

KAREN DUTKO

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(Updated August 9, 2022)

Education

Bachelor of Science / Environmental Science / Minor in Geographic Information Systems and Technology
University of California, Los Angeles
2019 - 2023

Research Experience

REMOTE SENSING RESEARCH ASSISTANT

NASA, UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology / Los Angeles, CA / 2021 – Present

Project Director / Elsa Ordway / elsa.ordway@gmail.com

- ◆ Utilized high-resolution Planet satellite imagery (Landsat and Sentinel-1) to collaborate on NASA funded research project.
- ◆ Contributed to cutting edge research in tropical ecology and conservation by utilizing GIS, R, and Open Foris to map and analyze forest degradation and tree loss patterns in the Southern Cameroon region of the Congo Basin
- ◆ Worked on remote sensing components of the project as part of a large cross-discipline team comprised of UCLA faculty and graduate students, NASA scientists, and international collaborators

UCLA SUSTAINABLE GRAND CHALLENGES RESEARCH SCHOLAR

UCLA Institute of Environmental Science / Los Angeles, CA / 2019 – 2021

Program Director / Rebecca Shipe / rshipe@ucla.edu

- ◆ Worked one-on-one with a graduate student in a lab setting to study the effects of algal blooms in Southern California on the carbonate chemistry of aquatic systems.
- ◆ Used analytical skills and statistical programs to record trends in raw data. Use QGIS to create graphics and map trends for multiple projects, compiled into a scientific report presented at UCLA Undergraduate Research Week
- ◆ Worked with a group of 6 people to create a drought tolerant native plant palette for UCLA to implement into its turf remodeling project while conducting interviews with program directors and faculty to expedite Bee Campus Certification at UCLA

Grants and Awards

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM GRANT

UCLA Institute of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology / Los Angeles, CA / 2022 – 2023

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWS PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP

UCLA Institute of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology / Los Angeles, CA / 2021 – 2022

Presentations

UCLA UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH WEEK

UCLA Institute of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology / Los Angeles, CA / 2022

UCLA Institute of Environmental Science / Los Angeles, CA / 2021

Extracurriculars

PRESIDENT

Sigma Delta Sigma / UCLA Multi-Interest Greek Council / 2022 – 2023

EXTERNAL VICE PRESIDENT

Sigma Delta Sigma / UCLA Multi-Interest Greek Council / 2020 – 2022