

NICK BITHER

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EDUCATION

- MSc Biology** University of Denver 2021- Expected Completion 2024
Advisor: Dr. Patrick Martin
- BA Geography** University of Denver June 2013
Minor - Sustainability

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Master's Thesis Research, Colorado** 2021-Ongoing
Investigating recruitment failures and local adaptation to drought and elevated temperature in Rocky Mountain conifers.
- USGS, Three Rivers, California** 2021
Biology Field Technician, Western Ecological Research Center
Collected field data for a variety of forest ecology research projects in national parks. Work included mapping and measuring of forest plots using traditional methods and implementing emerging technologies such as terrestrial Lidar. Analyzed drought induced mass mortality events, including identifying various entomological and fungal mortality factors. Participated in planning and logistics for multi-day backcountry research trips in remote wilderness areas.
- University of Minnesota, Cloquet/Ely, MN** 2019-2020
Field Technician, Department of Forest Resources - Forest Ecology Lab
Assisted in day-to-day operations of long term experimental forest warming project at two sites in Northern Minnesota investigating future warming's impact on forest communities at the temperate-boreal ecotone. Work in the field included collecting abiotic and biotic data, establishing, editing, and documenting experiment protocols, maintenance and upkeep of equipment and instruments, and communicating issues to PI's. Responsible for cleaning large datasets and preparing for analysis. Contributed to work on other experiments including the International Diversity Experiment Network with Trees (IDENT), experiments at Western University (London, ON) investigating acclimation responses to elevated CO2 and warming in boreal species, and assisted with implementation of new exotic species remediation experiment.

American Museum of Natural History, Portal, AZ
Research Intern, Southwestern Research Station

2017

Assisted researchers with biological field studies and experiments. Followed established protocols to collect and prepare samples in aquatic and terrestrial settings. Worked with each department within the remote research station to ensure upkeep of facilities and provide any needed support to hosted researchers.

GRANTS

2022

\$1,000 – CU Boulder John W. Marr Ecology Fund

\$1,000 – Colorado Mountain Club Foundation – Al Ossinger Research Fellowship

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Denver, Denver, CO

September 2021 - Ongoing

Teaching Assistant, Department of Biological Sciences

Independently lead lab sections of various introductory biology courses for both majors and non-majors. Help walk students through foundational concepts. Responsible for grading all lab reports, write-ups, and projects.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

City of Denver – Forestry Department

2022- Ongoing

Community Forester

Distribute, plant, and care for trees on public and private property in the city of Denver with the goal of increasing citywide tree equity. Educate community members on the benefit of a healthy urban forest.

University of Minnesota - Extension

2021

Editor

Assisted in editing textbooks used in the instruction of the extension's master naturalist program.

Nature Conservancy of Minnesota

2019-2020

Conservation Volunteer

Participated in long term project to restore oak savanna ecosystems along the Minnesota River utilizing prescribed burns to clear invasive species.

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

2019-2020

Water Quality Monitor

Located and performed water quality tests at remote river sites in Northern Minnesota.