Kate Perkins, MS

Aquatic ecologist, data scientist, environmental researcher

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EXPERIENCE

Aquatic Ecosystem Sciences — Environmental Researcher

December 2020 - PRESENT

Data analytics and technical report writing for water quality projects in the Klamath Basin, such as the Upper Klamath Lake 2020 Water Quality Report. Completed extensive aquatic macrophyte and algae surveys by foot and kayak, including toxic algae sampling.

Ecosystems Lab, UM — Graduate Research Assistant

September 2017 - April 2021

Earned MS characterizing sub-micron metal particles in a mine-waste contaminated river in Montana (publication in progress). Managed field, laboratory, and data processing efforts for long-term metals monitoring.

Clark County Public Works — Clean Water Assistant

January 2016 - February 2017

Lead in GIS mapping of oil-water separators, worked under NPDES permits to inspect stormwater infrastructure, collect, compile, and analyze stormwater data for quarterly reports.

Aquatic Ecology Lab, WSUV — Undergraduate Researcher

June 2015 - August 2017

Investigated the distribution of phytoplankton in Lacamas Lake with Drs. Gretchen and Steve Bollens, published in Lake & Reservoir Management.

EDUCATION

University of Montana, Missoula — MS in Systems Ecology

September 2017 – April 2021

Master of Science with Dr. Benjamin P. Colman, Ecosystems Lab
Water-Energy-Food Nexus Graduate Certificate
Honors: GRFP and Montana Water Center Fellow, Best Poster at American Water Resources Association MT conference 2019

Washington State University Vancouver — BS in Biology

September 2015 - May 2017

Minors in Environmental Science and Mathematics

SKILLS

Data visualization & management

Statistical analysis

Field and laboratory-based data collection

Scientific and technical report writing

Infrastructure inspection

Customer service

PROGRAMMING & SOFTWARE

R Statistical software (fluent)

Microsoft Excel, Word, Powerpoint (fluent)

QGIS, ArcGIS (intermediate)

SQL (beginner)

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Lead organizer for Let's Talk About Water Montana, a community film screening & panel discussion focused on water resources, 2019

We Are Montana in the Classroom volunteer, 2017 - 2018

nPower Girls Water Quality Camp co-lead, Castle Rock, July 2017