

Kaylee Lawson

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Corvallis, OR

541-602-0977



Hardworking conservationist, scientist, and student with a passion for using my platform and privilege to raise awareness and support for underrepresented communities in the conservation sector. I aim to foster a more inclusive and collaborative approach to marine conservation within any communities I work with, including my local community. This involves raising awareness about the unique challenges faced by underrepresented groups, particularly in the context of conversation for their ecosystems, and being hands-on in the field, while helping them with their conservation efforts, mitigations, or projects. I am committed to creating lasting change through education, advocacy, and partnerships that bridge gaps in knowledge and empower all voices in the conservation sector, inspiring a more equitable future for marine conservation that benefits both people and ecosystems. Most importantly, “never doubting that a group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it’s the only thing that has” (Margaret Mead).

Education

Associate's Degree of Arts with a focus on Marine Science, Clark College.

- Obtained this degree as a Running Start student in high school, 2020, 3.48 GPA, Oregon State University, B.S Fisheries, and Wildlife Sciences, 2023, 3.21 GPA
- Miami University, M.S. Conservation Biology, Anticipated Graduation 06/2026, 3.7 GPA

Conservation Work and Experience

BIO643 Great Barrier Reef Australia 05/2024–08/2024

- Participated in snorkeling and freediving along the GBR, and Magnetic Island off the coast of Townsville, QLD, Australia with the Great Barrier Marine Park Authority. Completed Eyes on the Reef 10 minute underwater surveys and 360 (circular) 5-minute surveys of fauna and flora marine species. Expanded my knowledge of Indigenous involvement and history with conservation in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (GBRMP). Collaborated in a student-led discussion, focusing on the inclusion of TEK in the conservation sector.

BIO632 Biology in Age of Technology 02/2024–05/2024

- Created a multimedia project, including a webpage, a podcast in English, and a visual podcast in American Sign Language. The three forms of media discuss the history of deaf and HOH (DHOH) communities in the United States, the lack of representation of DHOH communities in the STEM and conservation sectors, and accessible resources or programs encouraging DHOH collaboration and involvement.

BIO675 Inquiry and Action: Baja II 08/2023–12/2023

- Conducted a literature review on the disproportionate impacts of climate change on Indigenous communities in North and South America. Held a 5k pop up event in Corvallis, OR and raised funds and awareness for conservation and indigenous affiliated collaborators. (Elakha Alliance and Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition)

BIO644 Baja: Field Methods 06/2023–08/2023

- Conducted beach clean-ups and analyzed waste collected in partnership with NOAA, Vermilion Sea Institute, and Aventureros youth program, within Bahía de los Angeles, Baja California. Waste collected was brought to Marea Viva, a women-owned and run recycling program. Participated in free diving and collected observations of Delphinidae, and Rhincodon typus (Dolphins and Whale Sharks) in the Gulf of California.

OC340 Biological Oceanography 04/2023–06/2023

- In Newport, OR, on the estuary, collected top and bottom water samples to analyze and compare abundance of microorganisms (zooplankton and phytoplankton), and used software to analyze composition and characteristics of the water column.

FW469 Physiology and Behavior of Marine Megafauna 08/2022–12/2022

- In Newport, OR, collected data on dive and foraging behavior, as well as observed Cetaceans, California Sea Lions, and Brandt's Cormorants. Overlooked a necropsy of a beached olive ridley. Completed a release and capture of three California Gulls, took full body measurements, and weight. Photographed and drew multiple species of Marine Megafauna in their natural habitat.

FW410 Intensive Internship 06/18/2022–08/20/2022

- Completed over 200 hours of intensive farm work. Including animal husbandry, harvesting fauna and flora species for product, and land management practices for purposes of agricultural business. Along with completing a technical report that covers a conservation proposal for the property in Corbett, Oregon.
 - The conservation proposal focuses on increasing natural fauna and flora species, increasing sustainability, and manageability; focusing on long-term conservation.

FW410 Exploratory Internship 02/25/2022–02/28/2022

- Volunteer for The Wildlife Society Oregon Chapter in Newport, Oregon. Worked at the registration desk, and helped with overall clean-up at the end of the conference.

FW435 Wildlife in Agriculture Ecosystems 01/2022–03/2022

- A team of four, including myself, completed a conservation proposal focusing on enhancing native fauna and flora wildlife on the property, increasing natural wildlife buffers, decreasing predator take of specialty birds, and decreasing the amount of noise pollution for a rural farm property in Silverton, OR.

FW255 Field Sampling 01/2022–03/2022

- Gained skills in drawing and observing species in their natural, local, habitat at Avery Park, Corvallis, Oregon. Completed an independent research project of the Western

Gray squirrel, determining if temperature and overall vegetation cover affect the abundance of the species, residing in Oregon White Oak in Avery Park.

FW316 Systematics of Fishes 08/2021–12/2021

- **Minnow Sampling and DNA collection** in collaboration with the Oregon Department of Fisheries and Wildlife at Crystal Lake 10/09/2021
A team of 4 caught 14 specimens of minnows with a Seine, humanely euthanized all 14 specimens using formalin, and collected lateral right side abdominal tissue on 6 specimens.
- Hands-on experience handling, observing, and documenting information on 100+ species of fish from the Oregon State University Ichthyology Collection.

PHL443 World Views and Environmental Values 01/2021– 05/2021

- Reaffirmed my knowledge and commitment to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Fisheries and Wildlife field.
- Wrote three papers discussing environmental discrimination placed on minorities in human-human and human-nonhuman forms. (A+ on all)

FW315 Ichthyology 08/2020–12/2020

- Learned and memorized 100+ species of freshwater and marine fishes within the United States and international waters. Including their anatomy, natural processes, diet, and respectable habitats. (Life history)

CH261, 262, 263 Chemistry Lab 2018–2020

- Over a year of experience in conducting lab experiments, practicing lab safety, handling chemicals, glassware, open chemicals, and lab equipment. 100+ hours memorization of chemistry equations, formulas, and procedures necessary to complete labs. Finished with A-A+ in all classes.

Other Work Experience

Service and Food Champion, Team Trainer, and Manager, Taco Bell, Pacific Bells Corp. December 2018– September 2024, Vancouver, Washington, and Corvallis, Oregon.

- 5+ years experience in customer service and customer conflict. Awarded Service Superstar (30+ positive customer surveys within a two week period)
- Trained in food and drink preparation for all sold products and efficiently made meals with personal modifications for every customer (500+ items per shift). Efficiently ran an entire crew of 8–10 people, met business goals alongside monitoring business statistics such as costs for labor, sales, transactions, time averages for orders, inventory counts, % of waste, and more.
- Promoted to team trainer 2022, promoted to manager 2023.

Acknowledgments

- Member of Phi Theta Kappa, National Honor Society at Clark College for 2 years
- Dean's List Honoree and Running-start Student Clark College, graduated with high honors.
- Graduated high school with high honors (3.75 GPA)
- 100+ hours of volunteer work for Prairie High School, Clark College, and the local community.

- 200+ hours of volunteer work, interning, and community service for communities across Oregon and internationally.

Certifications

- CPR and First Aid, American Red Cross, 2023, 2024.
- Food Safety, Regulation, and Handling. Washington 2018, Oregon 2020, 2022, 2024.

Skills

- Fluent in American Sign Language
- Microsoft Word and Excel, R code.
- Personal, interpersonal, and group communication skills within any setting.
- Customer service and customer conflict

References

- Dr. Brian Sidlauskas, Associate Professor and Curator of Fishes, Oregon State University
Fisheries and Wildlife Department
brian.sidlauskas@oregonstate.edu
- Chanel Hason, Director of Outreach and Community Relations, Elakha Alliance
Chanel@ElakhaAlliance.org
- Julie Spencer, Reef Education Manager, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority,
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- Amanda Morris, General Manager, Taco Bell, Pacific Bells Corp.,
503-602-7399
- Kyrie Eppley, Growing Seeds Farm Owner, jkeppley@gmail.com