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# Benjamin Meyer

*Letter of Interest to Potential PhD Advisors*

## CONTACT

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March 21, 2023

To potential doctoral advisors,

After fifteen years of a career in Alaska focused on aquatic ecology and natural resources in the nonprofit, academic, and private sectors, I am seeking to leverage my experiences by pursuing doctorate studies.

Ideally, a PhD position will allow the opportunity to build on my existing connections throughout the community of people focused on research and conservation of freshwater habitat for fish and wildlife, and the human connections throughout. If you are looking for a dedicated student with strong communication skills focused on how we may balance the needs of watershed health and society, please consider my attached resume.

My master's work through University of Alaska Fairbanks focused on salmon habitat and climate change and resulted in a peer-reviewed manuscript publication. For PhD studies I am interested to examine how communities can become empowered to apply research that addresses local watershed conservation concerns, such as fish habitat mapping and water quality monitoring. I have a proven record of distilling complex challenges into concrete results. Given the opportunity, I am confident in ability to achieve similarly as part of your team.

I have attached my resume and would welcome the opportunity to discuss how our interests align. My CV and additional details are also available on my website. Please feel free to contact me via email or phone to arrange a meeting. I look forward to speaking with you soon.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Meyer

# BENJAMIN MEYER

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## SUMMARY

Environmental Scientist with 10+ years of experience in ecology research and monitoring throughout Alaska. Possesses an M.S. in Fisheries and expertise in freshwater ecology and R programming.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Water Quality Coordinator

**November 2020 – Present**

Kenai Watershed Forum – Soldotna, AK

- Oversee programs in water quality monitoring, freshwater fish habitat research, and conservation planning
- Develop reproducible workflows for data management, analysis, and visualization
- Project development and grant writing

### Research Manager and Graduate Assistant

**Jun 2014 – Sept 2020**

University of Alaska Fairbanks. – Fairbanks, Alaska

- Designed, executed, and published original peer-reviewed research on Alaskan salmon ecology
- Oversaw laboratory and fieldwork operations for studies focused on salmon diet, growth, and habitat
- Presented research at state wide and national academic conferences, as well as in general public outreach settings

### Wildland Firefighter

**May 2009 – Sept 2011**

State of Alaska (Palmer, AK) and Bureau of Land Management (Fairbanks, AK)

- Performed wildfire suppression duties under extreme conditions throughout Alaska and the continental US in a team environment

## EDUCATION

### Master of Science in Fisheries,

**May 2020**

*Graduate GPA 3.73*

University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK

### Bachelor of Science in Biology,

**May 2009**

### Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry

*Undergraduate GPA 3.72*

University of Alaska Fairbanks, Fairbanks, AK

## ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- Experienced in logistics for remote Alaska fieldwork
- Professional fluency in Spanish
- Experienced with tree falling and safe chainsaw use, light carpentry

For full curriculum vitae, see [www.benjamin-meyer.net](http://www.benjamin-meyer.net)