis, Proposed Retail Development, Galliano, LA. 26+ pages. (Technical Report)

### ***Awards***

Society of Wetland Scientists President's Service Award, 2019 Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, May 2019.