

Kyra Lunderstedt | *MSc Environmental Science*

PROFILE

As a qualified Environmental Scientist, I have an interest in landscape ecology, land cover change, land degradation, social-ecological systems and knowledge management for the purpose of learning and communication. Currently, I am working in the Project Management Unit to a large Global Environment Facility funded project at UNDP. The project operates across four South African landscapes to enhance the adoption of Sustainable Land Management. I enjoy engaging technically with work on the ground and understanding the complexity of each system. Through my research, I have become passionate about the Subtropical Thicket Biome and serve on the committee for the Thicket Forum. I am passionate about and energized by ecosystems and actively seek enjoyment from plant and bird identification. In addition, I am an artist and enjoy using my creative skill to enhance the presentation of information that bridges the gap between science and communication.

QUALIFICATIONS, COURSES & SKILLS

MSc Environmental Science | Quantifying Degraded Subtropical Thicket Structure and Composition: a multi-scale approach »

BSc Hons Environmental Science

Courses in: Extended GIS, Fundamentals of Remote Sensing, Systems Dynamics and Thinking, Ecological Modelling, Savanna Ecology, Wetland Ecology, Veld Management

Skills: GIS, community participatory mapping, botanical identification, knowledge management, participatory monitoring, evaluations, reflection and learning (PMERL), impact communication.

EXPERIENCE & KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) | 2019- present

Project Assistant, GEF5 Sustainable Land Management Project

- Responsible for organising project admin, maintaining financial records, communicating and reporting on project activities and impact, ensuring knowledge management and monitoring of activities.
- Currently supporting the development of the GEF5 SLM project website, implementing PMERL and managing the project twitter page »
- Organised a Drone Users Conference in Conservation & Agriculture with EWT and Western Cape Department of Agriculture and compiled the proceedings »
- Contributed to the technical development of the Sustainable Wildlife Economies Project (SWEP) »

Rhodes Restoration Research Group | 2017-2019

GIS & Knowledge Manager: Tsitsa Project »

Researcher: Subtropical Thicket

- Developed a Knowledge Management Strategy and proposed a better integration with PMERL for the Tsitsa Project.
- Conducted community participatory mapping exercises and reporting using Google Earth to map natural resource management priorities.
- Spatial mapping and reporting of illegal deforestation and identification of intact sites for avoided degradation planning with the Green Scorpions.
- Co-authored the Subtropical Thicket Research and Praxis Strategy.

Independent Consulting | 2016-2017

Botanical and GIS specialist

- Contributed to Specialist Botanical Assessments of EIAs for Citrus and Wind Farms in the Eastern Cape with EOH Coastal Environmental Services.

- Compiled 24G applications and Environmental Management Plans.

Pandaw River Expeditions | 2016

Guest relations officer (Thailand, Myanmar, Cambodia, Laos)

- Assisted Chief Operations Officer in preparing large river boats for charters.
- Assisted ship purser and staff to host guests and ensure needs were met.
- Promoted to Shore Manager for the 9-boat fleet on the Irrawaddy River.

Rhodes Restoration Research Group | 2013-2015

Intern and researcher

- Conducted field work, maintained records and reported on carbon & biodiversity baselines of the Addo Baviaans and Fish River Project on over 100 plots.
- Primary responsibility was plant species identification and information and GPS record keeping for long-term monitoring.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- Thicket Forum 2012-2019
- Society of Ecological Restoration- 2019
- Knowledge Symposium- EU Partnership Dialogue - 2019
- Afr100- 3rd partnership meeting- 2018

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

- Committee member of the Thicket Forum [↗](#)
- Member of the Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers (CREW)
- Council member of the National Botanical Society of South Africa