

BIANCA SOPHIA PERLA

Director Vashon Nature Center LLC
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EDUCATION

Stanford University

B.S. Earth Systems. 1996

Northern Arizona University

M.S. Biology conferred with distinction. 2000

University of Washington

PhD. Ecology-Conservation. School of Forest Resources. 2009

RELEVANT ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION EXPERIENCE

Founder and Director, 2011-present

Vashon Nature Center, LLC. Oversee, coordinate, and participate in research and education projects that engage the local community in learning about and effectively stewarding different habitats and wildlife occurring on Vashon and Maury Islands.

Doctoral Research, 2003-2009

University of Washington, Seattle, WA. College of the Environment, School of Forest Resources. Dissertation title: The influence of protection on social and ecological resilience in mountain and lowland communities of the Skagit Watershed, USA.

Advisors: Kristiina Vogt, Regina Rochefort, Jerry Franklin, Robert Edmonds, Darryll Johnson.

Ecology Instructor, 2008

Deep Springs College, Deep Springs, CA. Course title: Ecosystems-Translating the Landscape.

Co-instructor, 2006

University of Washington, Seattle WA. Course title: Science and Management of Protected Areas in Human Landscapes. Co-instructor, Dr. Kristiina Vogt.

Conservation Biologist, 2001-2003

Grand Canyon Wildlands Council. Flagstaff, AZ. Landscape analysis for wildlands network design, indicator species research, inventory and monitoring, conservation strategy, public outreach.

Conservation Biology Consultant, 2000-2001

Flagstaff, AZ. Wildlands network design, conservation planning, monitoring for native plant restoration, focal species analysis.

Environmental Educator 1997-1999

Yosemite National Institutes (now Nature Bridge) Yosemite National Park, CA. Taught one week field ecology and natural history courses to all ages (5-65+) in Yosemite National Park. Included both day courses and multi-day backpack trips.

Instructor, Researcher, 1994

Zuni Indian Reservation, Zuni NM. Twin Buttes high school and Zuni Conservation Project (ZCP). Taught a high-school field ecology course for ZCP. Research projects conducted on coyotes and data used by ZCP.

Field Research Technician, 1994-1995

SFSU Wildlands studies program, Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness and Cabinet-Yak wilderness areas Idaho, Montana. Supervised howling surveys conducted to determine how many wolves naturally occurred in these areas before reintroduction efforts commenced.

RECENT FELLOWSHIPS/AWARDS

National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow 2004-2007
Byron and Alice Lockwood Scholarship. 2003-04
Merril Rd. Scholarship 2003-04

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Board member Vashon-Maury Island Land Trust 2005-2012. President, 2011. Vice President, 2010. Board Secretary, 2009. Conservation Committee Chair, 2005-2010.
Xi Sigma Pi National Forestry Honor Society 2004-2008
Board Member, Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, Flagstaff, AZ. 2003-2005.
Peer reviewer Western North American Naturalist, Conservation Biology
Member Western North American Naturalist, Natural History Network, Citizen Science Association

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Perla BS.** 2012. Island Stream Invertebrate Survey Final Report. Vashon Nature Center, LLC.
Submitted to: King County Groundwater Protection Committee. November 29, 2012.
- Perla, BS,** and KA Vogt. 2010. Social and Environmental Resilience in the Skagit watershed, Washington State, USA in: Vogt K.A., Patel_Weynand T, Shelton M, Vogt DJ, Gordon JC, Mukumoto CT, Suntana AS, and PA Roads. Sustainability Unpacked: Food, energy, and water for resilient environments and societies. 305pp. EarthScan London, NY.
- Perla BS,** Stevens LE. 2009. Biodiversity and productivity at an undisturbed spring in comparison to adjacent grazed riparian and upland habitats. Chapter 11 in: Aridland springs in North America: Ecology and Conservation. editors: Stevens, L.E., V. Meretsky. University of Arizona Press.
- Slobodchikoff, C.N., **Perla, B.S.,** and Verdolin, J.A. 2009. Prairie dogs: communication and community in an animal society: Harvard University Press. 218 pp.
- Perla BS.** 2007. History of Forest Protected Areas. In: Forests and Society: Sustainability and Life Cycles of Forests in Human Landscapes. Vogt, K.A., Honea, J.M., Vogt, D.J., Edmonds, R.L., Patel-Weynand, T., Sigurdardottir, S. and Andreu M.G. CABI Publishing, CABI International, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom.
- Perla, BS,** Rochefort, R, Vogt, KA. 2007. The influence of history and management on ecological and tourism-related benefits provided by an international group of protected areas in the Skagit River watershed, USA. Etudes Canadiennes: Revue interdisciplinaire des etudes canadiennes en France. 62: 113-124.
- Perla BS,** Slobodchikoff CN. 2002. Habitat structure and alarm call dialects in the Gunnison's prairie dog (*Cynomys gunnisoni*). Behavioral Ecology. 13(6):844-850.
- Stevens LE, **Perla BS,** Johnson RJ, Burke K. 2002. Arizona Strip Springs, Seeps, and Natural Ponds: Inventory, Assessment, and Development of Recovery Priorities. Arizona Department of Water Resources, Arizona Water Protection Fund, Phoenix AZ.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- Perla, BS.** 2014. Students can sort stream bugs and influence watershed management. Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Seattle, WA.
- Perla, BS.** 2006. History and impact of protected areas in an international USA-Canadian watershed. Colloque Nacional. Association Francaise d'etudes Canadiennes. Saumur, France. June 8-10.

- Burke, KJ, Stevens LE, **Perla, BS**, Crumbo KH. 2005. Conservation Planning Using Southwestern ReGAP Data: Seven E's in the Grand Canyon Ecoregion. GAP symposium. December, 2005. Reno, NV.
- Perla B**, Stevens LE, Johnson RJ, Burke K. 2002. Springs as keystone habitats: a case study from the Arizona Strip. Ecological Society of America 87th Annual Meeting. A convocation: understanding and restoring ecosystems. August 4-9, 2002. Tucson, AZ.
- Perla B**. 2002. Ecology of Springs on the Arizona Strip. Sierra Club. Flagstaff, AZ.
- Perla B**. 2002. Ecology of Vermillion Cliffs National Monument. Sierra Club. Flagstaff, AZ. 5/02.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Leave No Trace Instructor certification, PADI SCUBA advanced certified. Stanford Women's Rowing Varsity athlete 1992-94. Walked home from college on the Pacific Crest Trail, (Yosemite to Mt. Rainier) 1400 miles, 3 months.

REFERENCES:

Available upon request.