

OBJECTIVE

Aspiring conservationist with a strong academic foundation in Zoology and environmental policy, complemented by hands-on research and field experience in ecological data collection, GIS mapping, and environmental assessment. It is my goal to contribute acquired expertise to a research institution while I work to build a wider repertoire of skills alongside professionals in the field.

EDUCATION

University of Florida — Bachelor of Science in Zoology
Completed: May 2025

Tallahassee Community College — Associate of Arts
Completed: May 2023

Relevant Coursework:

Geology, Environmental Policy, National Wildlife Law

SKILLS

- QGIS & Wallace Ecological Modelling App
- R & RStudio (statistical analysis and visualization)
- Database Management
- Environmental Data Collection & Field Surveying
- Soil and Water Sampling Techniques
- Environmental DNA Sampling

EPORFOLIO



Gracie Rutz

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RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant – University Scholars Program

University of Florida | Oct 2023 – May 2025

- Conducted spatial analysis of ecological data in support of conservation research.
- Applied geospatial tools to identify environmental risk zones.
- Expected co-authorship publication (Dec 2025).

Research Assistant – Endangered Plant Survey

Tennessee Tech University | Sept 2021 – October 2021

- Participated in field surveys of habitats supporting the federally endangered flower *Physaria globosa*.
- Assisted in identifying suitable microhabitats and collecting ecological data.
- Collaborated with botanists and conservation staff to monitor populations.

Volunteer – Animal Care and Public Outreach

North Florida Wildlife Center | July 2022 – Aug 2023

- Led guided tours and assisted in public animal encounters.
- Educated visitors on ecological sustainability and environmental responsibility.

Field Assistant – Environmental DNA Sampling

Tennessee Tech University | Sept 2021

- Assisted in eDNA surveillance of the endangered Pygmy Madtom (*Noturus stanauli*) in the Clinch River.
- Collected and processed water samples to assess aquatic ecosystem health.
- Ensured accurate sample handling and documentation.

Field Assistant – Electrofishing Surveys

Tennessee Tech University | Sept 2020

- Supported environmental assessments on Arnold Air Force using electrofishing and water quality metrics.
- Assisted with data entry and reporting related to fish biodiversity and habitat integrity.

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST