

Kovas S. Zygas

Seattle, WA | kzygas5@gmail.com | (708) 250-2903 | linkedin.com/in/KovasZygas

OBJECTIVE STATEMENT

With Bachelor's degrees in Geology and Physics, I am seeking opportunities to facilitate environmental projects through the combination of my experience in conducting fieldwork and historical research, with my strong quantitative, analytical skills and work ethic.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Staff Environmental Scientist

April 2018 - Present

Adapt Engineering (Seattle, WA)

- Providing technical support for the characterization and evaluation of potentially contaminated commercial properties
- Conducting site historical research, data management and evaluation
- Conducting Phase I Environmental Site Assessments pursuant to ASTM standards
- Assisting with groundwater, soil, and sub-slab soil vapor sampling – knowledge of soil classification standards
- Writing technical reports and creating figures with imaging programs such as Canvas X and Microsoft PowerPoint
- Maintaining effective communication with clients, project staff, and project managers

Geophysical Field Assistant

Contract: June 2018

P.H. Duoos Geophysical Consulting (Deming, WA)

- Provided technical field support for seismic refraction surveys for the characterization of bedrock stratigraphic and structural conditions
- Demonstrated good communication and teamwork skills in the field while collecting data and operating geophysical equipment

Environmental Restoration Field Specialist & Herbicide Manager

Mar 2018 - Present

Garden Cycles (Seattle, WA)

- Conducting environmental restoration fieldwork to enhance the ecological function of disturbed ecosystems
- Collaborating as a team with other specialists and project managers to implement established best management practices of restoration
- Assisting in the preparation of project work plans; monitoring and maintaining project sites
- Strong knowledge of Pacific Northwest ecological habitats, botany, and environmental restoration theory and practices
- Licensed Washington Department of Agriculture pesticide operator - monitoring herbicide applications and preparing pesticide reports

Environmental Restoration Field Technician (AmeriCorps Service Member)

Mar 2017 - Dec 2017

EarthCorps (Seattle, WA)

- Conducted environmental restoration fieldwork, implementing projects in wetland systems, riparian corridors, shorelines, and forests
- Operated GPS equipment to locate critical features, to map project site boundaries, and to orient field crews on-site
- Application of chemical herbicides, physical removal of invasive plants, and installation of green stormwater infrastructure
- Prepared field reports; executed work plans and demonstrated problem-solving skills, while operating and maintaining field equipment
- Developed professional teamwork skills: coordinating activities with clients, team members, project managers, and land agencies

Crew Leader & Customer Service Representative

May 2014 - Aug 2016

College Muscle Movers (St. Paul, MN)

- Supervising and leading a crew of employees, while coordinating on-site activities with clients and project operations team
- Developed skills in professional leadership, communication, problem solving on work-sites, and providing excellent customer service

Farm Technician Intern

Jan 2013 - Jan 2014

Green Spirit Farms - Sustainable Vertical Farming (New Buffalo, MI)

- Sampled and collected data on water pH levels and electrical conductivity - prepared daily data logs, and regulated reservoirs' nutrient content, temperature, and acidity in support of farm operations and exploratory Research & Development team

EDUCATION

B.A. Geology & Physics, *cum laude*

GPA: 3.67

Macalester College (St. Paul, MN)

Graduated May, 2016

Independent Undergraduate Research Theses:

“Detrital Zircon Geochronology on the Quetico subprovince, NE Minnesota: Implications for the Archean Accretionary Prism Model”

“ZnO Thin Films Generated by Ex-Situ Thermal Oxidation of Metallic Zn for Photovoltaic Applications”

- Management and evaluation of analytical data on Excel; Generating and analyzing large quantitative datasets

Relevant Coursework: Chemistry, Sedimentology, Surface & Groundwater Hydrology, Geomorphology, Differential Equations, Mineralogy

Field Geology (Dillon, MT)

University of Minnesota - Twin Cities

Completed August, 2016

- Conducted field mapping activities, prepared cross-sections and created geologic maps; documented field observations in field reports
- Performed field data collection, field sampling, and site research; compiled and analyzed field data

SKILLS SUMMARY

- Advanced skills in analytical and quantitative thinking; proficient in data entry and management of large quantitative data sets
- Knowledge of Pacific Northwest geology; proficient in Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel); clear writing and communication skills
- Experience with aquifer test methods, groundwater probing, streamflow gauging, assessing stream morphology; testing soil permeability
- Team Captain of Macalester College Men's Varsity Soccer: helped lead team to an undefeated regular season & conference championship