

Shannon Switzer Swanson, PhD

Contact

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Skills

Cross-cultural collaboration
Visionary & Strategic Planning
Complex Project Dvpt. & Mgt
Science Communication
Multilingual Professional Proficiency

Education

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
MARINE CONSERVATION**
Stanford University
2015-2022

**MASTERS OF COASTAL
MANAGEMENT**
Duke University
2013-2015

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF ARTS
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES**
University of California, Santa Barbara
2001-2005

Professional Summary

Culturally responsive strategic project manager with 17 years of experience designing, funding, directing, and executing complex conservation research and storytelling projects and expeditions.

Work Experience

Key Partnership Building

as Assistant Prof, CSUSM | 2022-Present

- Re-envisioned & restructured CSUSM's senior capstone course in the environment
- Developed new relationships with 15 community partner organizations (e.g. Surfrider) and paired with students to design & execute conservation projects
- Advising PhD project on nature-based financing mechanisms: e.g. blue carbon & biodiversity credits

International Project Development

as Doctoral Fellow at Stanford | 2015-2022

- Designed & executed complex, multi-year, cross-cultural, mixed methods conservation study in the Indo-Pacific on fisheries interactions with MPAs
- Collaborated with Indonesian universities & government agencies to secure necessary funding, ethics approvals, visas, and permits
- Fostered positive working relationships across diverse stakeholders (fishermen & women, non-profit conservation staff, & government authorities)

Nuanced Science Communication

as Nat Geo Explorer | 2010-present

- Co-hosted primetime TV documentary for the Nat Geo Channel on water conservation in the west
- Extensive public speaking & presentations
- Published online & print content stemming from various NGS-funded projects (Early Career, Collaboration, & Young Explorer)