

Nicole Schmidt

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EDUCATION

Master of Environmental Science and Management (June 2021)

Bren School of Environmental Science & Management – University of California, Santa Barbara

Specialization: Water Resources Management | Focus: Strategic Environmental Communication

Highlighted Course Work: Statistics & Data Analysis for Environmental Science & Management, Advanced Data Analysis, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Economics of Environmental Management, Environmental Law & Policy, Environmental Politics & Policy, Cost Benefit Analysis & Non-Market Valuation, Writing Skills for Environmental Professionals, Advanced Environmental Communication, Presentation Skills, Equity & the Environment, Sustainable Watershed Management, Watershed Analysis, Conservation Planning, Earth Systems Science, Biogeochemistry, Ecology of Managed Systems

Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies, Minor in Sociology (June 2013)

University of California, Santa Cruz

Deans Honors | Study Abroad Program: University of Cape Town South Africa

ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERIENCE

Master's Group Project (Thesis Equivalent) – Bren School, Goleta, CA (4/20 – 6/21)

Multiple Benefits of Floodplain Restoration - Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) & California Department of Water Resources

- Mapped geospatial models in ArcMap using publicly available scientific data to prioritize sites in Madera County, CA that are most suitable for multiple benefit flood managed aquifer recharge projects
- Collaborated with a group of 4 colleagues, ensuring project deliverables and deadlines are met
- Designed a shiny application in R Studio to effectively communicate results to stakeholders
- Consulted with external clients for a year to recommend priority areas

Communications Capstone – Bren School, Goleta, CA (4/21 – 6/21)

Saving Monarchs – US Fish & Wildlife Service

- Developed a strategic communications plan, including audience research, strategy, objectives, key messages and tactics to promote the conservation of western monarchs
- Provided accessible information to coastal Californians and nurseries about what is beneficial and detrimental to western monarchs
- Created educational signage and stickers to communicate actions to reverse monarch decline

Conservation Intern – Environmental Defense Center Santa Barbara, CA (05/20 – 12/20)

- Provided comments to the Refugio Oil Spill Draft Damage Assessment and Restoration to be shared with USFW staff for regulation compliance
- Reviewed primary literature for offshore oil and gas decommissioning options and identified research gaps
- Produced a blog and co-designed a webpage for EDC's website to communicate research of the current ecological, economic, and scientific implications for 3 decommissioning scenarios

Restoration Education Specialist – Save The Bay Oakland, CA (10/17-5/19)

- Managed 65+ volunteers at a time in invasive species removal, native plant propagation & installation & shoreline cleanups to restore transition zone habitat along coastal marshes
- Evaluated, updated, and created education program activities for 2000+ students each year to inspire lifelong sense of conservation
- Conducted scientific monitoring of restoration sites in collaboration with 8-person team to evaluate success of yearly restoration activities
- Managed program coordination and education database, reporting, and evaluation as part of a team effort
- Led weekly Spanish lessons to a team of 8 people to enhance inclusivity in program activities

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNICATION & PROJECT MANAGEMENT**Environmental Education Teacher & Garden Manager – Education Outside San Francisco, CA (8/15–6/17)**

- Built, maintained, and grew an effective, inviting and productive garden classroom to over 380 students each week
- Promoted energy efficiency, alternative transportation and waste reduction through on-site community collaboration & stakeholder-based behavior change campaigns
- Supervised and mentored over 50 volunteers and 4 interns at a time

Environmental Education Teacher & Naturalist – San Mateo Outdoor Education La Honda, CA (9/14–5/15)

- Cultivated the next generation of leaders needed to help solve the world's environmental challenges

Youth Programs Student Assistant – The Seymour Center, Santa Cruz, CA (10/10 – 6/12)

- Coordinated and guided volunteers to teach students about marine science

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

Computer & Software: Microsoft Office Suite (Excel, PowerPoint, Word), R programming, ArcGIS, Slack, Zoom, Canva

Language: Spanish (Beginning - Intermediate speaking, reading, and writing), English Fluency

Regulatory Knowledge: NEPA/CEQA, Environmental Law

Presentations: Engaging and Empowering Environmental CA Stewards of the Future Presenting at Restoring America's Estuaries Conference, Long Beach, CA (12/18)