

## Mitchell Donovan

Watershed Sciences, PhD Student

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I have a BS in Geography and Environmental Systems from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. I am currently working on my PhD in Watershed sciences with Dr. Patrick Belmont in the Hydrology and Fine Sediment lab. The majority of my research has focused on temporal changes in river systems, specifically on how the rate of migration and channel width have been changing over time. The changes are studied in the context of historical and contemporary human manipulation to the watershed landscape. I worked at USGS for five years as a water quality technician; therefore, I have experience in and out of academics. I would be a suitable tutor for those interested in pursuing a future in earth-sciences or for someone with general grad school questions. I don't have experience in the private sector of jobs, so I wouldn't be too much help in that area.

After numerous applications to many different entities, I may also be helpful for crafting applications or cover letters.

### Mitchell's Areas of Specialty

1. Advice on looking for graduate programs
2. Help with editing personal statements for graduate programs
3. Advice on picking a graduate program
4. Help with contacting potential advisors
5. Advice on how to prepare for and what to expect from grad school
6. Help with preparing and editing CVs and resumes
7. Being awesome

### Contact me!

[mdonovan@aggiemail.usu.edu](mailto:mdonovan@aggiemail.usu.edu)

## Rachel Hager

Watershed Sciences, PhD Student

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I am currently working with Dr. Karin Kettenring on how to restore the wetlands of the Great Salt Lake using to genetically diverse native plant species to recover ecosystem function. The factors of climate change, genetics, and ecosystem functions fascinates me in every ecosystem. I received my undergraduate degree in Biology with minors in French and Environmental Studies from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. During my undergrad, I did three years of research at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Maryland on the impacts of climate change and *Phragmites australis*, an aggressive invasive plant, in native tidal marshes. I went straight from my undergrad to a Ph.D. program, so can offer advice and cautionary tales if that is an option you are considering. When I am not in the lab or in the greenhouse, I can be found adventuring in the great outdoors through skiing, rafting, running, and biking.

### Rachel's Areas of Specialty

1. Advice on looking for graduate programs
2. General advice on picking a graduate program
3. Help with first contacting potential advisors
4. Advice on how to prepare for and what to expect from grad school
5. Help preparing and editing CVs and resumes.
6. Advice on looking for summer/post-graduation internships

### Contact me!

rachel.nia.hager@gmail.com

## Jeffrey Haight

Watershed Sciences, MSc Student

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Hello! I'm a current MSc student in Watershed Sciences and Ecology, studying under Edd Hammill. Originally from El Sobrante, California, I started my studies as a community college student and went on to receive my B.S. in Environmental Science & Management from University of California, Davis. My broad interests in conservation ecology are based in studying how best to conserve and reconcile biologically-diverse ecosystems in landscapes that have experienced or are undergoing high levels of anthropogenic change, with particular focuses on urbanization and human-wildlife conflict. At USU, my current research focuses on mapping potential shifts in climate regime and landscape connectivity across Utah's ecoregions and modeling the prioritization of conservation efforts in light of projected regional change. When I'm not busy studying, I'm usually looking for any possible excuse to get myself outdoors and go hiking, camping, skiing, or boating.

### Jeffrey's Areas of Specialty

1. Advice on looking for graduate programs
2. Help editing personal statements for graduate programs
3. General advice on picking a graduate program
4. Help with first contacting potential advisors
5. Alternatives to seeking graduate position announcements (NSF and other fellowships)
6. Advice on how to prepare for and what to expect from grad school
7. Help preparing and editing CVs and resumes.
8. Advice on looking for summer/post-graduation internships

### Contact me!

[jdhaight@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jdhaight@ucdavis.edu)

## Shaley Valentine

Ecology & Watershed Sciences, MS Student

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I have a BA in Zoology from Northern Michigan University. I am currently pursuing an MS in Ecology-Watershed Sciences and am advised by Dr. Trisha Atwood. My background is wide ranging in ecology and conservation in both academic and state agency settings. My past research has largely focused on fisheries conservation where I worked with the Florida Fish and Wildlife in Jacksonville, Florida and the Black Lake Sturgeon Rearing Facility in Onaway, Michigan. I also have experience with phylogeography of small mammals in Canada. Currently, my master's research is focusing on how trophic level and diet are related to global patterns of sensitivity to extinction in mammals, birds, and reptiles. I enjoy kayaking, snowshoeing,

strategy games, and mushroom foraging.

### Shaley's Areas of Specialty

1. Advice on looking for graduate programs
2. Help with editing personal statements for graduate programs
3. Advice on picking a graduate program
4. Help with contacting potential advisors
5. Alternatives to seeking graduate position announcements (NSF and other fellowships)
6. Advice on how to prepare for and what to expect from grad school
7. Help with preparing and editing CVs and resumes
8. Advice on interview skills
9. Help with mock presentations or interviews
10. Advice on looking for summer/post-graduation internships

### Contact me!

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