

# Silas Pelkey

[silas587@gmail.com](mailto:silas587@gmail.com)

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## Education

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**2017 – 2021** - **Bachelor of Arts Biology Chemistry Minor**  
Oberlin College of Arts and Sciences, Oberlin OH

## Professional Experience

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### University of Washington Harvey Lab | Seattle, WA

Crew Lead

Jun 23 2025 – Sep 15 2025

- Co-lead a six-person crew of technicians to collect post forest fire data around the Pacific Northwest
- Create and maintain crew schedules to ensure data quotas are being met
- Ensure collection of quality data
- Learn and disseminate 5 new protocols Fielding any questions that may arise
- Be the point of contact between crew members and lab management
- Budget weekly meal plans
- Live in the field for 8 days at a time while preserving camp standards

### United States Geologic Survey Sequoia- Kings Canyon | Three Rivers, CA

May 6 2024 – Oct 31 2024

Biological Science Technician: Co-Crew Lead GG6 (40hrs/week)

- Work with other Co-Crew leads to create season work schedules 6 crew members
- Keep crew on task for 10hr shifts so daily goals were met
- Lead team in safety discussions and procedures
- Perform data integrity QA/QC
- Organize and lead trips into the backcountry for multiple days to collect data
- Train and oversee new crew members
- Perform all other GG5 tasks listed below

### Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands: Pohakuloa Training Area | Hilo, HI

Wildlife Biologist- Interim Hunting Coordinator (40hrs/week)

Jan 11 2024 – Apr 24 2024

- Coordinate with military officials and the public to facilitate on base hunting
- Lead the Wildlife team in organizing and preparing for public hunting
- Facilitate public hunting days
- Interface with public answering phone calls and emails related to public hunting
- Managed the public hunting program working tightly with command and LE staff to facilitate public hunts
- Comfortable with the use and creation of access databases and forms

### United States Geologic Survey Sequoia- Kings Canyon | Three Rivers, CA

May 22 2023 – Oct 26 2023

Biological Science Technician: GG5 (40hrs/week)

May 9 2022 – Nov 9 2022

- Critically observe tagged trees conditions to assess overall forest health
- Perform Browns and enhanced Browns fuels transects
- Survey Sequoiadendron Giganteas for fire effects, taking DBH, and assessing burn damage
- Maintain a coniferous forest seed fall viability study

- Collect, sort, identify, and assess viability of monitored tree species seeds
- Update monitored seed databases
- Use GPS Arrow units in combination with field maps to collect survey data
- Regularly use field equipment such as range finders, binoculars, and hatchets
- Use access and field maps data forms to collect data accurately and efficiently
- Regularly contribute to field safety discussions
- Work long days in a variety of challenging terrain

**Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands: Pohakuloa Training Area | Hilo, HI**

Wildlife Biologist (40hrs/week)

Aug 2 2021 – May 1 2022

June 16 2020 – Dec 28 2020

- Monitor and manage endangered bird and bat species
- Regularly prepare reports detailing management actions taken that quarter
- Regularly work at Hakalau National Forest Wildlife Refuge
- Familiar with camera trapping and AI integration
- Experienced with the program TimeLapse for camera trap data processing
- Lead Wildlife Technicians in the collection of data
- Regularly hike several miles a day with no trails, at 6,000 - 10,000 feet of elevation

**Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands: Pohakuloa Training Area | Hilo, HI**

Invasive Plant Control Technician (40hrs/week)

June 1 2019 – Aug 20 2019

June 1 2018 – Aug 20 2018

- Survey and control for invasive plants within native forests
- Quickly and reliably identify a variety of species
- Remove invasives chemically and mechanically
- Upkeep areas of species recovery for native endangered plants

**Research Experience**

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**Mary Garvin’s Mosquito and Ornithology Lab at Oberlin College | Oberlin, OH**

Jan 18 2021 – May 16 2021

- Performed a thorough literature review of the potential disease transmission of *Ornithonyssus sylviarum* and its role in the Eastern Equine Encephalitis life cycle
- Collaborated with a team to write a summary of findings that are the basis for future research

**Skills**

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- Technical Skills: ArcGIS, Microsoft Office Suite (including access and excel), Google Suite
- Field Skills: Confident leadership, strong wayfinding, emotionally intelligent
- Wilderness First Aid Certified

**Interests**

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- Outdoor activities: Surfing, swimming, kayaking, hiking, and backpacking
- Mesocosms
- Sports: Fencing, climbing, mountain biking