

Application Related Information

Application:	Application Verified	Iteration Name:	202610_GR_G
Grad Program Applying To:	MES	Program Name:	MES

Recommendation Information

Recommended By:	Alicia Graves	Recommenders Title:	
Recommenders Institution:	--None--	Contact Name:	Carrie Smith
Waive Access to Recommendation Ltrs:	I choose to waive my right to review this recommendation.	Recommendation Waiver Choice:	
Recommendation Form Submitted:	✓	Recommendation Status:	Received
Received Date:	02/06/2025 12:48 PM	Recommender Assessment:	I recommend this applicant without reservation.
Recommendation Type:	General	Recommender Form:	Letter of Recommendation
Recommendation Entity ID:	1024000121734751	Recommendation Owner:	Josephine Bernier

Recommender Form Questions

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

Description:	Form URL:	https://evergreenstatecollege.radiu
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Other Information

Created Time:	01/28/2025 07:13 PM	Created By:	Josephine Bernier
Modified Time:	02/06/2025 12:48 PM	Modified By:	Josephine Bernier

February 3, 2025

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Carrie Smith. I met Carrie last September at the beginning of Washington Native Plant Society's 2024 100hr Master Native Plant Stewardship Course which we both participated in. We shared 13 long and very full days of learning, and along with two others, formed a restoration team responsible for the adaptive management (over a 12-18 month period) of a one acre piece of land within the city of Federal Way's Steel Lake Park. The time, study, and effort that goes into the successful development, presentation, and implementation of such a plan is considerable, and so while the time I have known Carrie is brief, I feel more than qualified to speak to her merit as a potential graduate student at The Evergreen State College.

In the classroom setting I found Carrie to be ever attentive, kind (with instructors and classmates alike) and genuinely engrossed in the varied curriculum. She is an eager learner and clearly passionate about the natural world and the impacts and responsibilities of we humans within it. She is openly curious and often enthusiastic without ever taking up too much space. As a principal author of our restoration plan, she unbegrudgingly did more than her share and we all reaped the benefits of her coherent writing, aptitude for research and concern for the bigger picture. Her work was always presented in a thoughtful, thorough, and engaging manner. Of her own accord, she took what was to be our fairly dry presentation mostly filled with slides containing a few tables and too many words and she added visuals including beautifully rendered hand-drawn maps of our site and its flora, and relevant photographs; she uncluttered the language, made it more interesting, and gave it flow. She tended to and bettered it with an intelligence, maturity, and artistry that subsequently imbued the rest of us with more care for the project. She's a tremendously hard worker and you can be sure this translates out into the field as well - unafraid to get dirty, she can grub out blackberries like nobody's business!

I was so pleased when Carrie told me that she was applying for a Master's of Environmental Studies program. Clearly I'm her fan, and while I would like to tell you that I have nothing to gain by being so, I'm not actually sure that's true - I believe that Carrie possesses an ethic and constitution such that she would do good work, whatever she did, and yet I think here, given the potential schooling, resources, and connections, she is being presented with an opportunity to go out in the world and do genuine good, which I believe she will.

And all of us, who live and breathe, who love this precious and wounded world, stand to benefit from that.

I feel lucky to be on her team and I wholeheartedly believe she is worthy of being granted admission.

Respectfully,
Alicia Graves