

# Shaelynn Grifaldo

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## EDUCATION

**The University of North Carolina At Chapel Hill**

*May 2025*

B.A. Environmental Studies, *Concentration in Population, Environment, and Development*

Geographic Information Sciences Minor and Geography Minor

## EXPERIENTIAL WORK

**Bald Head Island Conservancy (Bald Head Island, NC)**

*August 2025 – Present*

Coastal Environmental Conservation Intern

- Conduct water quality analyses on creeks and beaches.
- Respond to emergency wildlife calls and coordinate with rehabilitation clinics.
- Remove invasive species and support forest conservation and habitat management.
- Leading a personal project improving scientific communication on the BHIC website.
- Creating GIS maps highlighting deer management, maritime forest conservation, and creek/aquifer monitoring.

**UNC Distinguished Professor at Law, Donald Hornstein**

*May 2025 – August 2025*

Research Assistant

- Researched climate resilience and insurance-linked securities (resilience bonds).
- Investigated mangrove growth in the Philippines and its connection to insurance resilience bonds.
- Used LexisNexis and supplemental sources to compile and synthesize findings.
- Produced detailed summaries for academic articles and course development.

**Friends of the Lower Haw River (Pittsboro, NC)**

*January 2025 – May 2025*

Environmental Education Coordinator

- Supported planning and promotion of trail development and environmental programs.
- Assisted with implementation of the Lower Haw Trails Plan in collaboration with partners.
- Created digital content and outreach materials for conservation initiatives.
- Contributed to grant research and applications to support environmental projects.

**North Carolina Botanical Gardens (Chapel Hill, NC)**

*May 2024 – June 2024*

UNC ENEC Capstone GIS Analyst

- Collaborated with six peers to support reintroduction of rare, native plant species in the Uwharrie National Forest.
- Led GIS team in building species distribution models to map habitat suitability for rare, native plants.
- Coordinated with the Public Outreach team to provide maps and models for conservation efforts.

- Created an interactive web map to share with the public, showcasing reintroduction processes.

## CERTIFICATIONS

### FAA Part 107a Remote Pilot Certificate (Unmanned Aircraft Systems- Small)

Certification Number: 5087077

*[Acquired November 17, 2024]*

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

### Programming

- Basic R/RStudio Skills
- Basic STATA Programming Skills
- Experience with JavaScript
- Experience with GitHub Applications

### Lab

- Autoclave Operation
- IDEXX bacteria testing
- Vacuum Filtration

### Geospatial Analysis

- Proficiency in QGIS
- Experience in ArcGIS (Pro, Online, StoryMap)
- Google Earth Engine (basic skills)
- Experience with Maximum Entropy (Maxent) Models
- Pix4D Capture & Pix4D Mapping Applications
- GPS/GNSS Data Collection and Processing (including Emlid Reach systems)

### Other

- Microsoft Office Suite
- LexisNexis Research Engine
- WordPress