

Matthew William Lacey

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OBJECTIVE

To study and conserve endangered wildlife species.

EDUCATION

Worthington Kilbourne Highschool

Columbus, OH

GPA: 3.9

Graduated: May 2014

Deleware Area Career Center

Deleware, OH

GPA: 3.9

Graduated: May 2014

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Blacksburg, VA Current GPA: 3.44

Major: Wildlife Conservation

Minor: Environmental Policy and Planning

Expected Graduation: May 2018

EXPERIENCE

Delaware Area Career Center Zoo School Program

Student, August 2012 – May 2014

- Attended courses at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium
- Designed a major thesis project each year in the program (2 total)
- Conducted observational research and statistical analysis
- Presented research to peers, professionals and community members utilizing various types of media
- Gained experience cleaning animal enclosures and shadowing zoo keepers

The Wild's Scholar Internship

Wildlife Ecology Intern, May 2015 – August 2015

- Conducted a mesopredator camera trapping study. Responsibilities included checking cameras, entering data, analyzing data and writing a scientific paper on the results
- Gained experience using ArcGIS and 'R' for statistical analysis
- Assisted in several research projects, including Smithsonian Hellbender field survey, American burying beetle reintroduction, ruffed grouse survey, fence lizard survey, and a terrestrial salamander survey
- Presented results using various types of media at the Wild's and the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium to students and professionals

Wildlife Habitat and Population Analysis Lab

Volunteer, 71 hours total, August 2015 – December 2015

- Entered and checked data from a Jaguar camera trapping study based in Belize (29.4 hours)

- Checked camera traps at Mountain Lake Biological Station once a week (42 hours)

Tropical Ecology Study Abroad

Student, 3-week field course in Ecuador, May 2016 – June 2016

- Collaborated with another student to produce a proposal and final research paper for a scientific project
- Conducted a hare snare study focused on Felid species and the use of perfumes as a tool to advance conservation efforts
- Gained global perspective through a semester long course and immersion into indigenous cultures of the lowland Amazonian basin

Virginia Appalachian Carnivore Study

Volunteer, 216 hours total, June 2015 – July 2016

- Assisted in carnivore scat collection surveys in Bath County, VA
- Entered and organized data from field surveys

The Hopkins Lab

Technician, June 2016 – September 2016

- Constructed hellbender nestboxes
- Assisted in hellbender nesting surveys
- Proofed information and data from field surveys

Virginia Tech Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society

Camera Trapping Chair, 2016-2017

- Lead groups of undergraduate volunteers on trips to Mountain Lake Biological Station to check camera trap stations
- Organized and managed project equipment

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Member of the Virginia Tech Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society (2014-present)
- Member of Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity (2016-present)
- Big Event Committee Member (2014-present)
- Special Olympics Bowling and Basketball volunteer (2015-present)

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars (2015)
- Dean's List (Fall 2014)
- Dean's List (Spring 2015)
- Member of the 2016-2017 Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources Leadership Institute