

Dr. Jessa Madosky and her husband, Marc Santos, moved to San Juan Island in 2020 after falling in love with the islands while researching Southern Resident Killer Whale management conflicts.

I earned my PhD in Conservation Biology in 2011 and since then have worked as a professor teaching Biology and Environmental Science at the university level. As an educator, I have dedicated my life to educating on issues from Global Climate Change to Wildlife management and conducted research on human/wildlife conflict and human conflict issues in wildlife management.

I led the Board of Directors for the North America Society for Conservation Biology (the largest society of conservation professionals in the world) as the President from 2017-2019 and served as the Vice President for Membership for the global Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) from 2015-2017. I've served in various other leadership roles in both the global and North America section of SCB, including leading diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts, education efforts, and supervising staff for the North America Section.

I also served as the chair of the Community Advisory Group (CAG) for an EPA Superfund site in North Carolina (2013-2015), working with the community and state and federal regulatory agencies to ensure community safety. I was a founding member of the Diversity Joint Venture, a joint partnership of scientific non-profit organizations, State agencies, and Federal agencies to increase diversity in the conservation workforce.

My scientific expertise in conservation, global climate change, and sustainability make me an ideal candidate for helping OPALCO address the challenges currently facing the energy sector and our island community.

My experience representing community interests ensures that I can be effective in advocating for continued resilience of both our critical local ecosystems and our human communities by helping OPALCO sustainably adapt to the impacts of climate change.