**Elizabeth Richards**

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**KEY QUALIFICATIONS**

* Dedicated professional with Masters Degree in Natural Resources
* Four years working experience and knowledge of watershed restoration and erosion control practices through the upgrading and decommissioning of roads and trails
* Skills in community education, networking, and organizing, obtained during completion of service as a United States Peace Corps Environmental Advisor
* United States Government Non-Competitive Eligibility

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**COMMUNITY ORGANIZER AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR 2010-2012**

**UNITED STATES PEACE CORPS, Philippines**

**Coastal Resources Management (CRM) Advisor**

**Community Organization and Development in Resource Management**

* Completed intensive Peace Corps training in monitoring and evaluation, legal framework, working with local governments and cross cultural understanding including cultural norms and ethnocentrisms
* Provided watershed management consultation to barangays (small community units) within the municipality of Pandan and San Joaquin, Philippines
* Assisted in watershed training workshop by creating presentations and presenting on topics including watershed processes and sediment erosion in relation to roads and trails
* Undertook field activities of organizing, conducting and analyzing biophysical assessments of coral reefs in 34 marine sanctuaries in four coastal municipalities located in the province of Antique and under the management of the LIPASECU Baywide Alliance
* Promoted sustainable management of coastal areas by drafting ordinances and management plans for marine sanctuaries
* Encouraged community organization by facilitating the creation of marine sanctuary management boards
* Facilitated and led training workshops to provide marine sanctuary management board members the technical and organizational skills needed to sustainably and effectively manage their sanctuaries
* Provided continuous Information, Education, Communication (IEC), oversight, and instruction throughout the time the marine sanctuary action plans were being implemented and helped facilitate and supervise all committee and management board meetings and functions
* Participated in numerous formal meetings of the Northwest Panay Peninsula Park Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), BIOCON Inc. Management Board, as well as serving as an environmental consultant on other environmental organizations and managerial bodies
* Conducted social interviews
* Carried out reef transect surveys and analysis

**Environmental Education**

* Initiated public awareness strategies and materials aimed at educating community members about environmental topics
* Developed and conducted environmental presentations to various audiences including: students from elementary to university levels, teachers, mining forum participants, various focus groups, and local government unit (LGU) representatives from various municipalities; covering various environmental topics and issues including but not limited to: Biodiversity Conservation, Marine Conservation, Ecology, Solid Waste Management, Mining: Environmental Threats, Climate Change, Climate Change and Marine Ecosystems, etc…
* Conducted informative presentations of biophysical assessment results of 34 marine sanctuaries to 34 hosting barangays regarding the health status of their marine sanctuaries
* Assisted in the creation and facilitation of environmental education activities with the **Biodiversity Conservation Trust of the Philippines Inc. (BIOCON Inc.)** which aims to increase education, awareness, and protection of the Northwest Panay Peninsula Park, (one of the last low elevation forests in the Visayan Islands and which is valued for its high degree of biodiversity and endemism)
* Conducted presentations to students on topics designated by BIOCON Inc. that intended to promote the goals of the K4 Program (Kalikasan Ko, Kinabukasan Ko, My Environment, My Future), an environmental education program designed for the local schools and communities to educate the local people about environmental problems within the region enabling them to be more environmentally responsible
* Aided in the creation and helped facilitate the Northwest Panay Peninsula Park (NWPPP) Accent 2012, a field training exercise of four days to educate the local kagawads (forest police) in forest ecosystems, the importance of conservation and protection, and the spatial layout of the Park using geospatial analysis and GPS units, leading to more effective management and protection of the NWPPP

**PHYSICAL SCIENTIST**

**PACIFIC WATERSHED ASSOCIATES, Arcata, CA 2006-2010**

**Data Collection/Physical Assessments**

* Collected water quality samples testing for turbidity, conductivity, and pH
* Conducted stream and landslide surveys estimating past and future erosion

**Watershed Restoration/Erosion Control**

* Conducted road assessments designed to identify sediment delivery/future erosion sources via: stream crossings, springs, landslides, road reach point sources, etc…
* Performed stream assessments designed to identify fish barriers in relation to roads and trails
* Prescribed site specific treatments for sediment delivery/future erosion sites
* Oversaw implementation of prescribed treatments for both the upgrade and decommissioning of roads
* Experience in road layout, pre/post stream surveys, photo points, post erosion surveys
* Provided equipment oversight and consultation throughout implementation phase
* As field crew leader, tracked project, organized project field crews on a weekly basis, communicated project status to project manager and various stakeholders in the related to project
* Assisted in the completion of data analysis and writing of reports

**EDUCATION**

M.A. NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, James Cook University, Australia 2005

B.A. GEOGRAPHY, Humboldt State University, CA 2003

Study Abroad, Wildland Studies, San Francisco State University, Thailand 2003

**SPECIFIC SKILLS/CERTIFICATIONS/AWARDS**

* Computer literate: Excel, MS Word, PowerPoint, Access, GPS Navigation
* ATV Safety Certification, experienced with ATV and off road/4 wheel drive vehicles both manual and automatic
* PADI Advanced Certification
* Restoration Organization of the Year 2008 (Pacific Watershed Associates**)**
* International Honor Society in Social Science Pi Gamma Mu

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

* Build homes for families in need, *Habitat for Humanit*y, Portland, OR
* Tree Planting, Rock Creek Watershed Partnership, Portland, OR
* Environmental Education and Administrative Support, Columbia Slough Watershed Council, Portland, OR
* Youth Outreach and Environmental Education, Friends of the Dunes, Manila, CA
* Service Activities with Portland Volunteer Vixens, Portland, OR