

City of Tumwater
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To: Evergreen State College
MES Program Administration and Faculty

From: Grant Gilmore, PWS
Water Resource Specialist
City of Tumwater, Water Resources & Sustainability

Faculty, UW Wetland Science & Management
Professional Certification Program
UW Seattle Campus

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Hunter Adelson

This letter is to serve as a recommendation letter for Hunter Adelson's entry into the Evergreen State College MES program. Hunter was my student from the 2023/2024 class for the Wetland Science and Management Professional Certificate Program offered by the University of Washington (UW). This rigorous six-course certificate program explores the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of wetlands and their many functions. This is a 9-month (3 quarters) training program that focuses on identifying, delineating, classifying, functionally assessing, and rating wetlands using plant, soil, hydrologic, and landscape data. Emphasis is placed on the complex wetland regulatory environment that facilitates the protection, restoration and prudent management of wetlands. During the program students are required to conduct a detailed research project that spans the 9-month period, focused on a topic of their choice as it relates to wetland science and watershed functions.

Throughout the program Hunter demonstrated his ability to complete all his assignments on time, to a high degree of quality, and when required in a collaborative manner with his teachers and student cohort. Hunter was very engaged with each class lecture, open discussions, and field visits and assignments. Hunter always asked very good questions as it pertained to the subjects of the day and demonstrated his understanding of how topics related to bigger picture issues that underscore watershed management principles apply to the many challenges we face today. Hunter was keen on understanding the many facets that intersect the built environment to the natural environment.

Hunter's main research topic focused on 6PPD, a chemical tire treatment used to preserve tire rubber, widely used throughout the tire industry. 6PPDq a byproduct of this treatment's chemical properties as it is affected by UV light and tire degradation, leads to high mortality rates in Coho

Salmon throughout the Puget Sound Region. 6PPDq is a new chemical to be studied that has this effect on salmon and the environment. Hunter had his work cutout for him in order complete his research. Throughout the year Hunter remained diligent and dedicated to his research tasks, all while delivering quarterly class assignments. Hunter contacted experts from the UW Center for Urban Waters. WSU extension in Puyallup along with agency experts to track down the latest news and research on 6PPDq. At the end of the program Hunter developed a well-rounded research paper along with a thorough presentation on his findings.

As we rapped up the year Hunter had mentioned his goal, to receive a master's in environmental studies, and The Evergreen State College was top of his list to attend. Being an Evergreen alumnus myself, I knew instantly that Hunter would be a great addition to the latest student cohort and would take full advantage of the learning environment that the college promotes. I look forward to hearing more about Hunter's studies at the college and the research he will pursue, maybe as an extension of the work he started at UW. If there are any questions of topics I can elaborate on please feel free to reach out through email; ggilmore@ci.tumwater.wa.us

Grant Gilmore

Sincerely,

Grant Gilmore, PWS