

Lisa Wood has a B.A. degree in biology from the University of California at Berkeley (1983) and an MS degree in biology from San Diego State University (1987), where, under a grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, she researched the coastal strand at Tijuana Estuary, conducting field measurements and scientific experiments at the Pacific Estuarine Research Laboratory located in the estuary. She worked along side wetlands ecologists, often reminding them that the estuary would have no wetlands to provide their various flood and biological functions if it were not for her barrier dunes.

She completed an internship in the Environmental Quality Division (EQD) of the City of San Diego's Planning Department, worked for one year for a biological consulting firm preparing the technical environmental surveys and reports necessary for regulatory compliance, then returned to EQD as a planner implementing CEQA, reviewing biotechnical reports, and drafting the City's Resource Protection Ordinance.

In 1990 she left EQD to work as a Senior Environmentalist for the Environmental Services Department, where she has ensured compliance with a myriad of laws such as the Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, and National Environmental Policy Act. She served for five years as the chair of the regional Technical Advisory Committee on solid waste. In 1999 she managed the Environmental Services Department's sustainability program, promoting green building and energy conservation and managed the City's outreach to local businesses and manufacturers concerning conservation-related technologies and practices.

She has obtained grants for the Department to pursue ISO 140001 certification, convert diesel powered trucks to liquefied natural gas, provide a Climatewise program, and restore habitat. She has participated in several binational activities, including speaking in biology classes in Tijuana, and participating on a Department team providing assistance to Tijuana on solid waste issues.

She is a fellow with the Royal British Geological Society, an instructor of Conservation Biology for UCSD Extension Services, an award-winning author of travel narrative, and a frequent speaker at conferences on topics ranging from resource protection to climate change to her unusual global travels. For example, she joined a friend in Auckland for a solid waste conference, stopped by Istanbul another year for a United Nations conference on sustainable development, she searched for fairy shrimp while bicycling through the back country of China, and visited friends doing limnological research in Chile.