

# Steven Mitchell

(951) 675-4248 | [steven\\_mitchell@bren.ucsb.edu](mailto:steven_mitchell@bren.ucsb.edu) | [LinkedIn](#) | Santa Barbara, CA

## EDUCATION

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**Master of Environmental Science and Management** (Expected June 2025)

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

Specializations: Conservation Planning & Environmental Policy

Fellowships: Forest Sustainability Fellow, Climate Adaptation Fellow

**Bachelor of Science in Wildlife** (December 2015)

**California Polytechnic University, Humboldt**

Specializations: Conservation Biology & Applied Vertebrate Ecology

## MASTER'S GROUP PROJECT

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**Integrating Climate Adaptation into Local Collaborative Forest Management** (4/24–4/25)

**Role:** Project Manager | **Client:** The Nature Conservancy

- Led a climate adaptation strategy team in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, Colorado State Forest Service, local fire districts, and other forest managers in Colorado's Front Range.
- Formulated science-informed policy strategies to support climate adaptation in western forests.
- Developed solutions to climate adaptation barriers through policy analysis, stakeholder interviews, and sentiment analysis; facilitated collaborative forest management across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Organized a meta-analysis of 64 climate adaptation resources into an online decision-support library.
- **Climate Adaptation Fellow:** (7/25-9/25): Jumpstarted the project by travelling to the Upper South Platte Watershed in Colorado to meet with collaborators, interview stakeholders, and set objectives.

## WILDLIFE BIOLOGY EXPERIENCE

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**Wildlife Lead - Biological Science Technician** (4/21–10/21, 4/22–9/22, & 4/23–8/23)

**Mount Rainier National Park, Ashford, WA**

- Led and supervised 8 professional-level staff throughout 3 field seasons of monitoring threatened and endangered species, zoonotic disease surveillance, and human-wildlife conflict mitigation.
- Managed the overall wildlife program by overseeing the budget, setting work priorities, coordinating projects and permitting, analyzing data, and providing policy recommendations.
- Organized and led field work for wildlife studies on northern spotted owl demographics, white-nose syndrome in bats, American pika occurrence mapping, and avian productivity and survivorship.
- Authored Biological Assessments and Environmental Impact Statements for Park actions.

**SARS-CoV-2 in Wildlife Researcher - Wildlife Biologist** (9/22–4/23)

**USDA National Wildlife Research Center, Fort Collins, CO**

- Led and organized field studies to assess pathogen transmission risk among wildlife, zoo and domestic animals, and humans and develop methods to reduce or eliminate such transmission.
- Provided science-based policy recommendations to zoo and land managers.
- Analyzed quantitative and spatial data for methods and results sections of manuscripts.
- Authored government reports and IACUC and IBC protocols in support of wildlife disease research.

**Field Coordinator – Wildlife Biologist** (2/20–10/20)

**Turnstone Environmental Consultants, Inc., Portland, OR**

- Managed 5 threatened and endangered species monitoring projects, by hiring and supervising 17 professional-level staff, setting work priorities, managing budgets, and authoring technical reports.
- Negotiated project contracts with public officials; developed proposals and cost estimates for bids.
- Coordinated and collaborated with resource managers in BLM, USFS, USFWS, and ODF.
- Planned and conducted snorkel surveys for salmonids, assessed stream habitat, and monitored water quality conditions.

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## Steven Mitchell—Page 2

### ADDITIONAL FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE

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#### **Human-Wildlife Conflict Specialist – Biological Science Technician (8/19–10/19)**

##### **Olympic National Park, Port Angeles, WA**

- Organized and led ground site receiving mountain goats from air-based capture team; coordinated veterinarian support; processed 300+ mountain goats for relocation to the Cascade Range.
- Mitigated human-wildlife conflict involving elk, mountain goats, black bears, mesocarnivores, and marmots via hazing, capture and relocation, and preventative planning.

#### **Crew Lead – Wildlife Biologist (3/19–8/19)**

##### **Turnstone Environmental Consultants, Inc, Portland, OR**

- Organized and led field surveys for threatened and endangered species of birds and mollusks.

#### **Wildlife Crew Lead – Biological Science Technician (5/18–11/18)**

##### **USFS Sierra Nevada Carnivore Monitoring Program, Shaver Lake, CA**

- Led and organized field studies of carnivore species with game cameras and track plates.

#### **Lead Technician for Camera Study – Research Associate (3/18–5/18)**

##### **USFS Pacific Southwest Research Station & The Great Basin Institute, Shaver Lake, CA**

- Developed and tested the rigor of a novel camera survey protocol for denning female fishers which was incorporated into limited operating period policies in NFS management plans.

#### **Carnivore Technician – Biological Science Technician (Wildlife) (5/16–10/16 & 5/17–10/17)**

##### **USFS Sierra Nevada Carnivore Monitoring Program, Shaver Lake, CA**

- Conducted field studies of carnivore species with game cameras and track plates.

#### **Bat Handler - Volunteer (1/16–5/16)**

##### **Migratory Bat Ecology Project – Redwood Sciences Lab, USFS Arcata, CA**

- Handled and processed bats; deployed and retrieved mist nets; conducted bioacoustic monitoring.

#### **Carnivore Technician – AmeriCorps Intern (5/15–8/15)**

##### **USFS Sierra Nevada Carnivore Monitoring Program, Shaver Lake, CA**

- Conducted field studies of carnivore species with game cameras and track plates.

### TECHNICAL SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

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**GIS:** Geospatial statistics, map design and publication, StoryMaps, geodatabases, and more (inquire)

**Data Analysis/Conservation Planning:** Population modeling, connectivity analysis (Circuitscape), habitat modeling (Maxent), spatial prioritization (Marxan), and more (inquire)

**Programming Languages:** R, Python, SQL, CSS, SASS, XML, and HTML

**Microsoft Suite:** Advanced Excel, Access database construction, PowerPoint, Teams, and Outlook

**Management and Communication:** Zoom, Asana, Google suite, technical report writing, contract negotiation, budgets, equipment acquisition/maintenance, public presentations, and data visualization

**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)