

Conservation Innovator

www.charliechesney.com
chesneycharlie@gmail.com
San Francisco Bay Area

Education

University of Oxford
MSc Biodiversity,
Conservation &
Management
Oct 2017 - Sept 2018
Distinction

San Francisco State
University
BSc Biology/Zoology
Aug 2011 - May 2015
Magna Cum Laude

Skills

Design Thinking for
Innovation

Lean / Scrum
Methodologies &
Tools

Qualitative &
Quantitative Research

Academic, Technical
& Popular Science
Writing

Podcast Production

Field Work &
Wildlife Handling

Profile

I explore innovative solutions to protect and ensure the health and longevity of nature and society. I utilize Agile and design thinking approaches to inspire learning and drive high-impact solutions. I focus on the adoption of emerging technologies and the strategic formation of partnerships and collaborations between NGOs, entrepreneurs, impact investors and universities to enable global innovation. My aim is to work with bold individuals and communities to introduce new ways of thinking to counter climate change and biodiversity loss.

Lean Startup Management

Co-Founder & Scrum Master, KanPlan Board;
Livermore, CA — April 2018 - Present

Lead scrum team ceremonies; Conduct product & market research;
Design MVPs and assumption tests; Source materials; Organize
marketing campaign; Manage finances

Technology-Enhanced Environmental Impact Investing

Sustainability Research Analyst, ESGINE inc.;
Oxford, UK — June 2018 - Jan 2019

Member of core research & product development team for duration
of startup funding: Explored how AI & smart platforms could
efficiently direct investors towards sustainable companies; Analyzed
industry impacts on SDGs; Analyzed sustainability impacts of stock
market indices; Populated industry sustainability reporting
framework database; Collected AI corpus; Analyzed AI accuracy

Wild-SCIP Co-founder & Project Manager, Smith School of
Enterprise & the Environment; Oxford, UK — Jan - Sept 2018

Managed the MVP development of a conservation-focused
blockchain smart contract investment platform; Coordinated
meetings between student team and advisor

Improving Ex-situ Conservation Management

Student Researcher, Wellness & Conservation Center;
San Francisco Zoo, CA — Feb 2014 - May 2015

Became the first student researcher at the Center to explore captive
animal welfare improvements; Recruited and trained two students in
animal behavior research protocol development, data collection and
analysis; Managed student team on three simultaneous projects

Community Initiatives

Community Volunteer, North Livermore Community Alliance; Livermore, CA — Jan - June 2017

Organized and led citizen science 'BioBlitz' iNaturalist event; Taught students about biodiversity at local school; Created information fact sheets for distribution

Living Arroyos Intern, Livermore Area Recreation & Parks District; Livermore, CA — Jan - June 2017

Led urban habitat clean-up and tree planting volunteer days of 20+ participants; Conducted biodiversity surveys; Mitigation and restoration activities

Avian Conservation

California Condor Intern, Ventana Wildlife Society; San Simeon & Big Sur, CA — Feb - August 2016

Co-managed field site; Trained intern on protocols; Monitoring, tracking & behavior observations; Participated in animal handling & husbandry; Co-authored safety protocol & project summary using GIS and Google Earth data

Raptor Migration Counter, Yellowstone Raptor Initiative; Yellowstone National Park — Sept - Oct 2015

Collected raptor migration data for duration of migration season

Story Telling

BCM Podcast Co-founder & Co-host, School of Geography & the Environment; University of Oxford, UK — Nov 2017 - Sept 2018
Established podcast; Developed content; Conducted interviews; Edited & published episodes

Course Blog Editor, Out & About: The SOGE Field Trip Blog; University of Oxford, UK — Nov 2017 - Sept 2018
Developed content; Edited submitted articles

Full portfolio available online at: www.charliechesney.com

Achievements

May 2019 - Coordinated the collaboration between Ecosulis, Panda Labs and the University of Oxford to produce a conservation blockchain technical brief

March 2019 - Joined WWF's Panda Labs core team as an 'Honorary Panda'

Sept 2018 - Distinction on MSc dissertation & overall course work

May 2018 - Presented at WildCRU Colloquium

Feb 2018 - Presented at WWF-UK Innovation Challenge

June 2017 - Coordinated community BioBlitz event

Feb 2017 - Publication of co-authored animal behavior study at the San Francisco Zoo

Feb 2014 - Became the first student researcher at the San Francisco Zoo's Wellness & Conservation Center, establishing an independent study program for San Francisco State University zoology students