

Mikayla Ranspot

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EDUCATION

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque Campus

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Major: Bachelors of Earth & Planetary Science

Class of 2024

Minor: American Sign Language

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Center of Stable Isotopes Laboratory (Dr. Seth Newsome)- *Using carbon and nitrogen isotope analysis of baleen to examine nutritional stress in gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*) in the northeast Pacific Ocean.*

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Undergraduate Researcher

August 2021-Present

- Determining the nutritional status of gray whales using stable isotope analysis of nitrogen and carbon.

Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Mentee

August 2019- May 2020

- Working with student programs based on environmental education, specifically in the Bosque.
- Creating a research project through the University of New Mexico.
- Bird banding of species to learn about identifying species and migration patterns.

Center of Stable Isotopes Laboratory (Dr. Seth Newsome) – *Isotopic Analysis of Porcupine Diets*

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Undergraduate Researcher

August 2018 – May 2020

- Study the diets of porcupines in Albuquerque, New Mexico, located in the surrounding areas of the Rio Grande.
- Conducting research on five different porcupines that had ten years of analysis provided from the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program to investigate the changes in diets using isotopic analysis with a mass spectrometer.
 - Using their quills and plant samples in 0.25 cm samples, I collect information on their diets to identify if they're more C3 or C4 related.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

National Hispanic Environmental Council

California

National Member

July 2022

- The National Hispanic Environmental Council is ten days and focused on conservation education and career programs for college students or future graduate students looking to pursue environmental based majors and careers.

National Hispanic Environmental Council

New Mexico

National Member

August 6-15, 2021

- The National Hispanic Environmental Council is ten days and focused on conservation education and career programs for college students or future graduate students looking to pursue environmental based majors and careers.

Keep America Beautiful Advisory Council

Dallas, Texas

National Member

May– August 2018

- The student council made informational presentations on Social Media outreach and connections to younger generations.
- Presented to around three-hundred people on the connections of social media and the use of online software such as Prezi and the importance of using imagery and personal connection.

FELLOWSHIPS

El Puente Research Fellowship

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Undergraduate Fellow/ Scholarship Recipient

August 2021- May 2022

- The El Puente Research Fellowship provided support for college students creating a research proposal/project that connects academic fields to the community and helps build professional researching skills.

New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Undergraduate Fellow/ Scholarship Recipient

Spring 2022-Present

- The New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation supports underrepresented minorities students pursuing a B.S. degree in STEM disciplines. The Undergraduate Research Scholarship supports students working on research through their four-year degree.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Opening Doors to Nature Education Scholarship-** Friends of Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge
- **ASUNM Senate Scholarship-** University of New Mexico
- **El Centro Emergency Scholarship-** El Centro de la Raza
- **Bridge to Success Scholarship-** University of New Mexico
- **El Centro Research Fellowship-** El Centro de la Raza
- **New Mexico AMP PREP Scholarship-**New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation
- **New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation Undergraduate Research Scholarship-** New Mexico Alliance for Minority Participation

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Undergraduate Research Opportunity Conference Albuquerque, New Mexico
Presenter April 7th, 2022

- Presented research on Carbon and Nitrogen Isotope Analysis of Gray Whale Baleen in the northeast Pacific Ocean with fellow undergraduate researchers at the University of New Mexico.

National Wildlife and Fisheries Annual Conference Prescott, Arizona
Presenter March 2020

Presented research on Isotopic Analysis of Porcupine Diets at the symposium with college students to professionals in environmental based positions for support in future research.

University of New Mexico Crawford Symposium Albuquerque, New Mexico
Presenter March 2019

- Presented research on Isotopic Analysis of Porcupine Diets at a symposium from the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program to around a hundred people.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Center of Stable Isotopes Albuquerque, New Mexico
Lab Technician August 2022-Present

- Supporting the staff and faculty with preparing the samples in the lab for various research projects.

Albuquerque Sign Language Academy Conservation Crew Albuquerque, New Mexico
Supervisor May 2022-August 2022

- Conservation Crew based out of Albuquerque Sign Language Academy working with the city and local organizations that support environmental growth and conservation education in Albuquerque.

Community for Learning (After School Program) Albuquerque, New Mexico
Project Seal Instructor August 2018- January 2021

- Based at Albuquerque Sign Language Academy, which involved supporting students in academics, as well as creating S.T.E.M. and American Sign Language learning opportunities.

Honey Badger Conservation Crew Albuquerque, New Mexico
Assistant Supervisor June 2019- 2021

- The Honey Badger Conservation Crew was based around working with students from Albuquerque Sign Language Academy that are deaf, hard of hearing or have a relative that are. Taking students to the Bio Park, Zoo, local environmental spaces, and public community areas.

Stable Isotope Workshop Albuquerque, New Mexico
Member/Student Leader October 2018-2021

- Three-day long workshop focused on educating students on the connection of stable isotope to different fields of study.

Youth Conservation Corp- Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Member/Assistant Supervisor

June-August 2017 & June-August 2018

- The Youth Conservation Corp focused on outreach in the Albuquerque community, which involved working at National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, First Choice, community gardens, local farms, and schools.
- Connecting six high school students in environmental studies.

Talking Talons Youth Leadership Member

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Member

May 2016-May 2017

- Worked with local students from New Mexico to create bills protecting local wildlife and wildlands and took these bills to the capitol building in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY

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- **Agri Nature Center** 2022
Supporting agricultural work and community events based through the organization.
 - **Santa Ana Pueblo** 2022
Supporting efforts at outdoor space and pond to make the area more accessible to the community.
 - **Cuidando Los Niños** 2021-2022
Creating a garden space that Cuidando Los Niños can use for outdoor education.
 - **ABQ Bio Park** 2019-2022
Supporting the staff with their specific garden spaces and other jobs around the Bio Park such as cleaning the ponds, farm, and butterfly space.
 - **Earth Guardians** 2018
Promoting youth involvement in environmental action, creating an earth guardians' group in New Mexico.
 - **Tree New Mexico** 2017-2018
At the beginning of every month Tree New Mexico works with the community to plan a planting day for native species in the Albuquerque area, primarily trees that can create canopy.
 - **Project Nova** 2017
15 students participate in a weeklong volunteer effort working with housing programs for children in Gallup. We assisted in cleaning up two houses the kids would be living in as well as a gym for them to be able to play in. We also made fleece blankets and donated clothes.
 - **Albuquerque Sign Language Academy** 2016-Present
Assisted with children with special needs and hearing loss. We went on field trips to Explora, Valle de Oro and the zoo. I also participated in social events for the kids such as Halloween carnivals and any special even the school put together.
 - **Friends of Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge** 2016-Present
I participated in many events, recruiting volunteers to help with special events and clean ups. We would clean up the litter in the refuge to keep the animals and birds safe. We would also create events to clean up the major streets leading to Valle de Oro.

OTHER SKILLS & INTERESTS

Technical: Migration and mammal observation, small mammal trapping, native and non-native species sampling, data analysis, eDNA sampling, Electro Fishing, and literature research analysis.

Language: Bilingual proficiency in American Sign Language and English.