

Aidan Robertson

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EDUCATION

June 2025 B.A. University of California, Santa Barbara. Environmental Studies & Geography
Thesis: Maximizing California Native Wildflower Establishment in Invasive
Annual Grassland Restoration
Advisor: Robert Fitch, PhD Candidate

RESEARCH AND FIELD EXPERIENCE

March 2025-Present **UCSB Greenhouse, Independent Research**

- Collected, weighed, and counted seeds of invasive forb, *Silene gallica*
- Treated seeds to convective heat, simulating exposure to prescribed fire
- Collected germination data of treated seeds in greenhouse
- Analyzed effect of temperature and time of exposure in RStudio

June 2024-June 2025 **UCSB Lagoon Island, Independent Research**

- Conducted 1.5 acre field experiment comparing effect of herbicide, thatch removal, and prescribed fire in coastal sage scrub restoration
- Collected and analyzed percent cover and density vegetation data utilizing ArcGIS Survey123, Field Maps, and RStudio
- Coordinated with restoration ecologist and department director
- Reported conclusions in 60-page senior thesis and 2 presentations

June 2024-June 2025 **Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration, Student Worker**

- Removed invasive species with tools, hand-weeding, and solarization
- Worked with up to 7 student workers, coordinating efforts
- Collected baseline and annual vegetation data along 70 meter transects in coastal sage scrub, sand dunes, and vernal pool plant communities
- Constructed irrigation systems and manually irrigated sites
- Collected, processed, and weighed seeds of native forbs and shrubs

January-June 2024 **CCBER, Intern**

- Collected, cultivated, and transplanted native seedlings in nursery
- Utilized Jepson Manual dichotomous key to identify plants in California
- Assisted in experimental ecological monitoring of oak woodland and native grassland

AWARDS AND GRANTS

March 2025 UCSB Coastal Fund Minor Research Grant (\$1000)
January 2025 Class of 1969 Alumni Scholarship (\$2000)

PRESENTATIONS

June 2025	Environmental Studies Senior Thesis Presentation. "Maximizing California Native Wildflower Establishment in Invasive Annual Grassland Restoration"
May 2025	EEMB Undergraduate Research Symposium. "Maximizing California Native Wildflower Establishment in Invasive Annual Grassland Restoration"

ACADEMIC HONORS

June 2025	Distinction in the Major, Environmental Studies Outstanding Achievement in the Geography Major University Service Award
April 2022-June 2025	Dean's Honors List, College of Letters and Science

RELEVANT COURSEWORK AND CERTIFICATIONS

Foundations of Ecosystem Restoration, Restoration Skills, Field Studies of California's Coast, Fire Ecology and Management, America's Public Lands and Waters - Law and Policy, Geographic Information Science Course Series, Statistics for Environmental Science, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) certified through FEMA

CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT

Sept 2023-June 2025	Student Supervisor of Student Resource Building Front Desk Staff
Sept 2022-Sept 2023	Student Assistant at Student Resource Building Front Desk
Jan 2022-June 2023	Vice President of Recognition of National Residence Hall Honorary

REFERENCES

Chris Berry	Lagoon Steward, UCSB CCBER Stadium Rd, Building 578, Santa Barbara, CA, 93106 (818) 923-9891 berry@ccber.ucsb.edu
Robert Fitch	PhD Candidate, UCSB D'Antonio VEG Lab UCEN Rd, Building 544, Santa Barbara, CA 93106 (951) 403-2151 robertfitch@ucsb.edu
Kathleen Vu	Associate Director of Orientation, UCSB UCEN Rd, Building 221, Santa Barbara, CA 93106 (805) 893-5944 kvu@ucsb.edu