

My name is **Joseph Thomas** and I am a transfer student from the University of Delaware. Born and raised in Delaware I grew up in a very suburban and urban area with only a short drive to most major cities on the east coast. I became interested in outdoor sports as a young child being involved in Boy Scouts. Throughout high school I spent every free weekend I had driving down to Shenandoah National Park to go backpacking with friends. After leaving the University of Delaware I spent a year and a half working and WWOOFing in Northern California. During this time off I started to think more seriously about what I was truly interested in and decided to apply to Western to finish my education. Surrounded by public lands with unlimited opportunities to hike and backpack, Western offers a unique setting for a college that I had never seen before in my extensive college search. Working last summer for Curecanti National Recreation Area, I was able to get firsthand experience working for the Federal Government through which I was able to meet some amazing people from all over the world. I am now a junior student of the Geology program at Western, a member of the Geology club, a member of the Model United Nations Team and a work study employee of the Masters of Environmental Management Program as well as the ENVS program. My work with the MEM program is exciting and fascinating.



Here's the link to the [Master in Environmental Management Calendar](#)

Jobs

Unpaid Internship with the Denver Mayor's Office of Sustainability. Closing date is January 24th. Looking for part-time or full-time Intern for the winter/spring of 2016. Interns will experience a fast-paced, professional environment and will be given the opportunity to witness first-hand, the internal operations of the mayor's office of a major city, while assisting the Office of Sustainability with achieving the City's 2020 Sustainability Goals. For more information visit their website [here](#).

Rocky Mountain Research Fellowship with the Rocky Mountain Conservancy. **Deadline is Feb 1st, 2016.** This fellowship opportunity invites a broad range of research proposals to be reviewed and conducted in Rocky Mountain National Park, including wildlife management, vegetation and riparian studies, fire ecology, cultural sciences, archeology and historic structures preservation, as well as other topics in botany, zoology, geology, history, ecology and ornithology. The graduate student awarded the Research Fellowship will work with Rocky Mountain National Park staff for a period of three to four months. Applicants must submit a preliminary research proposal and the chosen fellow will be expected to convey research finding to the general public as well as to professional audiences. Scroll below for the job description or go [here](#).

Private Lands Wildlife Biologist (Wetlands Specialist) with the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies in Greeley or Sterling, CO. **Deadline is January 29th, 2016.** This position will have an emphasis on wetland wildlife conservation, by leading the effort to restore, enhance and protect key wetland and riparian habitats. Scroll below for the job description.

Private Lands Wildlife Biologist with the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, in Sturgis, South Dakota. Application deadline is **January 29th**, 2016. The position will deliver wildlife habitat conservation programs, emphasizing grassland birds, on private lands through Farm Bill funding. Will also provide technical assistance to landowners and other land managers to more fully incorporate wildlife habitat management in to their ranching operations and individual conservation efforts. Scroll below for full listing.

Graduate Assistantships with the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism. The **University of Utah's** Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism is recruiting applicants for Graduate Assistantships (doctoral level) to begin Fall Semester of 2016. Applicants wishing to be considered for financial support for a campus visit should submit the following materials before **January 15, 2016**. Visitation to campus for interested candidates will be scheduled during February. Follow this [link](#) or scroll below.

Senior Sustainability Project Coordinator at Arizona State University. Application deadline is **January 18, 2016**. Join the award winning team at Arizona State University. The office of Sustainability Practices houses a team that oversees the design and implementation of projects and programs that address ASU's sustainability goals, which include: carbon neutrality, zero water waste, active engagement and principled practice. Click [here](#) for the full job posting.

USDA Forest Service—R2 Rocky Mountain Region, Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison NF, Paonia, Colorado. **Rangeland Management Specialist**, a GS-0454-11. The vacancy announcement is 16-0209-200927G-DM which will open on **January 7, 2016 and close on January 13, 2016**. Scroll below for full listing.

Open positions through **Conservation Legacy**, with start dates of February 2016. Visit their website [here](#) to learn more about available positions.

Housing

1-bedroom attic apartment in Gunnison available March or April. 460/month + Electric/Gas/Trash (~30-60 per month). 1-year lease, no pets. Friendly neighbors, locked outdoor storage shed, off-street parking. Contact Elizabeth.moore@western.edu for photos or questions.

Training

Driver Training will be offered **Thursday, January 14th, 2016 from 2:00 to 3:00 pm** in the facilities break room. This class is necessary for any Faculty, Staff or Student that plans on driving a WSCU vehicle and are not already on the Master Driving List. Please bring driver's license in order for a copy to be made. **RSVP** to nick-ie.thompson@western.edu.



MEM hat sighting in Costa Rica. Picture courtesy of Dominique Naccarato.