

Kevin Pope is an accomplished environmental scientist, with over 20 years of professional experience in natural resource management and conservation. In addition to his strong technical background from academic research, Mr. Pope has directed federal, state, and local government natural resource management programs. This extensive experience in government allows him to guide clients toward smooth and efficient interactions with government agencies on all levels.

As a consultant, Mr. Pope has earned high esteem in both government and private sectors for his emphasis on clear communication and timely delivery of high quality work products. He and his Pope Environmental staff conduct National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) inspections for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and assist the Department with providing guidance to local communities regarding water quality protection planning. Due to the respect Mr. Pope holds in both public and private sectors, Pope Environmental was chosen as the only environmental firm to support Leon County, Florida's \$700 million infrastructure and environmental resource improvement plan, Blueprint 2000 and Beyond.

Although extensively experienced in government environmental protection programs, Mr. Pope's greatest professional interest is in private land conservation efforts. Pope Environmental provides resource identification, land mapping, and management planning services for land owners. Mr. Pope's personal specialty is conservation easements, an underutilized tool allowing land owners to conserve natural and historic resources, while gaining economic benefits for themselves and their estates. Kevin Pope is uniquely qualified to assist land owners and conservation organizations with conservation easements due to his experience with all facets of easement development and use. In addition to directing government programs which held and managed conservation easements and directing easement acquisition and monitoring for Tall Timbers Research Station, one of the premier land conservancies in the nation, Mr. Pope also knows conservation easements as a land owner. Because his own family farm and residence is under conservation easement, he can advise land owners about the practical realities of placing their land in easement, as one property owner to another.

Education

Master of Science, University of Florida, Environmental Engineering Sciences, with a special emphasis on Systems Ecology.

Bachelor of Science, University of South Carolina, Double Majors in Biology and Marine Sciences.

Professional Experience

Principal - Pope Environmental, Inc - Directs technical and scientific services for an environmental consulting firm based in Tallahassee, Florida. Services include environmental resource identification, delineation, assessment and mapping, environmental permitting, planning, and project design, public and targeted audience education, and conservation easement support and development.

Conservation Coordinator-The Red Hills Conservation Program of Tall Timbers Research Station - Coordinated land conservation efforts of the most active qualified 501(c)(3) conservation land trust in the Southeast. Performed and supervised baseline documentation surveys for over 20,000 acres of working forest landscape, in support of land owners' donation of conservation easements. The surveys included delineation and quality assessment of wetlands, wildlife habitat, rare and endangered species, commercial and natural forests, agricultural operations, as well as cultural, historical, and archeological resources. Documented features using photography and state-of-the-art GPS/GIS mapping. Negotiated conservation easement provisions with land owners. Organized and presented public education workshops on conservation easements and land stewardship, including obtaining grant funding for the events.

Water Resources Manager - Berryman and Henigar, Inc - Supervised Water Resources Division in Tallahassee office of a national environmental and engineering consulting firm. Services included technical support to local and state government on National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) programs, Lake Okeechobee Watershed Assessment Project, and technical oversight of Lake Okeechobee Phosphorus Reduction Grant Program for South Florida Water Management District.

Environmental Director - Leon County, Florida - Directed the Environmental Department in the rapidly growing capitol county of the nation's fourth largest state. With 25+ employees and an annual budget over \$1 million, the department reviewed and approved all development and public works projects, performed compliance inspections, and took enforcement action against unpermitted and non-compliant activities. Other actions in this position included:

- Acquired and administered \$600,000 in USEPA grants for watershed pollution reduction studies in the Lake Lafayette and Woodville Recharge basins.
- Administered the \$250,000 Bradfordville Storm Water Study, which developed the county's first science-based, site-specific storm water control regulations.
- Initiated and conducted extensive interstate negotiations between Florida and Georgia regarding Ochlochonee River water quality.
- Developed and administered the county's first ambient water quality monitoring program.
- Assisted with the development of FDEP's Sediment and Erosion Control Inspector training curriculum.
- Provided technical and scientific advice to the Board of County Commissioners on a wide range of environmental topics.
- Conducted extensive interagency coordination and interaction with media and elected officials.
- Conducted extensive public outreach on water quality protection and other environmental issues.

Environmental Supervisor - Florida Department of Environmental Protection - Supervised review and approval of Environmental Resource Permit (ERP) applications throughout Florida. Supervised liaison with Florida Department of Transportation for highway projects. Provided expert testimony on wetlands and water quality.

Recent Projects

Stewardship Field Day - Sinkola Plantation, Thomas County, Georgia - Developed and conducted an educational seminar for land managers and donors or prospective donors of conservation easements to Tall Timbers Research Station. Held at 5 different venues on an 8,000 acre working plantation, topics included identifying and conserving wetlands, sinkholes and karst hydrogeology, strategies for conserving rare and endangered species, and management techniques for productive and self-sustaining timber stands. Grant funds were obtained to support this seminar.

Blueprint 2000 and Beyond - Leon County, Florida - Providing comprehensive environmental support to a \$700 million local initiative to improve transportation infrastructure and enhance environmental quality. Services include sensitive lands identification, assessment, mapping, and acquisition, conservation easement planning and negotiation, public education, Project Development and Environment (PD&E) studies, environmental permitting, cost analysis, and other environmental technical support.

Waste Disposal Expert Testimony - Hillsborough County - Provided expert testimony before the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners supporting connection of a proposed development to sanitary sewer in an area of Karst geology and known groundwater contamination. A 6-1 vote in favor of the proposal was secured.

NPDES Inspections for Florida Department of Environmental Protection - Statewide - Performing inspections of industrial activities and construction sites regulated under National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and supporting FDEP compliance and enforcement efforts.

NPDES Phase 2 Notice of Intent (NOI) and Annual Report (AR) Support - Statewide - Providing technical expertise and process improvement advice, as well as review and database management services regarding NOI's and AR's received by the Department.