

RACHEL BENBROOK

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SKILLS SUMMARY

I have 10+ years of experience designing, planning, and implementing projects and programs for environmental non-profits and through this work have developed a diverse skill set including expertise with word processing and data management software such as MS Word and Excel, graphic design via Adobe Creative Suite, an eye for detail, and the ability to be successful in a high-paced, demanding work environment.

EXPERIENCE

May 2013- June 2016 Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association Bellingham, WA

Citizen Action Training School Coordinator (5/2013-5/2015)

Program Manager (5/2015 - 6/2016)

- Coordinated complex Regional Citizen Action Training School throughout the 12-county Puget Sound area. CATS was a civic engagement and education program and duties included managing CATS staff at 6 organizations and overseeing volunteer and presenter recruitment for hundreds of participants, program implementation, and volunteer service projects. Developed and managed CATS program website (hosted by Wordpress) at www.pugetsoundcats.org.
- Promoted to Program Manager to assist in management of extensive suite of education, monitoring, and stewardship programs and related volunteers for habitat restoration work parties, community environmental education and outreach, and scientific monitoring projects. Assisted in management of a team of four AmeriCorps service members as well as dozens of volunteers and in social media, website, and all aspects of NSEA's public digital presence.

2008-2012 People For Puget Sound Seattle, WA

Restoration Ecologist

- Responsible for nearshore restoration project planning, permitting, implementation, and monitoring
- Managed volunteer recruitment and training for restoration and citizen science projects, planned and conducted habitat restoration work parties, scientific monitoring, and volunteer appreciation events
- Collected, analyzed, and managed diverse data sets, including utilizing Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to for spatial data
- Communications related to restoration and citizen science projects, including conference presentations, public meetings, and articles in regional and national publications as well as website and social media content

2003-2004 Moran Outdoor School Olga, WA

Naturalist/Environmental Educator

- Taught natural history curriculum at environmental learning center at beautiful Moran State Park on Orcas Island. Courses included wetlands, forest ecology and kayaking classes.
- Worked on nesting songbird survey project on park trails, gathered and reported field data.

2001-2007 Orcas Recycling Services Eastsound, WA

Assistant Manager, Accountant

- Orcas Recycling Services is a nonprofit organization that operates The Exchange, a 2 acre re-use facility located at the county transfer station on Orcas Island. Duties at The Exchange included staff management and payroll, public relations, publicity, outreach, bookkeeping, and events.

2000-2002 Orcas Animal Clinic Eastsound, WA

Office Manager

- Served as office manager of busy veterinary clinic. Utilized QuickBooks software for invoicing, payroll, and other business needs.

1998-1999 Moran State Park Olga, WA

Washington Conservation Corps Worker

- WCC worker for fall-spring term. Maintained facilities, services, and trails.

Education

1994-1998 Grinnell College Grinnell, IA

Bachelor of Arts in Biology, Concentration in Environmental Studies

- Received multi-disciplinary undergraduate education from well-respected liberal arts college. Studies included natural and physical sciences, anthropology, music, and writing courses.

COMMUNICATIONS

Publications

- "Paddling with a Purpose: Volunteer kayakers survey Puget Sound and British Columbia for invasive grasses," *Coast and Kayak Magazine* (formerly *Wavelength Magazine*), Summer 2010, available at: http://www.wavelengthmagazine.com/2010/10su/10su_invasives.html
- "Spartina Grass: Friend and Foe?", *Sea Kayaker*, August 2011, available at: <http://www.spartina.org/links/Sea%20Kayaker%20August%202011.pdf>
- "The Puget Sound Regional Citizen Action Training School: Year Two Report," May 2015, available at: <https://pugetsoundcats.files.wordpress.com/2015/05/2013-41-regional-citizen-action-training-school-year-2-report.pdf>

Media

- "Cutting the Grass: Rachel Benbrook Takes on Invasive Spartina", KPLU public radio interview as part of the series "Reflections on the Water: Voices of the Salish Sea", September 2010, available at: <http://salishreflections.wordpress.com/2010/09/15/cutting-the-grass-rachel-benbrook-takes-on-invasive-spartina/>

LEADERSHIP AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Member, Skagit Marine Resources Committee, 2008-2013
- Member, Northwest Straits Commission, 2012-2013
- Board Member, the Northwest Straits Foundation, 2012-2013
- Member, Whatcom Marine Resources Committee, Jan. 2014-June 2016
- Chair, Whatcom Marine Resources Committee, Jan 2015-June 2016
- Social Venture Partners Leadership Development Program: Management Training, 2011

REFERENCES

- Keeley O'Connell, Principal, Nature Insight Consulting, (360)220-5544, keeley@natureinsightconsulting.com
- Rachel Vasak, Executive Director, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, (360)715-0283, rvasak@n-sea.org
- Austin Rose, Whatcom Marine Resources Committee Lead Staff, (360) 778-6286, arose@co.whatcom.wa.us