

Matthew J. Kowalski

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Objective

I am seeking the position of Alternate for the Chesapeake Bay Program's Agriculture Workgroup. The Chesapeake Bay Foundation is self-nominating Jenna Schueler for the position of at-large member, and I will serve as the CBF alternate.

Education

Master of Science in Biology, 2002

California University of Pennsylvania; California, PA

Bachelor of Science in Wildlife and Fisheries Management, 1995

Frostburg State University; Frostburg, MD

Professional Experience

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation:

Virginia Watershed Restoration Scientist

January 2016- present

- Work with landowners and partners to design and install Best Management Practices (BMPs) that protect water quality; focus on agricultural settings.
- Work with stakeholders and staff to implement and support restoration and conservation programs; develop and coordinate partnerships that maximize agricultural conservation.
- Provide technical assistance, analyses, and recommendations on agricultural cost-share programs, agricultural regulations and legislation, and Chesapeake Bay Watershed Implementation Plan issues related to agriculture. This includes liaising with local, state, and federal partners and ensuring CBF's voice is represented on agricultural issues.
- Perform administrative and budgetary functions related to the implementation and reporting of the Virginia Watershed Restoration Program, including supervision of restoration field staff and contractors as well as grant program reporting. Manage CBF's Virginia agricultural and riparian buffer programs.

Lord Fairfax Soil and Water Conservation District

Senior Conservation Specialist

February 2013- December 2015

- Administered Virginia Agricultural Cost-share (VACS) program for a 4-county district. Ensured program compliance. Coordinated with conservation partners (ex. USDA NRCS).
- Provided farmers and landowners with technical and financial assistance to protect soil and water resources through Best Management Practices (BMPs).
- Supervised 3 Conservation Specialists. Ensured customer service.
- Tracked millions of dollars in cost-share funds and District technical assistance projects.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Ecological Programs Specialist

August 2011-January 2013

- Reviewed projects on Bureau of Forestry (BOF) lands for conflicts with rare wildlife and resolved potential conflicts. Wrote management plans and developed BMPs for rare species and habitats in need of conservation.

- Assisted BOF Management Team with responsible development of shale gas resources.
- Developed & maintained a wildlife monitoring program regarding the effects of gas development.

Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program (PNHP)

Zoology Coordinator, Herpetologist, Assistant Zoologist **2003, 2005-August 2011**

- Oversaw PNHP zoological staff. Liaised with PNHP Director and other heritage managers to coordinate zoologists' work. Monitored staffing, schedules and budgets. Facilitated data management. Coordinated fundraising efforts including grant writing.
- Assisted statewide conservation efforts of Pennsylvania's wildlife.
- Helped direct efforts of the PNHP and WPC's Land Protection Department in the conservation of rare species.
- Determined zoological target species and conducted field surveys for rare species.

California University of Pennsylvania, Department of Biology

Professor **Fall Semester, 2004**

- Served as full-time faculty instructing 12 credits to over 300 students in two courses; *Contemporary Issues in Biology* and *Introduction to Environmental Science*

Research Assistant **Jan. 1999-Aug. 2001**

- Organized and conducted a three-year inventory of the amphibians and reptiles of four National Park Service (NPS) units in southwest Pennsylvania.
- Determined sampling methods and schedules, hired and supervised 3 field technicians annually, kept an inventory of equipment and data, and worked as project liaison with the NPS Natural Resources Manager
- Was Primary Author of the inventory's final technical report to NPS.

Thomas Clark Watershed Consultants, Inc.

Watershed Technician **Nov. 2003-Aug. 2004**

- Collected water samples, discharge parameters (pH, TDS, flow), and macroinvertebrate samples from streams and mine discharges for watershed assessments.
- Identified macroinvertebrates for biological assessments of streams and watersheds.
- Wrote reports and assisted with grant writing.
- Trained and supervised watershed intern.

The Lodge on Little Saint Simons Island, GA

Naturalist and Naturalist Department Supervisor **Oct. 2001- Sept. 2002**

- Collected wildlife and habitat data and advised on Natural Resource Management issues.
- Managed Naturalist Department budget, supervised maintenance of Naturalist Dept. equipment, and supervised and scheduled a crew of 4 staff.
- Developed and lead interpretive education activities.

Missouri Department of Conservation

Assistant Field Biologist **Jan. 1996-Oct. 1998**

- Collected data for the herpetology components of the Missouri Ozark Forest Ecosystem Project and the Missouri River Post-flood Evaluation Project by trapping (using drift-fence arrays), identifying and marking herpetofauna.
- Maintained accurate library of field data and wrote seasonal reports.
- Collected small mammal data and vegetative data about soft-mast species.