

Oceana Canada

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To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to provide a letter of reference for Laura Raposo who has worked closely with Oceana Canada's Science and Communications teams. I have known Laura since 2019 when she worked for us as a volunteer and again in 2021 as a term employee. I am confident in her ability to work hard and succeed in your program.

During her time as a volunteer, Laura provided valuable contributions to our Science communications by crafting marine life encyclopedia entries for our website Marine Life Encyclopedia - Oceana Canada. Her ability to distill complex scientific information into digestible and engaging blog-style entries was evident from the outset, contributing to an impactful digital outreach program. Following her graduation, Laura accepted a position as a research assistant with us at Oceana Canada. She excelled in this role, quickly becoming a reliable part of our science team, conducting spatial analyses, literature reviews, and science communications.

Laura contributed to mapping marine protected areas, analyzing vessel traffic and fishing overlap with seamounts in a proposed Marine Protected Area in Pacific Canada. Her work helped in our analysis of the suitability of zoning regulations, ultimately contributing to our MPA advocacy efforts Oceana Canada Protecting the World's Oceans (protectoceans.ca).

Laura also contributed to our North Atlantic Right Whale Campaign by providing meticulous daily vessel traffic reports in the Cabot Strait which shed light on the continued vessel speed infractions intended to protect the North Atlantic Right Whales. Protect North Atlantic Right Whales - Oceana Canada. Laura's work not only supported our lobbying efforts but also emphasized the urgent need for increased enforcement measures. In addition, she completed an in-depth literature review of the history and state of Pacific Salmon fisheries and management in Canada which demonstrated her research capabilities and understanding of complex ecological and policy issues.

Laura is a pleasure to work with. She is passionate about conservation, personable, punctual, and motivated. Her dedication to her work is evident and she demonstrated an ability to adapt to new challenges. I have no hesitation in recommending Laura for your Master's program.

Sincerely,

Robert Rangeley, Ph.D. | Science Director | Oceana Canada

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