

# Nick Van Gilder

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## Education

**Humboldt State University (B.S.).** Zoology (major), Geography (minor); Dec. 2016.

- 3.66 GPA.

## Publications

Van Gilder, N. and Riffle, S. 2019. A novel observation of scavenging in *Thamnophis sirtalis infernalis*. Herpetol. Rev. 50(3): 604.

## Research Experience

**Assessing the Threat of the Pathogenic Fungus *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* (Bsal) to Amphibians in the US, Piovita-Scott Lab at Washington State University, Vancouver.**

Laboratory Intern, September 2017-May 2018 & January 2019-Present.

- Performed PrepMan Ultra DNA extractions of skin swab samples.
- Observed, handled, and swabbed salamanders of several different species during Bsal susceptibility study. Documented lesions and took standardized notes.
- Drafted official applications for permits for specimen collection from various state agencies and municipalities; and participated on out-of-state collections trips for difficult to detect species (i.e. *Hydromantes* and *Batrachoseps*).

## **California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Region 2, North-Central Sierra**

High Elevation Amphibian Technician, May 2018-Nov 2018 and May 2019-Nov 2019

- Frequently surveyed for, captured, handled, and PIT-tagged endangered amphibians (and occasionally salmonids) for long-term monitoring and a capture-mark-recapture study, often performing work independently.
- Backpacked weekly to remote wilderness field sites on a small field crew, often worked during harsh conditions and dealt with challenging logistics.
- Helped train new employees during the 2019 season on survey protocols for listed species, and operation of common work equipment. Acted as a field crew lead during portions of the 2019 season due to a coworker's absence.

**Long-term monitoring of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis* (Bd) infection loads in *Rana cascadae*. Collaborative project between Piovita-Scott Lab (WSUV) and USFS.**

Volunteer Field Technician, July 2016 and July 2017.

- Performed backcountry VES for *Rana cascadae*, collected skin swab samples.
- Measured and weighed frogs, and assisted paid technicians with insertion of VIE and PIT tags and the collection of toe clips.

## **United States Forest Service, El Dorado National Forest, Region 5**

Biological Aid for Fisheries, May-August 2012.

- Performed protocol-level surveys for *Rana draytonii* and other sensitive aquatic species on 2-person field crew. Assessed stream breeding habitat suitability and collected various data related to stream hydrology.
- Operated government vehicle, often worked long shifts 2-3 hours away from the office. Occasionally camped overnight in order to complete night surveys for target species.

## **Teaching Experience**

### **Sly Park Environmental Education Center, Pollock Pines, CA**

Student Intern, September 2010-May 2011.

- Presented half hour lectures focused on the biology of reptiles and amphibians to 25 middle school students, adhering to requirements of state curriculum for the grade level.
- Assisted paid teachers on educational hikes with larger (30+) groups of students. Taught about aspects of the natural history of reptiles, amphibians, and other animals and plants.

## **Relevant Skills**

- Used topographic maps, GPS units, dip nets, PIT tag readers, SPOT devices, thermometers and DSLR cameras daily.
- Frequently operated backpack electroshockers, float tubes, gill nets, and depth readers.
- Familiar with the use of block nets, fyke nets, seine nets, clinometers, rattlesnake tubes, aquatic and terrestrial drift fences, and pitfall traps.
- Proficient with general natural history and identification of Western herpetofauna.
- Experienced in use of Microsoft Office programs to input and organize data. Some experience with ArcGIS and R.

## **Professional Conferences Attended**

The Society for Northwestern Vertebrate Biology, Northwest Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Research and the Washington Chapter of the Wildlife Society - Grand Mound, WA (Feb. 2019)

California/Nevada Amphibian Populations Task Force - Arcata, CA (Jan. 2019)

SNVB, NWPARC, and the Oregon and Washington Chapters of the Wildlife Society – Portland, OR (Feb. 2018)

SNVB, NWPARC, and California North Coast Chapter of the Wildlife Society – Blue Lake, CA (March 2017)