

Matthew J. Kowalski

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Education

Master of Science in Biology, December 2002, GPA=4.0
California University of Pennsylvania; California, PA 15419
Concentration- water pollution and aquatic ecology

Bachelor of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Management, May 1995, GPA=3.0
Frostburg State University; Frostburg, MD 21532

Professional Experience

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF)

Virginia Watershed Restoration Scientist

January 2016 - Present

- Serve as state lead for CBF's restoration and conservation work with the agricultural community. Administer various restoration grants focused on installation of Ag BMPs
- Serve on the Virginia Agricultural Cost-share (VACS) program's technical advisory committee; serve on the state Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) technical advisory committee; Assist with agricultural Stakeholder Advisory Groups (SAG) such as Resource Management Plan SAG, Nutrient Management SAG, Conservation Planner SAG
- Advise CBF staff regarding potential agricultural and conservation legislation
- Write Conservation Plans and assist landowners and producers in installation of Best Management Practices (BMPs)
- Conduct inspections and stewardship of CBF-held conservation easements

Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District

Senior Conservation Specialist

February 2013- Dec 2015

- Administer VACS program for a 4-county district; provide farmers and landowners with technical and financial assistance to protect soil and water resources. Ensure program compliance.
- Supervise 3 Conservation Specialists. Ensure customer service.
- Track cost-share funds and District technical assistance projects.
- Serve as District Dam Safety liaison in 2013 and 2014

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Ecological Programs Specialist

August 2011-January 2013

- Review projects on Bureau of Forestry (BOF) lands for conflicts with rare wildlife and resolve potential conflicts
- Assist Gas Management Team with responsible development of Marcellus Shale gas resources on BOF lands
- Write management plans for rare species and habitats in need of conservation
- Develop BMPs for use of BOF lands regarding different management scenarios
- Develop and maintain a monitoring program regarding the effects of Shale gas development on wildlife

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program

Zoology Coordinator

April 2009-August 2011

- Oversee statewide zoological staff. Act as liaison with PNHP Director and other heritage managers to coordinate zoologists' work and efforts on various projects. Monitor time spent & expenses on projects by zoologists. Facilitate inclusion of zoological data to Data Management group
- Prepare zoology budget and staffing allocations, coordinate fundraising efforts, and advocate for PNHP zoology work/expertise within and outside PNHP/WPC.
- Assist statewide conservation efforts of Pennsylvania's wildlife

Herpetologist

Apr. 2005-Mar. 2009

- Helped direct efforts of the PNHP and WPC's Land Protection Department in the assessment and conservation of Pennsylvania's amphibians and reptiles.
- Lead Biologist on research and conservation of the state-endangered Eastern Massasauga within Pennsylvania
- Manage research, budgets, grants, databases, and interactions with government and non-government cooperators, write reports and grants.
- Supervise Assistant Zoologist and volunteers.

Assistant Zoologist

Apr. 2003- Dec. 2003

- Determined zoological target species and conducted field surveys for rare species.
- Collected and identified specimens from the field and filed reports. Promoted conservation of sensitive/tracked species.

California University of Pennsylvania, Department of Biology

Professor

Fall Semester, 2004

- Full-time Faculty appointment instructing 12 credits to over 300 students in *Contemporary Issues in Biology* and *Introduction to Environmental Science*

Research Assistant

Jan. 1999-Aug. 2001

- Organized and conducted a three-year inventory of the Amphibians and Reptiles of four National Park Service (NPS) units in southwest Pennsylvania.
- Determined sampling methods and schedules, hired and supervised three field technicians annually, kept an inventory of equipment and data, and worked as project liaison with the NPS Natural Resources Manager
- Primary Author of final technical inventory report to NPS.

Thomas Clark Watershed Consultants, Inc.

Watershed Technician

Nov. 2003-Aug. 2004

- Collected water samples, discharge parameters (pH, TDS, flow), and macroinvertebrate samples from streams and mine discharges for watershed assessments.
- Identified macroinvertebrates for biological assessments of streams and watersheds
- Wrote reports and assisted with grant writing.
- Trained and supervised watershed intern.

The Lodge on Little Saint Simons Island, GA

Naturalist and Naturalist Department Supervisor

Oct. 2001- Sept. 2002

- Advised island Management team on Natural Resource Management issues

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- Managed Naturalist Department budget, supervised maintenance of Naturalist Dept. equipment, and supervised and scheduled a crew of two naturalists, one equestrian/naturalist, and one maintenance worker
- Developed and lead interpretive activities including educational hikes, kayak trips, fishing trips, tours, birding hikes, and beach/sea turtle walks
- Collected wildlife and habitat data for use in management of natural resources

Missouri Department of Conservation

Assistant Field Biologist

Jan. 1996-Oct. 1998

- Collected data for the herpetology components of the Missouri Ozark Forest Ecosystem Project and the Missouri River Post-flood Evaluation Project by trapping (using drift-fence arrays), identifying and marking herpetofauna.
- Maintained accurate library of field data and wrote seasonal reports.
- Collected small mammal data and vegetative data about soft-mast species.