



SEEDS Student Bio's

2020 Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting

August 3rd - August 6th, 2020 / VIRTUAL

Aaron Durham

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Environmental Science

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: I am Aaron Durham and I am majoring in Environmental science with a minor in applied ecology and a focus on water quality. I love to spend time in the outdoors and look to be in that setting going into my professional career. I hope to be a water quality technician in the future and travel around gathering vital information to the safety and protection of natural water sources. I plan to do my part to save the resources the earth has provided so as to make better use of them and keep them around for further generations. I play videogames and spend time outdoors in my free time as well as read though not quite as much as I'd like. I love listening to music and spend probably too much money on headphones and speakers. I'm grateful for this opportunity and many others that have been provided to me through the Doris Duke Conservation Scholars Program and hope to spread some interesting information about Blue Crab habitats that you might not have known.

Presentation ID and Title: (84794) *Crabitat: Assessing the effective nursery habitat for juvenile blue crabs*

Ajisha Alwin – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Major: Microbiology

Academic Year: MS

Short Biography: Ajisha Alwin is a graduate student in Microbiology at the University of Florida. She currently works as a research assistant at the Karst Lab at the UF College of Medicine studying the norovirus. Her research interests are in viral/bacterial pathogenesis, infectious diseases, and disease ecology. Her passion for ecology started from my childhood in India and she has been involved in several conservation projects, rallies, and volunteer cleanups. As the Social Media-Webmaster and Marketing Officer of the ESA Student Section, her hope is to help students feel welcome think of new ways to increase the participation of the existing community for our activities. As students, we each have different things to offer and as part of a student network, her goal is to bring different interests and people together. Her interests are in research, education (particularly mentoring), and communication outreach.

Presentation ID and Title: (82679) *Undergraduate field programs: Intended student outcomes vs. employer expectations*

Email: ajishaalwin@gmail.com

Alec Chiono – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

UNIVERSITY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Major: Biology

Academic Year: MS

Short Biography: I'm Alec Chiono, currently an M.S. student at the University of San Francisco studying the evolution of thermal tolerances of different populations of yellow monkeyflower (*Erythranthe guttata*) and how these populations may respond differently to climate change. I love hiking and botanizing, and if I'm not spending time outside I'm probably listening to music and/or cooking.

Presentation ID and Title: (85239) *Testing the climate variability hypothesis in coast-inland systems*

Email: ajchiono2@dons.usfca.edu

Amina Zoklat

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

Major: Dartmouth

Academic Year: Freshman

Short Biography: Hello! My name is Amina and I am 23 at Dartmouth College. I am originally from New Jersey and I have been studying remotely from home. I am majoring in biology and interested in going on to medical school in the future. I haven't taken many classes on ecology and am excited to learn more this summer through my remote internship. In my free time, I enjoy going on hikes, baking, meditating, and treasure hunting at garage sales!

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Andrew Gordon

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Major: Environment & Sustainability

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Andrew Gordon Jr and I am a senior at Cornell University studying Environment & Sustainability concentrating in Environmental Biology & Applied Ecology. I am interested in biodiversity conservation, especially the protection of large mammal species. I am fascinated by ecosystem interactions and animal behavior. Outside of academics, I am on a choreographed dance team at school and I serve free popcorn at my on-campus job.

Presentation ID and Title: (#86500) *Using GPS collared white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) to predict optimal timing for mobile sharpshooting and darting*

Anjali Boyd – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

DUKE UNIVERSITY

Major: Marine Science & Conservation

Academic Year: PhD

Short Biography: My name is Anjali Boyd and I am a Ph.D. student at Duke University in the Nicholas School of the Environment. I am a marine community ecologist and my research is focused on testing and advancing co-existence theory through field experiments, with the applied objective of increasing the resilience and productivity of foundation species (e.g. oysters, seagrass, and coral). This is my third ESA meeting, and my second time being an alumni Mentor! I am currently the Chair of the ESA Student Section and a member of the ESA Committee for Diversity & Education.

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Email: anjali.boyd@duke.edu

Aura Muñiz Torres – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

Major: Biology

Academic Year: MS

Short Biography: Greetings, my name is Aura Muñiz. This past fall I started my graduate degree at the University of Massachusetts Boston. My current research focuses on amphibian disease ecology tied to help with conservation efforts. Specifically, I am interested in understanding how the skin antimicrobial peptides and microbiome could influence a non-lethal coexistence with the fungal pathogen *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*. I started my involvement with the SEEDS program during my undergraduate years at the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez, where I served as chapter president for a few years. Before the social distancing and quarantine started, I enjoyed going to the beach, snorkeling, paddle boarding and hiking, but most importantly spending time with friends.

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Email: auraymt@gmail.com

Bethany Johnson

CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK

Major: Biology

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Hi, I'm Bethany Johnson. Originally from Massachusetts, I studied filmmaking before moving to New York City. My passion for wildlife led me to pursue a degree in Biology at City College. I've been working with an ecology lab on campus, researching niche modeling and conservation assessments of Mexican cloud forest mammals. I enjoy nature photography and love to combine art with science.

Presentation ID and Title: (86988) *Estimating the current and future geographic distribution of a threatened cloud forest mammal (Handleyomys chapmani)*

Brandon Quintana

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Major: Environmental Studies

Academic Year: Super Senior

Short Biography: Brandon Quintana graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara in December of 2019 majoring in environmental studies. He is now working as a research technician at the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management. His main goal is to increase native oyster populations which were decimated by the Thomas Fire and subsequent Montecito Debris Flow. In Fall 2020, he will attend California State University, Fullerton for a master's in biological sciences to further investigate the best approaches to rebuilding oyster populations and restoring their ecosystem functions. After graduate school, Brandon plans to become a conservation biologist who will preserve coastal ecosystems and the species living there. When a global pandemic is not taking place, he enjoys going to Disneyland, concerts, and the beach.

Presentation ID and Title: (87526) *Impact of natural disasters on the *Ostrea lurida* in the Southern California estuary*

Casey Mullins

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Major: Earth Systems

Academic Year: Super Senior

Short Biography: Hi! I'm Casey, a 5th year senior from Houston, TX studying at Stanford University. I'm majoring in environmental science with a focus on marine and atmospheric systems. My interests have more recently trended towards how we can better communicate environmental science to the public. Going forward, I'm aiming to get involved in nature documentary film. I'm particularly interested in how we can best utilize digital media to communicate science - especially given the current, virtual state of the world. Excited to meet y'all and learn from each other!

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Cesar Estien

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Biology

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Cesar Estien, and I recently graduated from Florida State University, where I studied Biology with a focus in Ecology and Evolution. I am currently in my gap year, looking to gain more experience in preparation for graduate school. My ecology interests began in high school when I took AP Environmental Science and learned about a wide range of topics, including climate change. Here, I realized exactly how fragile humans have left many ecosystems and that I wanted to learn more about them. Although my poster focuses on urbanization's influence on marine ecology, my research interests lie within avian and mammalian systems. Specifically, I am interested in the movement and behavioral ecology of avian and mammalian species and the role urbanization/climate change plays in this relationship. I am passionate about making ecology, and all fields within STEM, a diverse, equitable, and safe space for everyone. I hope to use this experience to learn more about inclusion and mentorship so that I can go on to do the same in the future. In the long term, I hope to assist in creating educational materials for local curriculums that help teachers best serve their classrooms in areas where environmental education is deprioritized. While doing this, I would like to provide opportunities for underrepresented youth to learn about ecology outside of a classroom. Outside of science, I love bingeing shows in a shocking amount of time, going to breweries with friends, taking my dogs for car rides, and getting in the outdoors any way I can.

Presentation ID and Title: (88806) *The influence of microplastics on fertilization success and sperm availability in purple sea urchins (Arbacia punctulata)*

Courtnei Holness

THE CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK

Major: Environmental Engineering

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Hi all - I am Courtni, I grew up in Arizona and moved to New York in 2015. Right now I study environmental engineering at the City College of New York and I am set to graduate with a B.E. in the fall of 2020. During my junior year I worked in a biodiversity lab on campus where I modeled the geographic distribution of Mexican montane forest. Now I am working as a policy intern where I research direct air capture - a carbon dioxide removal technology. I will be writing a policy brief that includes policy recommendations to help get direct air capture to scale in this country to meet mid-century climate goals. Outside of my professional life, I enjoy hiking, picnics, and painting.

Presentation ID and Title: (87510) *Improving distribution modeling of Mexican montane forest vegetation to estimate responses to changes in land use.*

Cristian Sanlatte

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO MAYAGUEZ

Major: Industrial Microbiology

Academic Year: Super Senior

Short Biography: Born and raised in Puerto Rico, my parents constantly exposed me to my island's natural landscapes and beauties. This influenced my decision to enroll into the University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez Campus and major in Industrial Microbiology with an interest in plant-microbe-environment interactions. I am currently working with Dr. Carlos Rios-Velazquez in the Microbial Biotechnology and Bioprospecting Laboratory searching for bioprospects that degrade analgesics through functional metagenomics. Being 1 year prior to graduating, my goal is to pursue a PhD in Molecular Microbial Ecology to study plant-microbe interactions and adaptations towards unfavorable environmental conditions.

Presentation ID and Title: (86731) *Searching for analgesic degrading bio-prospects using functional metagenomics*

Daniela Garcia Moreno

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Major: Environment and Sustainability

Academic Year: Junior

Short Biography: My name is Daniela Garcia Moreno. I am a junior at Cornell University pursuing a degree in Environment and Sustainability with a concentration in Environmental Biology and Applied Ecology. Academically and personally, I am interested in biodiversity, conservation, and climate justice. I love studying ecology because it allows me to bring my interests together, and there is no better office than the outdoors!

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Eli Myron

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Biological Science

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Hi! My name is Eli and I recently graduated from Florida State University with majors in biological science and environment & society, and a concentration in marine biology. My research interests focus on the intersection of marine ecosystems and human influence, with specific interest in benthic communities, drivers of diversity, and sustainability. In 2021, I will be moving to the Philippines to carry out a Fulbright project focused on assessing methods of giant clam and coral restoration with 3D technology. On a more personal level, I love traveling, working out, and creative projects. Recently I began a YouTube channel (Eli Myron - Project Bluem) focused on increasing awareness for ocean-related issues and providing a resource for professional and career advice. If you share any of my interests, or want to reach out, feel free to reach out on any platform (ESA or social media)! You can find me as Eli Myron on LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

Presentation ID and Title: (82796) *Understanding the Role of Underwater Architecture in a Coastal Ecosystem: How do the physical characteristics of man-made structures influence benthic communities?*

Emily Cook

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

Major: Natural Resources Planning and Management

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Emily Cook, I am a senior at the University of Idaho studying Natural Resources Planning and Management. I am interested in outreach and bridge-building between people and organizations and in educating people about environmental and conservation issues. I have been involved in a venture crew for four years and my family has been involved in scouting for as long as I can remember. I recently earned my summit award, which is the venturing equivalent of a boy scout earning their eagle. A fun fact about myself is that I love backpacking and have been on two and a half 50- mile week-long backpacking trips and one 12 day trip that was 70+ miles.

Presentation ID and Title: (86338) *Watching the grass grow: Nonlinear growth and implications for greater sage-grouse*

Eric Trotman

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Major: Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Eric Trotman, I am an international rising 4th-year student from Barbados studying Wildlife Ecology and Conservation at the University of Florida. I left Barbados when I was 15 to attend high school at an international boarding school in Northern New Mexico and here is where I somewhat started to explore the idea of conservation and sustainable practices. However, it wasn't until college that I realized that a career in wildlife conservation was a feasible option. I am currently involved in the Doris Duke Conservation Scholars program and have had the amazing opportunity to work with behavioral ecologists on projects surrounding the Southeastern American kestrel and currently the Mountain yellow-legged frog. Working with these projects has helped me to pinpoint my passions in not only animal behavior but in outreach and education. Specifically, I hope to work with endangered species in captivity to learn information about how to better care for animals in captivity but also how we can facilitate the captive breeding of animals and more efficiently reintroduce them into the wild. Growing up in Barbados surrounded by water, I grew a fascination and love for the ocean and thus pursued becoming an advanced open water and science diver. A dream of mine is to dive off all of the continents in the world and possibly work as a diver in a large aquarium as a keeper, giving talks to visitors about the various species and importance of them in our ecosystem.

Presentation ID and Title: (85853) *The effects of habitat management on southeastern American kestrel provisioning rate*

Gabriela Marquez

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO AT HUMACAO

Major: Wildlife Management

Academic Year: Super Senior

Short Biography: My name is Gabriela Marquez. I was born in Carolina, Puerto Rico. I am currently studying my undergraduate studies at the University of Puerto Rico in Humacao. My degree is in Wildlife Management. I am passionate about environmental management and that is where I would like to focus my graduate studies. I have thought how to combine the social and human aspect with how it relates to the natural environment. My research topic, floodplain management, is a great example of how to make this relationship work. In October 2018, I worked with the San Juan Bay Estuary Program, and the work done by this entity is exactly about this, how they involve the community in taking actions in favor of their natural resources and create resilience in the community. This experience was of great satisfaction because I had trouble deciding what I really want after completing my B.S. A cool fact about me is that I'm always looking at the bright side of everything.

Presentation ID and Title: *OPPORTUNITIES IN FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT FOR RISK REDUCTION AND NATURAL SYSTEMS BENEFITS*

Glorimar Sellas-Ramirez

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO - MAYAGUEZ CAMPUS

Major: Biology

Academic Year: Super Senior

Short Biography: Hello everyone! My name is Glorimar Sellas and I am 22 years old. I am studying Biology with a minor in Natural Resources in the University of Puerto Rico - Mayaguez and this upcoming semester is the last one of my bachelor's degree! I'm very excited to graduate and to see what God and life has for me in the future. About me, I can tell you that I love dancing, music, and right now I'm learning more about acting and singing as I take workshops about musical theater. In the aspect of Biology, I'm more drawn to a "macro" focus (plants, birds, fungi) and I really like the idea of teaching non-scientists about science aspects.

Presentation ID and Title: (#83639) *Nitrogen and phosphorus limitation of phytoplankton taxa in a eutrophic lake*

Haley Hudson

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

Major: Ecology, Evolution, and Biodiversity

Academic Year: Freshman

Short Biography: Hi, My name is Haley Hudson. I just graduated from UC Davis with a B.S. in Ecology, Evolution, and Biodiversity! I am a pescatarian who is fascinated by the intersection between marine conservation and food security (fisheries and aquaculture) #teamfish #fisher! I love rockfish, aquatic ecology, and marine protected areas. During my senior year at UC Davis I had the privilege of being Co-President of Davis SEEDS. My team and I organized career panels, hikes, visits to research facilities, and strived to create a safe space for everyone in ecology. Currently, I work as a scientific aid at the CA Department of Water Resources in the Aquatic Ecology Section and plan to apply for graduate school during the next cycle. I am looking forward to meeting all different kinds of ecologists at the coming meeting!

Presentation ID and Title: (86610) *Variation in Groundfish Species Responses to Marine Protected Areas*

Herby Zephir

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Major: Natural Resources Conservation

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Herby Zephir is a Haitian-American Conservationist and first-generation college student. He's currently in his senior year at the University of Florida majoring in Natural Resource Conservation with a minor in Sustainability Studies. His academic interest involves gaining knowledge about natural resources and attaining a solid understanding of laws, policies, and ethics as it relates to conservation. Ultimately, he aspires to become an Environmental Lawyer, practicing regulatory law for disadvantaged communities. In his spare time, he enjoys outdoor activities like cycling, hiking, and bird watching. One cool fact about him is he drew his own comic book in middle school and aspires to create a video game for it.

Presentation ID and Title: (85815)

Comparing characteristics of natural cavities and nest boxes: Southeastern American Kestrel management

Jacob Hornfeldt

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Major: Entomology and Nematology

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Jacob Hornfeldt is a rising senior studying entomology and nematology at the University of Florida. Broadly, he is interested in ecology and insects, particularly social insects, and using that as a lens to explore conservation. He is also interested in sharing his love for science with others through outreach with K-12 students. For fun, he enjoys the outdoors and frequently goes on hikes to look for fun bugs and any other animals that he finds. He hopes to continue his studies and go to graduate school after completing his bachelors.

Presentation ID and Title: (86363) *The effect of habitat management on vegetation-dwelling arthropods in Florida scrub*

Janae White

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Major: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Academic Year: MS

Short Biography: I'm an incoming Master's student at University of Michigan's Ecology and Evolutionary Biology department. I recently graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a B.S. in Biology. I love all things green, from algae to plants and will be doing summer rotations in a tropical forest biodiversity lab and algal-bacterial interactions lab.

Presentation ID and Title: (87359) *Prairie legumes need soil microbes: a species-specific approach to successful prairie restorations*

Jared Lamb

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Jared Lamb and I am currently attending North Carolina State University. I spend the majority of my time in the outdoors as it is where my interest lie. Both recreational activities such as fishing and professional and career advancing activities such as field work usually is where you can find me. My career aspirations is to be a large mammal biologist for either a state or federal agency, however I also have interest in all aspects of flora and fauna.

Presentation ID and Tittle: (83841) *How do butterflies respond to forest type transitions? A pilot study of pollinator response to restoration efforts of a rare longleaf pine (Pinus palustris) ecosystem*

Jazmyn Winzer

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Major: Biology

Academic Year: Junior

Short Biography: Hello my name is Jazmyn Winzer and I am a senior at the University of Arizona. My major is biology and my minor id africana studies, but my primary areas of study focus on ecology and plant biology. My current projects are on data visulatization and community science, butterflies, and secondary metabolites. Outside of school I teach Sunday school, read just about any book I can find, hike, and lift weights.

Presentation ID and Tittle: (87266) *Long-term impacts of severe wildfire on riparian vegetation in the Chiricahua Mountains, Az*

Jenna Livingston

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Major: Environmental Engineering

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Jenna Livingston and I am a senior at the University of Arizona studying Environmental Engineering and minoring in Mathematics and Chemical Engineering. I'm from Sahuarita, Arizona and live at home with my parents, older brother, and two dogs that I love more than anything. I often spend my time writing, as I hope to one day publish my own fantasy novel. I also read a lot of fantasy and science fiction for fun. Additionally, I consider myself a bit of a movie buff, as there are very few movies I have not seen! I love rock music of any kind (from 50's to metal) and have practiced hip

hop and contemporary dance for the past seven years or so. Long story short: I like to keep myself busy! I hope to one day manage a regional branch in the Federal Government, particularly in the Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Land Management, or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Jenna Rosales

LUBBOCK CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Major: Natural Resources Ecology & Conservation

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Jenna Rosales, I was born and raised in El Paso, TX. I just graduated in May from Lubbock Christian University with my bachelor's degree in Natural Resources & Conservation. I was able to represent my university in cross country and track throughout college. I am currently in the process of joining the air force. I look to contribute to conservation in the future by becoming a Game warden.

Presentation ID and Title: (83815) *Active transport heat exposure: how heat and UV measurements can benefit human health and ecological processes*

Jeremy Collings

SUNY CORTLAND

Major: Conservation Biology

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Jeremy, and I go by he/him/his pronouns. I recently graduated from SUNY Cortland and am working as a research technician while applying to graduate programs in ecology. I'm interested in community ecology and plant ecology, especially with respect to belowground processes. Outside of my research, I love exploring the intersections between conservation and the humanities and social sciences.

Presentation ID and Title: (83210) *Deer herbivory alters plant community dynamics in the Edwards Plateau*

Jesse Tabor

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Biology

Academic Year: MS

Short Biography: My name is Jesse Tabor. I grew up in Ventura, California. I enjoy hiking and looking at maps. I received my undergraduate degree in Geography at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo where I became interested in ecology. For my undergraduate thesis I studied native and invasive niche spaces for adventive bee species in Hawai'i. After graduation I continued my research predicting climatically suitable niche spaces for invasive bees under future climate scenarios in Hawai'i. In Fall 2020 I start a Biology Master's program at Utah State University where I will continue to study bees. This will be my first presentation at a national conference. I am very excited!

Presentation ID and Title: (83456) *Projected climate change amplifies non-native bee invasion in Hawai'i*

Joseph Wolf – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Environmental Life Sciences

Academic Year: PhD

Short Biography: Joseph Gazing Wolf is an indigenous bison and cattle rancher turned academic. He studies social-ecological resilience and biocultural restoration in indigenous communities in the US and abroad. He has several ongoing projects that also explore native herbivore ecology, including plant community dynamics and soil health. He is also interested in exploring paths to the recruitment, retention, and success of people of color in STEM and in agriculture.

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Email: jgwolf1@asu.edu

Judith Santano

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Major: Earth Systems

Academic Year: Super Senior

Short Biography: Hi Everyone! My name is Judith (she/her) and I am a recent graduate of Stanford University (BS 19). My degree is in Earth Systems and I focused on ecology, outdoor science education, and environmental justice. I'm hoping to apply to graduate school this fall to pursue a PhD, tentatively in Ornithology. My goal is to exist at the intersection of science, education, and advocacy in order to amplify voices of other First Generation, Low Income, Students of Color. I'm eternally grateful for all the opportunities I've had to fall in love with the earth, and want to give that opportunity to as many people as possible. I like to describe myself as a surprisingly-aquatic-terrestrial-ecosystem-kind-of-gal. My passion for field work feels integral to my love for ecology, so I feel incredibly fortunate for the diverse field experiences I've had in the last few years. The coolest thing I've ever done is spend a summer in

French Polynesia scuba diving every day to do research. I even got to snorkel with sharks and rays! The most important thing to know about me though is that I love birds! My one true love are all of the tiny but mighty hummingbirds.

Presentation ID and Title: (81677) *Natural History: The Passionate Heart of Ecology (Finding Myself in Unexpected Places) [Inspire Session]*

Karina Cortijo Robles

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO RIO PIEDRAS CAMPUS

Major: Environmental Sciences

Academic Year: Junior

Short Biography: Hi! My name is Karina M. Cortijo-Robles and currently, I'm a rising senior at the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras Campus. My bachelor is in environmental sciences with a second concentration in anthropology. I'm interested in doing a master's degree in environmental archaeology and being part of science outreach activities. After my bachelor's, I want to be part of the Peace Corps Volunteer program as an environmental educator and then pursue my master's. Some cool facts about me are that I love to dance, do recreational activities outside and see a lot of tv shows of different countries (ex. Spain, Colombia, South Korea, Turkey and more).

Presentation ID and Title: (85281) *Climate change may affect extinctions via altered plant-soil feedback*

Kathryn Bloodworth – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA GREENSBORO

Major: Environmental Health Sciences

Academic Year: PhD

Short Biography: In the fall of 2019 I began working as a PhD student in Dr. Sally Koerner's Biodiversity Lab at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Within the lab, I work to understand how the intensity of grassland disturbances, such as grazing and fire, influence insect herbivore-plant community interactions. My current work is mainly set in the mixed- and tall-grass prairies of the United States Great Plains. When I'm not doing research in the Great Plains or working at UNCG, you can find me hanging out at the beach, camping in the mountains, spending time with my family and my friends, and traveling all over the country to do these things!

Presentation ID and Title: (84598) *The role of mutualisms in driving species invasions: A global meta-analysis of legumes and their rhizobial associates*

Email: kjbloodw@uncg.edu

Madaris Serrano Perez

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO, HUMACAO CAMPUS

Major: Wildlife Management

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Madaris Cristal Serrano Perez, I am 22 years old and an undergraduate student at the University of Puerto Rico in Humacao Campus, pursuing my bachelor's degree in Wildlife Management. My interests on science revolves in herpetology, conservation ecology, population ecology and behavioral ecology, especially on topics related to competition. I have handled many species of amphibians, reptiles, and insects on different projects I've done and/or participated on. Also, I am deeply passionate about art and poetry, being a painter and writer myself with more than 150 paintings and writings. In the future I see myself pursuing my masters or doctorate degree on population ecology, involving some behavioral and conservation ecology. After that I would like to work on the field, as a researcher or ranger, and also to publish some of my writings along with paintings.

Presentation ID and Tittle: (#85631) *Effects of Artificial Light at Night on the Behavior and Performance of the Monarch Butterfly Caterpillar, Danaus plexippus*

Mahal Bugay – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY IN ST. LOUIS

Major: Evolution, Ecology and Population Biology

Academic Year: PhD

Short Biography: I'm a rising second-year PhD student in the Evolution, Ecology and Population Biology program at Washington University in St. Louis. I'm still in the process of deciding on a thesis topic, but I plan on combining my interests in microbial and disease ecology with restoration ecology. Outside of research, I enjoy running, hiking, trying new recipes, and watching movies.

Presentation ID and Tittle: (87600) *Foliar pathogens and drought alter the strength and direction of plant-soil feedbacks in two herbaceous plants*

Email: bugaymaj@gmail.com

Miyauna Incarnato

THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

Major: Environmental Conservation

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Miyauna Incarnato and I will be a Senior this year at The College of Wooster in Ohio. I am from Akron, Ohio. I am an Environmental Conservation major and a Chinese minor. At school I am also involved in peer health education at our wellness center and establishing a pollinator garden. I am very interested in conservation work, particularly how invasive or reintroduced species affect other species. I enjoy both field and lab work. I currently work in Dr. Jennifer Ison's plant ecology lab.

Presentation ID and Title: (88067) *How do solitary bee taxa in their contribution to the male fitness of a mate-limited prairie perennial, Echinacea angustifolia ?*

Monica Velasco

CALIFORNIA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Major: Environmental Science

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Hello, my name is Monica Velasco, and I am a recent graduate from California Baptist University. My interest in ecology and interspecific interactions began as a young girl growing up in Santa Ana, California. Looking at insects and plants in my early childhood is what blossomed into launching full scientific projects in my early adulthood. Because I am a first generation student, having the opportunity to explore my interests during my college career and turning it into a bachelor's degree has been one of my greatest accomplishments. I hope in the future to continue furthering my education and helping other first generation students reach their goals. Outside of my academic interests, I also like to read fiction novels, practice my piano skills, and cook!

Presentation ID and Title: (85761) *Rhizobia nodulation delays seedling establishment in wild indigo (Baptisa: Fabaceae) and reduces performance of adapted herbivores*

Mya Wilson

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Environmental Sciences

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Mya Wilson and I am a first-year student studying Environmental Sciences at North Carolina State University. I grew up in the countryside of North Carolina which is where my appreciation for the environment began. As a child, I loved being outdoors because of all the cool insects and other invertebrates I would find. My mom had purchased me a bug catcher from a book fair and every day I was eager to capture something, so I could take it back inside with me and admire it. I would catch anything from toads, frogs, ladybugs, grasshoppers, and praying mantises. In my imagination, I saw myself as one of the fearless explorers from the nature shows I watched on TV. All throughout school, my favorite subject was science and I really enjoyed topics that were centered

around the environment and the organisms living in it. In high school, I overcame a fear that opened my eyes to see a hidden passion of mine. I overcame my fear of snakes, which opened my eyes to see that I have a passion for all reptiles. I am now pursuing opportunities where I can increase my skill set and knowledge to help in conserving reptile populations. Although science has been my passion from a young age, my dad greatly influenced me to pursue a career in environmental science. He has worked in the environmental field for over 20 years managing a wastewater treatment plant. He loves his field of work and he frequently shares his passion with others. I am still exploring career options, however, no matter what direction I go, I want to be just as passionate as him about my field of work, so that I can inspire others to find something they love and make a change in the world.

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Naomi Murray

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS

Major: Ecology, Evolution, and Biodiversity

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: My name is Naomi, and I am a rising fourth year student at UC Davis majoring in Ecology, Evolution and Biodiversity. I study the interactions between plants and herbivores in both marine and terrestrial systems. I am also very interested in plant communication, and I love plants in general! When I am not working on my projects or schoolwork, I like to paint and run. I'm excited to be attending this virtual meeting, and am looking forward to meeting more people with a passion for ecology.

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Nicolas Katz

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Major: Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Sustainable Plant Systems

Academic Year: Junior

Short Biography: My name is Nicolas Katz, and I am currently studying Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Sustainable Plant Systems with a minor in Natural Resources at the University of Arizona. I grew up in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains in Northern California, and have my upbringing there to thank for my interest in Ecology. Since beginning at the University of Arizona, I have had the pleasure of working with multiple lab groups in ornithological studies, fisheries management, and soil microbiology. I have additionally had the pleasure of becoming involved with multiple outreach-centric organizations on and off campus, and love working with youth to inspire interest in the sciences. Outside of my love for science, my interests include backpacking, climbing, photography, pottery, cycling, musicianship, and gardening.

Presentation ID and Title: *Influence of Travertine Deposition in Desert Fish Habitat Selection*

Olivia Vought

UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT

Major: Environmental Science

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Hi! My name is Olivia Vought and I am a senior in the Rubenstein School of Natural Resources at the University of Vermont. My academic interests are rather broad in the field of ecology, as I am excited about everything from phenology and pollinators to soil carbon and climate change. But I love trying to better understand the world around me. I enjoy being outside; I love hiking, swimming, biking, gardening, as well as ultimate frisbee!

Presentation ID and Title: (88358) *Moss distribution in streams at Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest*

Selina Cortes

LENIOR-RHYNE UNIVERSITY

Major: Biology

Academic Year: Super Senior

Short Biography: Hello, my name is Selina Diaz. I am a biology major at Lenior-Rhyne University in Hickory, NC. My passion is bringing environmental science to minorities and underrepresented individuals. I truly believe the future is in educating the public on the importance of environmental works and processes.

Presentation ID and Title: *Ungulate herbivore effects on the insect community diversity in Texas Hill Country*

Shannon Dolan

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

Major: Environmental Sciences

Academic Year: Junior

Short Biography: I am Shannon Dolan, a rising junior at North Carolina State University majoring in Environmental Sciences and minoring in Marine Science, Applied Ecology, and Technical and Scientific Communication. I enjoy photographing nature and exploring ways to use technology for environmental conservation and education. I also enjoy hiking, running, and fishing.

Presentation ID and Title: (83811) *Drone aerial mapping: accuracy and limitations for predicting oyster habitat*

Shawna Greyeyes

NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY

Major: Environmental Science

Academic Year: Junior

Short Biography: Hi! My name is Shawna Greyeyes (Grey-eyes). I just got my associate's degree at Coconino Community College and I am transferring to Northern Arizona University to get my Bachelor's degree in Biology. I like outdoor activities like backpacking, hiking, kayaking, trail running, and gardening. I have two rescue dogs, Wooly and Blu, who keep me on my toes. My current project is to start my aquaponics system to grow my veggies but I just cannot find the time. My life goal is to go back to my community, the Navajo Nation, to research the lands and improve the lives of the people who live there.

Presentation ID and Title: (81719) *Witness tree social media project: Can we increase science engagement with a twittering tree?*

Stephanie Ibarra

UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

Major: Natural Resources

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: I am a first generation student that is passionate about conservation and sustainable practices. In the future I want to visit and work in different countries to learn more about what Conservation practices are being used so that I can then take this information and spread it to different communities including the United States.

Presentation ID and Title: N/A

Sze Wing Yu – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Major: Wildlife and Fisheries Biology

Academic Year: MS

Short Biography: My name is Sze Wing and I am a MS student studying Wildlife and Fisheries Biology at Clemson University. My thesis research focuses on the keystone role of plains bison in the Northern Great Plains of Montana. My first chapter surveys how the riparian plant community has responded to bison restoration compared to cattle-grazing. My second chapter surveys the plant community in and around bison wallows to see if wallows add to landscape heterogeneity. Before this MS, I have held positions as crew lead, technician, and intern on projects such as the USGS greater sage-grouse population study in Nevada and California, USFS old-growth forest surveys in Montana, and USFWS wildlife monitoring in New Mexico and Massachusetts. In addition to wildlife research, I have worked or interned in environmental education with a Wyoming non-profit and the Philadelphia Zoo, and I have led student organizations during my undergraduate and graduate years. My ideal job would be in the federal or non-profit sector (such as a museum) with a mix of wildlife research, management, and public education.

Presentation ID and Title: (88313) *Riparian vegetation community response to bison restoration in the Northern Great Plains*

Email: szewiny@clemson.edu

Tabitha McFarland

COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY

Major: Biology- Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology/ Geology minor

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Hello all, my name is Tabitha McFarland, I just graduated with my Bachelors from Colorado Mesa University. I am taking a gap year before going back to school. I want to get a PhD in Paleoecology and study lagomorph evolution and speciation. I was born and raised in southern Colorado and the outdoors is an important aspect of my lifestyle. I participate in a lot of hiking, camping, fishing, and rafting. I recently got my scuba certification and plan to integrate that more into my lifestyle.

Presentation ID and Title: (88370) *Predictors of individual-level stress in an isolated population of American Pikas (Ochotona princeps)*

Tanya Jagdish

ALBION COLLEGE

Major: Biology and Mathematics

Academic Year: Junior

Short Biography: Tanya Jagdish is pursuing a double major in Biology and Mathematics with a concentration in Environmental Science at Albion College, Michigan. She calls herself a multipotentialite with interests in ecology, dance, design and applied mathematics. She is specifically interested in using

mathematical modeling techniques to implement effective conservation and environmental policies. Tanya also enjoys travelling and exploring different cultures.

Presentation ID and Title: (83681) *Quantitative analysis of the effectiveness of herbicide application on invasive elephant ear (Colocasia esculenta) plants*

Valeria Paz – SEEDS Graduate Alumni Mentor

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Major: Biology

Academic Year: PhD

Short Biography: Hi everyone! My name is Valeria Paz (pronouns: she/her), and I am SEEDS Alumna. I'm originally from Peru, but I grew up in Miami, FL. I'm a PhD candidate at Florida International University and I am studying habitat use, trophic interactions and pollution loads in bottlenose dolphins in the Florida Coastal Everglades. When I'm not working on my dissertation, I enjoy photography, spending time with my family, and staying active (running, yoga, gym). I look forward to navigating this unconventional online conference with you all. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Presentation ID and Title: (87024) *Investigating the habitat use of coastal bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) in response to a major hurricane*

Email: vpaz003@fiu.edu

Zander Zuniga

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

Major: Ecology and Conservation Biology

Academic Year: Senior

Short Biography: Howdy y'all, My name is Zander and I'm in my fourth year of Conservation Biology at the University of Idaho. Pollinators and their habitats are a big interest of mine as well as permaculture. Looking forward to getting to know everyone.

Presentation ID and Title: *Nesting near ants: ant mound density in sage-grouse habit*