401 N California St, Missoula, MT
360.608.2508
kate.perkins2@gmail.com
www.krperkins.com

KAITLIN PERKINS

WORK EXPERIENCE

ECOSYSTEMS LAB, UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA, MISSOULA, MT

Graduate Research Assistant, August 2017 – November 2020

Pursuing MS in Systems Ecology with Dr. Ben Colman investigating the geochemical characteristics of metal-containing particles in the Clark Fork River, Montana as part of the NSF- funded Consortium for Research on Environmental Water Systems (CREWS) project. Responsibilities include organization and execution of regular water monitoring field and lab efforts, sample processing using vacuum filtration, centrifugation, dynamic light scattering, ICP-OES, and spectrofluorometric analysis. Information management includes constructing data management systems for my thesis and the lab's long-term monitoring project, extensive data analytics resulting in publication-quality figures, and production of lab infrastructure including a manual and protocols.

NATURALIST AND DECKHAND, THE SCHOONER ZODIAC, BELLINGHAM, WA

May 2017 – August 2017

Educate passengers about the marine ecology and stewardship of the Puget Sound. Teach passengers sail technique, theory, and navigation skills. Assist with sailing operations, including ship maintenance, sail handling, navigation, passenger support, and safety.

NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST ASSISTANT, CLARK COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

January, 2016 – February 2017

Assist scientists in operating under federal and state regulations to assist with stormwater monitoring and data analysis, collect stream water and macroinvertebrate samples, conduct clean water outreach and education, and lead an oil/water separator inventory and GIS mapping project.

AQUATIC ECOLOGY LAB, WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY VANCOUVER

Undergraduate Researcher, May 2015 – August 2017

Investigating the vertical distribution of phytoplankton in relation to hypoxia in Lacamas Lake under the mentorship of Dr. Gretchen Rollwagen-Bollens. Planned and implemented field and laboratory efforts. Research has been published in *Lake and Reservoir Management.*

SALES AGENT, GREEN MOUNTAIN ENERGY, PORTLAND, OR

February, 2013 – January, 2015

Communicated the operation and benefit of Portland General Electric's renewable energy certificate program to a diverse customer base.

EDUCATION

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SYSTEMS ECOLOGY

University of Montana, Missoula, Montana
Expected graduation: November 2020

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGY, MINORS IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Fall 2013 – May 2017

Washington State University Vancouver, Vancouver, Washington

TRAINING

UM BRIDGES TRAINEE, FOOD-ENERGY-WATER NEXUS GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

University of Montana, August 2017 – November 2020
NSF-funded graduate training program that focuses on applied science at the nexus of food, energy, and water. Engaged in classes and workshops focused on science communication and the science-policy-practice interface. Completed a four-day case study in SE Washington as we interviewed water users of all types to learn about competing use and conservation of water systems. Prior to the case study I collaborated on a technical report about Water Security in the West, and the project culminated in a blog post written for a general audience about water quantity and quality in the Columbia River Basin (https://bridgeswefnexus.wordpress.com/2018/05/).

CERTIFICATE IN QUANTITATIVE BIOLOGY

Washington State University Vancouver

SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

Perkins, K. R. et al. Lake and Reservoir Management Variability in the vertical distribution of chlorophyll in a spill-managed temperate reservoir. Lake and Reservoir Management. 0, 1–8 (2019). DOI: 10.1080/10402381.2019.1566935

PRESENTATIONS

Perkins, K, Montaño, M, Colman, B. Poster Presentation, Examining the Abundance and Composition of Submicron Particles in a Mine-waste Contaminated Intermountain West River. NSF EPSCoR National Conference, Columbia, SC, October 2019.

Perkins, K, Montaño, M, Colman, B. Poster Presentation, Examining the Abundance and Composition of Submicron Particles in a Mine-waste Contaminated Intermountain West River. Montana American Water Resources Association, Red Lodge, MT, October 2019.

Perkins, K, Montaño, M, Colman, B. Poster Presentation, Prospecting for Submicron Metal Particles in a Mine Waste Contaminated. Society for Freshwater Sciences conference, Salt Lake City, UT, May 2019.

Perkins, K, Rollwagen-Bollens G, Bollens S, Zimmerman, J. Influence of environmental factors on vertical distribution of phytoplankton in Lacamas Lake, WA. Air & Waste Management Association Oregon Chapter Student Environmental Challenge.

GRANTS & HONORS

CUAHSI Let's Talk About Water Challenge Grant, January 2019

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Fellow, March 2018

Montana Water Center Student Fellow, March 2018

1st Place Research Presentation, Air & Waste Management Association Oregon Chapter Student Environmental Challenge, April 2017

Clark County Public Works Innovation Award for work in Local Source Control, February 2017

Best Undergraduate Research Poster, Washington State University Research Showcase, November 2016

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates Fellowship, June 2015

Vancouver Watershed Alliance $1,500 grant, October 2012

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Lead organizer of Let's Talk About Water Montana film screening and panel discussion, Day of Action, and Science on Tap water talks at Imagine Nation brewing, January 2019 – November 2019

Co-organized two Science, Policy, and Practice panel discussions focused on women in STEM

President and Founder of the Environmental Science and Sustainability Club at WSU, helping to organize meetings, events, and logistics to connect students to the campus and improve campus sustainability, 2013 - 2016

Volunteered at Sacred Sueños in Vilcabamba, Ecuador in May 2014; learned permaculture design and assisted in goat care and cheese making, cob construction, and farm maintenance

Founded the Portland, Oregon chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby in 2012, traveled to Washington DC to meet with members of Congress to discuss a carbon fee and dividend

Member of Environmental Club at Clark College in 2011 – 2012, assisted in the acquisition of a grant to install a compost system in the cafeteria