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CONFLUENCE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPANY

NATALIE WHITE, WPIT

Project Ecologist

Natalie is a versatile ecologist with experience working on development and restoration projects in freshwater and marine environments. She performs activities such as wetland delineations, stream and nearshore surveys, fish exclusion, marine mammal monitoring, research and synthesis, mitigation monitoring, GIS analysis, and fish exclusion. Natalie is familiar with local, state, and federal environmental policies and regulations, and she routinely conducts regulatory research and prepares documentation to meet local (e.g., critical areas), state (e.g., State Environmental Policy Act [SEPA]), and federal (e.g., Endangered Species Act [ESA]) regulatory requirements. Natalie has worked on restoration projects in environments ranging from large river systems to tidal flats, in roles that have varied from leading a crew to assisting with project design. With her dual degrees in Environmental Studies and English Literature, Natalie strives to support environmental goals with strong communication approaches.

Representative Projects

Ash Way Roadway Improvement, Snohomish County Public Works, Lynnwood, WA. *Staff Scientist*. Provided project management coordination and supported senior staff complete the field effort to identify and delineate critical areas. This project proposes improvements to 2.2 miles of Ash Way between 18th Avenue W and the intersection of Gibson Road and Admiralty Way. Assisted in report production by completing the wetland ratings using the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington.

Biomonitoring for Holden Mine Remediation Project, Rio Tinto, Lucerne, WA. *Staff Scientist.* Managed the logistics of this multi-day remote field effort by ordering field equipment and making travel arrangements. Project involved extensive fish and macroinvertebrate sampling along Railroad Creek as a way to assess the effectiveness of Rio Tinto's remediation efforts at Holden Mine—a former copper mine active between 1938 and 1957. Assisted senior staff complete the field effort by participating in both the macroinvertebrate and fish sampling, which was done in accordance with the Performance Standards Verification Plan developed for the project.

Holden Mine Remediation Project—Bear Mountain Mitigation Site Assessment, Rio Tinto, Chelan County, WA. *Staff Scientist.* Natalie was part of a team to assess ecological site conditions at the mitigation alternative chosen to offset unavoidable ecological impacts to Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) resulting from the Holden Mine Remediation Project. The Bear Mountain site is privately owned property of 2,100 acres approximately 5 miles west of the city of Chelan. The goal of this assessment was to identify and delineate the boundaries of any wetlands or streams located across the site, as well as to identify and assess the various ecosystems, plant communities, and wildlife habitats found on-site.

EDUCATION

B.A., Environmental Studies/English Literature, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 2015

Certificate, Wetland Science and Management, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 2019

CERTIFICATIONS

Public Operator Pesticide License, Washington State Department of Agriculture, #94288

EXPERTISE

Wetland Ecology and Delineation
Plant Identification
Critical Areas Studies
Mitigation Monitoring
Fish Exclusion
Data Collection and Analysis
GIS

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Wilderness First Responder, Aerie Backcountry Medicine, 2017

ArcGIS Training, University of Washington, 2019

AFFILIATIONS

Society of Wetland Scientists

Wetlands were delineated in 5 of the major drainages across the project site using methods described by the Corps. Due to the large size of the site, the field effort focused on those drainages with known or suspected wetland and aquatic features.

14th Avenue W Roadway Extension Critical Area Study, Snohomish County Public Works, Bothell**, WA.** *Staff Scientist*. Provided project management coordination and supported senior staff during the field effort. The County is proposing to extend 14th Avenue W to Locust Way. Completed delineation of wetlands and OHWM of streams using Corps Wetlands Delineation Manual (1987) and the local Regional Supplement (Corps 2010), and identified and delineated the OHWM and bankfull width of streams in accordance with WAC 222-16-010 and Determining the Ordinary High Water Mark on Streams in Washington State (Ecology Publication # 16-06-029).

Marine Mammal Monitoring During Pier Repair and Replacement, Manke Lumber Company, Shelton, WA. *Marine Wildlife Observer*. To satisfy requirements under ESA and the Marine Mammal Protection Act, conducted marine mammal monitoring during pile-driving and removal activities for replacement of a commercial pier within Oakland Bay, Washington. Conducted monitoring within specified stop-work zones near pile removal and installation using high-quality, 10X42-mm binoculars and recorded observations of marine mammals within the monitoring area, including the number, type, and distance from work. No ESA-listed marine mammals were observed. Harbor seals did transit the monitoring area and their proximity necessitated work being stopped once during project construction.

Upper Quinault River Sustainable Floodplain Management Planning Project, Quinault Indian Nation, Quinault, WA. *Staff Scientist*. Project involves developing a Roads Management Plan as part of project to identify and prioritize actions that will improve channel migration and other geomorphic and habitat-forming processes. Assisted with the map preparation in ArcGIS for inclusion in presentation materials for public meetings.

Mitigation Site Performance Monitoring, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, King County (various locations), WA. *Staff Scientist.* Performing quarterly maintenance monitoring and yearly compliance monitoring for 4 sites throughout King County. Conducting quarterly site inspections to ensure maintenance is being performed and communicating any observations to King County project manager via quarterly reports. Annual monitoring involves documenting site conditions and collecting transect data and plant counts to assess whether the mitigation area is meeting performance standards.

Eelgrass Surveying and Mapping, Plauche and Carr, Samish Bay, WA. *Research Assistant*. Supported the field effort to document and map the presence of eelgrass in Samish Bay in order to provide permitting support to Blau Oyster Co., Inc. Assisted in report production by inputting data and creating photo appendices.

Juanita Creek Fish Exclusion, Dungeness Construction, Kirkland, WA. *Staff Scientist.* Assisted senior staff complete fish exclusion along a reach of Juanita Creek to allow Dungeness Construction to replace an outdated culvert.

Various Restoration Projects, Applied Ecology, King County, WA. *Field Specialist.* Completed restoration projects throughout King County, in partnership with Seattle Department of Transportation, Green Seattle Partnership, Forterra, and the King County Parks Department. Projects included such activities as invasive species removal, native planting, erosion control, and tree thinning in riparian, wetland, and upland environments. Monitored the status of restoration projects by completing vegetation and habitat feature surveys. Also assisted with project design, budgeting, and management.