

Meaghen O'Rourke

Oregon, USA

meorourke28@gmail.com | 541-962-5276

[LinkedIn](#) | [Web Portfolio](#)

Highly organized and self-motivated environmental professional dedicated to advancing environmental management, conservation, and justice goals. Proficient in effective communication, collaborative teamwork, and data-driven decision-making. Committed to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging. Eager and fully committed to relocating.

Education

Southern Oregon University

Bachelor of Environmental Science and Policy

Honors: *magna cum laude*, *President's Honor Role*

Certificate: Sustainable Leadership

Ashland, Oregon

September 2018 – June 2022

Experience

Rogue Valley Council of Governments – Salmon Watch

Seasonal Instructor – Water Quality, Salmon Life Cycle, & Riparian Area

Southern Oregon Area

September – November 2024

- Led hands-on environmental education programs for K-12 students, teaching water quality, salmon life cycle, and riparian ecosystems through interactive field-based activities, lectures, and demonstrations.
- Designed and delivered lessons on ecological concepts, guiding students in water sampling, temperature testing, and pollution identification to connect science with real-world environmental impacts.
- Independently managed instruction for diverse age groups, adapting teaching methods to engage students from 4th grade to high school while maintaining classroom control in outdoor field settings.

Friends of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument

Operations Specialist & Interpretive Ranger

Ashland, Oregon

May – December 2023 | 20+ Hours/Week

- Gained proficiency in Asana through independent learning, taking initiative to seamlessly integrate it into operations. Developed tailored projects, portfolios, and goals in alignment with the organization's strategic plan. Enhanced efficiency by consolidating and centralizing task management for significant projects.
- Optimized efficiency by revamping Google Drive organizational structure and implementing a standardized naming convention, resulting in a significant boost in team efficiency and streamlined access to critical documents.
- Consolidated information of 70+ foundations and grant prospects into an efficient spreadsheet, strategically assessed and prioritized grants based on relevance for effective decision-making.
- Organized and led interpretive hikes at five locations, averaging 15 participants each, while emphasizing the ecological significance of the Monument, advocating for its protection, and achieving a 33% increase in sign-ups compared to the previous year.

Medford Water Commission

Watershed Intern

Medford, Oregon

June – November 2023 | 20 Hours/Week

- Developed a strict DEQ-compliant Sampling Analysis Plan that enhanced data precision by requiring extensive quality control procedures and yielded higher-quality publicly available data for the watershed community and researchers.

- Assisted in systematic monthly collection of source water samples for 30+ parameters while ensuring quality control and supporting the municipal water supply's compliance with state regulations while safeguarding water quality and community health.
- Utilized Excel for water quality data analysis, created seasonal water temperature graphs for 25+ sites. These graphs play a crucial role in water quality assessments, resulting in more informed and effective restoration projects.
- Enhanced the Watershed Technician Standard Operating Procedure by refining and optimizing pre- and post-monitoring preparations, quality control measures, data processing, and submission procedures.

Neilson Research Corporation

Project Manager

Medford, Oregon

October – February 2023 | 40 Hours/Week

- Interpreted environmental laws and regulations, Oregon Health Authority environmental statute, regulations, and policies to stay within compliance for reporting scientific and technical drinking water data for contaminants such as, arsenic, copper, lead, mercury, and nitrate/nitrite.
- Generated scientific and technical drinking water reports for total coliform and E. coli, as well as asbestos. Reports were then approved by management. After management approval, reports were submitted to Oregon Health Authority for regulatory compliance.
- Routinely briefed supervisor through both oral and written communication on, status of MCL violations, completion of rush reporting for compliance, and interpretation and communication of state environmental regulations and policies to clients.

Neilson Research Corporation

Client Services & Sample Intake

Medford, Oregon

June – October 2022 | 40 Hours/Week

- Interpreted and applied environmental regulations and policies from Oregon Revised Statute of the Oregon Drinking Water Quality Act 1981 by analyzing scientific and technical information on Chain of Custody legal documents and orally communicated with clients to and assess their various testing requirements needed for both personal, commercial, and real estate uses.
- Analyzed both technical and scientific information pertaining to drinking water, wastewater, and asbestos samples contained in Chain of Custody legal documents to ensure correct sample login.
- Analyzed quality of drinking water, wastewater, and asbestos samples to determine if they fit ORELAP accreditation standards for sample acceptance. Once the determination was made samples were received from clients and relinquished to laboratory staff to begin analysis.
- Routinely communicated orally by providing scientific and technical information on laboratory practices, testing methods, and confidentiality procedures to various public water system personnel, local businesses, and the public.

Skills

- **Communication & Writing:** Clear, concise, and tailored communication of policy and technical information. Proficient in report writing and presenting qualitative and quantitative analyses.
- **Research:** Proficient in online and field-based research and data collection.
- **Project Coordination & Management:** Exceptional organization, task prioritization, and deliverable tracking.
- **Software Proficiency:** Microsoft Office 365, Google Suite, Zoom.
- **Software Basic Knowledge:** STELLA, Insight Maker, Esri Arc GIS Pro, R Studio.