

# Charles B. van Rees

## EDUCATION

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**Ph.D.**, Biology (Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior), Tufts University – Awarded May 2018

**Certificate** in Water Resources Systems, Science and Society

**Interdisciplinary Traineeship** in Water Diplomacy

**B.A.**, Ecology, **B.A.**, Environmental Science, *summa cum laude* with honors, Connecticut College – 2010

**Minor**: Spanish; **Certificate** in Conservation Biology

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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**Assistant Professor** Fall 2024 – Present

Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens GA

**Assistant Research Scientist** Spring 2022 – Fall 2024

Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens GA

**Postdoctoral Research Associate** Spring 2021 – Spring 2022

Odum School of Ecology, University of Georgia, Athens GA

**Postdoctoral Research Associate** Fall 2019 – Spring 2021

Flathead Lake Biological Station, University of Montana, Polson, MT

**Fulbright Early Career Scholar** Fall 2018 – Fall 2019

Department of Wetland Ecology, Estación Biológica de Doñana, Seville, Spain

**Postdoctoral Researcher** Spring 2018 – Fall 2018

Department of Biology, Tufts University, Medford, MA

## SELECTED GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS (Total >\$840,000; \* - as Lead PI on collaborative grant)

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2024	(\$4,000) University of Georgia Interdisciplinary Pre-Seed Grant
2023	*((\$604,962) NASA ROSES Ecological Conservation Grant, “Leveraging Earth Observation for Ecosystem Service Accounting in Large-scale Levee Setback Decisions”
2022	(\$2,000) Archbold Biological Station Visiting Scholar Fellowship, “Do Freshwater Nutrient Subsidies Have Population-Level Impacts on Birds?”
2021	(\$2,600) American Ornithological Society Postdoctoral Research Grant
2020	(\$51,000) Northwest Climate Adaptation Science Fellowship, “Using Predictive Modeling to Stay One Step Ahead of Aquatic Invaders in Mountain Streams”
2019	*((\$35,000) USFWS Partners Grant, “Science and Culture for ‘Alae ‘ula conservation”
2018	(\$22,956) Fulbright Early Career Scholar Award, “Integrating Earth Observation, Animal Behavior and Ecological Modeling to Assess the Conservation Value of Andalusian Rice Fields Under Climate Change”
2016	(\$5,280) Tufts Institute for the Environment Interdisciplinary Research Grant, “Genetic methods for assessing movement behavior in an endangered waterbird”
2016	*((\$25,000) Disney Conservation Fund Annual Conservation Grant, “Stewarding waterbird habitat on private lands via cultural practice”
2015	(\$5,690) Tufts Institute for the Environment Graduate Research Fellowship
2014-21	*((\$14,550) Nuttall-Blake Fund Research Grant, “Assessing movement behavior in endangered Hawaiian waterbirds”; “Water-mediated nutrient subsidies of declining terrestrial birds”
2013	(\$5,900) Tufts Institute for the Environment Graduate Research Fellowship
2012	(\$56,000) NSF IGERT Water Diplomacy Fellowship at Tufts University, “Wildlife as important stakeholders in water resources development”

- 2010 (\$3,000) Mellen Environmental Studies Research Grant, “Shrubland bird nesting ecology”  
 2008-2010 (\$3,500) Undergraduate Research Fellowship, Goodwin-Niering Center for Conservation Biology and Environmental Studies

**PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS (\* - Shared First Authorship; † - Student Mentee co-author)**

35. Abera, L.E., Jumani, S., **van Rees, C.B.**, ... McKay, S.K. *in press*. Integrating Nature-based Solutions for Urban Water Security in Global South. *PLoS Water*.
34. **van Rees, C.B.**, Geist, J. and Arthington, A. H. 2025. Grasping at Water: A Gap-Oriented Approach to Bridging Shortfalls in Freshwater Biodiversity Conservation. *Biological Reviews*, Online Early View.
33. Drexler, J.Z., Raine, H., Harrington, C.L., ... **van Rees, C.B.**, Wolfe, B. 2025. The Scientific Benefits of a Statewide, Standardized, Coastal Wetland Monitoring Program in Hawai'i. *Ecology and Evolution* 15(4), e71293.
32. Wenger, S.J., Bhaskar, A.S., Murphy, B., Neale, M., ... Scarlett, R., and **van Rees, C.B.** 2025. Reorienting urban stream management to focus on equitable delivery of benefits. *PLoS Water*, 4(2), e0000308.
31. MacPherson, M., Burgio, K.R., DeSaix, M.G., Freeman, B.G., Herbert, J., Herman, R., Jirinec, V., Shonfield, J., Slager, D.L., **van Rees, C.B.**, and Jankowski, J.E. 2025. An introduction to predictive distribution modelling for conservation to encourage novel perspectives. *Animal Biodiversity and Conservation* 48(1), e-001.
30. **van Rees, C.B.**, Chambers, M., Buhr, D., Mansur, A., Suedel, B., and Nibbelink, N. 2024. Strategic Planning of Freshwater Nature-based Solutions: An Interdisciplinary Synthesis for Implementing Levee Setbacks. *WIREs Water*. 11(6), e1750.
29. **van Rees, C.B.** and Reed, J.M. 2024. Small translocations of endangered *Gallinula galeata sandvicensis* (Hawaiian Common Gallinule) may be sufficient to generate a viable reintroduced population. *Ornithological Applications* 126(3), duae022.
28. **van Rees, C.B.**, Webber, B., Nietmann, L., *et al.* 2024. Updated vital rate estimates for the endangered Hawaiian Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata sandvicensis*). *The Wilson Journal of Ornithology* 136: 106-113.
27. **van Rees, C.B.**, Hernández-Abrams, D., Shudtz, M., *et al.* 2023. Re-imagining Infrastructure for a Biodiverse Future. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 120(46): e2214334120.
26. Chambers, M.L., **van Rees, C.B.**, Huang, Y., Bledsoe, B. *et al.* 2023. Nature-based Solutions for Leveed River Corridors. *Anthropocene* 44: 100417.
25. McKay, S.K., Wenger, S.J., **van Rees, C.B.**, Bledsoe, B.P., and Bridges, T.S. 2023. Jointly advancing infrastructure and biodiversity conservation. *Nature Reviews Earth and Environment* 4: 675-677.
24. **van Rees, C.B.**, Jumani, S., Abera, L., Rack, L., McKay, S.K., and Wenger, S.J. 2023. The potential for nature-based solutions to combat the freshwater biodiversity crisis. *PLoS Water* 2(6): e0000126.
23. Paxton, A.H., Paxton, K.L., Kawasaki, M.T., Gorresen, P.M., **van Rees, C.B.**, Underwood, J.G. 2023. Hawaiian waterbird movement across a developed landscape. *The Journal of Wildlife Management* 87(1): e22336.
22. Burgio, K.R., Davis, K.E., Dreiss, L.M., Cisneros, L.M., Klingbeil, B.T., Preseley, S.J., **van Rees, C.B.**, and Willig, M.R. 2022. Integrating multiple dimensions of biodiversity to inform global parrot conservation. *Animal Biodiversity and Conservation* 45(2): 189-202.

21. **van Rees, C.B.**, Elphick, C.S., and Reed, J.M. 2022. Evaluating the potential de-listing of two endangered Hawaiian waterbirds using population viability analysis and Bayesian hierarchical models. *Avian Conservation and Ecology* 17.1.
20. **van Rees, C.B.**, Naslund, L., Hernandez-Abrams, D.D., McKay, S.K., Woodson, C.B., Rosemond, A., McFall, B., Altman, S., and Wenger, S.J. 2022. A Holistic Monitoring Approach for Natural Infrastructure. *Science of the Total Environment* 832: 155078.
19. **van Rees, C.B.**, Hand, B.K., Bargerion, C., Carter, S.C. et al., 2022. A Framework to Integrate Innovations in Invasion Biology Science for Proactive Management. *Biological Reviews* 97(4): 1712-1735.
18. <sup>†</sup>\*Howard, L., \***van Rees, C.B.**, Dahlquist, Z., Luikart, G., and Hand, B.K. 2022. A Review of Invasive Species Reporting Apps for Citizen Science and Opportunities for Innovation. *NeoBiota* 71.
17. <sup>†</sup>Carter, S., **van Rees, C.B.**, Hand, B.K., Muhlfeld, C., Luikart, G., and Kimball, J.S. 2022. Testing a machine learning workflow for aquatic invasive species on Rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) in Northwest Montana. *Frontiers in Big Data* 4.
16. \*Leigh, D.M., \***van Rees, C.B.**, Milette, K.L., et al. 2021. Opportunities and challenges of macrogenetic studies. *Nature Reviews Genetics* 22(12): 791-807.
15. **van Rees, C.B.**, Aragonés, D., Bouten, W., Bustamente, J., and Green, A.J. 2021. Dynamic space use of Andalusian rice fields by Lesser Black-backed Gulls (*Larus fuscus*) is driven by flooding pattern. *Ibis* 163(4): 1252-1270.
14. Paz-Vinas, I., Jensen, E.L., Bertola, L.D., Breed, M.F., Hand, B.K., Hunter, M.E., Kershaw F., Leigh D.M., Luikart, G., Mergeay, J., Miller, J.M., **van Rees, C.B.**, Segelbacher, G., Hoban, S. 2021. Macro-genetic studies must not ignore limitations of genetic markers and scale. *Ecology Letters* 24(6): 1282-1284.
13. **van Rees, C.B.**, <sup>†</sup>Muñoz, M.A., Cooke, S.C., and Reed, J.M. 2021. Morphometric differences in an isolated, island-endemic subspecies of the Common gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*). *Pacific Science* 74(4): 345-364.
12. **van Rees, C.B.**, Jähnig, S.C., et al., 2021. Safeguarding Freshwater Life Beyond 2020: Recommendations for the new Global Biodiversity Framework from the European Experience. *Conservation Letters* 14(1): e12771.
11. Gormally, B.M.G., **van Rees, C.B.**, Bowers, E., Reed, J.M., and Romero, L.M. 2020. Feather corticosterone does not correlate with environmental stressors or body condition in an endangered waterbird. *Conservation Physiology* 8(1): coaa125.
10. **van Rees, C.B.**, Surya, G., and Reed, J.M. 2020. Multiple Sources of Evidence for density dependence in the endangered Hawaiian stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus knudsenii*). *Population Ecology* 62: 207-219.
9. **van Rees, C.B.**, Rozek, J.C., Garcia, G., and J.M. Reed 2019. Ecological Stakeholder Analogs as intermediaries between freshwater biodiversity conservation and sustainable water management. *Environmental Policy and Governance* 29.4: 303-312.
8. Cooke, S.C., Haskell, L.E., **van Rees, C.B.**, and Fessl, B. 2019. A Review of the Introduced Smooth-billed Ani (*Crotophaga ani*) in Galápagos. *Biological Conservation*. 229:38-49.
7. **van Rees, C.B.** 2018. Wetland conservation in Hawaii and the need for flagship species. *Elepaio* 78: 37-41.
6. **van Rees, C.B.** and J.M. Reed. 2018. The potential effects of habitat connectivity, management and sea level rise on the extinction risk of an endangered waterbird in a fragmented island landscape. *PeerJ* 6: e4990.

5. **van Rees, C.B.**, Reed, J.M., Wilson, R.E., Underwood, J.G., and S.A. Sonsthagen 2018. Landscape genetics implicates stream and drainage infrastructure as corridors in the dispersal of an endangered wetland bird. *Ecology and Evolution* 8: 8328-8343.
4. **van Rees, C.B.**, et al. 2018. Estimation of vital rates for the Hawaiian gallinule, a cryptic, endangered waterbird. *Journal of Fish and Wildlife Management* 9:117-131.
3. **van Rees, C.B.**, Reed, J.M., Wilson, R.S., Underwood J.G., and S.A. Sonsthagen. 2018. Small-scale genetic structure in an endangered wetland specialist: possible effects of landscape change and population recovery. *Conservation Genetics* 19:129-142.
2. **van Rees, C.B.** and J.M. Reed 2015. Water Diplomacy from a Duck's Perspective: Wildlife and Ecosystems as stakeholders in Water Management. *Journal of Contemporary Water Research and Education* 155:28-42.
1. **van Rees, C.B.** and J.M. Reed 2014. Wetland Loss in Hawai'i since human settlement. *Wetlands* 32:335-350.

#### PEER-REVIEWED BOOK CHAPTERS

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Roy, H.E., Pauchard, A., Stoett, P., Truong, T.R., Lipinskaya, T., Vincente, J.R., ... **van Rees, C.B.** et al. 2023. IPBES Invasive Alien Species Assessment: Chapter 1. Introducing biological invasions and the IPBES thematic assessment of invasive alien species and their control.  
<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.10056589>

**van Rees, C.B.**, Rozek, J.C., and Garcia, G. 2019. Confronting the Natural Domain: Strategies for Addressing Ecology and Conservation in Complex Water Management Challenges. In: Interdisciplinary Collaboration for Water Diplomacy: Problem-Driven Research and Practice. (Islam, S. and Smith, K., Eds.). *Routledge Press*.

Burgio, K.R., **van Rees, C.B.**, Block, K.E., Pyle, P., Patten, M.A., Spreyer, M.F. and E.H. Bucher 2016. Monk Parakeet (*Myiopsitta monachus*), In: The Birds of North America (P.G. Rodewald, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

#### PENDING PUBLICATIONS (\* - Shared First Authorship † - Student Mentee co-author)

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\***van Rees, C.B.**, \*Jumani, S., McKay, S.K., Dekker, T., Chaudhary, V., and Wenger, S.J., revised, in second round review. Guideposts and Guardrails for Biodiversity Accounting in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. *Biological Conservation*.

Hall, D.M. and **van Rees, C.B.** in review. Right space wrong place: Local context is key for implementing nature-based solutions. *Global Environmental Change*.

**van Rees, C.B.** and Reed, J.M. in review. Opportunities for Translational Water Research in Global Biodiversity Conservation. *Water Resources Research*.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

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**van Rees, C.B.** 2022. Perspectives from the Global South inform and affirm the contemporary river conservation paradigm: A commentary on Feio et al. *Global Change Biology* 29(2): 292-293.

**van Rees, C.B.** and Kawasaki, M.T. 2020. Restoring Hawaii's wetlands is caring for our history, culture. Honolulu Star Advertiser, February 2020.

Reilly, E. and **van Rees, C.B.** 2018. Urban wetlands play key role in sustaining communities. Honolulu Star Advertiser, January 2018.

Creech, T., McClure, M., and **van Rees, C.B.** 2018. A Conservation Prioritization Tool for the Missouri Headwaters Basin. Center for Large Landscape Conservation, Bozeman, MT.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2017. Disney Conservation Fund Grant to Protect Endangered `Alae `Ula. *Kolea* 67:9. Conservation Council for Hawaii.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2015. Kokua needed to track the elusive `Alae `Ula. *Kolea* 65:5. Conservation Council for Hawaii.

## AWARDS & HONORS

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2023	Honorable Mention, Wiley Aquatic Conservation Prize, Society for Freshwater Science
2021	Young Author Award, The Society of Population Ecology
2018	Best Student Paper, The Waterbird Society
2017	Certificate of Commendation for Dedication & Service to Hawaiian Conservation (House of Representatives, State of Hawai'i)
2016	Tufts University Undergraduate Mentoring and Teaching Award
2016	1 <sup>st</sup> Place in Research Talks, Tufts Graduate Student Research Symposium
2016	Honorable Mention – North American Ornithological Congress Best Student Presentation
2010	Finalist, Oakes and Louise Ames Prize for Outstanding Honors Thesis
2010	Connecticut College Winthrop Scholar
2010	Helen F. Mathieson Prize for Excellence in Conservation Biology
2010	Barbara Shattuck Kohn Prize for Excellence in Environmental Studies
2009	Sibyl A. Houseman Prize for Excellence in Biology
2006-10	Dean's High Academic Honors, Connecticut College

## SELECTED INVITED SEMINARS (of >30)

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**van Rees, C.B.** 2025: Water and Wildlife: The Interdisciplinary Science of Nature-based Solutions for Community Resilience and Biodiversity Conservation. The Jones Center at Ichauway, Newton, GA

**van Rees, C.B.** 2025. Environmental Benefits of Inland (and other!) Nature-based Solutions. Nature-based Solutions for a Resilient Gulf Coast Workshop, Rice University, Houston, TX.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2024. Nature-based Solutions and a New Paradigm for Freshwater Biodiversity Conservation. Department of Biology, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2024. Levee Setbacks for Wildlife Conservation: A New Research Approach. Invited Plenary, Missouri River Natural Resources Committee, Nebraska City, NE.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2024. Interdisciplinarity, Nature-based Solutions, and other tools for 21st-Century Water(fowl) Conservation. Department of Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology, UC Davis, Davis, CA.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2019. Saving Hawaii's Swamp Chicken: The Conservation story of `Alae `Ula. Flathead Audubon Society Lecture Series, Kalispell, MT.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2019. Bridging conservation research and water security post-2020. EU Biodiversity Strategy Post-2020 Advisory Meeting Ghent, Belgium.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2019. Conserving Nature on a hot, crowded planet: Lessons learned from the Belgian gulls of Andalusia. Fulbright Spain 2019 Mid-Year Seminar. Valencia, Spain.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2018. Saving Hawaii's Swamp Chickens: The Impacts of Landscape and Climate Change on the Hawaiian gallinule. The Wildlife Society & Montana State University Department of Ecology Summer Lecture Series, Bozeman, MT.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2018. Marsh Birds in Paradise: The Ecology and Conservation of the Hawaiian Gallinule. Nuttall Ornithological Club Lecture Series, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2017. Tracking the Fire Thief: A Case Study in American Connectivity Conservation. British Trust for Ornithology Seminar, Thetford, UK.

Creech, T. and **C.B. van Rees** 2017. Wilderness to Waikiki: Case Studies in American Connectivity Conservation. Cambridge Conservation Forum Lecture, David Attenborough Building, Cambridge, UK.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2015. The Movement Mystery of the Hawaiian gallinule. University of New Hampshire, Department of Biology, Durham, NH.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2013. Hawaiian Wetlands—A Historical Perspective. Pacific Coast Joint Venture Hawaiian Wetlands and Waterbird Workshop, Kailua, HI.

Ellmore, G.S. and **C.B. van Rees**. 2012. Vietnam on the Biodiversity stage: Biodiversity Hotspots and Conservation Biology. Hanoi University of Science, Hanoi, Vietnam.

#### **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (of >50)**

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**van Rees, C.B.**, Hernández-Abrams, D., Shudtz, M., *et al.* 2023. Re-imagining Water Infrastructure for a Biodiverse Future. Society for Freshwater Sciences 2023, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

**van Rees, C.B.** 2023. Human-Environment Water Conflict and the Future of Sustainable Water Management. *Honorable Mention for Best Global Conservation Paper*. Society for Freshwater Sciences 2023, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

**van Rees, C.B.**, Aragonés, D., Bouten, W., Thaxter, C., Ross-Smith, V.H., Steinen, E., Bustamante, J., and Green, A.J. 2020. Temporally Dynamic Resource Use of Overwintering Waterbirds During an Agricultural Cycle in Southern Spain. North American Ornithological Conference VII (Virtual).

**van Rees, C.B.**, Hand, B.K. *et al.* 2020. Integrating underutilized technologies to predict the spread of aquatic invasive species. American Fisheries Society, Montana Chapter Conference. Kalispell, MT.

**van Rees, C.B.** and Reed, J.M. 2018. The impacts of climate change and dispersal behavior on population viability of an endangered Hawaiian waterbird. 27<sup>th</sup> Annual International Ornithological Congress, Vancouver, BC.

**van Rees, C.B.**, *et al.* 2018. Navigating a Paved Paradise: Landscape Genetics of an Endangered Hawaiian Waterbird. *Winner of Best Student Paper*. 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Waterbird Society. Vancouver, BC.

**van Rees, C.B.**, Reed, J.M., Wilson, R.E., Underwood, J., Nadig, A., and S.A. Sonsthagen. 2018. Landscape genetics of endangered Hawaiian waterbirds. Student Conference on Conservation Science, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK.

**van Rees, C.B.**, *et al.* 2017. Marsh birds in urban lands: Do stream corridors explain population connectivity? Student Conference on Conservation Science, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

**van Rees, C.B.**, Kawasaki, M.T., Underwood, J., Sonsthagen, S.A., Paxton, E.H., and J.M. Reed 2016. Ke lele manu o ka wai: Movement Ecology and Conservation of Hawaiian Waterbirds. IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016, Honolulu, Hawaii.

**van Rees, C.B.**, Reed, J.M., Wilson, R.E., Underwood, J., Nadig, A., and S.A. Sonsthagen  
2016. The movement ecology of an endangered rail: The Hawaiian gallinule. North American Ornithological Congress VI, Washington, D.C.

### **MENTORING AND ADVISING (\* - as Thesis Co-advisor)**

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2024-Present \***Olivia Allen**, M.S. Ecology, Univ. of Georgia  
 2024-Present \***Aurora Fowler**, M.S. Ecology, Univ. of Georgia  
 2024-Present **Dhruv Singh**, Undergraduate Independent Research, Univ. of Georgia  
 2024-2025 **Oliver Nemeth**, Undergraduate Independent Research, Univ. of Georgia  
 2021-2024 \***Colin Peterson**, M.S. Ecology, Univ. of Georgia (2024)  
 2019-2022 **Sean C. Carter**, M.S. Forestry, University of Montana (2022)  
 2019-2022 **Leif Howard**, B.S. & M.S. Wildlife Bio., Univ. of Montana (2020 & Ongoing)  
 2018-2021 **Lukanicole Zavas**, M.S. Nat. Resources, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (2020)  
 2017-2018 **Matthew Pedrotti**, B.S. Botany, Humboldt State University (2018)  
 2016-2021 **Maria Alejandra Muñoz**, B.S. Ecology, Tufts University (2018)  
 2015-2017 **Annie Miller**, B.S. Ecology, Tufts University (2016)  
 2015 **Tiana Bolosan**, B.S. Envi. Science, University of Hawai'i at Hilo (2016)

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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2025 Co-Instructor, Environmental Practicum, ECOL4900S  
 2024 Co-Instructor, Costa Rica Tropical Ecology Maymester, ECOL3100  
 Instructor of Record, Tropical Ecology Field Research, ECOL3510  
 2023 Guest Instructor (Field Methods), University of Georgia Odum School of Ecology, ECOL8000 Topics in Modern Ecology  
 2022 Guest Lecturer, University of Georgia Odum School of Ecology, ECOL2200 Water Sustainability in the Anthropocene  
 2021 Guest Lecturer, University of Georgia Odum School of Ecology, ECOL6080 Principles of Integrative Conservation and Sustainability  
 2012-2017 Teaching Assistant, Tufts University Department of Biology
 

- BIO 144 Principles of Conservation Biology (2 Semesters)
- BIO 051 Experiments in Ecology (1 Semester)
- BIO 012 Evolution in Our World (Non-majors) (1 Semester)
- BIO 132 Biostatistics (1 Semester)
- BIO 181 Tropical Ecology and Conservation (1 Semester)
- Natural History, Bahamas Field Course (2 Sessions)
- BIO 007 Environmental Biology (1 Semester)
- BIO 093/193 Independent Research (4 semesters, two students)
- BIO 199 Senior Honors Thesis (2 semesters, one student)

### **OTHER RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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**Cross-Realm Conservation Team**, Center for Large Landscape Conservation Bozeman, MT  
**Visiting Conservation Scientist** Winter – Spring 2017  
 Investigated cross-realm solutions for protecting freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems in Montana

Convened scientists and stakeholders to guide future conservation decision-making in Yellowstone

**Shorebird Monitoring Program**, Trustees of Reservations

Ipswich, MA

**Wildlife Technician**

Spring – Fall 2012

Monitored populations and nesting behavior of two threatened shorebird species

Performed active predator management and nest protection based on published research

**Koenig Lab**, Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology

Carmel Valley, CA

**Field Technician**

Fall 2011 – Spring 2012

Collected behavioral data for long-term research on cooperative breeding woodpeckers

Studied oak mast phenology and nesting of dependent bird species

**Avian Ecology Lab**, Archbold Biological Station

Venus, FL

**Avian Ecology Intern**

Winter 2010 – Summer 2011

Conducted extensive field surveys, observations, and monitoring of a threatened bird species

Trapped, banded, and collected blood samples from birds for ongoing conservation research

**Shrubland Bird Team**, National Audubon Society

Southbury, CT

**Field Research Assistant**

Summer 2010

Captured, banded, and counted declining shrubland birds to inform habitat management

**Sea Turtle Conservation Program**, WIDECAST Costa Rica

Gandoca, Costa Rica

**Research Assistant & Volunteer Coordinator**

Summer 2009

Tagged, measured, and monitored nesting female leatherback Sea Turtles on a critical nesting beach

Translated between local staff and the public; Led nightly patrols to protect endangered nesting turtles

## SELECTED OUTREACH & MEDIA COVERAGE

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**Co-Producer & Co-Host**, [The Nature Guys Podcast](#)

Joined naturalist team sharing nature topics with >7,000 listeners bimonthly

Co-produced episode mini-series on water and the environment featuring Erin Brockovich

**2022 TEDx Speaker**, “[A Glance through Nature's Playbook](#)”. TEDx Bozeman, April 2022.

**Featured Guest**, [Anchor & Flame Podcast](#). “[Conversation with Naturalist Dr. Charles van Rees](#)” December 2021.

**Featured Guest**, [Podsongs Podcast](#). “[Charles van Rees on invasive species \(ft. Musical guests Creature Comfort\)](#)” November 2021.

**Featured Guest**, [Rewildology Podcast](#). “[The \(Im\)Balance Between Life & Water with Charles van Rees, PhD](#)” September 2021.

**Guest Scientist**, SciComm Mondays Science [Livestream](#) with Nicole Wood.

**Featured Guest**, Maunaloa: East Oahu Communities Working Together.

Episodes aired [September](#) 2014, [August](#) and [September](#) 2015, [June](#) 2016.

**Featured** in “[Campbell's Coup](#)”, Hawaii Magazine, September/October 2014 edition by Mary Vorsino.

**Science Storyteller**, [The Story Collider](#).

Authored and performed science story about field work in ecology & conservation. Recorded live at the Oberon theater in Cambridge, MA and [podcast](#) in March 2014.

## LEADERSHIP, VOLUNTEERING, & SERVICE

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**Founder & Editor in Chief**, The [Gulo in Nature](#) Blog

Athens, GA

Writing weekly blog posts on naturalist tips, outdoor recreation,

Winter 2022 – Present

ecology, conservation, and environmental careers for a nature education blog.



<b>Scientific Advisor</b> , ‘Alae ‘ula Recovery Working Group Co-producing a recovery & reintroduction plan for an endangered waterbird Facilitated grant development among collaborators from state, federal & private agencies	Kapa‘a, HI Summer 2021-Present
<b>Executive Board Member</b> , <a href="#">K9 Conservationists</a> Providing scientific consultations for organization mission and directives Researching and identified grant funding and outreach opportunities	Missoula, MT Spring 2021 – Present
<b>Executive Board Member</b> , Hawai‘i Islands Conservation Collective Providing scientific expertise on endangered bird ecology Deliberating and voting upon organizational mission, goals, and actions	Honolulu, HI Winter 2020 – Present
<b>Lead Ecologist</b> , <a href="#">Livable Hawaii Kai Hui</a> Drafted conservation plan for biodiversity on managed properties Spearheaded and organized applications for wildlife conservation grants Directed community science research programs and managed databases	Honolulu, HI Summer 2015 – Present
<b>President</b> , <b>Connecticut College Martial Arts Club</b> Coordinated training schedules and skill trades for 30+ students Organized performances for cultural events & self-defense for women & LGBTQ+ students	New London, CT Fall 2007 – Spring 2010
<b>Reviewer For:</b> Nature, Science Advances, Global Change Biology, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Nature Scientific Reports, Nature Reviews Biodiversity, Environmental Reviews, Conservation Letters, Journal of Applied Ecology, Conservation Science and Practice, WIREs Water, Wetlands, Freshwater Biology, Water, Animal Conservation, Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution, Wilson Journal of Ornithology, Waterbirds, Anthropocene, Journal of Field Ornithology, Sustainability, Ornithological Science, PeerJ, Ecology and Evolution, Diversity and Distributions, Ecological Indicators, Biological Invasions, Journal of Environmental Planning and Management, Organization and Environment,	
<b>WORKSHOPS &amp; PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>	
<b>Integrative Conservation Reading Group: Equity and Justice</b> Biweekly reading group on racial and environmental justice issues in biodiversity conservation.	Athens, GA Spring 2023
<b>Participatory and Student-Centered Teaching</b> Training in strategies and tools for increasing student engagement and involvement in undergraduate and graduate courses.	Athens, GA Fall 2023
<b>Co-production for Just and Equitable Climate Research</b> Four-day intensive on research methods, engagement skills, and ethics for including Indigenous knowledge and perspectives in climate change research.	Albuquerque, NM Fall 2021
<b>Montana Master Naturalist Certification</b> Field- and course-work certification in natural history and interpretive nature guiding	Missoula, MT Fall 2020
<b>Theory and Practice of Linking Knowledge with Action for Applied Science</b> Graduate-level fellowship training in achieving scientific co production.	Seattle, WA Spring 2020
<b>Communication Skills for Effective Leadership</b> Intensive training in written and oral communication for team coordination	Madrid, Spain January 2019

<b>Using Conservation Evidence to answer conservation questions</b>	Cambridge, UK
Training in evidence-based approaches to applied conservation research.	April 2018
<b>Hawaii Bird Banding Workshop</b>	Honolulu, HI
Ethics and methods of bird capture, banding, and resighting for research.	February 2018
<b>Spatial Analysis in R</b>	New York, NY
Handling and analyzing spatial datasets using statistical analysis software.	October 2017
<b>Making Conservation Politically Effective</b>	New York, NY
Training in representing conservation interests to lawmakers	October 2017
<b>Occupancy modeling for Ecology in R</b>	New York, NY
Statistical theory and programming for occupancy-based ecological models.	October 2016
<b>Mediation and Negotiation in Water Resources Conflicts</b>	Harvard, MA
Mediating and leading negotiations between stakeholders in water conflicts.	September 2015
<b>Wetland Ecology and Waterfowl Management</b>	Puxico, MO
Training in hydrology and ecology of lentic wetland systems.	August 2013
Moist-soil management techniques for waterfowl conservation	

## **PROFESSIONAL SKILLS SUMMARY**

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**Software:** ENVI, ArcGIS, QGIS, Program MARK, VORTEX, SPSS, Microsoft Office Suite

**Programming:** R (advanced), Python (basic), JAGS/OpenBUGS, MATLAB (basic), SQL (basic)

**Language:** English (Native speaker), Spanish (Professional Working Proficiency)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

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Ecological Society of America, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Society for Freshwater Science, American Ornithological Society, Sigma Xi, IUCN Connectivity Conservation Working Group, GEO BON Species Populations Working Group, Freshwater BON, Nuttall Ornithological Society, Phi Beta Kappa.