

MICHAEL LEW-SMITH

PARTNER — ECOLOGIST — BOTANIST



Areas of Expertise

- Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plant Inventories
- Aquatic Plant Inventories
- Wetland Delineation
- Natural Community Mapping and Assessment
- Freshwater Mussel Inventories
- Vernal Pool Mapping and Assessment
- Invasive Species Mapping and Management
- Herpetological Studies
- Rare Plant Transplantation and Monitoring

Education & Professional Training

- M.S., University of Minnesota Department of Plant Biology, 1997
- B.S., University of Michigan School of Natural Resources. Natural Resource Management, 1991
- Freshwater Mussel Identification and Ecology, USFWS Training Center, Shepardsdown, WV, 2016
- Reptiles and Amphibians of Vermont, Hogback Community College Vt. Family Forests. Bristol VT, 2011
- Boreal Flora, University of Michigan Biological Station, 1995
- Bryophytes, University of Michigan Biological Station, 1995

Mr. Lew-Smith is an ecologist and principal botanist for Arrowwood Environmental. He has worked closely with conservation organizations, agencies, municipalities, companies, and private individuals on natural resource identification, assessment and management. Mr. Lew-Smith conducts botanical inventories, wetland delineations, wildlife habitat assessments, and ecological restorations. He also has considerable experience mapping and assessing natural communities for private organizations and public land managers and is currently working on an aquatic natural community classification system. Mr. Lew-Smith regularly conducts inventories of aquatic invasive species and rare aquatic plants and works closely with lake associations on aquatic vegetation management plans. Mr. Lew-Smith has also worked throughout Lake Champlain mapping and controlling aquatic invasive species. He is one of the founders of the Vermont Vernal Pool Mapping project, which mapped and assessed vernal pools statewide.

Significant Projects & Experience

- Aquatic Species Mapping and Assessment: Map native and non-native aquatic plants in lakes throughout Vermont and develop plans for the management of aquatic nuisance species.
- Freshwater mussel inventories: Conduct inventories for freshwater mussels throughout Vermont.
- Northern Pass: Project Manager and ecologist working for the NH Attorney General's office on providing an independent review of the environmental assessment of the proposed Northern Pass transmission line.
- Wetland Reclassification: Provide technical support and detailed analysis to support Class I reclassification petition for the LaPlatte River Marsh Wetlands.
- Renewable Energy: Project manager and principal ecologist working with project sponsors and engineers of small and large scale solar projects to design layouts that avoid and protect significant natural resources.
- Member of the Floral Advisory Group: Advising the Vermont Endangered Species Committee on matters related to Vermont's Rare, Threatened and Endangered Plants.
- Vernal Pool Mapping: Co-founder of the Vermont Vernal Pool Mapping Project. Developed a vernal pool mapping methodology and a statewide Vernal Pool map and database.