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202410_GR_G **Application Complete** Application: Iteration Name: Grad Program Applying To: MES Program Name: MES Recommendation Information Recommended By: Robin Baird Recommenders Title: Research Biologist Recommenders Institution: Cascadia Research Collective Alexandra Vanderzee Contact Name: Recommendation Waiver Waive Access to I choose to waive my right to Recommendation Ltrs: review this recommendation. Choice: Recommendation Form Recommendation Status: Received Submitted: Received Date: Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant 12/28/2022 07:04 AM without reservation. Recommendation Type: General Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000108720743 Josephine Bernier Recommendation Owner: Recommender Form Questions How long have you known Applicant ability as applicant: self-directed learner: Time since last contact with Applicant as productive applicant: member of group: Relationship with Applicant: Applicant most significant strengths: Ability to complete rigourous Responsibility/reliability: grad program: Communication Skills - Oral: Communication skills written: Service Ability to work independently: Orientation-sensitivity/empathy: Ability to handle stress: Ability to think critically: Ability to analyze/problem Ability to think creatively: solve: Openness to feedback: Potential for leadership: Personal/professional Ability to work in a team: reflection: **Description Information** Description: Form URL: https://evergreenstatecollege.radius Other Information

Created Time: 12/19/2022 09:03 AM Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 12/28/2022 07:04 AM Modified By: Josephine Bernier



218 ½ W. 4th Avenue Olympia, WA 98501 USA Phone: 1-360-943-7325 www.cascadiaresearch.org

December 28, 2022

Re: Letter of reference for Alexandra Vanderzee for the Master of Environmental Studies program

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regards to Alexandra Vanderzee, applying for a position in the MES program at The Evergreen State College. I have known Alex since 2012, co-supervising much of her work with Cascadia Research Collective. During her time at Cascadia she has been involved in most of the range of research activities undertaken by our non-profit, including photo-identification matching (i.e., spending long periods of time at a computer trying to match individuals), small-boat based field research (photo-ID, observer, biopsy sampling) with both baleen whales and odontocete cetaceans, data entry, processing, and management, training interns and new field staff, data analysis and presenting results at conferences, and working on a manuscript to publish some of her work in a peer-reviewed scientific journal.

I have worked with many TESC undergraduate and MES students over the years at Cascadia, some as interns and some as graduate students carrying out their MES thesis work with Cascadia. Alex would come into the MES program with a much wider depth of experience relative to her goals with the MES program than most incoming students (all that I have met or interacted with), having participated in a diversity of research activities over more than 10 years. She has been particularly effective at QA/QC with datasets, a rare skill. Alex has a number of qualities that will serve her well as a graduate student in the MES program – she is self-motivated and detail oriented. She works well with others, but also has the ability to work independently and with little supervision.

I would not hesitate to recommend Alex for acceptance into the MES program and think she will excel as a graduate student at TESC. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Robin W. Baird, PhD Hawai'i Program Director

Research Biologist 360-754-3542

rwbaird@cascadiaresearch.org