

ISABELLE GALKO

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EDUCATION

University College London (UCL)

Sept. 2023 – Sept. 2024

MS Aquatic Conservation, Ecology and Restoration, RESULT PENDING

- Funded by a Marshall Scholarship
- Thesis: seabird ecology and feeding behavior in coastal England
- Key skills: bird and fish surveys, statistical and spatial analysis in GIS and R, technical writing

King's College London (KCL)

Sept. 2022 – Sept. 2023

MS Climate Change: Environment, Science and Policy, DISTINCTION

- Funded by a Marshall Scholarship
- Thesis: fisheries, environmental change, and adaptation on barrier islands on Virginia's Eastern Shore
- Key skills: qualitative research methods, stakeholder engagement, science communications

Southern Methodist University (SMU)

Sept. 2018 – May 2022

BS Environmental Sciences, SUMMA CUM LAUDE WITH HONORS

- Minors in Public Policy & International Affairs, Human Rights, Women & Gender Studies
- Division I Women's Rowing (team member 2018-2022, AAC Champions 2021, 2022)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Oregon State University – Newport, OR

Nov. 2024 – present

Faculty Research Assistant

- Assist scientists in conducting a climate vulnerability assessment of fisheries in the Gulf of Alaska
- Use quantitative and qualitative methods to identify risks to fisheries sustainability

Master's Thesis Research – North Norfolk, England

2023 – 2024

Ecology Researcher

- Collected data to examine little tern behavior through direct observation and camera-trapping and surveyed fish abundance and distribution in North Norfolk, England
- Organized project logistics and instructed and oversaw data collection for 2 research assistants
- Wrote 12,000-word thesis synthesizing bird and fish data and conducting statistical analysis in R

Master's Thesis Research – Chincoteague, VA

2022 – 2023

Social-Science Researcher

- Developed and implemented research project on fisheries, environmental change, and adaptation
- Conducted interviews with community members and undertook thematic analysis of interviews
- Wrote 12,000-word thesis analyzing results against existing social science literature

Met Office – Exeter, England (Hybrid)

Jan. – June 2023

Climate Communications Intern

- Designed and developed communications pack on sea-level rise science, adaptation, and risks
- Designed stakeholder questionnaire and analyzed results in future sea-level rise comms resources

National Park Service – Assateague Island National Seashore, VA

May – Aug. 2022

Surf Lifeguard and Emergency Medical Responder

- Performed ocean surf rescues and provided appropriate medical care to injured and ill visitors
- Conducted daily assessment of ocean conditions and trained surf lifeguard skills regularly

City of Dallas Climate Office – Dallas, TX

Sept. – Dec. 2021

Public Policy Intern

- Conducted policy analysis of community solar implementation to support Climate Action Plan
- Helped facilitate conservation working group and presented research on solar and wildlife habitat

Southern Methodist University – Dallas, TX

May – Sept. 2021

Richter Undergraduate Research Fellow

- Designed and implemented independent project on environmental change in southern Louisiana
- Recorded oral histories with indigenous community members and created digital photo repository

Dallas Zoo – Dallas, TX

June – Aug. 2020

Conservation Engagement Intern

- Conducted analysis of community partners in okapi conservation and presented report to zoo staff
- Removed invasive species and planted 600 pollinator plants to support habitat restoration

Our Ocean Conference – Bali, Indonesia

Oct. 2018

Ocean Conservation Leader

- Selected as one of 100 youth leaders internationally to attend and speak about conservation project

AWARDS

Marshall Scholarship 2022

- National scholarship (40–50 scholars/year) that funds two years of UK graduate study

Dedman College Outstanding Senior 2022

- For achievement in Arts and Sciences at SMU (1 student/year)

Goodell-Richards Excellence Award in Earth Sciences 2022

- For achievement in Earth Sciences at SMU (2 students/year)

Critical Language Scholarship 2021

- Indonesian language program through the U.S. State Department (<10% selected nationally)

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

“Feeding Ecology of the Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*) at Blakeney Point, North Norfolk” 2024

Master’s thesis, supervised by Carl Sayer and Martin Perrow, unpublished

“Shifting with the Tides: Environmental Change and Adaptation on Chincoteague and Assateague Islands” 2023

Master’s thesis, supervised by David Demeritt, unpublished

“Preparing families to act as stewards to combat climate change and restore ocean health” 2021

Presentation at the International Union for Conservation of Nature – Marseille, France

The X Factor to Fill the STEM Talent Pipeline 2019

Panelist at SXSW STEM Conference – Austin, TX

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Languages: English, French (intermediate)

Technical Skills: ArcGIS/QGIS, R, and MATLAB, data entry and management, Microsoft Word/Excel

Certifications: US National Registry Emergency Medical Responder (2022-2025); American Red

Cross CPR and Lifeguard certification (2022-2024); SSI Open Water Diver (since 2017)