



Kai Foster, M.A.

Conservation Biology Institute
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Project Manager and GIS Specialist with more than 10 years of experience in GIS mapping, research, technical training and communication with a background in project management lifecycle and high-level clients including researchers, scientists and engineers. Proven ability to perform effectively in project initiation, planning, design, execution, monitoring, controlling and closure with diverse stakeholder groups. Professional expertise in GIS project administration, spatial data analysis, data management, project deliverable presentation and public engagement. Skills and experience include:

- Building stakeholder relationships, impactful partnerships, and collaborative teams
- Developing, designing, and implementing geospatial data analysis projects
- Acquiring, managing, and integrating geospatial data to inform decision making
- Effective federal and state agency client management, budget and project reporting
- Preparation and facilitation of technical training for GIS and non-GIS professionals
- Creation and delivery of professional presentations and publications
- Technical knowledge of data formats and collection methodologies
- Research and spatial data analysis experience on a wide range of environmental topics

EDUCATION

2006 M.A. Applied Anthropology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. Thesis: "Toxic Politics at 64N, 171W: Addressing Military Contaminants on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska."

2006 Graduate Certificate (GISci), Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.

2001 B.A. Anthropology, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA.

RECENT AWARDS

2019 – Courtesy Faculty – Oregon State University Graduate College

2019 – Affiliated Staff – Oregon State University College of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences

2009/16 - Steering Committee Member - National Conservation Easement Database (NCED)

2005 - Graduate Student Academic Achievement Award, Oregon State University Department of Anthropology

2002 - Governor's Volunteer Service Award, Arizona

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2017 - present. ECourse Development and Teaching Assistant, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR

2008 - present. Project Manager/GIS Specialist, Conservation Biology Institute, Corvallis, OR

2006 - 2007. Research Assistant, Oregon State University Department of Anthropology, Corvallis, OR

2006. Assistant to Science Curator, Te Manawa Museum, Palmerston North, New Zealand

2005. Field Researcher, Alaska Community Action on Toxics, Anchorage, AK

SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Project Manager – Northern California Climate Adaptation Project

Project lead for the development and curation of climate futures spatial data used to inform Climate Adaptation planning in Northern California. In collaboration with the EcoAdapt team spatial data is presented in planning workshops along with a Climate Adaptation framework to help stakeholders identify climate adaptation priorities in the early, mid and late-century.

Project Manager – Natural Vegetation and Protected Lands Mechanisms

Project Lead for analysis exploring the contributions of various land protection mechanisms to protect natural vegetation types using PAD-US (CBI Edition), the

National Conservation Easement Database (NCED) and LANDIRE Existing Vegetation Type (EVT). These results will be compared with the data captured in the US Forest Service FIA field survey database to further validate the information and a final report will be published in 2021.

Project Manager – Micronesia Challenge Terrestrial Measures Initiative Viewer (mcterrestrialmeasures.org)

Project Lead for the design, development and implementation of the Micronesia Challenge Terrestrial Measures Initiative geospatial data and information viewer. This viewer summarizes critical regional indicators that measure the status of managed conservation areas set aside under the program.

Lead GIS Analyst – CA CEQA Requirements Mapping Tool

Lead GIS Analyst developing spatial data summaries for individual CEQA requirements across the state of California. Using spatial data representing housing types, jurisdictional boundaries, transportation requirements, environmental limitations, hazards and general plans to be integrated into a tool to support housing development legislation and support future planning in the state of California.

Lead GIS Analyst – Protecting Communities from Wildfire with Progressive Land Use Planning (consbio.org/products/projects/protecting-communities-from-wildfire-with-progressive-land-use-planning)

Lead GIS Analyst co-producing innovative community redevelopment designs to provide wildfire risk reduction benefits that integrate co-benefits related to economics, recreation and ecology. This highly iterative project engaged local knowledge and scientific expertise to co-produce future land use scenarios that are actionable in the coming decade.

Project Manager – California Renewable Energy Zone Projection project (<https://databasin.org/maps/af83d206814149d6a4d4ac2bd3940b15>)

Project Lead for the design, development and implementation of the interactive mapping tool for the Optimal Renewable Energy Build-Out (ORB) Model outputs that capture the renewable energy potential by evaluating the land and water use implications and cost of a range of potential 2030 renewable energy scenarios. The resource was built with policy makers and industry leaders in mind, finding a way to summarize these complex finding into a useful and easy to use format.

Project Manager – Micronesia Challenge Terrestrial Measures Initiative Viewer (mcterrestrialmeasures.org)

Project Lead for the design, development and implementation of the Micronesia Challenge Terrestrial Measures Initiative spatial data and information viewer. This viewer summarizes critical regional indicators that measure the status of managed conservation areas set aside under the program.

Project Manager – Northwest Basin and Range Science Synthesis

Organizational Lead for the Northwest Basin and Range Science Synthesis a multi-agency collaborative effort to describe the current condition, existing and future threats and management strategies of target terrestrial and aquatic habitats in a very intact ecosystem in the west. This pilot project combined geospatial data and the Open Standards framework to identify threats and opportunities for specific target habitats including: Aspen Woodland, Sage-Steppe and River- Riparian.

Project Manager – Great Basin Conservation Planning Atlas

[\(gblcc.databasin.org/\)](http://gblcc.databasin.org/)

Project Lead for the design, development and implementation of the Great Basin Conservation Planning Atlas, a custom build spatial data and information platform intended to highlight the project work funded by the GB LCC and relevant spatial data within the geography.

Project Manager – Landscape Climate Dashboard (climatedashboard.org/)

Project Lead for the design, development and implementation of the Landscape Climate Dashboard, an interactive web application that summarizes future climate conditions (i.e. temperature, precipitation, soil sensitivity and vegetation change) by federally and tribally protected lands. This project was funded by the National Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) as a joint effort between the Pacific Northwest, Great Northern, Great Basin and California LCCs.

Project Manager – Protected Areas Database of the United States, PAD-US (CBI Edition)

Project Lead for the national protected areas database for the United States, PAD-US (CBI Edition). The PAD-US (CBI Edition) is an ongoing effort requiring updates and enhancements, supported by the US Forest Service (FIA and State & Private Forestry). Iterative database publications include: PAD 4.5, PAD-US version 1.1 (CBI Edition), PAD-US version 2.0 (CBI Edition), PAD-US version 2.1 (CBI Edition), PAD-US version 2.1 a/b (CBI Edition) for California, and PAD-US version 2.1b (CBI Edition) for Oregon. Companion database publications include: National Conservation Easement Database (NCED), PAD Aviation (PAD-A) and the Natural Vegetation of Protected Areas of the US.

Outreach, Training and Content Development Specialist – Data Basin
(www.databasin.org)

Lead outreach, training and content development coordinator for the online data-sharing website Data Basin. Engage with clients to develop and implement custom client focused portals. Serve as point of contact for incoming Data Basin user inquiries, provide resources and technical troubleshooting.

Technical Specialist – Desert Renewable Energy Project (DRECP)

Serve as a technical specialist, executing GIS tasks, Environmental Evaluation Modeling System (EEMS) modeling for climate refugia and content management for Desert Renewable Energy Project (DRECP) console. The DRECP is private/public collaboration focused on the desert region and adjacent lands of seven California counties. The DRECP will result in an effective biological mitigation and conservation program providing renewable project developers with permit timing and cost certainty under the federal and California Endangered Species Acts.