

Curriculum Vitae

Alanna Post

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Academic Goal

My goal is to pursue a career in research and find employment as either a forest ecologist or as a professor of ecology.

Education

Michigan State University	September 2022 – Current
• Ph.D. candidate in Geography	
Sonoma State University	January 2021 – August 2022
• Master's Student in Biology	
University of Wisconsin Eau Claire (UWEC) – Eau Claire, WI	2016 - 2020
• Bachelor of Science in Ecology and Environmental Biology	
• Certificate in Geospatial Remote Sensing	
University of Stirling – Stirling, Scotland, UK	2019 Spring
• Plant Ecology, Behavioral Ecology, and Global Environmental Issues	
Gulf Coast Research Laboratory – Ocean Springs, MS	2017 Summer
• Marine Invertebrate Zoology and Marine Animal Behavior	

Research Experience

Michigan State University	September 2022 to Current
• Developing dissertation project under Dr. Kyla Dahlin	
• Topic areas: forest disturbance dynamics, remote sensing, forest structure and function	
• Changes in forest structure post-fire at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park	
Sonoma State University	January 2021 to August 2022
• Developing master's thesis project under Dr. Lisa Bentley	
• Field data collection at established forest inventory plots, traditional tree survey and LiDAR data	
• Project topic: examining changes in surface wildland fuels post disturbance using handheld mobile laser scanning	
Coastal Marine Education and Research Academy, Chief Scientist – Clearwater, FL	August 2017 and 2018
• Assisted with field work on sharks and rays such as taking measurements, weather conditions, and gender	
• Utilized R to analyze and report stingray data collected in the field and communicated with head scientist	
University of Notre Dame Environmental Research Center – UNDERC – Land O' Lakes, WI	May to July 2018
• Conducted field research on forests in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan	
• Authored a capstone paper and presented finding through a PowerPoint at the symposium	
• Paper is available at https://underc.nd.edu/resources/student-projects-archive/	
Bolton Refuge House – Eau Claire, WI	January to May 2018
• Reviewed primary literature on treatments for domestic abuse and related trauma	
• Presentation given to the stakeholders of the grant at Bolton Refuge House	
UWEC – Honors Campus Ecology – Eau Claire, WI	January to May 2017
• Participated in the ongoing tree survey on the UWEC campus	
• Identified, took diameter breast height, and the GPS location of each tree on university property	

Presentations

American Geophysical Union Annual Meeting 2023	December 2023
• Co-author on presentation of lab research completed at Sonoma State University, presentation given by Lisa Patrick Bentley	
• “Using ground based lidar (HMLS and TLS) to examine changes in forest structure post-disturbance in northern California forests”	
Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting 2022	August 2022

- Presented an oral talk on master's thesis research completed at Sonoma State University
Sonoma State University Symposium May 2022
- Poster – On various research activities of the 3DForest Lab
- Grad Slam talk – 3 minute lightning talk about thesis research
9th International Fire Ecology and Management Congress: Poster Sessions December 2021
- Presented a poster on my ongoing master's thesis project entitled “Examining changes in surface wildland fuels post-disturbance using handheld mobile laser scanning.”
Celebration of Excellence in Research and Creative Activity Poster Day April 2018
- Presented two research posters, a team research project on earthworms through the biology department at UWEC and individual research project on distribution of rays in Florida through CMERA
UNDERC Symposium August 2018
- Gave a presentation on summer research project comparing the biodiversity and light availability in the understory of sugar maple monoculture forest and mixed forest stands

Publications

- Baish, C.J., Post, A., Shortridge, A.M., Schaetzl, R.J., Hopkins, P., Bowman, A., Rabac, I., Frantz, B. and Finley, A.O., 2024. Thousands of shallow, relict gullies indicate thermo-erosion on the sandy uplands of northern Lower Michigan during the Late Pleistocene. *Geomorphology*, 467, p.109482.
- Post, A.J., Forbes, B., Cooper, Z., Faro, K., Seel, C., Clark, M., Disney, D. and Bentley, L.P., 2025, in review. Using handheld mobile laser scanning to quantify fine-scale surface fuels and detect changes post-disturbance in northern California forests. *Ecological Indicators*.
- Schaetzl, R.J., Lepper, K., Kincare, K.A., Lusch, D.P., Baish, C., Lowell, T.V., Esch, J., Curry, B.B., Post, A., Gugel, R., Marcouiller, T. and Peterson, A. 2025, in prep. Dynamics, Geomorphology, and Chronology of the Mackinac Lobe of the Laurentide Ice Sheet in the Houghton Lake Basin, Michigan, USA.

Employment History

- Michigan State University – Department of Geography, Research Assistant September 2022 to Current
- Work on research related to Dr. Kyla Dahlin's NSF CAREER Grant
 - Data preparation and analysis
 - Field technician for SPEC School in Summer 2023
- Sonoma State University – Department of Biology, Teaching Associate January 2021 to August 2022
- Teach a biology laboratory section to undergraduate students at Sonoma State University
 - Run in person and zoom classes, grade assignments, and collaborate with lecture professor
 - Supervisor – Wendy St. John (stjohnw@sonoma.edu) and Brent Hughes (hughes@sonoma.edu)
 - Part-Time – 5-7 hours a week
- UWEC Center for International Education, Peer Adviser – Eau Claire, WI September 2019 to May 2020
- Send weekly emails to program participants, facilitate orientation, and give promotional presentations
 - Supervisor - Storm Jacko (715-836-5418, jackosr@uwec.edu) – Available for reference check
 - Part-Time - 5 hours a week
- Private Chemistry Tutor – St. Paul, MN June to August 2020
- Tutored a peer in chemistry 1 and 2
 - Part-Time – 5 hours a week
- Bolton Refuge House, Intern – Eau Claire, WI January to May 2018
- Intern Duties included maintaining the building, and assisting residents
 - Supervisor - Tanya Potter (715-834-0628, tanya.p@boltonrefuge.org) – Available for reference check
 - Internship - 10 hours a week

Volunteer Experience

- Tamarack Nature Center, Junior Assistant Naturalist and Volunteer – White Bear, MN June to July 2015, 2018
- In 2018, assisted with summer day programs and participate in civilian science dragonfly survey
 - In 2015, helped the other staff run the summer day camps and entertaining the children before and after
- National Honor Society (NHS), Member May 2015 to 2016
- Participated in NHS run events such as the American Red Cross Blood Drive and Night on the Street.
- Solid Ground, Volunteer January to May 2016

- Tutored children in K-8 who lived at the shelter with their families.

Awards, Honors, and Grants Received

- UWEC Dean's List: 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020
- UWEC Graduated with University Honors: 2020
- Golden Key Honor's Society: 2019-2021
- AFE TREE Grant: 2021
- CAL FIRE Forest Health Research Grant: 2022
- UWEC Graduated Summa Cum Laude: 2020
- UWEC Biology Outstanding Senior: 2020
- UWEC Great Lakes Grant: 2018
- SSU Student Research Grant: 2021