

zachary a. cava

610-304-9141 | cava.zachary@gmail.com | zacharycava.net

WORK EXPERIENCE

Biologist

Dudek, Sacramento, CA. (January 2020 – Present)

- Provide biological monitoring for California Tiger Salamander and other sensitive species
- Authorized to handle and relocate salamanders found within the project site

Biologist

WRA, Inc., San Rafael, CA. (December 2019 – Present)

- Provide biological monitoring for California Tiger Salamander and other sensitive species
- Excavate burrows to prevent entrapment of California Tiger Salamanders
- Conduct surveys for Burrowing Owls

Biologist

The Wildlife Project, Sacramento, CA. (November 2019 – Present)

- Check pit-fall traps for California Tiger Salamanders
- Handle and relocate salamanders
- Conduct research and edit manuscripts for publication

Staff Biologist

Eric C. Hansen Biological Consulting, Sacramento, CA. (August 2018 – November 2019)

- Participated in field studies, trainings, and/or biological monitoring of the federally and state-protected Giant Gartersnake (*Thamnophis gigas*), California Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*), and California Red-legged Frog (*Rana draytonii*)
- Built, deployed, and maintained traps; recorded data for occupancy/demography studies
- Handled / transported snakes; recorded morphometric data; marked by branding + PIT tags

Turtle Technician

The Orianne Society, GA & FL, (March – June 2018)

- Performed statewide inventories for Spotted Turtles in Georgia and Florida
- Located turtles by trapping and visual encounter surveys
- Processed turtles for mark-recapture (morphometrics, tissue collection, notching)
- Assessed habitat suitability / characterize habitat features

Salamander Technician

FL Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, Liberty Co., FL, (October 2017 – March 2018)

- Assisted with projects focused on conservation of the Frosted Flatwoods Salamander
- Installed and monitored drift fence arrays
- Searched for and collected eggs for captive rearing

Project Lead

Tifft Nature Preserve, Buffalo, NY, (January 2016)

- Prepared feasibility assessment for the enhancement of vernal pool habitats

EDUCATION

SUNY Buffalo State, Buffalo, NY

Master of Arts, August 2016

Department of Biology

Thesis: Behavioral differences between native and exotic invertebrate prey affect susceptibility to predation by a native amphibian predator

Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY

Bachelor of Arts, December 2009

Major/Minor: Biology /
Environmental Studies

(magna cum laude)

HONORS + AWARDS

Outstanding Master's Thesis Award,
SUNY Buffalo State, Buffalo, NY (2017)

V. Ray Frederick Research Grant,
SUNY Buffalo State, Buffalo, NY (2015)

HSBC Commit-to-Change Grant,
Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY (2009)

Bernard Scholarship, Ithaca College,
Ithaca, NY (2008)

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WORK EXPERIENCE (CONTINUED)

Authorized Biologist

The Sanberg Group, NV/CA (November 2012 – July 2014)

- Conducted preconstruction surveys for desert tortoise and other sensitive species
- Performed biological compliance monitoring during construction activities
- Supervised biological monitors during construction activities
- Prepared daily field monitoring reports documenting project progress

Telemetry Technician

Great Basin Institute, Las Vegas, NV (March – May 2012; May 2014)

- Tracked tortoises in continuous circuit throughout the day using radiotelemetry
- Collected data on tortoise activity patterns

Biological Science Technician (GS-0404-06)

U.S. Geological Survey/Western Ecological Research Center, Las Vegas Field Station, Henderson, NV (January 2011 – February 2012)

- Tracked telemetered tortoises and gathered data for a large-scale translocation
 - Characterized habitats utilized by tortoises
 - Affixed, removed, and repaired radio transmitters, floy tags, and temperature loggers
 - Conducted tortoise health assessments, including tissue sampling, rehydration, X-rays
 - Surveyed transects for unmarked tortoises and signs of canid/lagomorph presence
 - Excavated tortoise nests and collected eggs for incubation
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PEER-REVIEWED CERTIFICATIONS

Cava, Z. A., A. M. McMillan, C. M. Pennuto, and R. J. Warren II. 2018. Hellbender prey preference is superseded by native and nonnative prey behavior. *Journal of Herpetology*. 52(2):162-170.

Buhlmann, K. A., S. L. Koch, B. O. Butler, T. D. Tuberville, V. J. Palermo, B. A. Bastarache, and Z. A. Cava. 2015. Reintroduction and head-starting: tools for Blanding's turtle (*Emydoidea blandingii*) conservation. *Herpetological Conservation and Biology*, 10(1):436-454.

Cava, Z. A. 2012. Herpetological history. A chelonian Civil War veteran. *Herpetological Review*. 43(4):593-596.

Cava, Z. A. and M. Barbour. 2010. Geographic distribution. *Lampropeltis zonata*. *Herpetological Review*. 41(1):110-111.

CERTIFICATIONS

American Red Cross First Aid Training
(Standard First Aid + Adult CPR/AED;
February 17, 2011–2014)

American Safety and Health Institute
(ASHI) Wilderness First Aid Training
(March 11, 2012–2014)

OSHA 10-Hour Construction Safety
training (July 2012)

Fort Irwin NTC Range Support Safety
Training (October 1, 2012–2013)