Application Related Information

Application:	Application Incomplete	Iteration Name:	202410_GR_G
Grad Program Applying To:	MES	Program Name:	MES

Recommendation Information

Recommended By:	Mickey Agha	Recommenders Title:	PhD, Statewide Salmon Science and Policy Analyst
Recommenders Institution:	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Contact Name:	Maria Kaniewski
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.	Recommendation Waiver Choice:	
Recommendation Form Submitted:	✓	Recommendation Status:	Received
Received Date:	03/21/2023 02:24 PM	Recommender Assessment:	I recommend this applicant without reservation.
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000108767849	Recommendation Owner:	Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

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 rigourous 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

Description:		Form URL:	https://evergreenstatecollege.radius

Other Information

Created Time:	12/22/2022 12:16 PM	Created By:	Josephine Bernier
Modified Time:	03/21/2023 02:24 PM	Modified By:	Josephine Bernier

3.21.23

Dear Graduate Admissions at Evergreen State College,

I am writing to you in full support of Maria Kaniewski and her application to attend Evergreen State College for the Master of Environmental Studies program. I would like to recommend her without reservation, as I believe she is well prepared and well suited for this program.

As a Policy and Science unit lead at Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, I work with a variety of professionals with ecological and analytical specialties as well as those with substantial knowledge of natural and social sciences. Maria has stood out among those individuals and shown a strong desire to improve her understanding of ecological and environmental concepts, as well as build her analytical and critical thinking skill set. For instance, over the past four years that I have known and mentored Maria, she has engaged with biologists, natural resource scientists, and natural resource managers across our department and from different divisions and agencies. In that short time, she has gained interdisciplinary knowledge and skills to build her repertoire as a fisheries biologist, gained the respect of her peers, and advanced her employment status to a higher-level biologist.

Of the many projects she has worked on under my direction, one project in particular showed the breadth of her abilities. It revolved around collecting biological data while being particularly sensitive to the traditional knowledge, analyzing the data for important ecological trends, and producing a result that would assist with natural resource management. The end result of the project was presented to tribal biologists and managers and was received quite well. In the process, it demonstrated her ability to bring together environmental knowledge of a particular system, interact with other professionals and collaborate, think critically and analytically, present perspectives, and deliver information to others in a concise well-thought-out way. I believe these are the attributes of a candidate who would perform quite well in graduate school.

While Maria has consistently exceeded all expectations of her work position, she has clearly shown a desire to continue learning in an academic environment. For instance, she often looks for the literature, history, science, and theories that are behind different decisions and analyses that we conduct for natural resource management. From this aspect, I can relate, as I also returned to graduate school after working in a professional environment to improve a skillset and knowledge base.

In summation, it is my belief that Maria is a student who will shine bright in the graduate program at Evergreen State College, and I hope she is given the opportunity to attend and seek a Master of Environmental Studies degree.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mickey Agha
Statewide Salmon Science and Policy
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife