

QUALIFICATIONS

BSc Biology, Tartu University, Estonia.

MSc (with distinction) Taxonomy & Biodiversity, RBGE/Edinburgh University, UK.

PhD Biology, University of Rhode Island, US.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Society of Microbiology

ROLE AT CAWTHRON

Marek's research and consulting work at Cawthron focuses on technologies for microbial source tracking (MST) and water quality related issues.

SPECIAL INTERESTS

- Microbial source tracking
- Water quality and microbial indicators
- Survival and transport of pathogens
- Land-water interface studies
- Phylogenetics

AWARDS

- British Council Scholarship
- Fulbright Scholarship

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Morris CA, Blackwood DA, **Kirs M**, Buttigieg ND, Morgan RR, Hogan J, Weeks I, Noble RT 2008. Comparison of Transcription-Mediated Amplification and growth-based methods for the quantification of *Enterococcus* in estuarine environments. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, 74(10): 3319-3320.

Janssen P H, **Kirs M** 2008. Structure of the Archaeal Community of the Rumen. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology*, 74(12): 3619-3625.

Kirs M, Cornelisen CD 2008. Shellfish Growing Area 1510: Review of microbiological data and technical advice on microbial source tracking. *Cawthron Report*, 1435: 8pp.

Kirs M, Harwood JH, Fidler AE, Cornelisen CD, Gillespie PA, Fyfe WA 2008. Urs Report, 1447: 42pp.



Kirs M, Smith DC 2007. Multiplex Quantitative Real-Time RT-PCR for the F-specific RNA Coliphages: A Method for use in Microbial Source Tracking. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 73(3): 808-814.