

KAITLIN PERKINS

WORK EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT, ECOSYSTEMS LAB, UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA, MISSOULA, MT

August 2017 – November 2020

Wrapping up 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 collaborative 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 lab operation manual, inventory system, and protocols.

NATURALIST AND DECKHAND, THE SCHOONER ZODIAC, BELLINGHAM, WA

May 2017 – August 2017

Educate passengers on marine ecology and stewardship, sail theory, and navigation. Assist with sailing operations, including sail handling, passenger support, and maintenance while upholding stringent safety requirements under US Coast Guard regulations.

NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST ASSISTANT, CLARK COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

January 2016 – February 2017

Assist in with stormwater monitoring, data analysis, and infrastructure inspection. Conducted stream monitoring, including macroinvertebrate sampling, clean water outreach and education, and was project lead on 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.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT, INSTAFAB CO INC, VANCOUVER, WA

February, 2008 – March, 2011

Assisted at family construction company with supply ordering, tool room management, building maintenance, steel delivery, construction print management, and

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

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

SELECT CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

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 Science, Policy, and Practice panel discussions featuring women in STEM fields, 2019
nPower Girls Watershed Quality Camp Co-leader, Castle Rock, July 2017

Participated in the National Education for Women (NEW) Leadership Summer Institute, gaining experience in public speaking, organizing, and message management, drawing on the expertise of women in various fields, and learning skills in preparation for positions of leadership, July 2016

President and Founder of the Environmental Science and Sustainability Club at WSUV, organizing meetings and events to connect students to the campus sustainability resources, 2013 - 2016

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

Founded the Portland, Oregon chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby, traveled to Washington DC to meet with members of Congress to discuss a carbon fee and dividend, 2012 – 2013

Certified Watershed Steward in Clark County in 2013, which required an eight-week training and engaging in volunteer events that were beneficial for watershed vitality.

Student volunteer with Environmental Club at Clark College, received grant as part of a team to install a compost system in the cafeteria, 2011 - 2012

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, Montañó, M, Colman, B. Oral Presentation. A submicron perspective on mine-waste contamination to inform potential exposure. American Water Resource Association Montana. Digital, October 2020.

Perkins, K, Montañó, M, Colman, B. 5-minute Oral Presentation. Characteristics of submicron particles in a mine-waste contaminated river. CREWS All Hands Meeting, Digital, October 2020.

Perkins, K, Montañó, 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, Montañño, 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, Montañño, 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. Oral presentation. Influence of environmental factors on vertical distribution of phytoplankton in Lacamas Lake, WA. Air & Waste Management Association Oregon Chapter Student Environmental Challenge.

GRANTS & HONORS

Best Poster award at American Water Resource Association MT conference, October 2019

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 Oral 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 grant for compost system, October 2012