

Curriculum Vitae

JAMES P. BECK
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EDUCATION:

- 2001-2003 University of Maryland, College Park – M.S. (3.9 GPA)
Program in Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology
- 1993-1997 Albion College B.A. (cum laude 3.5 GPA)
Biology Major with departmental honors - Environmental Science Concentration
- Duke University Marine Laboratory (Spring 1996)

EXPERIENCE:

- 2003-present **Global Forest Watch (GFW) at World Resources Institute (WRI).**
Intern in the Central Africa Regional Program.
- Supporting the preparation of a multi-stakeholder workshop including governments, private sector, NGOs, and research institute representatives to identify indicators used to document logging practices in Central Africa by progressive enterprises.
 - Contributing to the research and writing of an Area Assessment of the Central Africa Region to contribute to the strategic planning of GFW.
- 2002-2003 **Center for Applied Biodiversity Science (CABS) at Conservation International (CI).**
Intern in the Human Dimensions of Biodiversity Program.
- Characterized the socio-economic state of the global biodiversity hotspots. Involved in research, mapping, analysis, writing, and oral presentation (see Publications and Abstracts for details).
 - Supported supervisor in on-going poverty and biodiversity work. Specifically, was involved in aiding the production of a CABS brochure: *People, Poverty, and Biodiversity*.
 - Compiled information and began to assess effectiveness of Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage Sites in conserving biodiversity. Involved in identifying key contacts, research, analysis, and writing a white paper: *The Role of Biosphere Reserves for Conservation and Sustainable Development in Sub-Saharan Africa*.
 - Participated in CABS meetings and Lecture Series.
 - Managed a Volunteer.
 - Miscellaneous administrative support.
- 2002-2003 **University of Maryland Campus Peace Corps Recruiter**
- Plan and execute recruiting events.
 - Raise awareness of the Peace Corps with administration, faculty, and students on campus.
 - Interview and assess applicant's potential as Peace Corps Volunteers.
 - Web site maintenance.

- 2002 **Bushmeat Crisis Taskforce (BCTF)** consultant working with a large, interdisciplinary, problem solving team of graduate students on five bushmeat problems in Africa (criteria of hunting sustainability, economic and nutritional alternatives, public awareness campaign, key decision makers, and an external review of BCTF as an organization). For each project during this process we:
- Defined the problem.
 - Interviewed the BCTF staff, other bushmeat experts, and stakeholders.
 - Conducted extensive library research.
 - Calculated costs and benefits of potential solutions.
 - Identified the optimal solution to the problem.
 - Prepared and delivered a written document and an oral presentation for the BCTF and its members.
- 2001-2002 Teaching assistant for Human Anatomy and Physiology Laboratory at **University of Maryland**.
- Lecture and run lab activities of this undergraduate biology course.
- 2001 **Megatransect Project at National Geographic Society**. Entered floral and faunal survey data on a volunteer basis.
- 2001 Consultant Research Assistant for the **World Wildlife Fund at Cornell University** (Ithaca, NY).
- Data entry and analysis for a socio-economic study undergone in Gabon, Central Africa (see below for detailed study description).
 - Aided in data interpretation to be included in a revised management plan of the Gamba Protected Areas Complex.
- 1999-2000 **Peace Corps** Volunteer in Gabon collaborating with the **World Wildlife Fund** and the **Gabonese Ministry of Forest and Water** in a food consumption / natural resource utilization / nutritional status assessment of the rural inhabitants in the Gamba Protected Areas Complex.
- Participated in the theoretical and practical approach development of the study.
 - Aided in the selection and placement of personnel involved.
 - Introduced and discussed project goals, objectives, and expected outcome with local leaders.
 - Aided in the logistical preparation and execution of 8 two week missions in the field.
 - Assisted in the financial management of the study's budget.
 - Supported supervisor in day to day decision making for human and material management.
 - Aided in the supervision and verification of the work done by the team members.
 - Carried out interviews with heads of households and spouses.
 - Assisted in the treatment and compilation of the data to ensure integrity.

- 1997-1999 **Peace Corps** Volunteer in Gabon working as a Rural Fish Culture Extension Agent.
- Promoted Tilapia culture to provide a viable small-scale business enterprise to rural villagers lacking income generating opportunities.
 - Disseminated information using a “hands on” approach through formal seminars, informal gatherings, and one on one instruction in 12 villages.
 - Identified and aided farmers in the construction and management of 15 pond systems.
 - Organized several seminars to provide a forum for inter-farmer idea exchange, association development, and contact and cooperation with host country government officials.
- Secondary activities:
- Involved in the development of an Environmental Education Project.
 - Participated in an internationally supported project surveying freshwater fish biodiversity in Gabon.

PUBLICATIONS:

Beck, J. 2003. Poor People in Rich Lands: A First Look at the Socioeconomic State of Biodiversity Hotspots. Scholarly Paper. Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Maryland: College Park.

Archer, B., J. Beck, K. Douthwaite, and D. Ruppert. 2003. *Playing in Counterpoint: Bushmeat Users & The Possibility of Alternatives*. 50 pages. IN Uncertain Future: the Bushmeat Crisis in Africa. All Reports prepared for the Bushmeat Crisis Task Force by the Problem Solving team of the Fall 2002 Conservation and Development Course (CONS 680). Sustainable Development and Conservation Biology Graduate Program, University of Maryland: College Park. Available at www.bushmeat.org/docs.html

Beck, J. 1997. Movement of Male Nurse Sharks in Relation to Mating Activities. Albion College Honors Thesis.

ABSTRACTS:

Beck, J. and K. Brandon. 2003. The Development Context in Biodiversity Hotspots: Priorities and Partnerships. Abstract for the Society of Conservation Biology Annual Meetings.

Carrier, J., H. Pratt, and J. Beck. 1997. Mating Behaviors of Male Nurse Sharks: Use of Ultrasonic Telemetry For Tracking Animals Between Mating Events. American Elasmobranch Society.

LANGUAGES: Fluent in written and spoken English and French.

TECHNICAL SKILLS:

General computer proficiency with Microsoft Windows applications (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Internet Explorer, Visual Basic, Photo-editing software); Worldfood; Basic webpage creation software; GIS (ArcView, exposure to ArcInfo); and remote sensing software (PCIworks and others).

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Gabon, Cameroun, Equitorial Guinea, Benin, Togo, Ghana, Niger, Costa Rica, Canada, Bahamas, USA, and France.