

Zishi (Violet) Wu  
ziwu@ucdavis.edu  
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Dear Professor Karp and Ms. Lauck,

I am writing to apply for the field technician position with the Nestbox Project. I am currently a junior undergraduate student at UC Davis, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology with a minor in Forensic Entomology. I am in Professor Karp's Conservation Ecology course this quarter, so I got to know this opportunity. My career goal is to become an ecology researcher focusing on bird conservation, and I really want to seize this great opportunity to gain hands-on experience working with songbirds.

I've been birding for only over a year, but I am now an active birder and am confident in bird identification in California, especially around Davis and along Putah creek. I participated in three Christmas bird counts this year in Putah Creek, Sacramento, and Rio Cosumnes. The more I learn about birds in the wild, through photography, in literature, or in classes, the more eager I am to seek opportunities that allow me to contribute to conserving them better. As a volunteer in the California Raptor Center, I have experience handling, netting, and releasing raptors. I know every bird well with their names, stories, and little habits when stepping on a trainer's glove, and I absolutely love working with them. Doing health examinations and preparing them medicines let me develop an awareness of following protocols well with attention to detail. In addition, I am gentle and patient when handling live creatures. I found these traits useful when working with insect specimens or live caterpillars in our lab. I am also very fond of working in the field. I gained experience in field data collection and teamwork from a course offered by the University of California Natural Reserves, *California Ecology and Conservation*, in which we spent a winter camping in remote natural areas for intensive training in experimental design, data collection, and scientific writing. Vigorous birding trips have also prepared me well for long-distance hiking in rugged areas. I believe these traits and experiences made me a good candidate for this project. I am also longing to learn bird banding for a long time! I really hope to get involved in bird surveys or monitoring instead of just observing and taking pictures of them in the wild.

My spring and summer schedule is flexible, and I have attached my resume. I look forward to discussing my qualifications with you. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,  
Violet Wu

**Zishi (Violet) Wu**  
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## **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Science in **Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology**, minor in **Forensic Entomology**  
University of California, Davis  
Expected graduation: June 2023  
Current GPA: 3.961  
Related Courses: Biol Cons Wild Birds, Intro to Ecology, Wildlife Ecology, Conservation Biology

## **SKILLS**

Bird Identification                                      Animal Handling                                      Field data collection

## **EXPERIENCE**

**Undergraduate Researcher**, Yang Lab (Davis, CA) *June 2021- Present*

- Monitor milkweed growth in the field, collect and input data for a long-termed ecology study.
- Independent research on the impact of temperature-derived melanization on monarch caterpillars.

**Content Creator**, Bilibili (Remote) *March 2021-Present*

- Film, edit, and narrate wildlife documentaries and educational videos about insect physiology and ecology.
- 106 thousand subscribers and 3.6 million views in [my channel](#) up to date.

**Volunteer**, California Raptor Center (Davis, CA) *June 2021-Present*

- Responsible for feeding, cleaning, handling, health examination, public education, and some medical treatment for the birds.

**Academic Associate**, Easy group Inc (Remote) *June 2020- September 2021*

- Tutor higher level IB (International baccalaureate) Biology. Content includes cell biology, plant and animal physiology, genetics, and ecology.

**Research Intern**, Primate Social Behavior and Conservation Project (Davis, CA) *March 2021- August 2021*

- Read and code research articles on chimpanzee cognition using Primate Cognition Test Battery Analysis.

**Research Intern**, UC Davis Dairy (Davis, CA) *October 2020- January 2021*

- Assist research conducted by PhD student studying ruminant metabolism and animal nutrition.
- Help in husbandry and treatment of 20 dairy cattle in a feed additive trial. Work includes feeding, cleaning, and collecting milk data.

## **FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE**

**Student**, California Ecology and Conservation Program (San Bernardino, CA) *January 2021-March 2021*

- Design and conducted scientific research while camping in remote natural field over 50 days.
- Analyze data, present, and publish research results.

## **PUBLICATION**

Jacob, F., Lucy, M., Roxana, R., **Zishi, W.** 2021. "Evidence of niche partitioning among small mammals in the Eastern Mojave Desert from scat distribution" *CEC Research* Vol. 5 Issue 2. doi.org/10.21973/N3G660.

## **AWARDS**

- Tracy and Ruth Storer Scholarship 2021-2022
- Elizabeth Graves Hosselkus Scholarship 2020-2021
- Robert B. Wilson Scholarship 2020-2021
- Gail E. and Ruth M. Oliver Scholarship 2019-2020
- Dean's list, Collage of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences 2019-2021

## **ACTIVITIES**

- Member, UC Davis Birdwatching Club *September 2021 - Present*
- Member, UC Davis Woman's Ultimate Frisbee B team *September 2019 - September 2021*
- Member, Beijing National Day School musical cast crew *February 2018- June 2019*
- Participant, iGEM (International Genetic Engineered Machine) competition high school division *December 2017-December 2018*