

Mary Whitaker

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Objective

To apply my background in ecology fieldwork and research in the marine sciences

Summary of Qualifications

- Wide range of ecological field and research experiences
- Demonstrated leadership ability in high-stressed environments
- Excellent self-starter with demonstrated ability to multi-task
- Reliable and organized professional capable of adapting to new challenges

Education

California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly), San Luis Obispo

Bachelor of Science, June 2007

Major: **Ecology & Systematic Biology**

Major GPA: **2.96**

Concentration: **Marine Biology**

- Dean's List

- Financing 100% of college expenses

Research

The effects of varying salt concentrations on E. coli growth, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 9/05 – 12/05

- Organized and executed spectrophotometer analysis for microbial growth across 80 different salt concentrations
- Presented findings in peer-reviewed lecture using Microsoft PowerPoint

Field Work

Dispersal rate analysis of terrestrial isopods on California's central coast Summer 2005

- Collected, identified, and strategically released 3,000 terrestrial isopods with a team of 23 colleagues

The stream ecology of Cuesta Creek Summer 2005

- Collected and analyzed data influencing relationships between complex stream ecosystems
- Presented findings in peer-reviewed lecture

Altitude and soil analysis of chaparral environments in Poly Canyon Summer 2005

Laboratory Skills

- Aseptic Techniques
- Spectrophotometer Analysis
- Thin Layer, Gas, & Ion Chromatography
- Electrophoresis
- PCR
- Infrared Spectroscopy
- Microbial Staining and Plating
- ELISA
- Southern Blotting

Relevant Coursework

- Experimental Design & Regression Models
- Microbial Physiology
- Evolution & Ecology
- Geographic Information Systems
- Survey of Organic Chemistry
- Chemistry for Engineers
- Genetics
- Physical Geology & Soil Science
- General Biology Series
- Cultural Geography
- Resource Law Enforcement
- Applied Life Science Statistics

Computer Skills

- GIS, Minitab, Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and MS Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)

Leadership

Men's & Women's Soccer Camps, Cal Poly Athletics, San Luis Obispo, CA Summer 2006

Coach/Camp Counselor

- Directed 9 staff members in supervising over 100 children overnight campers
- Coached and instructed 20 school-aged children on soccer skill development and team dynamics
- Assess players' skill levels to effectively augment individual ability

Other Selected Experience

California Mid-State Fair, Paso Robles, CA Summer 2005

Security Guard

- Enforced security for high-profile celebrities in a crowd in excess of 15,000 crazed fans
- Served in high-stressed environment of front-line stage security

Community Service

- Miracle Miles for Kids
- Adopt-A-Family