

# CESAR O. ESTIEN

PhD Candidate, UC Berkeley

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## EDUCATION

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- PhD **University of California, Berkeley** August 2021 – Present  
Environmental Science, Policy, & Management  
**Dissertation:** The Ecology of Inequitable Cities  
Committee: Drs. Christopher J. Schell (Chair), Rachel Morello-Frosch,  
& Alex McInturff
- Post-Baccalaureate, University of Cincinnati** February 2021 – July 2021  
Department of Biological Sciences  
**Project:** Playbacks as a Tool for Management and Understanding  
Relationship Dynamics  
Advisor: Dr. Elizabeth A. Hobson
- BS **Florida State University** May 2020  
Biological Sciences, Minor: Chemistry  
**Independent Project:** The Influence of Microplastics on Fertilization  
Success and Sperm Availability in Purple Sea Urchins (*Arbacia punctulata*)  
Advisor: Dr. Don R. Levitan

## PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS

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- Field Assistant**, Walters Laboratory, *Hastings Natural History Reservation* August 2020 – December 2020  
**Wildlife Intern**, *Benton Lake National Wildlife Refuge Complex* June 2020 – August 2020  
**Lab Technician**, Levitan Laboratory, *Florida State University* August 2018 – May 2020  
**Research Technician**, Johnson Laboratory, *Florida State University* September 2019 – December 2019  
**Field Volunteer**, Monarch Tagging Project, *St. Francis Wildlife Association* November 2019  
**Field Technician**, Dantzer Laboratory, *Kluane Red Squirrel Project* May 2019 – August 2019  
**Research Technician**, DuVal Laboratory, *Florida State University* January 2018 – May 2018

## AWARDS & HONORS

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- ESA Trailblazing Award in Education, *Ecological Society of America Student Section* 2022  
ESA Trailblazing Award in Diversity & Inclusion, *Ecological Society of America Student Section* 2021  
Princeton EEB Scholar, *Princeton University* 2020  
Charles H. Turner Award, *Animal Behavior Society* 2020  
Dean's List, *Florida State University* Fall 2019, Spring 2020

## PUBLICATIONS \*equal contribution

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### Published

- van der Marel, A, X Francis, CL O'Connell, **CO Estien**, C Carminito, VD Moore, N Lormand, BM Kluever, & EA Hobson. 2023. Perturbations highlight importance of social history in parakeet rank dynamics. *Behavioral Ecology*. [34\(3\), 457-67.](#)
- Cheng, SJ, KM Gaynor, A Moore, K Darragh, **CO Estien**, JW Hammond, C Lawrence, K Mills, M Biaz, D Ignace, L Khadempour, M McCary, MM Rice, SJ Tumber-Davila, & JA Smith. 2023.

Championing Inclusive Terminology in Ecology and Evolution. *Trends in Ecology & Evolution*. [38\(5\), 381-84.](#)

4. Estien, CO, CL O'Connell, X Francis, G Smith-Vidaurre, BM Kluever, EA Hobson, & A van der Marel. 2022. Temporary behavioral responses to playbacks by a pest parrot and implications for management. *Animal Behavior & Cognition*. [9\(4\), 363-384.](#) **\*Post-baccalaureate project**
3. Estien, CO, M Chapman, CJ Schell, N Lowy, JR Gerson. 2022. Demystifying the graduate school application process. *Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America*. [00\(00\):e2029.](#)
2. Estien, CO, B Quintana, & D Olivares-Zambrano. 2022. Reimagining the Broader Impact Criterion in the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program. *Frontiers in Education*. [7: 977836.](#) **\*Inside HigherEd Magazine Coverage** ([link](#))
1. Estien, CO\*, EB Myron\*, CA Oldfield, & A Alwin; Ecological Society of America Student Section. 2021. Virtual Scientific Conferences: Benefits and How to Support Underrepresented Students. *Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America*. [102\(2\):e01859.](#)

### In Revision

- Estien, CO\*, EJ Carlen\*, & CJ Schell. Multi-city case studies across the United States reveal the influence of city history and societal inequity on participatory science data. *Ecology & Society*
- Carlen, EJ\*, CO Estien\*, T Caspi, DJ Perkins, B Goldstein, SES Kreling, Y Hentati, TD Williams, LA Stanton, S Des Roches, R Johnson, A Young, CB Cooper, & CJ Schell. A framework for contextualizing socio-ecological biases in participatory science data. *People & Nature*
- Estien, CO. A More Intimate Ecology: Reframing the Relationship between the Researcher and the Research(ed). *Catalyst: Feminism, Theory, & Technoscience*. Preprint: <https://doi.org/10.32942/X2SK5H>. **\*Sierra Magazine Coverage** ([link](#))

### In Review

- van der Marel, A, X Francis, CL O'Connell, CO Estien, C Carminito, & EA Hobson. Perturbations of key individuals trigger shifts in group-level dominance patterns. *Current Biology*. Preprint: <https://ecoevorxiv.org/9qyb2/>
- Moore, A et al. [including CO Estien and 13 other co-authors]. Queer Black Voices in Conservation. *Conservation Biology*.
- Williams, TD, SES Kreling, LA Stanton, CE Wilkinson, CO Estien, CJ Schell & EJ Carlen. Of Rarity and Symbolism: Understanding the Human Social Perceptions of Charismatic Color Morphs. *Human Ecology*. Preprint: <https://doi.org/10.21203/rs.3.rs-3222187/v1>

### In Prep

- Estien, CO, CE Wilkinson, R Morello-Frosch, & CJ Schell. Legacy effects of redlining on faunal biodiversity in California. **\*1<sup>st</sup> chapter of dissertation**
- Rice, MM et al. [including CO Estien and 14 other co-authors]. Assessing and identifying harmful language in ecology and evolution.

### Select Media Articles

- Estien, CO [Social-Ecological Frameworks and What the Future May Hold](#). *Life in the City: Evolution in an Urbanizing World*. May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Estien, CO [What's Missing in Urban Ecology?](#) *Life in the City: Evolution in an Urbanizing World*. May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Estien, CO [How Do We Begin To Center Environmental Justice?](#) *Life in the City: Evolution in an Urbanizing World*. August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

## FELLOWSHIPS & GRANTS total > \$200,000

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### Research & Outreach Grants

Oliver B. Lyman Award ( <b>\$3,812</b> ), <i>UC Berkeley Wildlife &amp; Fisheries Program</i>	2022
William Simes Research Award ( <b>\$1,000</b> ), <i>Hastings Natural History Reservation</i>	2022
Community Fund for Carmel Valley ( <b>\$2,992</b> ), <i>Monterey County</i>	2021
Carol Baird Graduate Research Award ( <b>\$25,000</b> ), <i>University of California</i>	2021

### Fellowships

Graduate Research Fellowship ( <b>\$102,000 + tuition/fees</b> ), <i>National Science Foundation</i>	2023 – 2026
Chancellor's Fellowship for Graduate Study ( <b>\$68,000 + tuition/fees</b> ), <i>UC Berkeley</i>	2021 – 2023

### Conference Related Grants

Travel Award ( <b>\$500</b> ), <i>Ecological Society of America</i>	2023
Broadening Participation Award ( <b>\$2500</b> ), <i>Animal Behavior Society</i>	2023
Travel Award ( <b>\$800</b> ), <i>SEEP Workshop</i>	2023
Travel Award ( <b>\$800 - declined</b> ), <i>International Association for Landscape Ecology</i>	2023
Travel Award ( <b>\$600</b> ), <i>Ecological Society of America</i>	2022
ESA Trailblazing in Education Travel Award ( <b>\$500</b> ), <i>Ecological Society of America Student Section</i>	2022
Travel Grant ( <b>\$1500</b> ), <i>UC Berkeley Graduate Division</i>	2022
Travel Award ( <b>\$1500</b> ), <i>SEEP Workshop</i>	2022
Registration Grant ( <b>\$35</b> ), <i>Urban Wildlife Working Group</i>	2021
ESA SEEDS Travel Grant ( <b>travel costs + registration</b> ), <i>Ecological Society of America</i>	2020

## PRESENTATIONS & PANELS \*invited

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### Talks (S = symposium; D = department seminar; T = research talk)

- Estien, CO**, CE Wilkinson, R Morello-Frosch, & CJ Schell. Historical redlining is associated with urban ecosystem health and heterogeneity in biodiversity. August 2023. "Justice First: Interdisciplinary Approaches in Environmental Justice Research and Efforts" Symposium. *Ecological Society of America*. (S\*) **\*1<sup>st</sup> chapter of dissertation**
- Estien, CO**, LA Stanton, & CJ Schell. Risky Landscapes: Social-ecological heterogeneity and risk-prone behavior in mesocarnivores. July 2023. *Animal Behavior Society*. (T) **\*2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of dissertation**
- Estien, CO**. Street Smarts: The social and ecological factors driving carnivore boldness. *Hastings Natural History Reservation*. June 2023. (T\*)
- Estien, CO**, CE Wilkinson, R Morello-Frosch, & CJ Schell. Historical redlining is associated with urban ecosystem health and heterogeneity in biodiversity. June 2023. "One Health in Wild Cities" Symposium. *International Urban Wildlife Conference*. June 2023. (S\*) **\*1<sup>st</sup> chapter of dissertation**
- Estien, CO**. From Fields to Concrete Jungles: Exploring how Landscape Differences May Yield Behavioral Variability. *BairdFest Symposium*. March 2023. (T)
- Estien, CO**. [A More Intimate Ecology: Reimagining the Relationship between the Researcher and the Research\(ed\)](#). December 2022. Behavior, Ecology, and Evolution (BEE) Seminar Series. *University of Leeds*. (D\*)
- Estien, CO**, A. van der Marel, & EA Hobson. Playback Responses as a Tool to Understand Relationship Dynamics. July 2022. "Social competency: an integrative approach to understanding connections between social information, decision-making, and cognition" Symposium. *Animal Behavior Society* (S\*) **\*Post-baccalaureate project**
- Estien, CO**. [The Village Makes the Person](#). January 2022. Wildlife & Conservation Biology Seminar Series. *University of California, Berkeley* (D\*)

**Estien, CO.** The Influence of Microplastics on Fertilization Success and Sperm Availability in Purple Sea Urchins (*Arbacia punctulata*). October 2020. Princeton Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Scholar Program. *Princeton University* (T) **\*Undergraduate independent project**

### Posters

**Estien, CO,** LA Stanton, & CJ Schell. Mesocarnivore Behavior in a Periurban Gardenscape. May 2022. *SEEP Conference/Workshop*. **\*2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of dissertation**

**Estien, CO,** EB Myron, CA Oldfield, A Alwin & Ecological Society of America Student Section. Virtual Scientific Conference: Benefits and How to Support Underrepresented Students. August 2021. *Animal Behavior Society Conference*.

**Estien, CO,** K Olsen, & DR Levitan. The Influence of Microplastics on Fertilization Success and Sperm Availability in Purple Sea Urchins (*Arbacia punctulata*). August 2020. *Ecological Society of America Conference*. **\*Undergraduate independent project**

### Co-Authored Presentations (S = Symposium; T = Talk; P = Poster)

Schell, CJ, T Caspi, **CO Estien,** & BN Sacks. Stressed out: environmental health predicts variability in coyote ecophysiology in San Francisco, CA. August 2023. “Justice First: Interdisciplinary Approaches in Environmental Justice Research and Efforts” Symposium. *Ecological Society of America Conference*. (S\*)

Stanton, LA, **CO Estien,** & CJ Schell. Stress and the City: Using conservation behavior to improve urban living for humans and wildlife. July 2023. “Effects of Anthropogenic Stressors” Symposium. *Animal Behavior Society*. (S\*)

Stanton, LA, **CO Estien,** & CJ Schell. Cognition and the City: Exploring how social-ecological factors shape urban carnivore cognition and problem-solving. June 2023. *International Urban Wildlife Conference*. (T)

Carlen, EA, **CO Estien,** & CJ Schell. Inequity’s Cloud: The Bias in Participatory Science Data. June 2023. *International Urban Wildlife Conference*. (T)

Tumber-Davilla et al. (**including Estien, CO**). Championing Inclusive Terminology in Ecology and Evolution. ESA Inspire Session: Decolonizing and Diversifying Ecology. August 2022. *Ecological Society of America Conference*. (T)

Stanton, LA, **CO Estien,** JK Young, J Lambert, & CJ Schell. The effect of dietary supplementation on the cognitive performance of coyotes. July 2022. *Animal Behavior Society Conference*. (T)

### Panels

*Pride in our Future, <i>Exploratorium</i>	June 2023
*Early Career Researchers, <i>California Academy of Sciences</i>	June 2023
*Diversity and Identity in Biodiversity Science Careers, <i>California Academy of Sciences</i>	May 2023
* <a href="#">Africa Diaspora and Intersectionality in Mammalogy</a> , <i>Black Mammalogists</i>	May 2022
*SEEDS Career Pathways, <i>University of California, Berkeley</i>	April 2022
*Student Research in Ecology and Evolution (Panel), <i>Syracuse University</i>	November 2021
Perspective about Diversity in Skill Development, <i>ESA Student Section</i>	January 2021
*Student Research in Ecology and Evolution, <i>Syracuse University</i>	November 2020
*Opportunities for Summer STEM Research, <i>Florida State University</i>	October 2019

## TEACHING & MENTORING

### Guest Lectures

**Conservation & Innovation,** (Instructor: Dan Zevin; University of California, Berkeley): guest lecture on environmental justice and urban ecosystems (Fall 2023)

- Evolutionary Behavioral Ecology**, (Instructor: Jessica Cuscik; Utah Valley University): guest lecture on urban ecology (Fall 2023)
- Conservation & Innovation**, (Instructor: Dan Zevin; University of California, Berkeley): guest lecture on societal inequity and environmental justice (Spring 2023)
- Race & Environmental Biology, IB 110** (Instructor: Esther Ngumbi; University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign): guest lecture on how societal inequity and environmental racism influences urban ecosystems (Fall 2022)
- Intro to Methods of Environmental Science, ESPM 100ES** (Instructor: Patina Mendez; University of California, Berkeley): guest lecture on building a research question, crafting hypotheses, and preliminary doctoral research (Spring 2022)

### Mentorship

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|---|------------------------|
| Esteban Contreras (UC Berkeley; undergraduate student)  | Feb 2023 – Present     |
| Vishal Subramanian (UC Berkeley; undergraduate student) | April 2022 – Present   |
| Nicole Cantangay (UC Berkeley; undergraduate student)   | Feb 2023 – May 2023    |
| Sarah Smith (FSU; undergraduate student)                | August 2019 – May 2020 |

## SCIENCE COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH \*invited

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### Science Communication

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| Contributor, <i>Life in the City: Urban Evolution Blog</i> | August 2020 – Present |
| #SciQFriday <a href="#">Guest</a> , <i>Twitter</i>         | August 2020           |

### Media

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|--|-------------|
| “Urban Ecology” on <a href="#">K9 Conservationists Podcasts</a>  | August 2023 |
| “Word for Word” Interview in <a href="#">DEI Newsletter</a> , <i>University of California - Berkeley</i> | July 2023   |
| <a href="#">“What is Queer Ecology?”</a> , Interview in <i>Sierra Magazine</i>                           | June 2023   |

### Outreach

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|---|----------------------|
| *Open House Event, <i>Hastings Natural History Reservation</i>                        | June 2023            |
| <a href="#">P.E.N. Outreach Program</a> , <i>Hastings Natural History Reservation</i> | May 2023             |
| Office Hours for Graduate School, <i>UC Berkeley: ESPM</i>                            | November 2022        |
| *Diversity Forum, <i>SEEDS Program at ESA Conference 2022</i>                         | August 2022          |
| Pride Nightlife Event, <i>California Academy of Sciences</i>                          | June 2022            |
| <a href="#">P.E.N. Outreach Program</a> , <i>Hastings Natural History Reservation</i> | May 2022             |
| *Issues in Diversity and Inclusion, <i>Walters Lab</i>                                | April 2022           |
| Real Talk Buddies Mentoring Program, <i>University of California, Berkeley</i>        | March 2022 – Present |
| Undergrad-Grad Pipeline, <i>UC Berkeley: ESPM</i>                                     | February 2022        |
| *STEM Day (Keynote Speaker for 8 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> grade), <i>Metas</i> | November 2021        |
| Office Hours for Graduate School, <i>UC Berkeley: ESPM</i>                            | October 2021         |
| “Trophic Level Pyramid Activity”, Involvement Fair, <i>Florida State University</i>   | September 2019       |
| “SustainabiliTEA”, University Housing, <i>Florida State University</i>                | October 2017         |

## PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

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| Real Talk Buddies Mentoring Program, Core Organizer, <i>UC Berkeley</i>            | March 2022 – Present         |
| Co-Chair, <i>Ecological Society of America: Environmental Justice Section</i>      | September 2021 – Present     |
| Outreach & Marketing Coord., <i>Ecological Society of America: Student Section</i> | September 2020 – August 2021 |
| President & Co-founder, <i>FSU Ecological Society of America SEEDS Chapter</i>     | January 2019 – May 2020      |



## ACADEMIC & PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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### Peer Review

Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution (1x)  
 Animal Behavior and Cognition (1x)

### Award Review

Charles H. Turner Award Reviewer, *Animal Behavior Society* May 2021

### Professional Society Service

ESA Visioning Project, *Ecological Society of America* January 2023  
 Symposia/Special Session Reviewer, *Ecological Society of America* November 2022  
 Symposia/Special Session Reviewer, *Ecological Society of America* November 2021  
 Search Committee: EIC for the Bulletin of ESA, *Ecological Society of America* May 2021 – October 2021  
 Abstract Reviewer, *Ecological Society of America* March 2021

### Department/University Service

Undergrad Outreach, *Graduate Diversity Council, UC Berkeley: ESPM* August 2021 – May 2022

### Organized Conference Events

Environmental Justice Symposium, *Ecological Society of America* August 2023  
 Modeling Workshop, *Ecological Society of America* August 2023  
 Think Globally, Act Locally Special Session, *Ecological Society of America* August 2023  
 Modeling Workshop, *Ecological Society of America* August 2022

## TRAINING / SKILLS

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*Computer Software:* RStudio, Raven Sound, VLC media player, ImageJ, ArceGIS Pro, ArcGIS Collector on iPad, ArcPad 10, BORIS, Microsoft Word, Microsoft PowerPoint, Adobe Illustrator, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access, Movie Studio Platinum 13.0 Some experience with: Netlogo, Ecos Database

*Animals Handling and Care:* Palping and collaring of small mammals, Mist-netting and avian extraction, Adult and juvenile avian handling (measurements), Identification of stress behavior and attitude

*Field Work:* Live trapping, Telemetry, Tree climbing, GPS use/navigation, Working in bear country, Working alone in remote backcountry in northern latitudes, Proficient at navigating in backcountry environments and bushwhacking, Hiking 10-15km per day, Trimble/Garmin, Recognize and conduct behavioral observations on uniquely marked individuals (e.g., ear tags w/ color combination, avian color bands), Use of scope and binoculars for avian surveys and re-sighting color bands, Plant surveying (DBH tape use, invasive plant survey), Avian nest-searching, Camera-Traps, ATV/Mules, Marantz

*Laboratory Work:* Preparation of solutions, Microscopes, Dissections, Autoclave, Data Entry, Database Management, Hemocytometer Use, Growth and maintenance of algae, Preparation of sediment, water, and avian eggs for selenium testing, Some experience with: Inducing spawning in Sea Urchins, Use of microsatellites, DNA extraction