

Nathan C. Rice
Environmental Specialist
Kulshan Services LLC



QUALIFICATIONS

Master of Science in Environmental Science, Huxley College of the Environment,
Western Washington University
Graduate studies, Center for Environmental Journalism, University of Colorado at Boulder
Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science, Western Washington University, Minors in Biology and English
School for International Training, Comparative Ecology program in Ecuador

SKILLS

Nate Rice has a diverse background in fish and wildlife research, ecological restoration, GIS cartography and analysis, project coordination, and outdoor and college-level instruction. His Master’s research involved estimating the abundance and investigating the road ecology and habitat preferences of the North Cascades elk herd. Nate is also skilled in environmental journalism and multimedia production.

In his restoration work, Nate has planned and coordinated shoreline and riparian restoration projects, monitored sites, maintained databases, administered permits and contracts, educated and recruited volunteer groups, and written a variety of reports. His field research experience includes fish, amphibian, and habitat surveys; trapping, tagging and tracking small mammals; and assisting with a spectacled bear reintroduction project in the Ecuadorian Andes. As a field ecology instructor versed in Spanish, he also developed new curricula and instructed Galápagos and cloud forest field ecology programs for U.S. and Ecuadorian high school students.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Kulshan Services LLC	Environmental Specialist	2014-present
City of Bellingham	Environmental Policy Assistant	2014-2017
Whatcom Community College	Biology and Environmental Science Instructor	2014-2015
Western Washington University	Elk Herd Research Assistant	2012-2015
	Biology 101 Teaching Assistant	2012-2015
High Country News	Environmental Reporter	2011-2014
WA Dept. of Natural Resources	Restoration Technician	2007-2009
WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife	Scientific Technician II	2007
Ecology Project International	Field Ecology Instructor	2007
US Forest Service	Biological Science Technician	2005
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association	Volunteer Coordinator	2004-2005

CERTIFICATIONS AND SKILLS

MS Office Suite and Geographic Information Systems (ArcGIS) skills
Statistics software experience (R, SPSS, Excel)



Multimedia and web development (Audacity, Audition, iMovie, Soundslides, Photoshop, Final Cut Pro)
Wilderness First Responder and Level 1 Avalanche Safety certified
Extensive backcountry experience; map, compass and GPS skills
Conversational in Spanish

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

North Cascades Elk Research – Estimated herd abundance using genetic mark-recapture in the South Fork Nooksack Valley, researched road ecology, and modeled habitat in Skagit Valley for a Masters in Science thesis.

GIS Cartography and Analysis – Conducted parcel-level analysis of land covers, soils, and water availability in the Skagit River watershed to support small scale agriculture. Elk habitat analysis and modeling at roadkill and crossing sites in Skagit Valley, including the development of land cover, slope, forest edge, and proximity variables. Compiled data about potential oil and gas lease impacts on water resources using GIS for a local watershed non-profit in Colorado.

GIS Cartography and Analysis – Conducted parcel-level analysis of land covers, soils, and water availability in the Skagit River watershed to support small scale agriculture. Carried out elk habitat analysis and modeling at roadkill and crossing sites in Skagit Valley, including land cover, slope, forest edge, and proximity variables. Compiled data about potential oil and gas lease impacts on water resources using GIS.

Community Engagement – Helped develop a multi-year community engagement plan for the Skagit Watershed Council. Interviewed community leaders, wrote profiles, and produced short-form video content.

Comprehensive Flood Management Plan – Provided meeting support and notetaking for the Floodplains Integration Planning Process team charged with development of the Whatcom County Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Planning.

System-wide Improvement Framework (SWIF) – Provided meeting support for the SWIF process focused on long-term levee management on the lower Nooksack River.

Stormwater Inspections – Inspected stormwater systems in Whatcom and Skagit counties.

Shoreline and Stream Restoration Projects – Planned and coordinated shoreline restoration projects on Puget Sound to remove creosote-treated driftwood. Monitored beaches, mapped data with GIS, maintained a database, administered permits and contracts, educated and recruited volunteer groups, and wrote reports for the WA Dept. of Natural Resources. For the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association, Nathan planned and coordinated stream restoration projects, recruited and educated volunteers, and assisted with database management and stream monitoring.

Salmon Spawner Surveys – Performed salmon spawner surveys in Nooksack River watershed, collected otolith, scale, and tag samples, reported observations for WDFW.

Field Ecology in Ecuador – Instructed Galápagos and cloud forest field ecology programs for U.S. and Ecuadorian high school students. Developed new curricula for Ecology Project International.

Fish and Amphibian Surveys – Trapped small mammals and amphibians and conducted fish and amphibian surveys to determine abundance and diversity along headwater streams for the US Forest Service.

Olympic Marmot Field Research – Trapped, tagged, and processed marmots for a population and dispersal study for Olympic National Park, tracked marmots with radio telemetry, and created and presented educational program for park visitors.

Spectacled Bear Reintroduction Project – Assisted on a spectacled bear reintroduction project. Fed and rehabilitated captive bears, maintained wild bear trap, and collected observations from bear trails for Fundacion Zoobreviven in Ecuador.

