

# Katherine McCarthy

[kate.a.mccarthy@gmail.com](mailto:kate.a.mccarthy@gmail.com)

805-616-7886

Fort Collins, CO

[LinkedIn](#)

## SUMMARY

Dedicated **graduate student** with Colorado State University's Ecosystem Science and Sustainability Program. Experience within the environmental sector stems from work as a sustainability analyst and through community-based organizations. Currently, I am pursuing a Professional Science Master's with a focus on water resources. I am interested in applying data analysis to aquatic ecosystem restoration.

## EDUCATION

### Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO

December 2026

- Ecosystem Science and Sustainability P.S.M.
  - Focus on Water Resources

### University of California, Santa Barbara, CA

June 2024

3.92 GPA

- Environmental Studies B.A.
  - Concentration in Geography
  - LGBTQ+ Studies Minor
- Awarded College of Letters and Science Dean's Honors for 10 quarters

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Isla Vista Trading Post (IVTP) Co-Outreach Director:

June 2023 - June 2024

- Coordinated and worked 3-for-Free events, in which clothing donations are given away for free to community members to support sustainable fashion at UC Santa Barbara
- Created 2nd Annual IVTP Zine by managing the project, facilitating brainstorming sessions, keeping club members on track, proofreading and editing, planning launch party, and creating funding request.
- Helped re-established the [IVTP website](#) to increase outreach beyond the local community.
- Community education via presentation to student groups, such as sorority chapters at UCSB.
- Implemented organizational changes to club structure including separate weekly executive board meetings, programming calendar, and leadership guides.

### Sustainability Analyst Intern — VOIZ (Voice for Generation Z)

June 2022 – August 2022

- Researched fashion and personal care products to construct 12 sustainability reviews with critical thinking and professional writing.
- Compiled 3 collections of products and ranked them based on sustainability
- Awarded “Strongest Reviewer” and “Best Collection”

### Kappa Kappa Gamma Sustainability Chair

January – December 2022

- Collaborated with a sustainability-focused UCSB club, Gauchos Go Green (formerly Greeks Go Green), to implement strategies to obtain green certification for the chapter house.
- Educated chapter members on sustainability initiatives, environmental organizations, eco-friendly volunteer opportunities, and personal changes that can improve an individual’s sustainability.

## **RELEVANT COURSEWORK**

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### **Principles of Environmental Law**

- Became familiar with federal constitutional principles, environmental laws and regulations, and the role of judicial enforcement of said principles and laws, focusing specifically on common law, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act, and Clean Water and Air Acts.
- Examined previous court cases to understand common law, the development of modern environmental law, major court decisions, and current issues.
- Participated in mock environmental court cases to apply knowledge learned.

### **Introduction to Geographic Informational Systems and Science (GIS)**

- Gained knowledge on the nature of geographic information and the procedures for operating GIS.
- Familiarized with ArcGIS, a geographic mapping software, to perform functions including inputting and mapping raw data, distance measurement, data manipulation, creating spatial data, conducting network analysis, performing, spatial modeling and suitability analysis, in bi-weekly computer lab.

### **Restoration Skills**

- Visited multiple UCSB-led restoration sites and gained hands-on experience in facets of ecological restoration including project planning, site assessment, invasive species management, plant identification and propagation, vegetation and water quality monitoring, and wildlife observation

### **Conservation Planning**

- Gained knowledge and skill sets that focus on protecting and maintaining biodiversity in the face of global changes to land, water, and climate through conservation plans.
- Developed an understanding of the basic principles of ecosystem and landscape ecology, conservation theory, monitoring and adaptive management, interdisciplinary engagement, and problem solving.
- Utilized Miradi, a project management program, to develop hypothetical conservation plans.
- Employed the international Conservation Standards strategy to collaboratively create and present a conservation plan for the Alaskan Giant Kelp.
- Attained fundamental skills in the acquisition, interpretation, and analysis of real digital remote sensing imagery from labs.

### **Advanced Environmental Impact Analysis**

- Constructed focused Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on the impacts of a hypothetical faculty housing and classroom development project to aesthetic and visual resources of Goleta Point on UCSB's campus.
  - The project's visibility range extended assessment of visual resources from Isla Vista to Santa Barbara
  - Addressed project-specific constraints by the location's importance to project objectives and the project's location in the coastal zone
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