

Christina R. Herron-Sweet

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Education

Masters in Land Resources and Environmental Sciences June 2012 - Current
Montana State University, Bozeman MT

Bachelor of Arts: Environmental Studies and Music May 2012
St. Olaf College, Northfield MN *G.P.A: 3.88 Magna Cum Laude*

Honors, Awards and Scholarships

Mildred Livingston Grant – 2012
Dean's List Semester I and II 2008-9, Semester II 2009-10, Semester I and II 2010-11
Presidential Scholarship – 2008-2012
Christiansen Scholarship – 2008-2012
St. Olaf Scholarship – 2008-2012
Alliss Scholarship – 2009-2012
Lamb Scholarship – 2011-2012
Lillian & Helen Fleischmann Scholarship – 2009-2011
Women's Soccer All-MIAC Sportsmanship Team – 2011

Research Experience

Multi-trophic interactions between spotted knapweed, pollinators, biocontrol agents and parasitoids
Montana State University *June 2012-present*

Advisor: Dr. Jane Mangold

Graduate Research Assistantship

Observe and record the visitation patterns of pollinators within spotted knapweed infestations with the goal of identifying which flowers may be at risk of pollen limitation due to decreased pollinator visitation in the presence of spotted knapweed. Perform pollination experiment to determine whether the native flowers are indeed pollen limited or not. Collect biological control agents from various sites around western Montana to determine if they are being parasitized by native parasitoids.

Assessing temporal and spatial variations of a trout stream food web

St. Olaf College

June 2011-Aug. 2011

Advisors: Drs. Stephanie Schmidt and Paul Jackson

NSF-REU in Environmental Science

Continued and expanded previous aquatic food web project documenting changes in brook trout diet from winter to spring and through the summer. Compared food web structure using stable isotope analysis at two sites with different riparian zones. Tracked growth and movement of fish by backpack shocking and seining, then tagging individuals with PIT tags and later recapturing them.

Determining the autochthonous and allochthonous contributions to brook trout diet

St. Olaf College

Jan. 2011-May 2011

Advisor: Dr. Stephanie Schmidt

Independent Research (Environmental Studies 398)

Developed independent project to investigate aquatic food web ecology in local brook trout stream. Used stable isotopes of carbon, nitrogen and hydrogen as well as gut content analysis to determine fish diet with specific interest in terrestrial vs. aquatic contributions.

Restoring the native biomes of southern Minnesota

St. Olaf College

June 2010-Aug. 2010

Advisor: Dr. Kathy Shea

Collaborative Undergraduate Research & Inquiry (CURI) Summer Research Program

Conducted two research projects on restoration ecology to monitor the success of restored ecosystems on St. Olaf campus. Measured and modeled tree growth and associated soil characteristics in a 20-year restoration of deciduous forest. Investigated variation in prairie biomass and soil characteristics over a chronosequence of restored prairies.

Posters and Presentations

Herron-Sweet, C. R., G. Gauthier Jr., S. N. Schmidt. 2012. An analysis of allochthonous and autochthonous contributions to brook trout diet using hydrogen, nitrogen, and carbon stable isotopes. Minnesota Academy of Science. *Northfield, MN*.

Herron-Sweet, C. R., G. Gauthier Jr., S. N. Schmidt. 2011. An analysis of allochthonous and autochthonous contributions to brook trout diet using hydrogen, nitrogen, and carbon stable isotopes. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting. *Austin, TX*.

Henn, J. J., **C. R. Herron-Sweet**, T. K. Refsland, A. E. Kendig, K. L. Shea. 2011. Tree growth, mortality, and reproduction in a 20-year old maple-basswood forest restoration. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting. *Austin, TX*.

Kendig, A. E., T. K. Refsland, J. J. Henn, **C. R. Herron-Sweet**, K. L. Shea. 2011. Productivity and soil characteristics as indices of tallgrass prairie restoration success. Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting. *Austin, TX*.

Herron-Sweet, C. R., G. Gauthier Jr., S. N. Schmidt. 2011. An analysis of allochthonous and autochthonous contributions to brook trout diet using hydrogen, nitrogen, and carbon stable isotopes. St. Olaf College Summer Research Symposium. *Northfield, MN*.

Henn, J. J., **C. R. Herron-Sweet**, T. K. Refsland, A. E. Kendig, K. L. Shea. 2011. Tree growth and soil property changes in a 20-year maple-basswood forest restoration. Minnesota Academy of Sciences Undergraduate Symposium. *St. Paul, MN*.

Henn, J. J., **C. R. Herron-Sweet**, T. K. Refsland, A. E. Kendig, K. L. Shea. 2010. Tree growth and soil property changes in a 20-year maple-basswood forest restoration. St. Olaf College Summer Research Symposium. *Northfield, MN*.

Kendig, A. E., T. K. Refsland, J. J. Henn, **C. R. Herron-Sweet**, K. L. Shea. 2010. Productivity and soil characteristics as indices of tallgrass prairie restoration success. St. Olaf College Summer Research Symposium. *Northfield, MN*.

Membership

Ecological Society of America

Phi Beta Kappa

Relevant Work and Internship Experience

Teaching Assistant, Land Resources and Environmental Sciences, MSU

Aug. 2012-present

Student Naturalist, St. Olaf College	<i>Sept. 2011-May 2012</i>
Natural Lands Crew Member, St. Olaf College	<i>Sept. 2010-May 2012</i>
Teaching Assistant, Ecological Principles, St. Olaf College	<i>Feb. 2011-May 2011</i>
Classroom Assistant for Young Investigators Program, St. Olaf College	<i>June 2010</i>

Extra-Curricular Activities

Discussions in Ecology	<i>Jan. 2011-May 2012</i>
St. Olaf Environmental Coalition Club Leader	<i>Jan. 2009-May 2012</i>
Member, St. Olaf Women's Soccer Team	<i>Aug. 2008-Nov. 2011</i>