

Abigail Barenblitt

Washington, DC | (410) 493-5300 | acbarenblitt@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/abigail-barenblitt

Education

Pennsylvania State University

Master of Science, Wildlife and Fisheries Science | GPA: 3.9

2017

Thesis Title: "Identifying the Response of Forest Songbirds to Local Scale Forest Features and Forest Complexity"

University of Maryland

Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science and Policy | GPA: 3.7

2013

Concentration: Wildlife Ecology and Management | **Minor:** Spanish Language

General GRE 2012 Scores

Verbal Reasoning: 159 | 81% Below

Quantitative Reasoning: 154 | 57% Below

Analytical Writing: 5 | 93% Below

Key Skills

Adobe Lightroom CC | ArcGIS | Avian and Vegetation ID | Bird Banding | Canva | Cover Board Surveys | Google Earth Engine
GPS | Hiring | Invasive Species Removal | Leadership | Microsoft Office Suite | Nest Searching | Python | QGIS | R
Spanish | Team Player | Written and Oral Communication | WordPress

Master's Field Research and Leadership Experience

- Created and taught project-specific avian point count and vegetation survey protocols
- Hired and led a team of 6 dedicated field technicians through 300+ avian point count and vegetation surveys throughout forested regions in Northcentral Pennsylvania
- Coordinated with the PA Department of Natural Resources and the Game Commission to gain access to study sites
- Awarded Best Graduate Student Presentation at the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual Meeting and communicated project results to technical and non-technical audiences
- Analyzed occupancy and richness of avian species using ArcGIS and JAGS via the runjags package in R

Work Experience

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (Greenbelt, MD)

University of Maryland Earth System Science Interdisciplinary Center (ESSIC)

Faculty Assistant (12/19 – Present)

- Researched the spatial footprint of gold mining in Ghana using Google Earth Engine and Landsat imagery
- Created 9 interactive apps using Google Earth Engine to display results from various research projects.
- Led 10 tutorials to guide researchers and in-country partners through using Google Earth Engine to answer GIS and remote sensing questions
- Furthered the research efforts of the Mangrove Science lab through the creation of figures, tutorials, and website content

DEVELOP National Program – Science Systems and Applications, Inc. (SSAI)

Acting Center Lead and Fall 2019 Team Member: Gila Water Resources (09/19 – 11/20)

- Led and coordinated team of 3 participants to ensure project meets deadlines and achieves US Forest Service partners' goals
- Collaborated with researchers and partners to create and submit project proposals for future consultation opportunities
- Analyzed the impact of recent wildfires on Gila National Forest's water resources using Google Earth Engine's LandTrendr algorithm, R, ArcMap, and other Remote Sensing and GIS tools

Summer 2019 Team Member: New York Ecological Forecasting (06/19 – 08/19)

- Conducted feasibility study to create a species distribution map of hemlock stands in New York using satellite imagery
- Created technical paper, tutorial, video presentation, and poster to disseminate results
- Analyzed spatial data from Landsat and Sentinel-2 using Google Earth Engine, ArcMap, R, Python, and assorted Remote Sensing and GIS tools

Abigail Barenblitt

Washington, DC | (410) 493-5300 | acbarenblitt@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/abigail-barenblitt

Living Classrooms (Baltimore, MD)

Volunteer Coordinator (04/18 – 08/19)

- Created and implemented volunteer events including a composting system build, pollinator garden installation and 20+ trash clean-ups
- Maintained existing volunteer relationships and actively fostered new relationships with schools and alumni groups
- Interviewed, hired, and mentored 20 interns for annual internship program
- Created new sustainability component for internship program to educate students about conservation
- Oversaw microgrant program, reviewed applications, and interviewed top applicants

Florida State University (Boca Brava, Panama)

Lance-tailed manakin Field Assistant (02/14 – 06/14)

- Conducted observational surveys of lance-tailed manakin courtship displays and resighted color bands
- Searched for nests and conducted vegetation surveys of active nests
- Bled and color banded lance-tailed manakin chicks
- Communicated in Spanish with local community

Kalamazoo Valley Bird Observatory (Kalamazoo, MI)

Banding Intern (08/13 – 11/13)

- Conducted mist net surveys and extracted 200+ songbirds from mist nets
- Banded songbirds and received training to measure, age, and sex songbirds

Klamath National Forest (Happy Camp, CA)

Wildlife Intern (05/11 – 08/11)

- Trained in handling birds and assisting with mist net surveys of songbirds
- Used callers to survey and identify the locations of Spotted Owls and Goshawks

Maryland Department of Natural Resources (Annapolis, MD)

Intern and Volunteer (05/10 – 01/14)

- Performed surveys for including Seabeach Amaranth, Wavyleaf Basketgrass, Least Terns, and other species of interest
- Created information sheets about rare, endangered, and invasive plant species

Teaching Assistantships

Pennsylvania State University (University Park, PA)

Introduction to Vertebrates Teaching Assistant (08/14 – 12/14, 08/16)

- Taught 40+ students how to conduct dissections of a variety of vertebrate specimens
- Aided students with questions regarding vertebrate zoology and evolution

Ornithology Teaching Assistant (01/16 – 05/16)

- Used mobile and desktop versions of eBird to record observations of avian species in the field
- Instructed 20+ students how to identify birds by sight and song in the field
- Instructed students in avian morphology, courtship, and evolution

Outreach/ Volunteer Experience

National Aquarium (Baltimore, MD)

Aviculturist (03/19 – Present)

- Prepare diets for a variety of avian species in the Australia exhibit
- Administer basic medications and ensure the cleanliness of habitats within the exhibit
- Resight color bands to inventory species on exhibit

Howard County Conservancy (Woodstock, MD)

Volunteer Naturalist (09/17 – 04/19)

- Led field trips for elementary school students to teach them about animal adaptations
- Engaged 60+ elementary school students in learning about stormwater runoff and the Chesapeake Bay

Abigail Barenblitt

Washington, DC | (410) 493-5300 | acbarenblitt@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/abigail-barenblitt

The Arboretum at Penn State (University Park, PA)

Volunteer Banding Instructor Avian Education Program (09/14 – 09/16)

- Instructed novice bird banders to use the Pyle Guide for aging and sexing birds and to look for signs of stress in birds

Public Speaking Engagements

Howard County Conservancy (Elkridge, MD)

Presentation Title: “Sustainable Living: The zero waste lifestyle” (05/20)

Presentation Title: “Sustainable Living: The zero waste lifestyle” (11/19)

Presentation Title: “Sustainable Living: The zero waste lifestyle” (02/19)

Goddard Space Flight Center (Greenbelt, MD)

Presentation Title: “Sustainable Living: The zero waste lifestyle” (04/20)

Delaware State University Woodland Workshop Series (Dover, DE)

Presentation Title: “Wilderness at Home” (10/18)

Penn State Extension (University Park, PA)

Presentation Title: “Mammals as Invasive Species: New Zealand as a case study” (04/19)

Presentation Title: “Creating Wildlife Habitat” (09/16)

Presentation Title: “What Makes a Birder?” (04/16)

Presentation Title: “Shaking a Tail Feather: The courtship behavior of Satin Bowerbirds and Lance-tailed Manakins” (10/15)

Presentation Title: “Welcome to the Neighborhood: Who’s who in your forest” (09/15)

Conference Presentations

The North American Ornithological Conference (08/16)

Paper: “Influence of local forest features on songbirds within large tracts of forest”

The Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference (04/16)

Paper: “Influence of forest stand complexity on forest songbird diversity within large tracts of second-growth forest in Pennsylvania”

The Pennsylvania Chapter of the Wildlife Society Conference (04/16)

Paper: “Influence of forest stand complexity on forest songbird diversity within large tracts of second-growth forest in Pennsylvania”

Awards

2016 Pennsylvania Chapter of the Wildlife Society Annual Meeting: Award for Best Graduate Student Presentation

2016 College of Agricultural Science Travel Award

2016 Department of Ecosystem Science and Management Travel Award

2016 American Ornithologists’ Union Travel Award

2014 Katherine Mabis McKenna Fellowship Award

Publications

Barenblitt, A., Payton, A., Lagomasino, D., Fatoyinbo, L., Asare, K., Aidoo, K., Pigott, H., Som, K., Seidu, O., Smeets, L., Wood, D. (2021). *Spatial distribution of artisanal gold mining in Ghana: Using machine learning and Google Earth Engine to quantify conversion of vegetation to gold mines from 2005-2019.* Science of the Total Environment, 781, 146644.

Barenblitt, A., Serno, K., Brittingham, M. (2015). *A Bird's Eye View of the Forest: Providing for forest bird needs.* Pennsylvania Forests Quarterly Magazine of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association, 106 (4), 11-13.