

Ashley Evans

New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM

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Education

New Mexico State University

Las Cruces, NM

MS CANDIDATE, FISH, WILDLIFE, AND CONSERVATION ECOLOGY (ANTICIPATED COMPLETION 2023)

2020 - Present

- Minor in Geographic Information Systems and Technology
- Thesis: The Effects of Wildland Recreational Disturbance on Desert Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis* spp) in Western Colorado
- GPA: 4.0

Paul Smith's College

Paul Smiths, NY

BS FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE SCIENCE, BS NATURAL RESOURCE SUSTAINABILITY STUDIES

2012 - 2016

- Minors in Geographic Information Systems and Chemistry
- GPA: 4.0, graduated summa cum laude

Professional Experience

Desert Bighorn Sheep Scientific Aide

Bishop, CA

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

2016 - 2020

- Prioritized assigned tasks while working and camping year-round in the extreme environment presented by the Mojave Desert. Backpacked and hiked in remote wilderness areas to deploy and retrieve game cameras, search for desert bighorn sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) sign, and locate animals using radio telemetry and spotting scope. Collected demographic data by monitoring water sources, collecting fecal pellets, hiking transects, and using the double observer method from a helicopter. Monitored bighorn survival with radio telemetry while flying for multiple hours in a Cessna 185. Performed field necropsies to collect biological and disease samples and determine cause of mortality. Inspected and monitored natural and artificial water sources and coordinated efforts for maintenance, repair, and water hauling with other government agencies and NGOs. Assisted in the organization and execution of capture activities including leading processing crews in restraining and collaring the animal and collecting multiple biological samples including blood and physical measurements, all while continually monitoring vitals. Educated the public about desert and Sierra Nevada bighorn including at the Sheep Show and with a delegation from Kazakhstan. Assisted in the organization of and presented at desert bighorn hunter orientations and conducted hunter harvest check-outs. Operated 4x4 vehicles on rough terrain and deep sand for long hours at a time. Manipulated and analyzed data using ArcGIS, Program R, and Microsoft Access. Coauthored and created professional maps for official Department reports. Organized and managed large datasets.

Research Technician

Mojave Desert, CA

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

2018 - 2020

- Deployed and maintained game cameras at interstate culverts and overpasses during all seasons in the Mojave Desert. Coordinated field duties with a remote supervisor. Uploaded and organized large quantities of data.

Game Camera Photo Processor

Mojave Desert, CA

YALE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF FORESTRY & ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

2019

- Deployed and maintained game cameras during the summer at remote water sources in the Mojave Desert. Processed nearly 4 TB of photographs and recorded over 1600 observations of marked desert bighorn sheep. Identified bighorn group age and sex classifications and meticulously recorded data using Microsoft Access.

Fish Weir Operator (volunteer)

Grand Canyon National Park, AZ

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

2019

- Worked independently to check and maintain a fish weir on Bright Angel Creek at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. Cleared debris off weir and adjusted components to ensure proper function. Educated the public about removal of nonnative fish species and promotion of native fish populations

Raptor Banding Field Technician

Adirondack Mountains, NY

ADIRONDACK RAPTORS

2014 - 2016

- Deployed and monitored mistnets and removed, banded, and took physical measurements of Northern saw-whet owls (*Aegolius acadicus*) from sunset until early morning. Trapped, measured, and banded red-tailed hawks (*Buteo jamaicensis*) using bal chatri traps. Identified perched and flying raptor species of northern New York. Conducted Northern goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) nest searches in old-growth coniferous forest. Handled numerous captive hawk and owl species during educational presentations.

Black Bear Hair Snare Technician

Louisiana

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

2015

- Worked independently to build, repair, and bait Louisiana black bear (*Ursus americanus luteolus*) hair snares and to collect hair samples using strict protocols. Worked in hot, humid, and buggy conditions in flooded bottom-land hardwood forests. Drove 4x4 ATVs and trucks through primitive, muddy trails and hiked to snares while navigating with a GPS, map, and compass. Operated winches to free ATVs from mud and performed general maintenance of machinery.

Primate Rehabilitation Intern

Chiriquí, Panama

ALOUATTA SANCTUARY

2015

- Raised and rehabilitated orphaned infant mantled howler monkeys (*Alouatta palliata*). Conducted instantaneous focal animal and scan behavioral sampling daily using an ethogram. Prepared food and provided enrichment for captive white-faced capuchin (*Cebus capucinis*) and Geoffroy's tamarins (*Saguinus geoffroyi*). Conducted bird and mammal surveys in primary rainforest and used GIS to calculate transect lines and generate random point locations for the placement of camera traps. Set up and retrieved camera traps in primary rainforest and identified wildlife species captured in photographs.

Reptile Field Technician

Sevilleta NWR, NM

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

2014

- Collected behavioral data in a controlled field experiment studying the effect of a perceived predator on the behavioral thermoregulation of spiny mountain lizards (*Sceloporus jarrovi*). Conducted general husbandry and handling of lizards, removed vegetation from study area, and constructed and maintained a field site. Conducted experimental trials and recorded lizard responses using strict protocols in summer in the Chihuahuan Desert.

Publications

Grants & Scholarships

Total Awarded: \$22,750

New Mexico State University

\$6,250

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE ASSISTANT AWARD

2022

Wild Sheep Foundation

\$5,000

LIFE MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP

2022

T&E Inc.

\$3,000

CONSERVATION GRANT

2022

- Grant Title: The Effects of Wildland Recreational Disturbance on Desert Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) in Western Colorado

Desert Bighorn Council

\$5,000

CHARLES HANSEN, RALPH WELLES, ROBERT CAMPBELL, AND DICK WEAVER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

2021

- Grant Title: The Effect of Wildland Recreational Disturbance on Desert Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) in Western Colorado

T&E Inc.

\$3,000

CONSERVATION GRANT

2021

- Grant Title: Effects of Human Recreation on Desert Bighorn Sheep (*Ovis canadensis nelsoni*) in Western Colorado

The Wildlife Society - New Mexico Chapter

\$500

BIODIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP

2021

Presentation

Desert Bighorn Council 56th Meeting

THE EFFECTS OF WILDLAND RECREATIONAL DISTURBANCE ON DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP IN WESTERN COLORADO

2021

Virtual Joint Annual Meeting of the Arizona and New Mexico Chapters of the Wildlife Society and American Fisheries Society

EFFECTS OF HUMAN RECREATION ON DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP (*OVIS CANADENSIS NELSONI*) IN WESTERN COLORADO

2021

USGS New Mexico Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit Annual Meeting

EFFECTS OF HUMAN RECREATION ON DESERT BIGHORN SHEEP IN WESTERN COLORADO

2020

Certifications

Wilderness First Responder

NOLS WILDERNESS MEDICINE INSTITUTE

2020

Flying in the Wire and Obstruction Environment and Crew Resource Management

UTILITIES AVIATION SPECIALISTS

2016

Hunter Safety

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

2008