

# FORCES

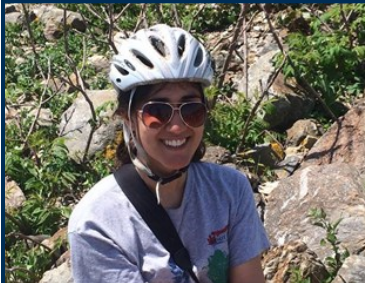
Friends of Recreation, Conservation  
and Environmental Stewardship



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

FORCES mission is to engage New York State college students to simultaneously improve OPRHP resources and enrich student academic, recreational, and career opportunities.

## 2017 FORCES STEWARDS: THE FORCE BEHIND FORCES



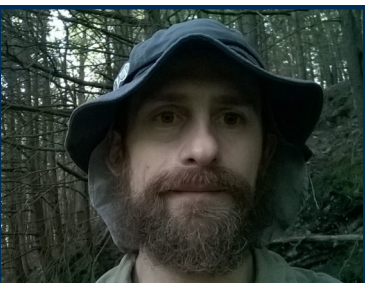
**Hailey Alemán**  
Conservation Steward

Hailey studies Environmental Science and Sustainability in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University. Originally from Glen Cove, NY, her passions include reading, writing, cake decorating, and recycling. She served as a Conservation Steward in the Finger Lakes Region. After graduation in 2018, Hailey hopes to pursue a career in a related field and perhaps attend graduate school, and later to join the Peace Corps.



**Lindsay Ayers**  
Conservation Steward

Lindsay is working towards a Graduate Degree in Environmental Science at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. She is from Manchester, NY and enjoys gardening, hiking, nature, yoga, reading, holistic health, and FAMILY!! Lindsay served as a Conservation Steward at Ganondagan State Historic Site. Lindsay's goal is to educate the community on how to protect the environment and work in the great outdoors in the field of environmental conservation.



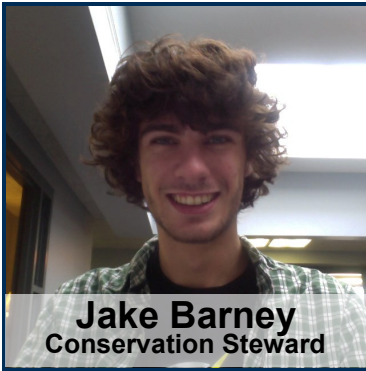
**Mariano Arias**  
Conservation Steward

Majoring in Biology at SUNY ESF, Mariano is working towards his Ph.D in Conservation Biology. Originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina, he now lives in Ithaca, NY. Mariano is a recipient of the 2017 Edna Bailey Sussman Fellowship. He conducted most of his research in the Finger Lakes Region. Through his studies, his goal is to link myrmecochorous plant distribution to ant activity.



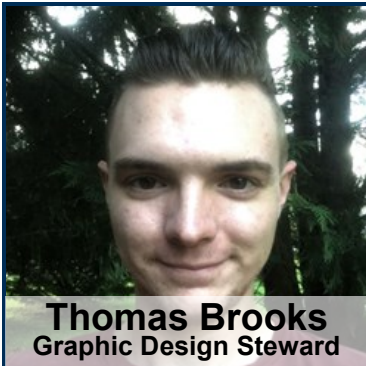
**Erin Baccari**  
Conservation Steward

After receiving her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Anthropology from SUNY College at Buffalo, Erin currently studies Wildlife Science at SUNY ESF. She is from Lancaster, NY and is interested in natural history, animal behavior and management, and mycology. She is also an avid reader, and loves playing video games, hanging out with her two cats, hiking, and drawing. Her future ambition is to contribute to her field after finishing her degree, and to someday work as a curator at a natural history museum.



**Jake Barney**  
Conservation Steward

Jake attends Ithaca College and majors in Environmental Studies. He has been active with FORCES for several years, starting as a FORCES Campus Ambassador. He now serves as a Conservation Steward in the Finger Lakes Region. Vestal, NY is his hometown and Jake enjoys reading, being outside, and eating food with friends. He would someday like to work for the government helping to solve issues of environmental justice and sustainability.



**Thomas Brooks**  
Graphic Design Steward

Thomas graduated in 2017 from Alfred University with a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art and Design. He is from Stewartstown, PA and is interested in natural history, scientific illustration, writing, fisheries and recreation. He served as a Graphic Design Steward at Allegany State Park. His career goal is to combine art and the sciences for public outreach and communication.



**Cindy Brownson**  
Conservation Steward

Cindy studies Earth Science at SUNY Brockport. She is from Kirkville, NY and enjoys running and camping. Cindy served as a Conservation Steward at Green Lakes State Park. She hopes to work in environmental compliance.



**Seanna Chilson**  
Conservation Steward

When Seanna is not busy studying Environmental Geoscience at University at Buffalo, she likes to hike, camp, and explore unfamiliar places. She usually has her nose in a book. Seanna is from Corning, NY and served as a Conservation Steward in the Niagara Region. Her main goals, career-wise, are to always be doing what she is passionate about and to be constantly learning new things!



**Ryan Colling**  
Geneseo FORCES President

Ryan received his Bachelor's Degree in Biology from SUNY Geneseo while serving as the Geneseo FORCES Club President. After graduating in the spring of 2017, he landed a job with the US Forest Service. Ryan is from Lewiston, NY and enjoys backpacking, fishing, hiking, skiing, canoeing, kayaking, camping, and nature watching. He would like to live in a remote setting in an environmentally friendly way with little reliance on the grid.



Curtis spent much of his summer working in Letchworth State Park as a Conservation Steward. He studies Environmental Science at Wells College and plans to graduate in 2019. His hometown is Dansville, NY and his passions are fishing, hiking, kayaking, and playing sports. After graduation, Curtis hopes to work in an agency that promotes and helps with environmental health and sustainability. He'd like to get his masters in ecology and/or conservation.



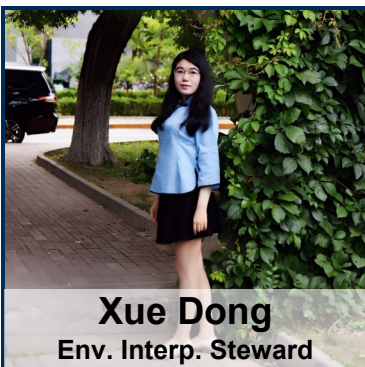
While studying Environmental Science and Biology, Shania has served as the Wells College FORCES Club President for several semesters. She calls Lawrenceville, PA home and enjoys nature and hiking. As FORCES Club President, she hopes to increase club member numbers and the amount of work projects accomplished with New York State Parks.



Millet is in his senior year at Binghamton University studying Environmental Science and Ecosystems. He grew up in Homer, NY and in his spare time, he enjoys snowboarding, fishing, hiking, and ecology. As an Invasive Species Management Steward in the Finger Lakes Region, his goals were to improve his skills identifying native and invasive species, learn about invasive species management techniques and methods of surveying, and to increase the baseline info of an area with research, or improve the ecology (by removing invasive species).



Adriana Del Grosso studies Environmental Science at Ithaca College, and plans to graduate in May of 2018. Hailing from Kensington, Maryland, she enjoys hiking, camping, art and being active! She served a Conservation Steward in the Finger Lakes Region. Her future ambition is to participate in various projects to benefit parks and local ecology. She's looking forward to always learning more and developing skills that will help her in future endeavors.



Xue attends SUNY-ESF and majors in Environmental Interpretation. Her hometown is on the other side of the world in Beijing, China. Xue served as an Environmental Interpretation Steward in the Central Region. She enjoys playing the piano, ballet, golf, drawing, and horseback riding. She would one day like to become an environmental educator.



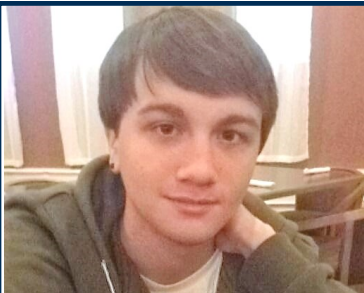
**Molly Elwood**  
Conservation Steward

Molly recently graduated from SUNY ESF with a Bachelor's Degree in Natural Resources Management. She grew up in Cincinnatus, NY and her interests include hiking, kayaking, camping, horseback riding, and traveling. She served as an American Hart's-Tongue Fern Conservation Steward at Clark Reservation State Park. She'd like to get a job in natural resources that allows her to spend her time enjoying the outdoors.



**Erika Ester**  
Plant Materials Cons. Steward

Erika graduated from Finger Lakes Community College where she studied Horticulture and Liberal Arts and Sciences. She was employed at Ganondagan State Historic Site as a Plant Materials Program Assistant. She is a Shortsville, NY native and is interested in gardening and botany. Her goal is to transfer to a 4-year institution to study conservation.



**Lukas Evans**  
Conservation Steward

Lukas is in his senior year at Cazenovia College, studying Environmental Biology. He started out with FORCES as the Cazenovia College FORCES Ambassador, and once he found a specific interest, transitioned into a Chittenango Ovate Amber Snail (COAS) Conservation Steward at Chittenango Falls State Park and in the SUNY ESF lab. Originally from Central Square, NY, Lukas enjoys video games, movies, books, music, and nature. He would someday like to go to grad school and get a PhD, see famous museums, travel, and own a nice house.



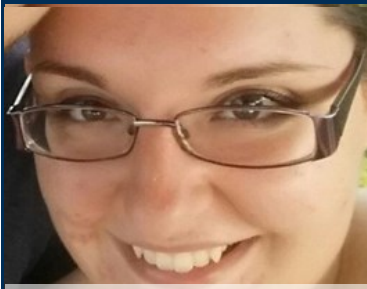
**Travis Faber**  
Conservation Steward

Travis studies Environmental Geoscience at West Virginia University. This past summer, he served as a Conservation Steward in Letchworth State Park. His hometown is Honeoye Falls, NY and he is enthusiastic about snowboarding, skateboarding, basketball, and hiking. He is hoping to get a job somewhere in the energy field (oil & gas, solar, wind, etc.).



**Dylan Finley**  
Nat. Res. Cons. Steward

Hailing from Airmont, NY, Dylan attends Vassar College and majors in Urban Studies, while minoring in Environmental Studies. His interests include drawing, hiking, watching movies, and identifying plants. Dylan served as a Natural Resource Conservation Steward at Rockefeller State Park Preserve. He has many goals including getting a graduate degree in conservation biology, managing a preserve, learning the identifications of hundreds of plants, and leading a zero waste life style.



**Michaela Freeman**  
Plant Materials Prg. Steward

Michaela studies Environmental Science with a concentration in Earth Science at SUNY Brockport. She is from Pavilion, NY and likes to spend her time hiking nature trails (Letchworth State Park is a favorite place to visit), viewing wildlife, and gardening. She served as a Plant Materials Program Steward at Ganondagan State Historic Site. She would like to someday work in an environmental laboratory or do environmental consulting.



**Brenna Galligan**  
Conservation Steward

While attending SUNY ESF and majoring in Environmental Studies: Communication, Environment, and Society, Brenna served as a Conservation Steward at Clark Reservation State Park. She is a native of Boonville, NY and her hobbies include gardening, camping, reading, live music, cooking, and going on adventures! Her goal is to develop her skills in the environmental education field by utilizing creativity and science to spur meaningful and fun experiences for children.



**Stephen Garney**  
Conservation Steward

Stephen graduated from SUNY ESF with a major in Conservation Biology and a minor in Native Peoples & the Environment. Shortly upon graduation, he landed a job with the New York Natural Heritage Program utilizing his GIS skills. He grew up in Saratoga Springs, NY and his hobbies include conservation & restoration, mycology, fire ecology, agriculture and food systems, UAVs, drinking coffee, music and sound, photography, video games, backpacking, snowboarding, soccer, and the road less traveled. His goals are to travel, get a PhD, join the Peace Corps, start a subsistence farm, be happy, and to strive for a healthy, sustainable human-and-nature coexistence.



**Zachariah Glaspy**  
Invasive Sp. Mgt. Steward

Zachariah majors in Recreational Studies at Niagara County Community College. His hometown is Tonawanda, NY and his interests include baseball and wildlife. He served as an Invasive Species Management Steward in the Niagara Region. He plans on finding a full time job where he can be outside most of the time helping plants and animals excel in their native habitats and preventing invasive species from overtaking.



**Jasmine Grewal**  
Invasive Sp. Mgt. Steward

Jasmine is a member of the class of 2018 Cornell University College of Agriculture and Life Sciences studying Environmental Science and Sustainability. She made her way to NY from San Diego, CA and loves sailing and hiking in her free time as well as drawing and painting. She served as an Invasive Species Management Steward in the Finger Lakes Region. After graduation Jasmine hopes to apply her degree and field experience to continue field research on the west coast and eventually pursue a graduate degree.



**Alexandra Grove**  
Env. Education Steward

Lexi is currently enrolled at SUNY ESF as an Environmental Biology major. She grew up in Mexico, NY and enjoys hiking, reading, and spending time with friends and family. During her time spent with FORCES at Clark Reservation State Park, her goal was to gain experience in environmental education and create more educational opportunities at New York State Parks!



**Taylor Held**  
FORCES Club President

As a sophomore at SUNY Oneonta, Taylor serves as the Oneonta FORCES Club President. She majors in Environmental Science. She is from Bellmore, NY and has fun hiking, SCUBA diving, and reading. While President, her goal is to expand and improve the FORCES club at SUNY Oneonta.



**Nathanael Henderson**  
Invasive Sp. Mgt. Steward

While attending Ithaca College, Nate studies Environmental Science. Nate served as an Invasive Species Management Steward in the Finger Lakes Region. A native of Califon, NJ, his interests include the Ithaca College Men's Club Rugby team and Red Cross Club. He hopes to travel the world, work in the environmental field, learn to surf, and go white water rafting.



**Taylere Herrmann**  
Plant Materials Steward

Taylere studies Biology at St. John Fisher College. She calls Walworth, NY home and her interests include hiking, reading, and camping. She served as a Plant Materials Steward at Ganondagan State Historic Site. After completing her undergraduate degree, she plans to go to graduate school and obtain her Ph.D.



**Samantha Hollister**  
FORCES Club President

A proud native of Utica, NY- home to chicken riggies, half moons, and the Boilermaker, Samantha graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Conservation Biology from SUNY ESF. She loves running on the ESF cross country team, playing the ukulele, and visiting the Adirondack High Peaks. She's interested in entomology, environmental education, and tropical ecology. As FORCES Club President, her goal was to enjoy organizing and participating in events with her fellow club officers and members. Post-graduation, Samantha hopes to hike at least part of the Appalachian Trail, and volunteer with the Peace Corps.



**Justin Hussey**  
Conservation Steward

Aside from being a star lacrosse player at Le Moyne College, Justin majors in Environmental Science Systems. Originally from Rome, NY, he is enthusiastic about playing sports, fishing, being outdoors, and working with children. He served as an American Hart's-Tongue Fern Conservation Steward at Clark Reservation State Park. He is aspiring to become an earth science or geology teacher and to eventually become a principal or athletic director.



**Charlie Ippolito**  
Riparian Restoration Steward

Charlie attends Finger Lakes Community College majoring in Environmental Studies. He is from Victor, NY and served locally at Ganondagan State Historic Site as a Riparian Restoration Steward. Charlie enjoys fishing, skiing, botany, hiking the Adirondack Mountains, and camping. His goal is to become an ecologist and to pursue his own set of field work and environmental research.



**Sierra Jech**  
Conservation Steward

Trekking across the country to NY from Wyoming, Sierra is working towards her MS in Environmental Chemistry at SUNY ESF. She is a recipient of the 2017 Edna Bailey Sussman Fellowship served as a Conservation Steward at Green Lakes State Park. Her interests include researching complex environmental problems using chemical analyses and instrumentation. Sierra is also interested in accessibility in science and the possibilities of participatory action research in making science inclusive, ethical, and just.



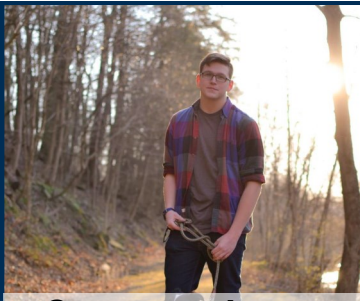
**Megan Jarvis**  
Conservation Steward

Megan graduated from SUNY ESF with a Bachelor's degree in Conservation Biology. She is originally from North Syracuse, NY. She enjoys playing music and participating in sports and has recently taken to cooking with friends. She served as a Conservation Steward at Green Lakes State Park. Her main goal is to do some kind of good in the world to ensure a sustainable future for upcoming generations. Some of her major goals are improving public health & implementing laws/policies to further humankind towards sustainability.



**Shaina Johnson**  
Dune Restoration Steward

Shaina recently graduated from SUNY Potsdam with a Bachelor's Degree in Biology. She is from Lacona, NY and enjoys soccer, four wheeling, hiking, and running. Shaina worked last summer under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant as a Dune Restoration Steward at Sandy Island Beach State Park. She hopes to move out west and get a job that involves the environment or become an Environmental Conservation Officer.



**Cameron Jones**  
Env. Education Steward

Cam is enrolled in Alfred University and majors in Environmental Studies. He served last summer as an Environmental Education Steward at Allegany State Park. He calls Norristown, PA home and is excited about camping, yoga, gardening, and herpetology. He'd like to work in the National or State Park System.



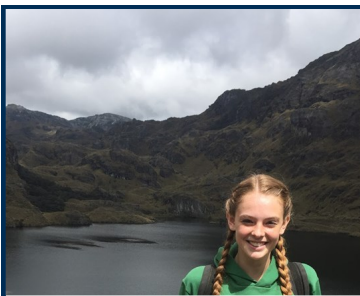
**Liz Karson**  
FORCES Club President

While attending Hartwick College, Liz serves as the Hartwick FORCES Club President. She is majoring in Environmental Geology and is from Crown Point, NY. In her spare time, Liz enjoys hiking, camping, music, and geology. Her goal is to become a water quality specialist and help people in water crisis situations.



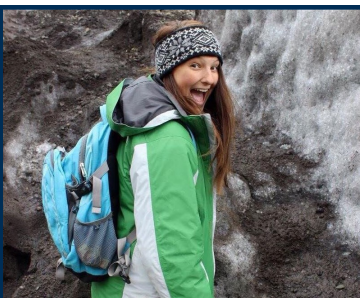
**Brian Keating**  
Nat. Res. Cons. Steward

Surrounded by the Adirondack Mountains, Brian studies Environmental Science at Paul Smith's College. He served as a Natural Resource Conservation Steward at Rockefeller State Park Preserve. A native of Scarsdale, NY, Brian is passionate about hunting, fishing, and fun! His goal is to become a wildlife biologist, and to continue to learn everyday.



**Sarah Kirkpatrick**  
Conservation Steward

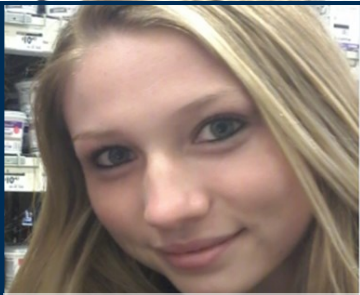
Sarah studies Environmental Biology at SUNY ESF. She is from North Syracuse, NY and her hobbies include painting, hiking, and traveling. Sarah served as a Conservation Steward at Green Lakes State Park. Her goal is to improve her community by protecting future diversity of wildlife in the parks that she grew up to love.



**Mandy Klaben**  
Plant Propagation Steward

Mandy attends Le Moyne College and majors in Environmental Science (Pre-Engineering). She is from Ithaca, NY. Mandy's interests include traveling to new places, hiking, skiing, swimming, kayaking, and soccer. She likes watching football (Go Bills!) and SU basketball, and also really likes dogs. She served as a Plant Propagation Steward in the Central Region. Her career goal is to become an Environmental Engineer, and to hopefully work with renewable energy technologies in some way. A life goal is to travel to as many different places as possible; at the top of this list are Greece, New Zealand, Australia, Madagascar, and Brazil.





**Marissa Lathrop**  
Env. Interpretation Steward

Marissa is a member of the 2019 SUNY ESF Environmental Education and Interpretation class. She is from Baldwinsville, NY and is interested in teaching, leading toured walks/hikes, running, and camping. She served as an Environmental Interpretation Steward at Clark Reservation. She would like to become a teacher and teach biology/field biology.



**Ivette Leon**  
FORCES Ambassador

While attending Niagara University, Ivette double majors in Political Science and Environmental Studies. She is from New York, NY and her pastimes include canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, traveling, cooking, going to National Parks, and playing rugby. At Niagara, Ivette serves as a FORCES Campus Ambassador, spreading the good word about the FORCES program. She plans on attending graduate school after graduation from Niagara. Ivette would like a hands-on job where she can enhance her knowledge and work with the community.



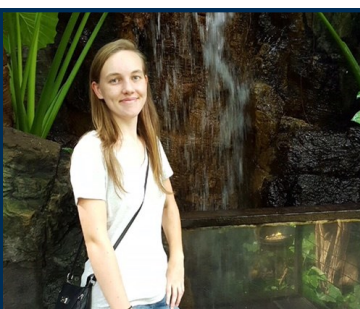
**José Leuridan**  
FORCES Ambassador

José is enrolled at Niagara University in the Environmental Science program. He serves as a FORCES Campus Ambassador, encouraging his classmates to get involved with FORCES. He is from Syracuse, NY and he is interested in studying wildlife, visiting State Parks, and watching National Geographic documentaries. His goal is to finish his education at Niagara University and actively prevent species from being on the brink of extinction.



**Xinhui Liao**  
Conservation Steward

Xinhui attends Cornell University and majors in Environmental and Sustainability Sciences, with a concentration in Environmental Biology and Applied Ecology. Syracuse, NY is home and she enjoys herpetology and ornithology, but also finds environmental and natural resource ethics interesting. Xinhui served as a Conservation Steward in the Finger Lakes Region. She hopes to be able to merge her degree interests and art in her future career.



**Erica Mackey**  
FORCES Club President

While studying Environmental Science Systems at Le Moyne College, Erica also serves as the Le Moyne FORCES Club President. Originally from Ballston Lake, NY, Erica enjoys being outdoors, camping, hiking, kayaking, fishing and working with children! She has been a camp counselor for the past three summers. Erica is interested in learning how different ecosystems work in different geographical locations. Her goal is to get her master's degree in a specific field in environmental science. She hopes to make a contribution to creating a more sustainable and environmentally friendly world.



**Pat Macko**  
Conservation Steward

Pat is enrolled at Clarkson University as an Environmental Engineering student. A native of Camillus NY, Pat takes pleasure in hiking and camping. He served as a Chittenango Ovate Amber Snail (COAS) Conservation Steward at Chittenango Falls State Park. During his time at the park, Pat gained a better understanding of local ecology and the environment of the State Parks.



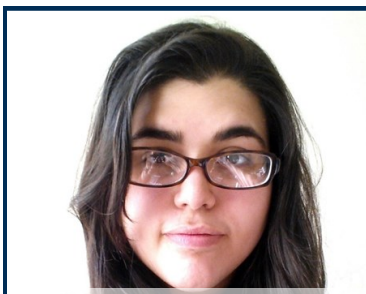
**Maddie Mathers**  
Conservation Steward

Maddie attends Ithaca College and is working towards her Bachelor's of Science in Environmental Studies and a Bachelor's of Science in Television and Radio. Maddie served as a Conservation Steward studying brook trout habitat at Robert H. Treman State Park. She is from Cambridge, NY and likes skiing, photography, and sound engineering. She'd like to work within the U.S. National Park Service.



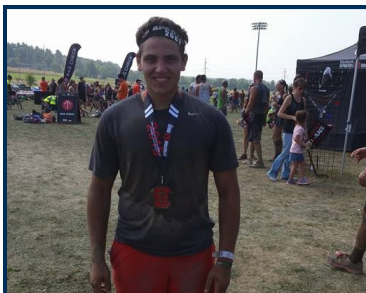
**Paula Merkle**  
Culture and Comm. Steward

A native of Vernon, VT, Paula studies at Ithaca College and majors in Anthropology. She enjoys going to concerts, hiking, swimming and BEING A PART OF FORCES! She served as a Culture and Communication Steward in the Finger Lakes Region. After completing her undergraduate degree, Paula plans to attend graduate school and hope to make an impact in the world by applying the things that she has learned to real life situations.



**Rozy Mori Millet**  
FORCES Club Co-President

Rozy majors in Natural Resources Management with a minor in Recreation Resources and Protected Area Management at SUNY ESF. She currently serves at the ESF FORCES Club Co-President. Amityville, NY is home and she is interested in land management, nature walks, exploring new places, crafts, fixing old things, caring about Earth and helping others. Rozy's goals are to become skilled at public speaking, learn to hunt, get a dog, learn the calls of common birds in the US, and join the Peace Corps.



**Alden Morris**  
Nat. Res. Mgt. Steward

Alden is enrolled in the Landscape Architecture program at SUNY ESF and is a recipient of SUNY ESF's Fink Career Fellowship. He is from Lansing, NY and is passionate about exploring and keeping up with technological trends, agricultural crop production when paired with food insecurity issues, and keeping up with his health. Alden also enjoys weightlifting and participating in obstacle events such as the Spartan Race. However, hard work is most important to him, hence why during the semester he averages five hours of sleep each night!



**Caitlin Niederhofer**  
Conservation Steward

Caitlin is from Virgil, NY and majors in Conservation Biology with minors in GIS and Environmental Education and Interpretation at SUNY Cortland. She is passionate about nature photography and spending time outdoors, hiking, camping, birding, snowboarding, cross-country skiing, as well as relaxing with her dog and reading. After her internship, Caitlin was employed with State Parks as a Landscape Restoration Specialist. She has an interest in sustainable living and is in the process of building a tiny house. She'd like to travel and then find her dream job working with wolf populations in an effort to maintain healthy ecosystems.



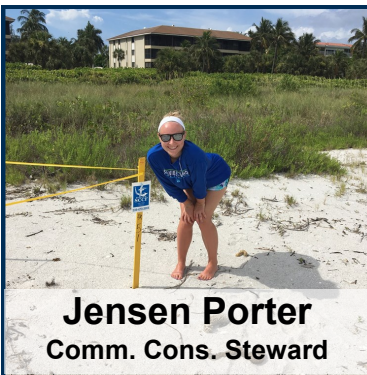
**Cassidy Okon**  
Invasive Sp. Mgt. Steward

Cassidy majors in Environmental Science with a Public Health minor at Niagara University. Buffalo, NY is home and she enjoys photography, painting, traveling, and fishing. She served as an Invasive Species Management Steward in the Niagara Region. Her future plan is to attend grad school for her Masters of Public Health with a focus in Environmental Health.



**Dallas Ortel**  
Project Coordinator

Dallas has been the Green Lakes Bird Conservation Area Project Coordinator since the spring of 2017. He attends Southern New Hampshire University for a Bachelor's in Environmental Science. He hails from Jamestown, NY and enjoys hiking, camping, kayaking, and traveling the world. Dallas' goal is to continue to further his knowledge in identification skills and data collection and to use this experience to obtain a career as a Wildlife Technician for a state agency.



**Jensen Porter**  
Comm. Cons. Steward

While attending Le Moyne College and studying Environmental Science Systems, Jensen also serves as the Le Moyne FORCES Club Secretary. Originally from Shortsville, NY, she has a strong passion for the environment, specifically marine species and habitats. Jensen enjoys reading and playing soccer. Her goals are to receive knowledge that helps strengthen her background in order to get a job where she can help educate individuals on environmental issues and how they can personally help to protect and strengthen the place we call home.



**Angelina Presutti**  
Native Seed Steward

Angelina studies Biotechnology at SUNY ESF. Youngstown, NY is home and she likes to hike, kayak, and garden. Angelina served as a Native Seed Steward in the Niagara Region. Her future plan is to genetically modify endangered or threatened plant species so that they can withstand their environmental pressures and reestablish themselves into their native habitat.



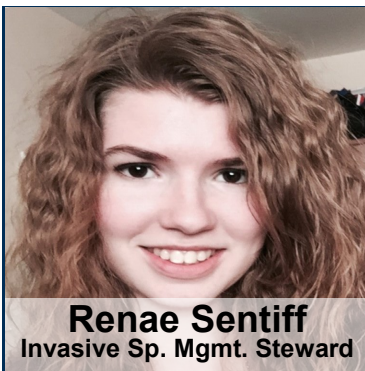
**Cassandra Rogers**  
Conservation Steward

Cassie is enrolled in the Conservation Biology program at SUNY ESF. She hails from Dayton, Ohio and likes to read and enjoys anything to do with the outdoors: hiking, canoeing, camping, kayaking, and exploring new places and making new memories. Cassie served as a Conservation Steward at both Clark Reservation and Green Lakes State Parks. She wants to help other people learn to appreciate our natural world as much as she does. She'd also like to visit as many National Parks as she physically can in her lifetime.



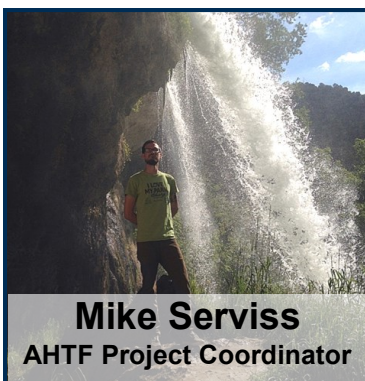
**Candace Schermerhorn**  
Aquatic Res. Edu. Steward

Candace is enrolled in the Aquatic & Fisheries Science program at SUNY ESF. Chatham, NY is her hometown and she enjoys kayaking, gardening, camping, journaling, fishing, watercolor painting, SCUBA diving, rocks and minerals, and spending time with her niece and nephew. She would like to become more involved with public outreach, inspire people of all ages to get outdoors, and continue to learn new things, fill her passport, attend grad school somewhere coastal, live simply in a tiny home with her dog...and swim with a cuttlefish.



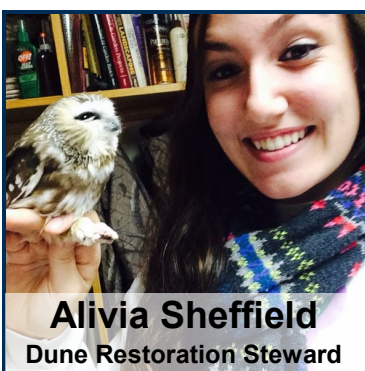
**Renae Sentiff**  
Invasive Sp. Mgmt. Steward

Renae studies Environmental Science at Niagara University. She served as an Invasive Species management Steward in the Niagara Region. Lyndonville, NY is home and she is interested in agriculture and wildlife. Her goal is to attend grad school.



**Mike Serviss**  
AHTF Project Coordinator

Mike recently received his Masters Degree in Conservation Biology at SUNY ESF. The focus of his research was an experimental reintroduction of the American hart's-tongue fern. He is a native of Utica, NY (tomato pie, half-moon cookies, Utica greens and Saranac beverages) and enjoys soccer, hiking, biking, snowboarding, music, art, and travel. He hopes to pursue a career that allows him to become involved in various conservation efforts throughout the world- really his education is just a guise to achieve his goals of traveling, doing interesting things, meeting interesting people, and doing his part to conserve!



**Alivia Sheffield**  
Dune Restoration Steward

Alivia graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Conservation Biology from SUNY ESF. She is from Van Buren Point, NY and takes interest in birding, hiking, wildlife photography, camping, unicycling, snowboarding, balloon twisting, and anything to do with wildlife or the environment. She would like to research the effect of noise pollution on birds and use this data to inform policy. In addition, she would like to own a petting zoo and family farm to use for informal education about sustainability.



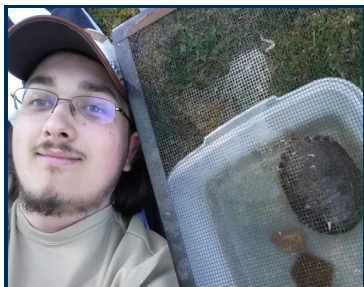
**Shannon Shoff**  
FORCES Project Steward

Shannon studies Recreation Management at SUNY Cortland. She is from Marcellus, NY and enjoys the Adirondacks, movies, the outdoors, hiking, boating, history, and travel. She served as a Conservation Steward at Clark Reservation State Park. Shannon's goal is to incorporate her love of film, history, government, and travel into a future career. Another goal is to become a licensed battlefield guide at Gettysburg National Military Park. She hopes to spread her passion for the outdoors through interpretation and stewardship.



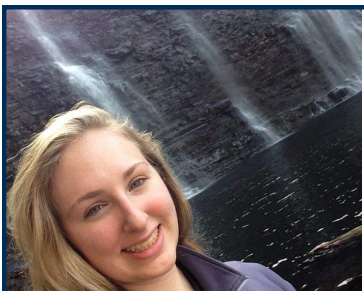
**Steven Sicari**  
FORCES Club President

Steven attends SUNY Geneseo and studies Applied Mathematics with a minor in Recreation Resources and Protected Area Management. While at SUNY Geneseo, he serves as the FORCES Club President. He is from Saint James, NY and his interests include mathematics, modeling biological systems, ecology, computer science, music, game development, and survival skills. His ultimate goal is to find a job that includes all of his interests!



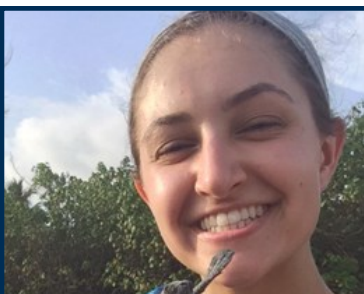
**Jeffrey Simoneit**  
Conservation Steward

Jeffrey graduated from Niagara County Community College and majored in Recreation Studies. He served as a Conservation Steward in the Niagara Region. He is from Wheatfield, NY and enjoys writing, hiking, and camping (even better when at Letchworth State Park). He would like to work for State Parks in the interpretive services and may consider returning to school to pursue a degree in archaeology.



**Kimberly Smith**  
Dune Restoration Steward

Making her way to upstate NY from Ozone Park, Queens, NY, Kim studies Geology at SUNY Oswego. She likes to hike, read, and draw. She served as a Dune Restoration Steward at Sandy Island Beach State Park. She'd like to earn a masters degree in geophysics and apply what she learns towards environmental conservation efforts.



**Abby Snow**  
Conservation Steward

Abby Snow is a freshman at SUNY ESF, majoring in Conservation Biology because she is passionate about preserving ecosystems and the species within them. She served as a Conservation Steward at Green Lakes State Park. She is from Scarborough, ME and enjoys volleyball and spending as much time as possible outside with her friends and family. Her dream is to become a biologist working with a documentary team in the middle of nowhere and educating others about the importance of conserving our natural resources working in the field.



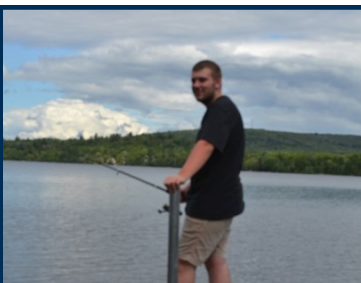
**Evan Stern**  
Conservation Steward

Evan attends Houghton College and studies Biology with an Environmental Emphasis. He is from Cattaraugus, NY and his interests include hiking, rock climbing, soccer, and videography/editing. Evan served as a Conservation Steward at Allegany State Park. He is passionate about doing his part to conserve and restore natural resources with the hopes of increasing the quality of life for people, especially those who are in poverty.



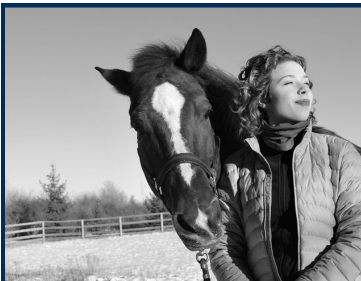
**Lydia Stewart**  
Conservation Steward

Lydia majors in Natural Resources Management at SUNY ESF. Binghamton, NY is home and she is interested in environmental education, farming, and biking. She served as a Conservation Steward at Clark Reservation State Park. After graduation in 2019, she would like to get a job out west in a national or state park.



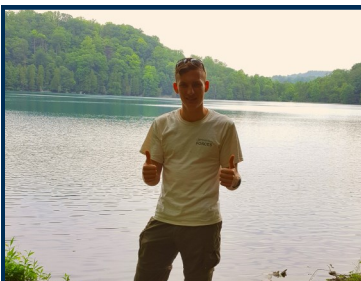
**Zachary Strebel**  
Invasive Sp. Mgt. Steward

Zach is enrolled at Binghamton University and studies Environmental Studies with a focus on Ecosystems. He is from Manorville, NY and his hobbies include kayaking, cooking, fishing, hunting, and sports. Zach served as an Invasive Species Management Steward in the Finger Lakes Region. During his time with Parks, Zach's goals were to learn about the variety of opportunities within State Parks, as well as meet new people.



**Jane Suhey**  
Env. Education Steward

Jane is from Horseheads, NY and is a student at Corning Community College. Her interests include hiking, spending time with her horse Buster, baking, making stained glass windows, and learning more about natural history. For the past two summers, Jane has worked as an Environmental Educator in the Finger Lakes region giving gorge tours and visiting classrooms. Jane plans to earn a Bachelor's degree in geoscience and a Master's degree in geology. She would also like to study abroad and be involved with environmental research. Jane enjoys sharing what she has learned and experienced with others.



**Mitchel Thomas**  
Conservation Steward

Mitchel is a Natural Resources Management student at SUNY ESF. He served as a Conservation Steward at Green Lakes State Park. His hometown is Binghamton, NY and he enjoys fishing, hunting, running, and mountain biking. During his time with Parks, Mitchel hoped to annihilate as many invasive species as humanly possible. He plans to pursue a career as a DEC officer, forest ranger, or water specialist.



**Kaylee Townsend**  
FORCES Club Co-President

While attending SUNY ESF working towards her Bachelor's Degree in Conservation Biology, Kaylee also serves as the FORCES Club President. She grew up in central New York in the town of Liverpool. She has always been interested in animals and science. When she was younger, she loved to read books about animals, space, and anything science related. With her Conservation Biology degree, Kaylee hopes to work in a zoo doing animal care, or become an environmental conservation officer.



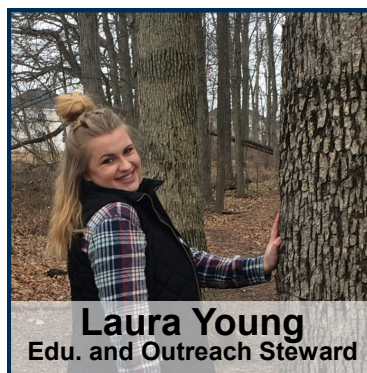
**Kaitlyn VanOrman**  
Nat. Res. Mgt. Steward

Kaitlyn studies Natural Resources Management at SUNY ESF. She grew up in Livonia, NY and has hobbies that include running, hiking, camping, identifying new plants, and having fun with family and friends. Kaitlyn would like to get a job that allows her to work outside a lot, and share her love of the outdoors with everyone else.



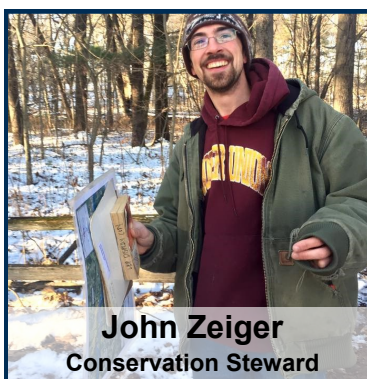
**Ally Whitbread**  
Conservation Steward

Ally recently transferred from Keuka College to SUNY ESF and majors in Conservation Biology with a minor in Marine Science. She served as a Chittenango Ovate Amber Snail (COAS) Conservation Steward at Chittenango Falls State Park. She is from Syracuse, NY and is interested in psychology, natural sciences, arts and crafts, golf, and reading. Her main goal is to be able to travel!



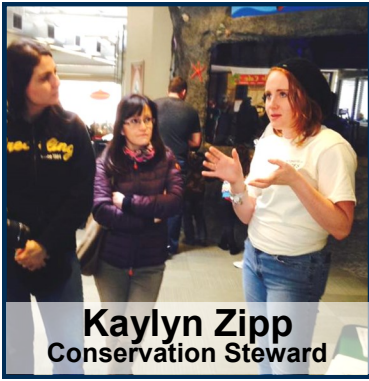
**Laura Young**  
Edu. and Outreach Steward

Laura served as an Education and Outreach Steward and attends Ithaca College for Outdoor Adventure Leadership. Her home is in Souderton, PA, and she has loved the outdoors since she can remember. She enjoys nature, both learning about it and being in it. Laura also loves to travel and go on adventures. Her career focus is to help others build a relationship with the outdoors and get to know nature just as she did at a young age.



**John Zeiger**  
Conservation Steward

John is a Conservation Biology Master's student in SUNY ESF's Conservation Biology program. He served as a Conservation Steward at Rockefeller State Park Preserve. John is from Ardsley, NY and has an interest in backpacking, rock climbing, and cooking. He plans to pursue a career in conservation and land management.



Kaylyn majors in Environmental Science at SUNY ESF. She is from Oneonta, NY and enjoys rowing, climbing, art, and writing. She served as a Conservation Steward at Clark Reservation State Park. Her future plans include assisting in outreach programs to hone her current skills and acquire more.

Scott Coccia  
 Ryan Felski  
 Michelle Gianvecchio  
 Allana Havernick  
 Austin Higgins  
 Lindsay Neubek  
 Jessica Pearson  
 Katie Pendelbarry  
 Martha VanBork  
 Kyla Wulff

Conservation Steward  
 Ornithology Steward  
 Ornithology Steward  
 Conservation Steward  
 Ornithology Steward  
 Art and Design Steward  
 Program Planning Steward  
 Conservation Steward  
 Conservation Steward  
 Conservation Steward

Post graduate  
 St. John Fisher College  
 Finger Lakes Community College  
 Binghamton University  
 Le Moyne College  
 Alfred University  
 Cornell University  
 Bucknell University  
 Finger Lakes Community College  
 Alfred State College

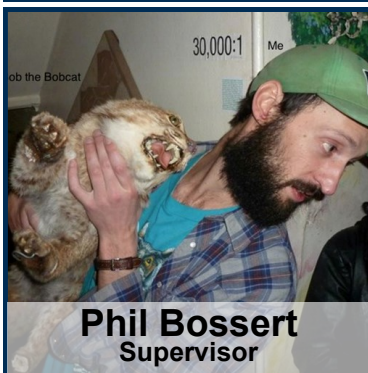


The 3rd Annual FORCES Gathering held on October 1, 2017 at Fillmore Glen State Park.



# 2017 Western NY Invasive Species Strike Team

In 2017, OPRHP fielded two (Western and Eastern), four-person Invasive Species Management Strike Teams to preserve and protect our park lands, forests, and waters from the threats posed by invasive species. This is the sixth year of this program. The Western Team, housed at Clark Reservation State Park reported that they worked on 21 species at 43 state parks and college campuses. They covered the Central, Allegany, Finger Lakes, Genesee, Niagara, Saratoga Capital, and Thousand Islands Regions.



Phil was the Western Invasive Species Strike Team Supervisor. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Conservation Biology from SUNY ESF. He is from Pennsburg, PA and enjoys playing music, hiking, bird watching, camping, and ecology. He hopes to travel to tropical coral reefs, build a cottage as part of a community in the woods, get more tattoos, and go to outer space.



After completing his Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science (Terrestrial Ecology) from SUNY Brockport, Alex joined the Strike Team as a Specialist. He is from Parish, NY and enjoys birding, hiking, and photography. Alex's future plans include returning to school for a graduate degree and land a job involving field research.



Dakota graduated from SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry with a Bachelor's Degree in Natural Resources Management. He is from Rushford, NY and enjoys hiking, wildlife photography, music, camping, kayaking, and enjoys playing Lancaster. He would like to show others how nature is a way of life that impacts everyone in their own unique way. After his stint as a Strike Team Specialist, he landed a job in New Hampshire as a consulting utility forester with ACRT, Inc., a utility vegetation management consulting firm.



Hailing from Syracuse, NY, Anthony graduated from SUNY Plattsburgh with a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science. His interests include bass fishing, kayaking, hiking, and going to Wegmans. His long term goal is to obtain a full time position with State Parks. He would someday like to buy a boat and live on a lake.

# FORCES

Friends of Recreation, Conservation  
and Environmental Stewardship



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic Preservation

FORCES mission is to engage New York State college students to simultaneously improve OPRHP resources and enrich student academic, recreational, and career opportunities.

## 2017 FORCES CLUB OFFICERS



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Liz Karson, Vice President  
Samantha Berberich, Treasurer  
Rebecca Nathan, Secretary

### Fall 2017

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Rebecca Nathan, Vice President  
Hunter McRee, Treasurer  
Gabbi Urban, Secretary

Faculty Advisor: Zsuzsanna Balogh-Brunstad, Department of Chemistry

Le Moyne



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Ben Rodgers, Vice President  
Kathryn Meyer, Treasurer  
Jensen Porter, Secretary

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Mandy Klaben, Treasurer  
Kylee Wilson, Secretary  
Richelle Brousseau, PR

Faculty Advisor: Chad Corcoran, Department of Biological Sciences



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Kaylee Townsend, Vice President  
Sam Benedict, Treasurer  
Rozy Mori-Millet, Secretary  
Adelaide Dumm, Social Media/USA Rep.

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Rozy Mori-Millet, Co-President  
Emily Verbeck, Vice President  
Allison Becker, Treasurer  
Clare Foley, Secretary  
Adelaide Dumm, USA Rep.

Faculty Advisor: Brandon Murphy, ESF Outreach Office



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Steve Sicari, Vice President  
Ally Jones, Treasurer/Historian  
Amanda Paratore, Secretary  
Corey Henson, Service Coordinator  
Kyle Sanduski, Education Coordinator  
Maddie Walker, Publicity Coordinator

### Fall 2017

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Amelia Mindich, Vice President  
Allison Jones, Treasurer  
Amanda Paratore, Secretary  
Maddie Walker, Publicity Coordinator  
Brian Zapfel, Education Coordinator  
Calvin Gath, Events Coordinator

Faculty Advisor: Jim Kernan, Geography Department



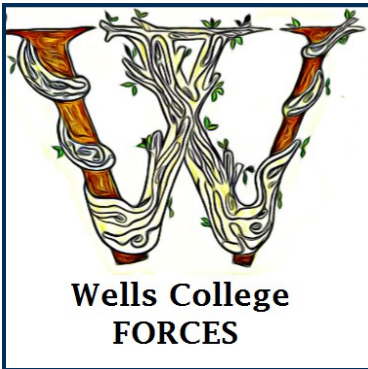
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Alison Rickard, Vice President  
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Fall 2017

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Faculty Advisor: Jackie Schnurr, Department of Biology