

**Dr. Anne Toomey, Environmental Studies and Science**  
**Research with Impact: How the new science of decision making can**  
**(and should) change the way we investigate the natural world**

Do environmental scientists have the skills needed to engage beyond academia? Can they impact the communities where they conduct their research by changing governmental policies or shifting societal behaviors? An increasing number of articles and grant guidelines call for “research with impact,” but what does this really mean and how should we assess it? My proposed project addresses these questions by investigating the barriers to implementing scientific research as well as how these barriers can be surmounted in environmental policy and practice. During the award period, I will complete work on my first book (solicited by the University of California Press), entitled, Research with impact: How the new sciences of decision-making can (and should) change the way that we investigate the natural world. The book will build on my research to date, which includes multiple peer-reviewed articles that describe different aspects of how “impact” is misunderstood in the environmental sciences, and whose knowledge is included or excluded in implementing environmental policy and practice. The Book Completion Award would be invaluable in providing the resources needed to complete the writing of this book.