

# Sofia Saenz Kruszka

School of Environmental and Forest Sciences  
Box 352100  
University of Washington  
Seattle, Washington 98195

Office: 340 Bloedel Hall  
Telephone: (206) 616-1879  
Email: [sofikru@uw.edu](mailto:sofikru@uw.edu)

## EDUCATION

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- 2023 - **M.S.**, Environmental and Forest Sciences, University of Washington,  
Expected completion: June 2025
- 2017 - 2021 **B.S.**, Ecology, Evolution, and Biodiversity, Food and the Environment, University of Michigan  
*Distinction*

## RESEARCH AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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- 2023 - **Graduate research assistant**, School of Environment and Forest Sciences, University of Washington,  
Expected completion: June 2024
- 2022 - 2023 **Assistant research scientist**, School of Environment and Forest Sciences, University of Washington
- 2021 **Field Technician**, School of Environment and Forest Sciences, University of Washington  
*Sampled and established pre- and post-fire long-term monitoring plots in northwestern Cascades*
- 2017 - 2020 **Undergraduate research assistant**, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Biodiversity, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan  
*Field and wet lab research studying and African mesocarnivores and their parasites*
- 2019 **Research and field assistant**, Harvard Forest  
*Data collection and analysis studying drivers of oak tree mortality post-insect disturbance*
- 2016, 2017 **Summer research intern**, National Human Genome Research Institute, National Institutes of Health

## RESEARCH GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS

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2024-2025      **University of Washington SEFS Fellowship,**  
*3 quarters graduate tuition + stipend*

## PUBLICATIONS

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**Kruszka, S, Harris, NC.** 2020. Gastrointestinal parasite community in the critically endangered West African lion. bioRxiv 136176; <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.06.09.136176>

## PRESENTATIONS (\*POSTER)

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**\*Sofia Saenz Kruszka, Jenna E. Morris, Kristin H. Braziunas, Brian J. Harvey.** Parameterizing five Pacific Northwest (USA) tree species in a process-based landscape simulation model. Presented at the Ecological Society of America Annual meeting. Aug 2023.

**\*Sofia Kruszka, Anna Pasek, Lucy White, Sarika Mahimkar, Cameron Craig.** Reducing invasive seed viability through composting and other heat treatments. Presented at the Stewardship Network Conference in East Lansing. Jan 2020.

**Sofia Kruszka, Audrey Barker-Plotkin.** Quantifying death: Characterizing patterns of oak tree mortality in North-Central Massachusetts in the aftermath of the most recent gypsy moth outbreak. Presented at the Harvard Forest Summer Student Symposium. Aug 2019.

**\*Sofia S. Kruszka, Beatriz Aguilar, Dr. Nyeema C. Harris.** Spatial variation in the intestinal parasite community of raccoons (*Procyon lotor*) across three distinct anthropogenic zones in Michigan. Presented at the Ecological Society of America Annual meeting. Aug 2018.

**\*Sofia Kruszka, Dr. Maximilian Muenke, Dr. Nicole Banks.** Risk Factors in Turner Syndrome. Presented at the NIH Student Poster Day. Aug 2017.

**\*Sofia Kruszka, Dr. Maximilian Muenke.** Craniosynostosis in a Consanguineous Union. Presented at the NIH Student Poster Day. Aug 2016.

## HONORS & AWARDS

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2020      **University of Michigan J.T. Slater Award,**  
*\$1,000*

2019      **National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates Award,**  
*\$10,000*

## VOLUNTEER & SERVICE ACTIVITIES

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2023  
55.23 hrs

**Volunteer (stocking, back of house),** University District Foodbank  
*5017 Roosevelt Way NE, Seattle, WA 98105*

2020  
20 hrs

**Volunteer research assistant,** Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Biodiversity,  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan  
*Remote photo analysis identifying arthropods in soil samples*