

# Chhaya M. Werner

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German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) ◊ Halle-Jena-Leipzig

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

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**German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research** 2019 - Present

Postdoctoral Researcher

*project coordinated by University of Oulu, Finland*

*and Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Germany*

Advisor: Anu Eskelinen

**University of California Davis** 2014 - 2018

PhD in Population Biology

Advisors: Truman Young and Susan Harrison

**Princeton University** 2010 - 2014

B.A. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, *magna cum laude*

Advisor: Stephen Pacala

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Werner, CM**, SP Harrison, HD Safford, G Bohlman, and R Serata. Extreme pre-fire drought decreases shrub regeneration on fertile soils. *Global Change Biology*, in review.

MJ Koontz, MP North, **CM Werner**, SE Fick, and AM Latimer. Local variability of vegetation structure increases forest resilience to wildfire. Preprint available.

**Werner, CM**, DJN Young, HD Safford, and TP Young. Decreased snowpack and warmer temperatures reduce the negative effects of interspecific neighbors on regenerating conifers. *Oecologia*, in revision.

Young, DJN, **CM Werner**, KR Welch, TP Young, HD Safford, and AM Latimer. 2019. Post-fire forest regeneration shows limited climate tracking and potential for drought-induced type conversion. *Ecology* 100:e02571.

North, MP, JT Stevens, DF Greene, M Coppoletta, EE Knapp, AM Latimer, ... **CM Werner**, P Wyrsh. 2019. Reforestation for Resilience in Dry Western Forests. *Forest Ecology and Management* 432:209-224.

Young, TP, KL Stuble, JA Balachowski, ME Lulow, **CM Werner**, and K Wolf. 2017. Experimental approaches to addressing climate change challenges in prairie restoration. *Grasslands* special issue: Climate change and grasslands. 27:10-15.

Young, TP, KL Stuble, JA Balachowski, and **CM Werner**. 2017. Using priority effects to manipulate competitive relationships in restoration. *Restoration Ecology* 25:S114-S123.

**Werner, CM**, KJ Vaughn, KL Stuble, K Wolf, and TP Young. 2016. Persistent asymmetrical priority effects in a California grassland restoration experiment. *Ecological Applications* 26:1624-1632.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program \$138,000 2016 - Present

UC Davis Plant Sciences MacDonald Fellowship \$80,000 2014 - Present

Henry A. Jastro graduate research scholarship \$2500 2018

Henry A. Jastro graduate research scholarship \$2000 2017

University of California ISEECI graduate student research fellowship \$11,500	2016
University of California Natural Reserve System research grant \$1200	2016
Henry A. Jastro graduate research scholarship \$1750	2016
Henry A. Jastro graduate research scholarship \$1600	2015
Ben A. Madson scholarship \$1000	2015
Leslie Kilman Johnson senior thesis award	2014

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

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German Centre for Integrative Biodiversity Research seminar. Leipzig, Germany. March 6, 2019. **Invited Talk:** *Priority promotes coexistence in a grassland restoration experiment*

Oikos Finland Conference on Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. Oulu, Finland. February 5, 2019. **Talk:** *Extreme pre-fire drought decreases shrub regeneration after fire*

Ecological Society of America 103rd Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA. August 8, 2018. **Talk:** *Post-fire regeneration on harsh soils is more resilient to climate change.*

Ecological Society of America 102nd Annual Meeting, Portland, OR. August 9, 2017. **Poster:** *Post-fire recruitment of two conifer species under manipulated drought and shrub competition conditions*

Northwest Science Association 88th Annual Meeting, Ashland OR. May 31, 2017 **Invited Talk:** *Post-fire climate as a driver of forest community regeneration*

Northwest Science Association 88th Annual Meeting, Ashland OR. May 30, 2017. **Poster:** *Spatial and temporal contingency in rapid primary succession following removal of the Elwha River dams*

Center for Population Biology seminar series, University of California Davis. November 22, 2016. **Talk:** *Plant community responses to post-fire drought*

Natural Areas Conference 43rd Annual Meeting, Davis CA. October 18-21, 2016. **Student and Volunteer Committee Chair.**

Natural Areas Conference 43rd Annual Meeting, Davis CA. October 19, 2016. **Talk:** *Post-fire climate as a driver of forest community regeneration*

Princeton Environmental Institute's Discovery Day. Princeton, NJ. May 2014. **Poster:** *Restoration, regrowth, and invasion in the drained Elwha River reservoirs*

## TEACHING

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**Plant Communities of California** Spring Quarters 2016 and 2017  
*Teaching Assistant* Davis, CA

- In 2017, co-lead the field course of the class, an in-situ approach to botany and ecology in California communities, while the instructor was on sabbatical. Wrote and delivered field lectures, planned itineraries, developed research-based homework assignments, and wrote and graded exams.
- In 2016, assisted in coordinating and teaching the field course. In both years guest lectured for the lecture section of the class.

**Principles of Ecology and Evolution** Winter Quarter 2016  
*Teaching Assistant* Davis, CA

- Ran two lab sections of the UC Davis course, part of the Introduction to Biology series.

**Princeton Bridge Year Program** Sept 2009-May 2010  
*English and Science Teacher* Varanasi, India

- Taught first to seventh grade in a rural village school. Developed curriculum, prepared all lessons, and wrote and graded exams

## MENTORING

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### **Chaparral Drought and Fire**

2016 - 2018

*Mentor*

*Davis, CA*

- Worked with UC Davis undergraduate Rebecca Serata for three years on my fieldwork project. Taught plant identification and community survey skills in the field, and analysis of data. Included Rebecca on the manuscript writing and submission process as a coauthor. Additionally, assisted Rebecca in developing an independent sub-project, which she presented as a poster at the California Invasive Plant Council symposium.

### **Sierra Nevada Post-fire Regeneration**

2016 - 2018

*Fieldwork Coordinator*

*Davis, CA*

- Led and mentored nine undergraduate research assistants on my fieldwork project, including multiple students who worked 30 hours for official internship credit. Students helped with construction of field experiment and data collection.

### **Women in Science and Engineering Mentoring**

2015-2016

*Mentor*

*Davis, CA*

- Mentored a UC Davis undergraduate student in the Women in Science and Engineering program.