

July 15th, 2024

Dear Evergreen Admissions,

Hello, my name is Hallie Morris, and I am excited to be applying for your Environmental Studies Graduate Program at Evergreen State College! Below are my qualifications for the program.

I graduated with my BS in ecology and conservation biology with a minor in wildlife resources in December 2023. In addition to my coursework, I also possess on-the-job field experience working independently and as part of a team. Such relevant experience includes wildlife and vegetation population surveys, collecting and analyzing vegetation samples, identifying invasive and native plant and wildlife species, analyzing canopy cover, creating GIS maps, statistical analysis, and hiking through rough terrain under various weather conditions. I also possess experience using digital tools such as ArcPro, GIS Online, RStudio, and VMAP. Consequently, all this prior knowledge would allow me to hone my skills to a more complex level throughout my program in my coursework and internships.

Additionally, I would like to highlight my experience working with different agencies and land partners such as the Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Intermountain Bird Observatory, U.S. Forest Service, private landowners, ranchers, and more. I hope to take this background and use it to excel at internships as well as enrich the students around me.

Furthermore, I possess a great understanding of leadership roles and values through my jobs working in Housing and Residence Life, the College of Natural Resources Ambassador Program, and now as a full-time government employee. These experiences would positively add to my graduate career and have prepared me to be successful.

Ecology and natural resource management are my passions which makes me a great fit for this program. I hope to become a wildlife biologist for a state or federal agency in the future and being accepted to your school would help me make this dream come true.

Additionally, my father was the one who referred me to Evergreen, he told me he knows many people through his work as a fish biologist who have graduated with a master's at Evergreen's Environmental Studies Program and have become fruitful in their fields. The smaller class sizes, professional faculty, and location of the school are attractive to me. Moreover, the environmental focus of this degree requires a passion for conserving natural resources as well as the drive to learn, both of which I have acquired via prior experiences. In addition to possessing a high drive to learn, I pride myself on not becoming complacent. Science and our understanding of the world is constantly changing and as a result, I believe to be truly successful one must be willing to keep up with the newest technologies and studies. Doing this will make sure we can conserve our natural resources and help give our planet the best chance to heal itself. Lastly, my dedication to professional growth and my aptitude for analysis make me a strong contender for the program both in and out of the classroom.

Thank you for your time and consideration, and I look forward to speaking with you.

-Hallie Morris

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hallie Morris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized "H" and "M".