

Rory Spurr

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Education

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Master of Marine Affairs | Graduated March 2023

- Cumulative GPA 3.95
- Student Environmental Affairs Society Treasurer & Fundraising lead: fundraised 50% of total budget

Bachelor of Science in Aquatic and Fishery Sciences | Graduated June 2020

- Cumulative GPA 3.5
- Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity Secretary: led end of year report that won chapter excellence award

Work Experience

Teaching Assistant | University of Washington

Seattle, WA | September 2021 – March 2023

- TA for Hypothesis Testing and Estimation for Ecologists and Resource Managers (2 quarters) and Introduction to Probability and Statistics (3 quarters)
- Authored and implemented metrics-driven assessments of lab reports that increased student engagement and improved scores by 10%

Research Assistant | University of Washington

Seattle, WA | October 2020 – September 2021

- Optimized code analyzing stock-recruitment model fits for a 50% increase in run time
- Revised code to automatically calculate AIC for 5 different stock-recruitment models

Research and Development Intern | Whooshh Innovations

Seattle, WA | April 2020 – October 2020

- Conducted research to improve fish identification software to 99% accuracy
- Performed the assembly and construction of five Whooshh tube systems with a team of three members; ensured adherence to safety protocols and timely delivery of the project
- Facilitated the successful operation of Whooshh systems in Big Bar, Canada; resolved errors with Whooshh systems in conjunction with engineering team

Student Coordinator | Bay Laurel Catering

Seattle, WA | January 2018 – April 2020

- Led, mentored, and trained over 15 staff to improve customer satisfaction and efficiency
- Initiated and led banquet events; engaged directly with clients and guests to ensure customer satisfaction

Research Experience

School of Marine and Environmental Affairs | University of Washington

Seattle, WA | January 2022 – March 2023

- Created an interactive web application displaying spatial and temporal data on authorized and reported take of ESA-listed fishes using R Shiny and Leaflet
- Filtered and visualized over 300K data points to identify areas of high research impact on endangered and threatened species along the U.S. west coast
- Created metadata records and developed code for future application to ESA permitting issues; project adopted by NOAA's Protected Resource Division for internal use in March 2023
- Collaborated with NOAA staff and the contractor team to implement an effective project management plan that minimized project disruptions, resulting in no missed deadlines and a 15% increase in project efficiency
- Communicated findings to NOAA agency staff and university audiences (3 public presentations; January-February 2023)

School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences | University of Washington

Seattle, WA | February 2019 – June 2020

- Designed and implemented successful PCR methodologies to process over 220 genetic samples
- Analyzed genetic data, and communicated findings in one talk and poster presentation (June 2020)

Skills

- Data analysis and spatial analysis: R, ArcGIS
- Inferential Statistics
- Scientific Writing and Communication
- Project Management: Kanban, Agile Methods