SAMUEL T. ABERCROMBIE
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EDUCATION

The University of Arizona
Master's Candidate
School of Natural Resources and the Environment- Wildlife Conservation and Management
Expected Degree Completion 2018

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
B.A. in Biology
Research Funded by **NSF-REU**, 2007-2008
Graduated 2008 with a Research Commendation

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Resource Specialist- Biology **March 2014—January 2016**
Marin County Parks
San Rafael, California

- Establish best management practices for Park's projects in order to comply with California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Endangered Species Act regulations.
- Coordinate with Park staff from all divisions to ensure appropriate environmental compliance associated with permitted projects as well as regular maintenance activities.
- Project lead for large scale Wildlife Picture Index Project. Project initiated in conjunction with five land-management agencies. Project responsibilities include data management, public outreach, inter-agency coordination, seasonal employee and intern management, and community science components.
- Develop and implement survey methods for avoiding impacts to resources (e.g. avoiding nesting birds) as well as for monitoring restoration efficacy (e.g. revegetation efforts in the wake of major projects).
- Create comprehensive implementation plans to carry out resource protection and enhancement projects under agency's guiding documents.
- Monitor mitigation efforts and create annual reports in compliance with permit requirements.
- Facilitate partnerships with local researchers to promote and support original research projects on Parks lands.
- Initiate and secure internal funding for various natural resources related projects including research, monitoring, and feasibility studies, and present expenditure requests to the County Board of Supervisors.
- Act as agency liaison for the Tamalpais Land Collaborative, a coalition between federal, state, local, and non-profit agencies designed to better support and promote public land management in Marin County. Duties include serving on multiple sub-committees to develop programmatic priorities and develop prospectus sheets to seek funding from private donors.

Ring Mountain Stewardship Coordinator **April 2011—March 2014**
Marin County Parks
San Rafael, California

- Initiated and developed the first stewardship program at Ring Mountain through a unique partnership between Marin County Parks and The Nature Conservancy (TNC).
- Focused program goals on the preservation of the unique native grassland assemblage on the preserve, which hosts federally and state listed plant species.
- Implemented and managed a multi-year stewardship program rooted in sound ecological principles and focused on invasive plant control, native and rare plant habitat preservation, and public outreach. Work plan included developing and managing a $240,000 budget, and devising and applying strategies to meet the goals set forth in the three-year grant agreement.
- Annually submitted interim and final reports to TNC, summarizing financial expenditures and programmatic accomplishments.
- Provided support for the successful transition of the program to successive Stewards, and helped to ensure grant renewal.

Restoration Technician **Jan 2011—April 2011**
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
San Francisco, California

- Performed manual restoration duties at several park parcels, often in sensitive habitats supporting rare and endangered plant and animal species.

Habitat Restoration Intern **Oct 2009—Dec 2010**
Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy
San Francisco, California

- Assisted in developing and initiating new monitoring and restoration strategies in response to dynamic field conditions.
- Mapped and monitored rare and endangered plant and animal species including the California Red-legged Frog and the Mission Blue Butterfly.
- Managed paid contractors conducting weed removal in sensitive habitats to ensure that performance standards were met and that projects were in compliance with all applicable regulations.
- Planed, organized, and led volunteers in habitat restoration workdays on a regular basis.

Undergraduate Research Technician **Jun 2006—Aug 2008**
Dr. Charles Mitchell Lab
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

- Aided in disease ecology research projects, focused on investigating the role that disease plays in facilitating non-native plant invasion.
- Conducted independent research projects studying how the physiological traits of different plant species influence their ability to deal with pathogen loads. Research culminated in a Senior Thesis presented to the UNC-CH Biology Committee, and a Research Commendation.
- Participated in weekly lab meetings where relevant primary research papers were shared and discussed.
- Independent research contributed to a publication and co-authorship in *Ecology Letters*.

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (selected)

Field Technician, University of California- Berkeley Apr—Aug 2009
Drs. Claire Kremen and Lora Morandin
Davis, California

Field Research Assistant, Lincoln University Oct—Dec 2008
Dr. Scot Waring
Canterbury, New Zealand

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

2010 J.P. Cronin, M.E. Welsh, M.G. Dekkers**, S.T. Abercrombie**, C.E. Mitchell. Host physiological phenotype explains pathogen reservoir potential. *Ecology Letters*, **13**, 1221-1232.

UN-REFEREED MANUSCRIPTS

2008 **Abercrombie, S.T.** 2008. Undergraduate Thesis: The Relative Importance of Species Traits and Community Characteristics in Predicting Foliar Disease Severity.

AWARDS RECEIVED

2008 Undergraduate Research Commendation, Department of Biology, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

2007 NSF REU Supplement for S.T. Abercrombie, $6,000

2016 Harry Wayne Springfield Endowment Scholarship, University of Arizona, $1,500

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Arizona Native Plant Society — January 2016—Present
Member

California Native Plant Society — January 2013—January 2016
Board Member (Secretary), Marin Chapter

California Native Grasslands Association — October 2012—January 2016
Member

California Invasive Plant Council — October 2011—January 2016
Member

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Raptor Bander, Golden Gate Raptor Observatory — 2010—2015

Guest Science Teacher, Sun Valley Elementary School — Spring Semester, 2010

WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

Elkhorn Slough Managing Habitats for the California Red-legged Frog	2014
NRCS Biology and Management of the California Red-legged Frog	2014
California Invasive Plant Council Annual Symposium	2011, 2012, 2013
Elkhorn Slough Western Burrowing Owl Workshop	2013
CNPS Rare Plant Monitoring Workshop	2012
CNGA Grassland Monitoring Workshop	2011

BIOLOGICAL MONITORING SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE (selected)

- Golden Gate Raptor Observatory - Proficient in luring, trapping, handling, and collecting data on numerous California raptor species, all protected under state and federal laws.
- Managing a large Camera Trap array- responsible for coordination, deployment, maintenance, and data management for a multi-agency WPI project.
- Proficient in the use of a dichotomous plant key; familiar with common North American plant families; adept at identifying plants to species, and quickly learning new floristic communities.
- Pollinator surveys in the Central Valley - Pan trapping, sweep netting, and visitation surveys.
- Mission Blue Butterfly (endangered) - Monitoring in Marin and San Mateo Counties, following established protocols to quantify adult butterfly populations. Aided in developing monitoring protocols for larval surveys and feeding-damage surveys.

BIOLOGICAL MONITORING SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE (contd.)

- California Red-legged Frogs (threatened) - Monitored CRLF using CDFW protocols, including participation in night surveys, and assessing larval development using Gosner Life Stage Charts.
- Spawner Surveys for anadramous salmonid species (threatened) - Seasonal monitoring for evidence of salmonid reproduction in ephemeral creeks.
- Extensive experience performing vegetation surveys using a variety of protocols on native, non-native, threatened, and endangered plant species.
- Proficient in utilizing GPS technology and ArcMap software for gathering, representing, and analyzing spatial data.