

## Curriculum vitae: Matthew C. Larsen

<p><b>Director emeritus, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Republic of Panama</b></p> <p>300 Berry Street, Unit 401 San Francisco, CA 94158</p> <p><a href="mailto:Mclarsen.33@gmail.com">Mclarsen.33@gmail.com</a></p> <p>202-803-3384</p> <p><a href="https://stri.si.edu/story/farewell-dr-larsen">https://stri.si.edu/story/farewell-dr-larsen</a></p>	<p><b>Education:</b></p> <p>BS Geology, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio</p> <p>PhD Geography, University of Colorado</p> <p>Dissertation: <i>Tropical geomorphology and geomorphic work: A study of geomorphic processes and sediment and water budgets in montane humid-tropical forested and developed watersheds, Puerto Rico</i></p> <p><b>Bibliography:</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.stri.si.edu/sites/publications/Matthew_C_Larsen.php">http://www.stri.si.edu/sites/publications/Matthew_C_Larsen.php</a></p>
---	---

### Experience:

*2014 to 2020: Director, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama*

[www.stri.si.edu](http://www.stri.si.edu)

- The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, (STRI) headquartered in Panama City, Panama, is a unit of the Smithsonian Institution.

STRI scientists conduct basic research to advance the understanding of tropical nature and its importance to human welfare, trains students to conduct research in the tropics and promotes conservation by increasing public awareness of the beauty and importance of tropical ecosystems.

- Larsen led 400+ employees, supervised an annual budget of \$35 million and STRI's research facilities throughout Panama and field sites in Africa, Asia and the Americas. In addition to its 25 resident scientists, STRI's facilities are used annually by 1,200+ visiting scientists and 800 pre- and postdoctoral fellows and interns from academic and research institutions in 55+ countries around the world.

*2010 to 2014: Associate Director for Climate and Land Use Change, U.S. Geological Survey, Headquarters, Reston, VA*

<https://www.usgs.gov/science/mission-areas/climate-and-land-use-change>

- Lead 250 federal and 500 contract scientific and operational staff in four scientific programs supported by annual Congressional appropriations of ~\$160M used for research, data collection to address improved understanding of climate change and land use change, plus adaptation to, and mitigation of these challenges. Work included monitoring, remote sensing, modeling, synthesis, and forecasting to address the effects of climate and land use change on the Nation's resources. Research and products were used by policymakers, natural resource managers, and the public make informed decisions about the management of natural resources.

*2008 to 2010: Associate Director for Water, U.S. Geological Survey, Headquarters, Reston, VA*

<https://www.usgs.gov/science/mission-areas/water>

- Lead USGS water-resources research and operations programs to collect and disseminate reliable, impartial, and timely hydrologic information needed to understand the Nation's water resources. Portfolio included eight Congressionally funded programs with annual appropriations of ~\$250M, and included ~\$40M/year research branch of ~225 scientists and support staff, and national water quality laboratory with ~75 staff and ~\$20M/year budget.

2005 to 2008: *Chief Scientist for Hydrology, U.S. Geological Survey, Headquarters, Reston, VA*

<https://www.usgs.gov/science/mission-areas/water/national-research-program>

- Lead the USGS National Research Program in hydrology to conduct basic and problem oriented hydrologic research in support of the USGS mission. Program funded at ~\$40M/year and ~225 scientists and support staff.

2003 to 2005: *Staff assistant to Chief Scientist for Hydrology and Associate Director for Water, U.S. Geological Survey, Headquarters, Reston, VA*

- Provide scientific, budgetary, managerial, technical writing support to USGS Water resources leadership of the programs described above.

2000 to 2003: *USGS Caribbean District Chief, Guaynabo, Puerto Rico*

<https://www.usgs.gov/science/regions/southeast/puerto-rico>

- Lead USGS water resources programs in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands with staff of ~70 scientists and operational personnel and ~\$7M annual budget

- in 2000, also served as a coordinator and researcher on a USGS international mission that responded to the December 1999 landslide and flashflood disaster in Venezuela. See <http://water.usgs.gov/venezuela/>

1990 to 2000: *Research Hydrologist, Project Chief, Luquillo, Puerto Rico, Water, Energy, and Biogeochemical Budgets project*

[https://www2.usgs.gov/climate\\_landuse/clu\\_rd/projects/webb.asp](https://www2.usgs.gov/climate_landuse/clu_rd/projects/webb.asp)

- Lead study of hydrologic and geomorphologic processes in four watersheds in and near the Luquillo Experimental Forest. See bibliography, below, for products.

1987 to 1990: *Hydrologist, Project Chief, study of landslide hazards in eastern Puerto Rico.*

- Lead study of landslide processes/hazards in three watersheds, Puerto Rico. See bibliography, below, for products.

1980 to 1987: *Paramedic, San Francisco City and County Department of Public Health.*

- Paramedic, public (911) ambulance system

1977 to 1980: *Physical Science Technician, USGS, Menlo Park, CA.*

- Assisted project chief in a study of natural hazards to petroleum development in the Northern Bering Sea, Alaska. Conducted field and lab work, co-authored reports & papers. See bibliography, below, for products.

## **Leadership positions:**

2005 to 2014: *Chair, U.S. National Committee for the UNESCO International Hydrological Program.*

(subgroup to the UNESCO Commission, a Federal Advisory Committee) <http://water.usgs.gov/nrp/IHP/>

2009 to 2014: *Co-chair, White House Council on Environmental Council Interagency Climate Change Task Force Water workgroup.*

<https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/administration/eop/ceq/initiatives/resilience>

2011 to 2014: *Co-chair, Department of Interior Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science.*

<http://www.adaptationclearinghouse.org/resources/doi-advisory-committee-on-climate-change-and-natural-resource-science.html>

2013 to 2014: *Co-chair, Advisory Committee on Climate Change and Natural Resource Science.*

(a Federal Advisory Committee) <https://nccwsc.usgs.gov/accnrs>