

JASON DAVID LECH

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The University of Connecticut
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EDUCATION	University of Connecticut, Storrs CT Ph.D. Student, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology Advisor: Dr. Michael Willig	2014 - Present GPA: 4.15
	University of Connecticut, Storrs CT B.S. Ecology & Evolutionary Biology B.S. Molecular & Cell Biology	2008 - 2011
	Pepperdine University, Malibu CA Computer Science, Psychology	2001 -2004 <i>transferred</i>
RESEARCH INTERESTS	Freshwater ecology, community ecology, landscape ecology, conservation biology; Lake systems, aquatic plants, algae, biogeochemistry, human disturbance	
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Field Research Leader <i>El Verde Field Station, El Yunque National Forest, Puerto Rico</i> Led the field component of a long-term study on the effects of disturbance on population and community dynamics of tropical invertebrates. Contributions included development of survey schedule and mentorship of field assistants.	Jul 2011, Jul 2015
	Research Assistant <i>University of Connecticut, Storrs CT</i> Developed acoustic recognizers for New England birds in support of a project evaluating the effects of landscape characteristics on bird populations. Gained expertise in identifying bird vocalizations and the use of acoustic monitoring for conservation.	Aug 2011 - Dec 2011
	Field Research Assistant <i>University of Connecticut, Storrs CT</i> Assisted in the installation and retrieval of 100 acoustic and ultrasonic recording devices distributed throughout 20 state forests in Connecticut.	May 2011 - Oct 2011
	Field Research Assistant <i>El Verde Field Station, El Yunque National Forest, Puerto Rico</i> Assisted in nocturnal surveys of tropical invertebrates for a long-term study on the effects of disturbance on population and community dynamics. Gained experience in identification of tropical snails, walking sticks, and plants. Became proficient at nocturnal navigation in a rainforest with just compass and map.	Mar 2011, Jul 2010, Mar 2010
	Laboratory Research Assistant <i>University of Connecticut, Storrs CT</i> Assisted with ArcGIS database compilation and greenhouse transplants.	Jan 2010 - May 2010

TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Principles of Biology II (BIOL 1108) Administrative Teaching Assistant <i>University of Connecticut, Storrs CT</i>	Spring 2016
	Principles of Biology II (BIOL 1108) Teaching Assistant <i>University of Connecticut, Storrs CT</i>	Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2015
WORK EXPERIENCE	Field & Research Assistant <i>Northeast Aquatic Research, Mansfield CT</i> Research assistant to limnologist Dr. George Knoecklein. Responsibilities included surveying aquatic plants; gathering field data (water, algae, zooplankton samples; oxygen & temperature; Secchi disk); data analysis; and report writing.	May 2012 - Aug 2014
	Laboratory Technician <i>Center for Environmental Science and Engineering, Storrs CT</i> Assisted the analytical chemist of a nutrients lab. Responsibilities included reagent preparation, sample preparation for spectrophotometer and ion chromatograph analysis, basic analytical techniques (pH, dissolved oxygen), and lab maintenance.	Jan 2012 - May 2012
	River Guide; Assistant Manager <i>Clarke Outdoors, West Cornwall CT</i> Responsibilities advanced from those associated with leading safe whitewater rafting, canoeing, and kayaking trips to managerial responsibilities, including independent operation of retail store, organizing whitewater trips, and managing staff five days a week.	Sep 2004 - Aug 2011
AWARDS & GRANTS	Summer Research Award <i>Center for Conservation and Biodiversity, University of Connecticut</i> Landscape Ecology and Acoustic Monitoring of Bird Populations - \$700	2011
PRESENTATIONS	Invasive Aquatic Plant Identification & Management in CT <i>Bolton, CT and Vernon, CT</i> Conducted three invasive aquatic plant identification workshops for town residents and volunteers. The workshops included a PowerPoint presentation followed by a demonstration with live specimens.	Aug 2012, Sept 2012, Aug 2013
OUTREACH & VOLUNTEER	Natural Resources Conservation Academy Recruitment <i>Mystic Aquarium, Mystic Seaport CT</i> Recruited for UConn's NRCA, a program that teaches high school students a broad range of environmental skills, and leads them through a conservation project in their local community.	Nov 2015
	White Memorial Family Nature Day <i>White Memorial Conservation Center, Litchfield CT</i> Taught families about sources of pollution and the movement of pollution across watersheds and into lakes by demonstration with an EnviroScape.	Sept 2013

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEER (continued)	<p>BioBlitz <i>White Memorial Conservation Center, Litchfield, Connecticut</i> Participated in a BioBlitz to identify as many species as possible within 24 hours. Contributed by leading volunteers to the Bantam River and identifying all aquatic plant species encountered.</p> <p>Great Gull Island Volunteer <i>Great Gull Island, Long Island Sound</i> Assisted Dr. Margaret Rubega and a team of volunteers in preparing breeding grounds for the arrival of the second largest colony of terns in the world.</p>	<p>Jun 2013</p> <p>May 2011</p>
AFFILIATIONS (former and current)	<p>Connecticut Federation of Lakes Aquatic Plant Management Society North American Lake Management Society</p>	
ADDITIONAL SKILLS	<p>Identification: aquatic plants, algae, birds Sampling and surveying: aquatic plants, algae, zooplankton, birds, gastropods, insects Navigation: compass & map, Garmin GPS; comfortable in temperate and tropical terrains and water bodies Equipment: motorized boats (CT Safe Boating Certificate), canoes, kayaks, rafts, ATV's, and large passenger vans. First Aid and Survival: Knowledgeable in first aid and outdoor survival; highly experienced in whitewater safety and rescue Technology: Proficient with MS Word, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, and RStudio. Basic knowledge of ArcGIS, ERDAS Imagine, Google Earth, Garmin BaseCamp, Adobe Lightroom, and Adobe Photoshop.</p>	
REFERENCES	<p>Dr. Michael Willig (major graduate advisor) Director, <i>Center for Environmental Science and Engineering</i> Professor, <i>Ecology and Evolutionary Biology</i> phone: (860) 486-1455 - e-mail: michael.willig@uconn.edu</p> <p>Dr. Donald Les (graduate professor, committee member) Professor, <i>Ecology and Evolutionary Biology</i> Director, <i>CONN Herbarium</i> phone: (860) 486-5703 - e-mail: les@uconn.edu</p> <p>Dr. George Knoecklein (prior employer) Limnologist, <i>Northeast Aquatic Research</i> phone: (860) 456-3179 - e-mail: knoecklein@sbcglobal.net</p>	