

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Incomplete  
Grad Program Applying To: MES

Iteration Name: 202410\_GR\_G  
Program Name: MES

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Ali Trout  
Recommenders Institution: Washington Conservation Corps  
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.  
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓

Recommenders Title: Supervisor  
Contact Name: Xitlali Herrera  
Recommendation Waiver Choice:  
Recommendation Status: Received

Received Date: 01/04/2023 07:21 AM  
Recommendation Type: General  
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000108640035

Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.  
Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation  
Recommendation Owner: Josephine Bernier

#### Recommender Form Questions

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How long have you known applicant:	Applicant ability as self-directed learner:
Time since last contact with applicant:	Applicant as productive member of group:
Relationship with Applicant:	Applicant most significant strengths:
Ability to complete rigorous grad program:	Responsibility/reliability:
Communication Skills - Oral:	Communication skills - written:
Service Orientation-sensitivity/empathy:	Ability to work independently:
Ability to handle stress:	Ability to think critically:
Ability to analyze/problem solve:	Ability to think creatively:
Openness to feedback:	Potential for leadership:
Ability to work in a team:	Personal/professional reflection:

#### Description Information

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Description:

Form URL: <https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu>

#### Other Information

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Created Time: 12/05/2022 09:40 PM  
Modified Time: 01/04/2023 07:21 AM

Created By: Josephine Bernier  
Modified By: Josephine Bernier



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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711 for Washington Relay Service • Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341*

To Whom it May Concern:

I recommend Xitlali Herrera to the Master of Environmental Science Program at The Evergreen State College. Xitlali has served as an AmeriCorps member with the Washington Conservation Corps since October 2021. I have had the pleasure of working with her multiple times throughout her service terms. We have mostly interacted on disaster response deployments such as COVID test kit assembly in Olympia, WA and Hurricane Response in Florida. These deployments last 30 days, 6 days a week and 11 to 16 hours per day. During these deployments I worked closely with Xitlali and experienced her ability to take initiative, be self-driven, seek and implement feedback, lift the voices of others, accomplish goals she sets for herself and be incredibly hard working.

Xitlali was the Public Information Officer during our last response to Florida for Hurricane Ian Recovery. She had never deployed on hurricane response or held a leadership position on the Incident Command Team comprised of her supervisors and peers. She was given standard operation procedures for the position, but Xitlali went above and beyond to spread the word in the community of the services we offer. She created a public Facebook page, leave-at-the-door pamphlets and helped coordinate a local Washington State news station interview. These public information channels helped bring awareness to the public of the free services we provide to folks affected by the storm.

Xitlali also spent a lot of time visiting homes our crews were working on to interview homeowners and crew members working on those affected homes. These interviews helped share the story of what we were doing in the community. The homeowner interviews were utilized as motivation for responders. It is grueling hard work for 30 days and when responders hear from the homeowner the difference they are making in people's lives, it reminds you why you deploy. Xitlali knew this was important not just to document, but to lift the voices of people in overburdened, vulnerable communities.

I have watched Xitlali grow so much on these deployments. Her confidence in herself and abilities has increased tremendously. She asks questions to clarify and learn, but she also puts in the work to learn and grow. This is why I know she will do well in the Master of Environmental Science Program at The Evergreen State College. She has proved to be self-driven and community focused. She will put in the work to not just make herself better, but the situation and others around her better as well. I highly recommend Xitlali for this program.

Please reach out if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

Ali Trout (she/her)

Department of Ecology – Washington Conservation Corps

WCC Supervisor 2 – Disaster Response Specialist

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