Steven Mitchell

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EDUCATION

Master of Environmental Science & Management, (Expected June 2025)
Bren School of Environmental Science & Management – University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)
- Specialization in Environmental Policy & Conservation Planning
- Forest Sustainability Fellow

Bachelor of Science in Wildlife, (December 2015)
California Polytechnic University, Humboldt
- Specialization in Conservation Biology & Applied Vertebrate Ecology

MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Project Manager - Climate Adaptation Fellow (GS09 Equivalence) (7/2024 – 9/2024)
The Nature Conservancy, Remote (40 hours per week)
- Organized and led a meta-analysis of climate adaptation options available to the Upper South Platte Partnership to facilitate collaborative and adaptive forest management across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Conducted policy analysis, stakeholder interviews, and sentiment analysis to identify and develop individualized solutions to adaptation barriers.

SARS-CoV2 in Wildlife Researcher - Wildlife Biologist GS09 (9/2022–4/2023)
USDA National Wildlife Research Center, Fort Collins, CO (40 hours per week)
- Led and organized field and animal studies to assess pathogen transmission risk among wildlife, zoo and domestic animals, and humans and the development of methods to reduce or eliminate such transmission.
- Analyzed quantitative and spatial data for methods and results sections of manuscripts.
- Authored government reports and provided recommendations to zoo and land managers.
- Constructed, maintained, and manipulated Access databases for multiple data streams.
- Authored IACUC and IBC protocols in support of wildlife disease research.

Wildlife Crew Lead - Biological Science Technician GS07 (4/2021-10/2021, 4/2022-9/2022, & 4/2023-8/2023)
Mount Rainier National Park, Ashford, WA (40 hours per week)
- Led and mentored junior biologists throughout three summer field seasons conducting monitoring of threatened and endangered species, zoonotic disease surveillance, and mitigation of human-wildlife conflict.
- Planned and implemented field activities for wildlife resource management projects, environmental compliance, and programs, and coordinated and led seasonal field work and staff.
- Organized, conducted, trained, and led others in field surveys in remote backcountry, off-trail work in rugged terrain with a backpack to deploy and retrieve monitoring equipment and conduct wildlife surveys.
- Communicated and collaborated on wildlife research, projects, and compliance with park staff, cooperators, and partners.
- Conducted white-nose syndrome surveillance in bat maternity roosts via capture and processing of up to 120 bats per night; led capture team when the usual lead was absent; conducted radio telemetry on bats.
- Used GIS to make fine-scale slope layers and habitat layers for field maps; used Thiessen polygons to estimate individual home ranges of threatened species based on occurrence points and habitat availability.

Field Coordinator - Wildlife Biologist (GS09 Equivalence) (2/2020-10/2020)
Turnstone Environmental Consultants, Inc, Portland, OR (45 hours per week)
- Organized and led 5 threatened and endangered species monitoring projects; trained and supervised 17 technicians across 3 crews; organized and coordinated collaboration among senior biologists.
- Coordinated and collaborated with resource managers in BLM, USFS, USFWS, and ODF.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Human Wildlife Conflict Specialist – Biological Science Technician (Hazard Mammals) GS06 (8/2019–10/2019)
Olympic National Park, Port Angeles, WA (40 hours per week)
- Managed human-wildlife conflict involving elk, mountain goats, and black bears via hazing, capture and relocation, and preventative planning.
- Organized and led ground site receiving mountain goats from air-based capture team; coordinated veterinarian support; processed over 300 mountain goats for relocation to the Cascade Range.

Crew Lead – Wildlife Biologist (GS07 Equivalence) (3/2019-8/2019)
Turnstone Environmental Consultants, Inc, Portland, OR (45 hours per week)
- Organized and led field surveys for threatened and endangered species of birds and mollusks.

Crew Lead - Biological Science Technician (Wildlife) GS05 (5/2018-11/2018)
USFS Sierra Nevada Carnivore Monitoring Program, Shaver Lake, CA (40 hours per week)
- Led and organized field studies of carnivore species with game cameras and track plates.

Lead Technician for Camera Study – Research Associate (GS06 Equivalence) (3/2018-5/2018)
USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station & The Great Basin Institute, Shaver Lake, CA (40 hours per week)
- Developed and tested the rigor of a novel camera survey protocol for denning female fishers (*Pekania pennanti*) which was incorporated into limited operating period policies in NFS management plans.

Carnivore Technician - Biological Science Technician (Wildlife) GS05 (5/2016-10/2016 & 5/2017-10/2017**)**
USFS Sierra Nevada Carnivore Monitoring Program, Shaver Lake, CA (40 hours per week)
- Conducted field studies of carnivore species with game cameras and track plates.

Bat Capture Volunteer (GS05 Equivalence) (1/2016-5/2016)
Migratory Bat Ecology Project – Redwood Sciences Lab, USFS Arcata, CA (20 hours per week)
- Handled and processed bats; deployed and retrieved mist nets; conducted bioacoustic monitoring.

Carnivore Biology Intern – AmeriCorps (5/2015-8/2015)
USFS Sierra Nevada Carnivore Monitoring Program, Shaver Lake, CA (40 hours per week)
- Conducted field studies of carnivore species with game cameras and track plates.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Data Analysis: Application and evaluation of statistical models of wildlife population status and trends; collation of geospatial data; spatial statistics; hierarchical linear models; hierarchical cluster analysis; supervised and unsupervised machine learning; principal component analysis; sensitivity analysis
Data Science and Communication: Formatting of code for public release; version control, collaborative coding, and code publication with GitHub; relational database construction and manipulation; automation of online data with APIs and web-scraping; R Shiny App development; R Quarto (and Markdown) documentation
Programming Languages: R; Python; XML and HTML
GIS: Habitat modeling with vegetation and elevation data; wildlife home range estimation via Thiessen polygons; cartography and map publication; raster data reclassification, resampling, and zonal statistics; tabular data manipulation (joins, subsetting, etc.); vector processes; coordination system reprojection

CERTIFICATIONS

Chemical Immobilization and Euthanasia of Wildlife - WS National Training Academy and MSU - 2022
Wilderness First Aid - Mount Rainier National Park - 2022
Rabies Vaccination Titer - Current through 4/2025
ATV Rider Certification - ATV Safety Institute - 2018