

# Madison Calbert

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## EDUCATION

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**Master of Environmental Science and Management** (Expected June 2025)

**Bren School of Environmental Science & Management – University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)**

Specialization: Conservation Planning

Highlighted Coursework: Conservation Planning, Geographic Information Systems, Advanced Data Analysis for Environmental Science and Management, Ecology of Managed Ecosystems

**Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies** (June 2019)

**College of Letters and Science – University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)**

Highlighted Coursework: Environmental Ecology, Ecological Restoration, Biodiversity and Conservation, Conservation Planning, Public Speaking for the Environment

## MASTER'S GROUP PROJECT | MODELING WILDLIFE CORRIDORS

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**Evaluating Conservation Gaps Across a Proposed Sentinel Landscape** (4/24—Present)

**Role**: Project Manager, Finance Manager | **Client**: LegacyWorks Group

- Model multi-species wildlife connectivity using Maxent, Circuitscape, and ArcGIS to identify priority areas for corridor placement, conservation, and restoration within the Southern Central Coast of California.
- Lead a 5-person team, coordinating project timelines, stakeholder outreach, and connectivity modeling efforts, aligning results with client's goal of applying to the Sentinel Landscape Program.
- Manage team coordination, client communications, and deliverable executions to ensure timely, high-quality, and data-driven conservation recommendations.

## CONSERVATION & PROJECT MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

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**Island Biosecurity Intern – The Nature Conservancy**, Santa Barbara, CA (06/24—10/24)

- Led a comprehensive study encompassing field work, report writing, and data analysis to evaluate biosecurity devices for invasive species management on Santa Cruz Island and Palmyra Atoll.
- Managed a database of remote camera footage from 24 stations across Santa Cruz Island and Coal Oil Point Reserve, using Timelapse software to process media and create datasets for analysis in RStudio.
- Mentored an undergraduate research assistant through the Bren Environmental Leadership (BEL) program, fostering skill development and supporting project goals.

**As-Needed Staff Biologist II – HELIX Environmental Planning**, San Diego, CA (03/23—09/23)

- Oversaw environmental compliance for the East County Advanced Water Purification Project (ECAWP), monitoring the installation of a 10-mile pipeline and the construction of a water purification facility.
- Collaborated with project managers, clients, and stakeholders to ensure adherence to biological protocols and ensure compliance with ESA, MBTA, CWA, and CEQA, facilitating problem solving on job sites.
- Conducted habitat assessment surveys, migratory nesting bird surveys, and special-status species surveys for California gnatcatcher, Least Bell's vireo, and rare plants to support conservation efforts.

**Wildlife Biologist I / Botanist – Condor Country Consulting Inc.**, Martinez, CA (04/21—02/23)

- Ensured compliance with federal and state regulations (CEQA, ESA, MBTA) across multiple projects, monitoring for 20+ special-status species in accordance with appropriate permitting requirements.
- Managed a database of California tiger salamander (CTS) and California reg-legged frog (CRLF) trapping data, ensuring accuracy and comprehensive data entry to support project goals.
- Authored detailed biological reports (10+ pages), managed spatial and tabular data in Excel and ArcGIS.
- Fostered communication and collaboration between field crews, project managers, and clients to ensure alignment on project goals, regulatory compliance, and effective problem-solving.

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## **PARTNERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATION EXPERIENCE**

### **Environmental Planning Teaching Assistant – UCSB Env. Studies Dept., Santa Barbara, CA (01/24—Present)**

- Facilitate communication with 75+ students weekly across 3 discussion sections, fostering an inclusive learning environment focused on land use planning, environmental permitting, and transportation.
- Collaborate closely with faculty and other TAs to ensure seamless course delivery, responding to student inquiries, providing feedback, and maintaining course materials on the Canvas platform.

### **Stakeholder Engagement Intern – LegacyWorks Group, Santa Barbara, CA (06/24—09/24)**

- Engaged with 19+ stakeholders within the proposed Sentinel Landscapes region, including CalTrans, USFWS, and TNC's Dangermond Preserve to identify stakeholder conservation priorities.
- Designed and implemented a qualitative analysis approach using grounded theory, developing interview questions, an informational primer, and sentiment analysis to extract shared conservation themes.
- Managed a stakeholder database, tracking contact information, interview schedules, and summaries to support streamlined workflow and accurate records for conservation planning efforts.

### **Veterinary Care Provider – The Drake Center for Veterinary Care, Encinitas, CA (10/19—03/21)**

- Communicated care plans to approximately 15 clients per day and reviewed preventative care and medication administration for canine and feline patients.
- Fostered trust and ensured client satisfaction by maintaining ongoing communication about patient progress and treatment adjustments.
- Managed patient records in specialized veterinary software, ensuring accuracy and continuity of care for future client interactions.

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## **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **Agricultural Ecology Research Assistant – UCSB Earth Research Institute, Santa Barbara, CA (01/25—Present)**

Model species distribution of viable plants for restoration on retired crop fields across California, incorporating future climate scenarios to inform sustainable restoration strategies.

### **Animal Keeper Intern & Volunteer – Wild Wonders, Bonsall, CA (10/19—03/21)**

Presented to audiences (5 to 30 people) during on-site tours and off-site education programs about the importance of wildlife conservation and the negative impacts of the exotic pet trade.

### **Sea Turtle Conservation Research Assistant – BIOMA Travel, Ostional, Costa Rica (07/19—08/19)**

Collected and entered data on endangered olive ridley sea turtles to assist in community conservation efforts.

### **Urban Raccoon Research Assistant – UCSB EEMB McCauley Lab, Santa Barbara, CA (01/19—06/19)**

Supported PhD research on spatial ecology of raccoons in urban areas using GPS bio-telemetry satellites.

### **Restoration Ecology Research Assistant – UCSB EEMB D'Antonio Lab, Santa Barbara, CA (01/19—06/19)**

Supported PhD research project studying competition between invasive grasses and obligate seeding chaparral shrubs (i.e., plants requiring a fire cue for seed germination for restoration project success).

### **Restoration Ecology Technician/Student Worker – The Cheadle Center, Santa Barbara, CA (01/18—06/19)**

Restored vernal pool and coastal sage scrub habitats, eliminated non-native plant species through hand weeding methods, and conducted transect surveys on UCSB open spaces.

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## **SKILLS, CERTIFICATIONS & AFFILIATIONS**

**Technical:** ArcGIS Pro; R; Data Visualization; ESRI Field Maps; NVivo; Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point

**Biological:** Vegetation transects surveys; plant identification and Jepson Manual keying; wetland delineations; pitfall trapping; bird, mammal, and reptile identification

**Certifications:** California ESA: Plant Voucher Collecting Permit – No. 2081(a)-22-105-V; American Red Cross First Aid, CPR and AED; OSHA 40-hour HAZWOPER 39 CFR 1910.120(E)

**Affiliations:** The Wildlife Society (Western Section, Central Coast Chapter, and UCSB Student Chapter), California Native Plant Society (San Diego Chapter)