202610\_GR\_G **Application Not Verified** Application: Iteration Name: Grad Program Applying To: MES Program Name: MES Recommendation Information Ph.D. Recommended By: Erik Thuesen Recommenders Title: Recommenders Institution: The Evergreen State College Contact Name: Victoria Chaplinski I choose to waive my right to Recommendation Waiver Waive Access to Choice: Recommendation Ltrs: review this recommendation. Recommendation Form Recommendation Status: Received Submitted: Received Date: Recommender Assessment: I recommend this applicant 12/29/2024 02:26 PM without reservation. Recommendation Type: General Recommender Form: Letter of Recommendation Recommendation Entity ID: 1024000121432898 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: 12/16/2024 11:10 AM Created By: Josephine Bernier

Modified Time: 12/29/2024 02:26 PM Modified By: Josephine Bernier

## The Evergreen State College Olympia, Washington USA 98505



Graduate Student Selection Committee Master of Environmental Studies Program The Evergreen State College Olympia WA 98505 December 29, 2024

Dear Graduate Student Selection Committee:

This is a letter of recommendation for **Victoria (Tori) Chaplinski** to the MES Program at Evergreen. Tori was my student this past fall in the academic program, "Biological Oceanography of Puget Sound", and she has consulted with me several times concerning career choices and graduate school. I have been consistently impressed by her dedication, intellectual curiosity, and academic performance.

Tori did very well on both quantitative and qualitative aspects of exams. She performed admirably in laboratory assignments, underscoring her technical skills and attention to detail. She was very enthusiastic during field activities. Over the quarter, she took constructive critique to heart and improved her ability to write using quantitative comparisons with information in the primary scientific literature. I do not doubt that she is completely capable of writing an excellent Master's Thesis.

In addition to her academic and laboratory work in the program, Tori delivered a highly professional and thoroughly researched final presentation on Marine Protected Areas in Puget Sound. Her presentation was well-cited, comprehensive, and engaging, exemplifying her ability to communicate complex topics effectively to an audience of her peers. At the end of the quarter, several students remarked to me that they thought Tori's presentation was the best in the class. This presentation demonstrated her readiness for advanced study and research.

Tori collaborates very well with others, and all of her interactions with other students, staff, and faculty have been professional. Tori benefits from constructive critique, and I think that she would be a great fit for the MES program. Please consider her application favorably and do not hesitate to contact me if needed.

Sincerely yours,

Erik V. Thuesen, Ph.D.

Member of the Faculty, Zoology

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