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Jennifer Gerhardt-Smith is a research biologist in the Wetlands and Coastal Ecology Branch of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) Environmental Laboratory. Jennifer's work includes research for the Dredging Operations Environmental Research (DOER) program, and program management of the Dredging Innovations Group (DIG). Specializing in Federal laws, regulations, and policies related to threatened and endangered species (with a focus on dredging activities), and with USACE Civil Works experience at the district, ERDC, and headquarters (HQ) levels, she also provides coordination for the Threatened and Endangered Species Team (TEST) initiative.

Jennifer began her career with USACE as a Department of Army Intern at the San Francisco District in 2001. She worked primarily in the Regulatory Branch performing permit evaluation and environmental consultation activities and the Environmental Sciences Branch where she was a project manager for CERCLA brownfields projects under the South Pacific Division's Support for Others Program serving EPA Region 9. She also served OCONUS in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004 as a project engineer and completed developmental assignments to HQ USACE in 2005 and 2013. Jennifer worked as a contractor to USACE through Bowhead Science and Technology, Inc. from 2007-2011 while living in the United Kingdom. She has a B.S. in Biological Sciences and a M.A. in International Relations. She joined ERDC in 2012.