

Abigail Rose Ruegg

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Diligent and creative environmental ecologist seeking further experience in ecosystem and organismal ecology research. Ambitious and articulate, proficient in experimental design, statistical analysis, and interpersonal communication. Passionate about endlessly learning and educating others from all different backgrounds on wildlife ecology and conservation.

Education

University of North Carolina at Asheville

- 2018-2022
- Graduated with a Bachelor's in Environmental Ecology with a Minor in Mass Communication.

Experience

Nisqually Reach Nature Center (December 2024-Present).

- Volunteer Work at the NRNC maintaining aquariums and communicating with the public about the history of the Nisqually estuary and the native birds, fish, and mammals of the South Puget Sound.
- Provided the opportunity to work with individuals from the WDFW and Nisqually Indian Tribe.

Thurston Conservation District (October 2024)

- Volunteer work planting native tree species along the banks at Squaxin Park in Olympia, WA, to support the South Sound salmon and orca populations.

UNCA Undergraduate Researcher Scholar (2021-2022)

- Entomology and ornithology field research on the effects of insect phenology on tree swallow breeding behaviors in Western North Carolina. Published to UNCA undergraduate journal 2022 and presented at the 2022 UNCA research symposium.
- Contributed to the Insect Abundance Network's cross-country study on insect diversity published in ESA's "Ecology" journal.

WNC Nature Center Habitat Restoration Technician (April 2023)

- Volunteer habitat restoration at the Western North Carolina Nature Center. Landscaping and planting edible plants in animal habitats throughout the park.

UNCA Field Herpetology Surveyor (summer 2022)

- Member of a student team working under Prof. Landon Ward, conducting population surveys on reptiles and amphibians in national forests across NC, SC, GA, and FL.

UNCA Solarium Technician (2019-2022)

- Duties included planting, studying, and caring for tropical plants in UNCA's greenhouse.

The Forge Initiative (2013-2018)

- Educational program developer in a nonprofit organization committed to providing Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math(STEAM) programs to the NC Triangle area.
- Experience with public speaking, working with stakeholders and government officials through community outreach, and the process of designing and constructing robots.

Core competencies

- Ecological Research
 - Science Communication
 - Plant/Animal Identification
 - RStudio
 - Environmental policy
 - Microsoft office
 - Statistical analysis
 - Public outreach
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Additional Skills and Awards

- Completed courses in zoology, herpetology, environmental policy, stream ecology, plant ecology, biological science analysis, and grant writing.
- NC Women in Technology's Aspirations in Computing Award recipient 2017
- Member of the Ecological Society of America
- Musician, artist, nature photographer, avid camper and outdoors enthusiast