



## Katie O'Connor

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**Conservation Biology Institute**  
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Katie O'Connor focuses on promoting enhanced collaboration, policy decisions, and data collection for land managers and citizen science. Katie brings over a decade of experience serving in technical science positions and a proven track record of successful partnership coordination and communication; along with the collection, analysis, and visualization of many types of geospatial data and other information. Project partners have ranged from federal agencies to local Friends groups, with equally successful outcomes. Specialized training and experience has included qualitative data collection and analysis, managing and transforming conflict, mediation, and community-based social marketing. Katie's strengths include communicating technical information in an engaging and approachable way, maintaining diplomacy and poise under any circumstance, attention to detail, and successfully working with diverse people.

### EDUCATION

M.S. Water Resources Policy and Management, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR.  
2011. Thesis: *Values and Beliefs that Lead to Watershed Volunteerism*  
B.S. Environmental Science (Geologic Focus), Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL. 2004.

*"Basic Mediation Training"* (34 hours) (interest-based approach), Resolutions Northwest, 2016

*"Facilitation Skills Enhancement"*, Resolutions Northwest, 2014

*"Water Conflict Management and Transformation"*, Oregon State University, 2010

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2012 – Present. **Project Manager/ Facilitator, Conservation Biology Institute, Corvallis, OR**

2012 – 2013. **Coordinator, West Willamette Restoration Partnership, Portland, OR**

2010 – 2011. **Intern—Stream Stewards Program Research and Development (EPA funded), City of Corvallis, Public Works, Corvallis, OR**

2008 – 2009. **Intern—Sub-Watershed Improvement Strategies Assessment Assistant, City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services, Willamette Watershed Team, Portland, OR**



2005 – 2007. **Environmental Consultant, Alpha Environmental Services, Inc.,**  
Portland, OR

## **SELECT PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

### **Working Group Coordinator, Oregon Habitat Connectivity Coalition (2016-present)**

Meeting coordination and facilitation for a group that has grown to 12 representatives. Guiding development of group structure. Engaging new members. Creating and maintaining shared documents on Google Docs. Aggregating and sharing geospatial data on Data Basin.

### **Project Manager, Online Viewer Development, Willamette Valley Conservation Study (USFWS & North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative) (2016-17)**

Performed overall project management and client engagement duties for development of online data visualization tool. Tool is intended to add transparency and utility to US Fish and Wildlife Willamette Valley Conservation Study data.

### **Project Coordinator, Online Viewer Development, Pacific Marine Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership (North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative) (2016-present)**

Leading stakeholder engagement to determine focus and content for online data visualization tool developed by CBI. Tool is intended to enhance understanding of importance of estuaries for commercial fisheries, and to make existing data more accessible.

### **Facilitator, BLM Sagebrush Climate Tools Workshop (BLM, Idaho) (2016)**

Facilitated all-day land manager workshop to gather feedback on creating usable decision support tools. Developed and implemented qualitative research methods for workshop. Focused on three online tools: Sagebrush Climate Console, Seedlot Selection Tool, 3D Landscape Simulator.

### **Needs Assessment Analysis and Report Writing, California Statewide Energy Planning (California Energy Commission (CEC)) (2016)**

Performed qualitative data collection, analysis and report writing for NCCP monitoring and management case study in San Diego County. Project goal was to identify needs within the workflow of land managers and biologists that, if met, would increase the effectiveness of their management.

### **Client and Stakeholder Engagement, Water Planning Information Exchange (PIE) Pilot (California Department of Water Resources (DWR)) (2016)**

Facilitated stakeholder engagement in online workshop to understand workflow and user interface needs for California groundwater data. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is developing the Water Planning Information Exchange (Water PIE) to promote integrated regional water management through data sharing.



**Data Sub-Committee Participant, Oak Prairie Working Group, Portland, OR**  
(*Intertwine Alliance*) (2014-present)

Participant in “OakQuest” citizen science project. Member of working group. Collaborating with Metro and Kingfisher Ecological to upload OakQuest final data to Data Basin. Providing training to working group on Data Basin. Member of Data Sub-Committee to guide future mapping efforts.

**Data Acquisition Lead, San Joaquin Valley Least Conflict Solar** (*Multi-stakeholder*)  
(2015)

Acquired data for inclusion in the San Joaquin Valley Gateway. The Gateway has been created to support a multi-stakeholder effort to identify least conflict lands for solar development in the San Joaquin Valley in Central California. Data acquisition included extensive communication with contacts at each county within the San Joaquin Valley to acquire and process data that was not otherwise available.

**Project Coordinator for Utah and Colorado Plateau Aquatic and Terrestrial Intactness Analysis** (*Utah DWR and BLM*) (2014-15)

Coordinated a collaborative Terrestrial and Aquatic Intactness model development process with 16 stakeholders and acquired and reviewed data inputs for Aquatic and Terrestrial Intactness models. CBI was updating the previous terrestrial landscape intactness and aquatic intactness models for the Colorado Plateau ecoregion and extending the model to cover the entire state of Utah.

**Facilitator, Aquatics Group, Pacific Northwest Ecosystem Resilience Workshop**  
(*USDA Forest Service*) (2014)

Facilitated the selection of aquatic system related actions to address climate change within the Pacific Northwest Ecosystem Resilience Network focus area, using the Adaptation for Conservation Targets (ACT) framework at a CBI hosted [workshop](#).

**SELECT PRESENTATIONS**

[Mapping aquatic condition to facilitate informed management decisions](#). Conservation Biology Institute webinar. 2015

Data and maps for communication and collaboration. Oregon Conservation Education & Assistance Network (OCEAN) Conference. 2014

Fostering sustainable behavior: Community-based social marketing. Conservation Biology Institute Staff Retreat. 2014

Changes to hydrologic ecosystem services following the removal of marmot dam. Portland State University joint Environmental Conference. 2009.

Comprehensive study of the mechanism for displacement of groundwater contaminants at Pagel’s Pit and Acme Solvents Superfund sites, Northcentral Illinois. Geological Society of America, Northcentral Conference. 2003.