

# Thomas M. Saladyga

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## Education

Ph.D. Geography	West Virginia University (2011)
M.A. Geography	West Chester University of Pennsylvania (2006)
B.S. Geography	The Pennsylvania State University (2002)

## Employment

2011 – Present	<b>Assistant Professor</b> , Department of Geography, Concord University, Athens, West Virginia
2008 – 2011	<b>Graduate Research Assistant</b> , Montane Forest Dynamics Lab, Department of Geology & Geography, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia
2008	<b>Forestry Technician</b> , Eastern Rivers and Mountains Network, Inventory and Monitoring Program, National Park Service
2007 – 2008	<b>Teaching Assistant/Lab Instructor</b> , Department of Geology & Geography, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia
2007	<b>GIS Specialist (contract)</b> , Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Dover, Delaware
2006 – 2007	<b>Wetland Technician</b> , Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control, Watershed Assessment Section, Dover, Delaware
2005	<b>GIS Specialist (contract)</b> , Delaware Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control, Division of Fish and Wildlife, Dover, Delaware
2004 – 2005	<b>Environmental Scientist</b> , Environmental Alliance, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware
2004	<b>Biological Science Technician – Fire-effects Monitor</b> , Ozark National Scenic Riverways, National Park Service, Van Buren, Missouri
2003 – 2004	<b>Environmental Scientist</b> , Environmental Alliance, Inc., Wilmington, Delaware
2001	<b>Research Technician</b> , Vegetation Dynamics Lab, Department of Geography, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania

## Teaching

Courses taught at Concord University:

GEOG 101: Human Geography (*Spring 2012*)  
GEOG 200: Physical Geography (*Fall/Spring/Summer 2011 – present*)  
GEOG 250: Mountain Geography (*Spring 2014/2016*)  
GEOG 300: Sustainable Development (*Fall 2011; Spring 2013 – 2016*)  
GEOG 311: Cartography (*Fall 2012 – 2016*)  
GEOG 312: Geographic Data Analysis (*Fall 2013/Spring 2017*)  
GEOG 340: Geography of Soils (*Fall odd 2013 – 2015*)  
GEOG 360: Meteorology & Climatology (*Spring odd 2013 – 2017*)  
GEOG 380: Biogeography & Environmental Change (*Fall even 2012 – 2016*)  
GEOG 411: Geographic Information Systems (*Fall 2011*)  
GEOG 412: Advanced GIS (*Spring 2012*)  
GEOG 460: Dendrochronology (*Summer 2014*)  
GEOG 460: Environmental Field Geography (*Summer 2013/2015*)  
GEOG 465: Geography Capstone (*Spring 2012 – 2014*)

Courses taught at West Virginia University:

GEOG 106: Physical Geography Lab (*Spring 2008*)  
GEOG 407: Environmental Field Geography (*Fall 2010*)

## Peer-Reviewed Publications ([Google Scholar](#))

**Saladyga, T.** 2017. [Reconstructing a cultural fire regime in the Pennsylvania Anthracite Region](#). *Physical Geography*. DOI: 10.1080/02723646.2017.1319727

**Saladyga, T.** 2017. [Forest disturbance history from ‘legacy’ pitch pine \(\*Pinus rigida\*\) at the New River Gorge, West Virginia](#). *Natural Areas Journal*. 37(1): 49-57.

Hessl, A.E., P. Brown, O. Byambasuren, S. Cockrell, C. Leland, Cook, E., B. Nachin, N. Pederson, **T. Saladyga**, and B. Suran. 2016. [Fire and climate in Mongolia \(1532-2010 CE\)](#). *Geophysical Research Letters*. 43(12): 6519-6527.

**Saladyga, T.** and R.S. Maxwell. 2015. [Temporal variability in climate response of eastern hemlock in the Central Appalachian Region](#). *Southeastern Geographer*. 55-2: 143-163.

**Saladyga, T.**, A.E. Hessl, N. Pederson, and B. Nachin. 2013. [Privatization, drought, and fire exclusion in the Tuul River watershed, Mongolia](#). *Ecosystems*. 16: 1139-1151.

Pederson, N., C. Leland, B. Nachin, A.E. Hessl, A.R. Bell, D. Martin-Benito, **T. Saladyga**, B. Suran, P.M. Brown, and N.K. Davi. 2013. [Three centuries of shifting hydroclimatic regimes across the Mongolian breadbasket](#). *Agriculture and Forest Meteorology*. 178-179: 10-20.

Hessl, A.E., P. Brown, U. Ariya, O. Byambasuren, T. Green, G. Jacoby, E. Kennedy-Sutherland, B. Nachin, R. Maxwell, N. Pederson, L. De Grandpré, **T. Saladyga**, and J. C. Tardif. 2012. [Reconstructing fire history in central Mongolia from tree-rings](#). *International Journal of Wildland Fire*. 21: 86-92.

Hessl, A.E., **T. Saladyga**, T. Schuler, P. Clark, and J. Wixom. 2011. [Fire history from three species on a Central Appalachian ridgetop](#). *Canadian Journal of Forestry*. 41: 2031-2039.

## **Other Publications**

**Saladyga, T.** 2011. [Land use and climate impacts on fire regimes and forest regeneration in the upper Tuul River watershed, Mongolia](#). Doctoral Dissertation, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia. Dr. Amy Hessl, advisor.

Nanticoke Restoration Work Group (**T. Saladyga** – GIS support). 2009. Nanticoke River Watershed Restoration Plan. Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and US Environmental Protection Agency Wetland Program.

Allen, O., B. Barkus, and K. Bennett (**T. Saladyga** – GIS support). 2006. Delaware Wildlife Action Plan: 2007-2017. Delaware Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program, Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control.

**Saladyga, T.** 2006. Native understory and invasive plant response to fire in a mixed-hardwood forest, Chester County, Pennsylvania. Master's thesis, West Chester University, West Chester, Pennsylvania. Dr. Joan M. Welch, advisor.

## **Paper Presentations**

**Saladyga, T.** 2016. Reconstructing a Cultural Fire Regime: Implications for Ridgetop Barrens Management in the Pennsylvania Anthracite Region. Annual Meeting, Natural Areas Association, October 17-21, 2016, Davis, California.

**Saladyga, T.** 2016. Fire History of a Globally Rare Ridgetop Acidic Barrens Complex. Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers, March 29-April 2, 2016, San Francisco, California.

**Saladyga, T.** 2015. Tree Rings Record Industrial Decline at the New River Gorge, West Virginia. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 22-24 November 2015, Pensacola, Florida.

**Saladyga, T.** 2014. Dead Tree Walking: The Past, Present, and Future of Hemlock Forests in Central Appalachia. 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Appalachian Studies Association Conference, March 28-30, 2014, Huntington, West Virginia.

**Saladyga, T.** and R.S. Maxwell. 2013. Growth Response of Eastern Hemlock to Rapid Climate Warming in Central Appalachia. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 24-26 November 2013, Roanoke, Virginia.

**Saladyga, T.** 2013. Using Tree Rings to Reconstruct Forest Histories at Pipestem Resort State Park, West Virginia. 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on Appalachian Geography and Geography Education, 15-16 March 2013, Pipestem Resort, West Virginia.

**Saladyga, T.,** A. Hessler, B. Nachin, and N. Pederson. 2012. Will Rising Temperatures, Prolonged Drought and Land Use Intensification Inhibit Wildfire? A Case Study from the Forest-Steppe Ecotone, Mongolia. Mongolian Ecological Research Symposium, 25 February 2012, Jacques Cousteau National Estuarine Research Reserve, Tuckerton, New Jersey.

**Saladyga, T.** and N. Pederson. 2011. Tree-Ring Based Drought Reconstruction for the Central Khan Khentii Mountains, Mongolia (1675-2000). Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 20-22 November 2011, Savannah, Georgia.

**Saladyga, T.** and A. Hessler. 2011. Fire History at Pike Knob, West Virginia (and Other Unique Locales). Annual Meeting, Central Appalachians Fire Learning Network, 28-30 June 2011, The Mountain Institute at Spruce Knob, West Virginia.

Hessler, A., P. Brown, N. Pederson, B. Nachin, **T. Saladyga\***, and B. Suran. 2010. Fire History in Mongolia: Placing Current Change in the Context of the Last 400+ years. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 14-18 April 2010, Washington, D.C. \*Presenter

Leland, C., N. Pederson, A. Hessler, P. Brown, B. Nachin, **T. Saladyga**, and B. Suran. 2010. Fire and Climate Interactions in Northeastern Mongolia. Annual Meeting, Association of Southeastern Biologists, 7-10 April 2010, Asheville, North Carolina.

Hessler, A., P. Brown, S. Maxwell, B. Nachin, N. Pederson, and **T. Saladyga**. 2009. Fire, Climate, and Land Use in Mongolia: 400+ Years of Change. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 22-27 March 2009, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Welch, J. and **T. Saladyga**. 2008. Fire in the Woods: Native and Invasive Plant Response. 2008. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 15-19 April 2008, Boston, Massachusetts.

LaForest, L., P. Brown, N. Benzing, R. DeSantis, G. Dillon, W. Flatley, H.D. Grissino-Mayer, C. Lafon, **T. Saladyga**, J. Slayton, L. Svenson, K. Tackett, and N. Toth. 2008. Fire History in Old-Growth Pine-Oak Forest Stands Along Gold Mine Trail in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 15-19 April 2008, Boston, Massachusetts.

Jacobs, A., E. Rehm, and D. Fillis (**T. Saladyga** – GIS support). 2007. Delaware's wetland monitoring program: using science to inform protection and restoration efforts. Delaware Estuary Science Conference, 22-24 January 2007, Cape May, New Jersey.

**Saladyga, T.** 2006. Native and Invasive Plant Response to Fire: Hardwood Forest of Chester County, Pennsylvania. Annual Meeting, Middle States Division of the Association of American Geographers, 13-14 October 2006, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey.

**Saladyga, T.** 2006. Invasive Plant Dynamics as Related to Forest Structure and Composition at Hibernia County Park, Chester County, PA. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 7-11 March 2006, Chicago, Illinois.

**Saladyga, T.** 2005. Forests Lost: Invasive Vegetation and Implications for Native Habitat Restoration Through Oak Regeneration. Annual Meeting, Middle States Division of the Association of American Geographers, 14-15 October 2005, Chautauqua, New York.

## Poster Presentations

**Saladyga, T.** 2016. Humans, Climate, and Wildfire: An Integrated, Quantitative Approach to Describing the 'Fire Regime'. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 20-22 November 2014, Columbia, South Carolina.

Raso, C. and **T. Saladyga**. 2016. Climate Response of Two Central Appalachian Rimrock Yellow Pine Species using a Composite Growth Chronology. Annual Meeting, American Association of Geographers, March 29-April 2, 2016, San Francisco, California.

**Saladyga, T.** 2014. Differential Growth Response of Two Conifer Species to Early Spring Temperature. Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 23-25 November 2014, Athens, Georgia.

**Saladyga, T.** 2013. Students Monitoring the Decline of Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis* L.) in the Bluestone River Gorge, West Virginia. Second American Dendrochronology Conference, 13-17 May 2013, Tucson, Arizona.

**Saladyga, T.** 2012. Using Literature to Teach Post-Secondary Introductory Physical Geography. Annual Meeting, National Council for Geographic Education, 4-7 October 2012, San Marcos, Texas.

**Saladyga, T.** and A. Hessel. 2011. Fire History along a Human Impact Gradient in the Upper Tuul River Watershed, Mongolia. Annual meeting, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 17-21 February 2011, Washington, D.C.

**Saladyga, T.,** Hessel, A., P. Brown, N. Pederson, B. Nachin, and B. Suran. 2010. Climate, Fire, and Land Use Interactions in the Upper Tuul River Watershed, Mongolia. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 14-18 April 2010, Washington, D.C.

**Saladyga, T.,** P. Clark, A. Hessler, and J. Wixom. 2010. Anthropogenic Fire and Regeneration of an Isolated Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*) Stand, Pike Knob, West Virginia. Annual Meeting, Association of American Geographers, 14-18 April 2010, Washington, D.C.

## **Lectures and Workshops**

Invited Webinar Presentation – “Residual Fire Regimes and Their Value in a Post-suppression Management Era,” Natural Areas Association (March 29, 2017)

<https://naturalareas.org/webinars/>

Learning Activity – “Dendrochronology” (4<sup>th</sup> grade students), New River Gorge National River, West Virginia (September 16, 2016)

Inventory Leader – National Geographic BioBlitz, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, West Virginia (May 20-21, 2016)

Invited Speaker – “Coalfields Pyrogeography: Current and Future Research in Pennsylvania and West Virginia,” Department of Geography Colloquium Series, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia (April 15, 2016)

Lecturer – Teaching Environmental Processes through Literature Workshop, Concord University, Athens, West Virginia (July 8-12, 2013)

West Virginia Geographic Alliance Workshop – “Forest Geography,” Concord University, Athens, West Virginia (March 10, 2013)

Invited Speaker – “Land Use Impacts on Wildfire Potential: Evidence from Mongolia and Appalachia,” Department of Geography Colloquium Series, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia (October 19, 2012)

Learning activity – “What Can Trees Tell Us About the Past?,” Elk Center Elementary School, Charleston, West Virginia (October 12, 2012)

Guest Lecturer – “Humans and the Forest Environment,” International Summer Camp, Kangwon National University, Chuncheon, Gangwon-do, Republic of Korea (July 31, 2012)

Career Day – PikeView Middle School, Princeton, West Virginia (May 25, 2012)

National Geographic Chesapeake Bay Watershed Education Meeting – Annapolis, Maryland (May 21-22, 2012)

West Virginia Geographic Alliance Workshop – “Geography of Agriculture,” Mount View High School, Welch, West Virginia (April 28, 2012)

West Virginia Geographic Alliance Workshop – “Physical Geography,” Wheeling Park High School, Wheeling, West Virginia (Nov. 5, 2011)

Appalachian Fire Learning Network Workshop – The Mountain Institute at Spruce Knob, West Virginia (June 28-30, 2011)

North American Dendroecology Fieldweek (2007)

## **Awards and Grants**

Joseph Friedl Award, 2014, presented by the Student Government Association (SGA), Concord University

Chesapeake Bay Science and Geography Initiative, 2012-2014 (\$200,000), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration/National Geographic Society

Faculty Summer Research Fellowship, 2013 (\$3,651), Concord University

Exploration and Field Research Grant, 2010 (\$3,000), Explorer’s Club Washington Group, Inc.

Vehse Travel Award, 2009 (\$500), Eberly College of Arts and Sciences, West Virginia University

## **Affiliations and Certifications**

American Association of Geographers (AAG)

Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (SEDAAG)

Natural Areas Association

Gamma Theta Upsilon (International Geographical Honor Society)

Firefighter Type 2 (Courses: I-100, S-130, S-190, and L-180)

## **Professional Service**

West Virginia State Representative, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers (2013 – present)

New River Conservancy, Technical Advisory Committee (2015 – present)

West Virginia Green Infrastructure Working Group (2011 – 2015)

Manuscript Referee:

*Dendrochronologia*  
*Castanae* [Journal of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society]  
*Forestry: An International Journal of Forest Research*  
*Geographical Bulletin*  
*Arctic, Antarctic, and Alpine Research*

**Service to Concord University**

Chair, Appalachian Studies Committee (2016 – present)

Faculty Development Committee (2014 – present)

Faculty Committee on Research (2014 – present)

Faculty Evaluation Committee – Division of Social Sciences (2012 – present)

Website Designer – West Virginia Geographic Alliance (2012 – present)

Website Designer – Department of Geography (2011 – present)

ADA Sidewalk Committee (2013 – 2014)

McNair Scholar Advisor – Alysyan Miller, class of 2019

McNair Scholar Advisor – Mary Beth Ryan, class of 2015

Reader – West Virginia State National Geographic Bee (2012, 2013, 2014)

Reader – West Virginia High School Geography Bowl (2012, 2013, 2016)

**Graduate Committee Member**

Nathan Lawrence, M.S. Geography, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
(expected graduation, 2018)

Ruth Stetler, M.A. Geography, West Virginia University (expected graduation, 2017)

Thesis title: *Radial Growth Patterns in Trees Surviving Canopy Gap Disturbances*



## Undergraduate Research Advisees

Alysan Miller, Geography, McNair Scholar, Concord University (class of 2019)

*Disturbance, Topography, and the Distribution of Black Locust (Robinia pseudoacacia L.).* Undergraduate Research Day, Concord University, 17 April 2017, Athens, West Virginia.

Brad Gibson, Geography, Concord University (class of 2017)

*The Spatial Distribution of Norway Maple (Acer platanoides L.) at Concord University.* Undergraduate Research Day, Concord University, 17 April 2017, Athens, West Virginia.

Samantha Richards, Geography, Concord University (class of 2016)

*Qualitative Assessment of Palustrine Wetlands in Mercer County, West Virginia.* Undergraduate Research Day, Concord University, 14 April 2016, Athens, West Virginia.

Caitlin Testerman, Geography, Concord University (class of 2016)

*Bird Species Composition in a Ridgetop Dwarf-Tree Forest.* Undergraduate poster competition (1<sup>st</sup> Place), Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 22-24 November 2015, Pensacola, Florida.

Chance Raso and Terry Hatfield, Geography, Concord University (class of 2015)

*Growth Chronology Development for Pitch Pine at Babcock State Park, West Virginia.* Undergraduate Research Day, Concord University, 16 April 2015, Athens, West Virginia.

Mary Beth Ryan, Geography, McNair Scholar, Concord University (class of 2015)

*Hemlock Establishment and Vigor in Twin Falls Resort State Park, West Virginia.* Undergraduate poster competition, Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 24-26 November 2013, Roanoke, Virginia.

Nathan Lawrence, Geography, Concord University (class of 2014)

1. *Climate-Growth Analysis of Northern Red Oak on a Southern West Virginia Ridgeline.* Undergraduate poster competition (1<sup>st</sup> Place), Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 23-25 November 2014, Athens, Georgia.

2. *Disturbance and Growth Dynamics in a Hemlock-Hardwood Forest on the Central Appalachian Plateau.* Undergraduate poster competition, Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 24-26 November 2013, Roanoke, Virginia.

Joshua Gelinas, Geography, Concord University (class of 2014)

*Climate Effects on the Growth of Eastern Hemlock in Cabwaylingo State Forest, West Virginia.* Undergraduate poster competition, Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division of the Association of American Geographers, 24-26 November 2013, Roanoke, Virginia.

Wendy Pace, Craig Pritt, and Meredith Smith (Class of 2013, 2013, and 2014, respectively)

*Age Structure Analysis of Eastern Hemlock at Pipestem State Park, West Virginia.* Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol, 28 February 2013, Charleston, West Virginia.