WATERSHED SCIENCE

MEET OUR GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORS

GREG GOODRUM
MITCHELL DONOVAN
AUBIE DOUGLAS
CHRISTINA MORRISETT
JENNA KEETON
Hi! I'm Greg, and I’m a masters candidate in the Watershed Science program focusing on using large scale spatial datasets to model aquatic habitat for Bluehead suckers and Bonneville cutthroat trout. I completed my B.S. in Geography (Geographic Information Systems) at the University of Arizona. Following graduation, I spent time working for the Bureau of Land Management (Grand Staircase-Escalante NM) and US Fish and Wildlife Service (Carolina Sandhills NWR), before taking an 8-year position leading botanical and hydrologic surveys for the National Park Service’s Sonoran Desert Inventory and Monitoring Network. I have also worked with Utah DWR, Grand Canyon National Park, and US Fish and Wildlife Service’s Zone 2 office conducting native fish monitoring. When not knee-deep in science, I enjoy backpacking, running, paddling, mountain biking, fishing, cooking, and reading.

**Greg'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. Advice on how to prepare for and what to expect from grad school
6. Help preparing and editing CVs
7. Advice on interview skills
8. Advice on seeking alternative careers
9. Advice on looking for summer and post-graduation internships
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
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
I’m a Colorado native who graduated with a BA in Environmental Studies, specializing in Biogeochemistry, with a minor in Geography from the University of Colorado in 2013. In 2016, I came to Utah State University as a MS student in the Bioregional Planning Program (BrP) and successfully defended my thesis in August, 2018. In 2017, I added a second MS degree in Ecology through the Watershed Sciences Department in Dr. Karin Kettenring’s Wetland Ecology and Restoration Lab. My research interests are spatially-oriented and include landscape ecology, assessing ecosystem services, and environmental planning. My BrP research involved spatially assessing conflicts between proposed development and critical migratory bird habitat around Farmington Bay of the Great Salt Lake using GIS. My ecology degree research involves mapping and modeling wetland vegetation and several ecological functions they perform across a landscape. I also use systematic conservation planning to optimize on-the-ground management actions for wetland managers. In my free time, I enjoy cooking, knitting/crocheting, hiking, reading, flyfishing, and tying flies.

Aubie’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. Advice on interview skills
6. Mock presentations or interviews
CHRISTINA MORRISETT
PhD Student
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I grew up in rural Alaska, nestled between mountains and the sea. After high school, I got way out of my comfort zone and ventured to California where I received my B.S. in Ocean Systems from Stanford University (and was the first person in my family to go to college!). During undergrad, I worked as a summer fisheries technician for the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game. After undergrad, I spent a year in Idaho working for a fisheries NGO and then moved to Seattle to obtain my M.S. in Aquatic and Fishery Sciences from the University of Washington. I enjoy hiking, Instagramming my hikes, and planning trips to hike some more. Currently, I am a Climate Adaptation Science Trainee at USU and am pursuing my Ph.D. in Watershed Sciences with Dr. Sarah Null, in partnership with the Henry’s Fork Foundation (the fisheries NGO I previously worked for). My research interests include water resource management for multiple stakeholders (like fish, farms, and hydropower) and building resiliency to climate change in the rural American West.

Christina’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 what to expect from/how to prepare for grad school
5. Help preparing and editing CVs
6. Mock presentations or interviews
7. Advice on looking for summer/post-graduation internships
A Seattle native, I and earned my BS at the University of Washington where I studied Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, Marine Biology, and Quantitative Science. I have done research in Southwest Alaska on sockeye salmon/brown bear, and have studied in the Frank Church Wilderness area looking at post-wildfire stream metabolism response. After college, I worked with the Northwest Fisheries Science Center in Seattle studying the effectiveness of stream restoration projects across the Columbia River Basin. I also worked with the University of Washington's Alaska Salmon Program and a non-profit, Rivers Without Borders, to examine development impacts on valuable commercial fisheries in Southeast Alaska. My current work focuses on the effect of drought on lakes and reservoirs across the nation, particularly how shoreline habitats can be vulnerable to change. I enjoy spending time outdoors, cooking, hanging with friends and dogs.

Jenna'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. Advice on looking for summer/post-graduation internships