

Andrew Balder
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EDUCATION

Auburn University - Auburn, AL August 2022- August 2024
Master of Science in Natural Resources

University of Mississippi - Oxford, MS August 2017 – May 2021
Bachelor of Arts in Biology,
Environmental Studies Minor

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Auburn University - Auburn, AL August 2022- Present
Dr. Christopher Anderson's, Wetland and Riparian Ecology Lab
College of Forestry, Wildlife, and Environment
Graduate Research Assistant

University of Mississippi - Oxford, MS August 2019 - Dec 2020
Dr. Steve Brewer's Ecology Lab
School of Biology
Undergraduate Research Assistant

Effects of Burning and Thinning Treatments on the Abundance of Oak and Non-Oak Sapling Species in a North Mississippi Forest:

My independent study project focuses on population dynamics in a Mississippi forest in response to fire treatment. It targeted oak species' sapling distributions; how their rejuvenation success was altered by the nontargeted species, such as sweetgum/elm, after treatment. This was through tagging and measuring saplings in the experimental post-treatment and natural rejuvenation in the fire-suppressed control plots. The targeted outcome of treatment was to return a previously fire-suppressed highland forest to its native historical forest landscape. Duties include data collection through on spot identifications, data analysis (such as ANOVA/PVA), assisting with on-site treatment, project planning and literature study, collaboration with other students and external faculty

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Strawberry Plains Audubon Center - Holly Springs, MS May 2019 - Aug 2019
Undergraduate Research Volunteer (Intern)

Ecological Restoration Project: Development of a suitable native habitat for visitors and wildlife alike. Studied over the course of the summer of various microhabitats throughout the Audubon Center. I sampled and collected dozens of plant species into a pamphlet to give to visitors of the center. Duties included: database and organization skills, media preparation, identification of native wildlife, field collection of samples

Bluebird Migration Project: Surviving the land of the various micro ecosystems through ArcGIS. I surveyed bird boxes over the course of my internship weekly to get an understanding of the population at the study site. Creation of methods for identifying better mapping of birds for their migration. Duties included: Identifying bird species, method development and troubleshooting, field collection of samples