

1. Current hometown (where you are currently living):

Bar Harbor, ME

2. Job and employer (your title and which park or NPS unit you work at):

Acadia, Wildlife Biologist

3. Share more about your work – what it entails, aspects that are especially challenging or enjoyable:

The exploration and discovery of animals and their interactions with each other and the environment will forever excite me. One of the fun parts of my job is that it always pushes me out of my comfort zone. To achieve conservation goals, I am constantly stretching across disciplines and relying on others help.

4. Community work, family – other projects you're involved in outside of your job:

I have two young children who both keep me busy and empower me to explore and be curious.

5. Graduate School:

COA MPhil 2018 - Thesis: Spruce Wood Warbler Use Of Forest Structure: Revisiting Robert MacArthur's Study of Niche Partitioning

6. COA senior project:

Senior Thesis: Changing Food Habits of Maine Bald Eagles

7. COA internship:

Acadia National Park, Wildlife Program

8. Human ecology in action – in what ways does your background in human ecology influence your work with the Park Service?

It empowers me to seamlessly transition between the rigors of science and the human experience, while respecting the need of others to know and see the difference.

9. What classes, internships, or experiences at COA helped prepare you for or sparked your interest in working in national parks?

Having grown up on MDI I wanted nothing more than to leave, but when I did come back to COA I saw MDI through a completely different lens, it showed me that a shift of perspective in the same place can be incredibly insightful. Working at Acadia has again been a shift in perspective. The rock I looked at as a kid is the same I see today, but my world view is very different.

10. A COA experience that was particularly significant or memorable – this could be a course, an adventure, an aspect of life in the COA or MDI community, etc.

11. Considerations for prospective students – what do you think a student who might apply to COA should know?

You only get out of it what you put in. It's cliché, I know. COA is a place that can channel energy and passion, creativity and inquiry. Fostering these qualities take a lot of hard work, and questioning your own outlook on the world.

12. Considerations for current students – what do you think a student who might want to work for the National Park Service should know?

The National Park Service really is human ecology in practice. From the NPS organic act the NPS has been a century of experimental human ecology.