

#### Application Related Information

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Application: Application Not Verified      Iteration Name: 202510\_GR\_G  
Grad Program Applying To: MES      Program Name: MES

#### Recommendation Information

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Recommended By: Amy Cook      Recommenders Title: Professor  
Recommenders Institution: Evergreen State College      Contact Name: Marina Aune  
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs: I do not waive my right to review this recommendation.      Recommendation Waiver Choice:  
Recommendation Form Submitted: ✓      Recommendation Status: Received  
Received Date: 12/10/2023 01:18 PM      Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant.  
Recommendation Type: General      Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation  
Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000112560308      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: 12/04/2023 06:06 PM      Created By: Josephine Bernier  
Modified Time: 12/10/2023 01:18 PM      Modified By: Josephine Bernier



December 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to recommend Marina Aune for the Masters in Environmental Studies program at The Evergreen State College. Marina was a student in my program, "Water Quality in the Pacific Northwest" in Spring 2023 and did an internship with me in Fall quarter, 2023. Water Quality brought together ecology, physiology, water chemistry, and research methods to explore their interaction and what that interaction mean for water quality issues. The focus of the internship was looking at various growing systems for microgreens.

Marina is a great representative of an Evergreen student with broad interdisciplinary interests but with a solid foundation in each of those disciplines. Through her college career she has taken programs focused on both humanities and science. In both Water Quality and the internship, Marina has demonstrated a detailed understanding of scientific concepts, strong writing and communication skills and very good work habits. Marina has a very mature outlook and solid time-management skills.

There are several characteristics that I have observed in Marina that I think will lead her to be very successful in a Masters program. She has clearly demonstrated that she is comfortable navigating and reading the scientific literature. A glance through her transcripts shows that Marina is equally comfortable navigating the technical literature in other disciplines as well. The project work that Marina did in Water Quality and the internship showed her ability to plan and carry out research and write a technical paper on that research. In the midst of the microgreens project Marina experienced two major setbacks in terms of the growth of the plants she was monitoring. She was able to pivot to a revised version of what the project would address, showing both resilience and flexibility. Since one's thesis project rarely ends up following the exact trajectory that you anticipate, I think this last set of characteristics are particularly important in demonstrating that Marine is ready to do graduate-level work.



In conclusion, I can certainly recommend Marina for the Master in Environmental Studies program. Her work demonstrates an excellent example of a student who took full advantage of the learning opportunities in the undergraduate programs she took and someone who has developed a firm foundation to support the Masters thesis project she is interested in doing – accessibility and disability in environmental studies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Cook". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and a distinct "Cook" at the end.

Amy Cook, Ph.D.

Member of the Faculty  
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