

**Print**

**Boards & Committee Applications - Submission #1478**

**Date Submitted: 3/7/2022**

**TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO**

**APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO A SAN ANSELMO BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE**

**To: San Anselmo Town Council**

**Date\***

3/7/2022

**I wish to apply for an appointment to a term/balance\***

Climate Action Commission ▼

**Name\***

Christiana Conser

**Home Address\***

65 Angela Ave

**Occupation\***

Restoration Ecologist

**Employer's Address**

20361 Hermana Cir, Lake Forest, CA 92630

**Home Phone\***

9498733814

**Work Phone**

9498733814

**Cell Phone**

9498733814

**E-Mail\***

cconser@protonmail.com

**Number of years as resident of San Anselmo\***

1

**Number of years as a resident in Marin\***

10

**Education Level Achieved\***

Graduate Degree (Major)



**Name and phone numbers of three San Anselmo residents who can be contacted for referral information about me:**

**1.) Name\***

Sheri Oakes

**1.) Phone\***

5126560511

**2.) Name\***

Aviva Rossi

**2.) Phone\***

4158472461

**3.) Name\***

Randi Radar

**3.) Phone\***

4153850414

**I would be able to regularly attend the meetings of this Board/Commission/Committee.\***

- YES
- NO

**I would be available to attend additional meetings when they are necessary.\***

- YES
- NO

**I am familiar with the responsibilities and functions of this Board/Commission/Committee.\***

- YES
- NO

**I have attended meetings of the Board/Commission/Committee as a member of the public.\***

- YES
- NO

**List briefly, previous experience serving the public office, and/or civic commissions,boards, or committees.\***

I served on the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee (CISAC) from 2012 to 2014

**Reasons for this appointment.\***

Provide scientific expertise on climate change and biodiversity issues

**What are your qualifications for this appointment.\***

My career focus and personal passion for the past 25 years has been developing practical science-based solutions to conserve native biodiversity for future generations. My expertise ranges from doing academic research, technical writing, hands-on fieldwork, restoration planning and design, project and stakeholder management, and policy work.

**Briefly, what do you consider to be the most important, one or two current issues facing this Board/Commission/Committee?\***

Building public support to make substantive change

**I understand that I and all other applicants will be personally interviewed by the Town Council as part of the selection process for this appointment. I also understand that my application material will be a public document and available on the Town's website. Sensitive materials that you don't wish to be posted on the website should not be included with the application.\***

- YES
- NO

**Other Boards/Commissions/Committees on which you would be interested in serving if not appointed to this seat?\***

Open Space Committee

**You may attach personal resumes or other information which you believe would be helpful to the Council in its selection process.**

Conser CV .pdf

**Thank you for your interest in serving the Town of San Anselmo and its citizens. For further information, please contact Carla Kacmar, at ckacmar@townofsananselmo.org or 415-258-4660.**



## CHRISTIANA CONSER

65 Angela Avenue  
San Anselmo CA 94960  
cconser@protonmail.com  
(949) 873-3814

### EDUCATION

#### **University of California, Davis; Department of Plant Sciences**

Ph.D. student in Horticulture and Agronomy (*not completed* - 2017)

Advisor: Dr. Joseph DiTomaso, Non-Crop Weed Specialist

Dissertation project: The development of a Plant Risk Evaluation (PRE) tool for assessing the invasive potential of ornamental plants.

#### **San Francisco State University, Department of Biology**

M.A. in Biology, Ecology and Systematics (2005)

Advisor: Dr. Edward F. Connor, Population and Community Ecology, Statistical Ecology

Thesis project: Assessing the residual effects of iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) invasion, implications for restoration.

#### **San Francisco State University, Department of Biology**

B.S. in Biology, Ecology and Systematics (1998)

Advisor: Dr. V. Thomas Parker, Plant Ecology

Research project: Effect of iceplant (*Carpobrotus edulis*) extract on native plant germination.

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### ***Restoration Ecologist/Grant Developer***

**HANA Resources/Natures Image (Lake Forest, CA)**

2019 to Present

Design, fund and implement habitat restoration and invasive species removal projects throughout California. Duties include developing new restoration projects and collaborative partnerships; securing funding including writing grant proposals; writing restoration and management plans; meeting facilitation; project management, implementation and monitoring; data analysis; report writing; collection of native plant propagation materials; and public outreach. Job requires extensive fieldwork.

#### ***Adjunct Part-time Professor***

**Orange Coast College (Costa Mesa, CA)**

2020 to Present

Instructor for Introduction to Biology (Biol 100) lab both in-person and online via Zoom. Duties included preparing lectures and lab activities, lab set-up, creating and proctoring quizzes, and grading lab reports and quizzes.

#### ***Restoration Biologist/Botanist***

**Chambers Group (Santa Ana, CA)**

2018 to 2019

Design, fund and implement habitat restoration and invasive species removal projects throughout California. Duties include developing new restoration projects and collaborative partnerships; securing funding including writing grant proposals; writing restoration and management plans; meeting facilitation; project management, implementation and monitoring; data analysis; report writing; collection of native plant propagation materials; and public outreach. Job requires extensive fieldwork.

***Middle School Science Teacher***  
**Holy Spirit School (San Jose, CA)**  
2017 to 2018

Science Teacher for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades for earth, life, and physical sciences. Duties included preparing daily lectures and lab activities, lab set-up, creating and proctoring exams, and grading lab exercises and exams.

***Adjunct Part-time Professor***  
**Ohlone College (Fremont, CA)**  
2016 to 2016

Instructor for Introduction to Biology (Bio 130) lecture and lab for the summer school session. Duties included preparing lectures and lab activities, lab set-up, creating and proctoring exams, and grading lab exercises and exams.

***Graduate Student Teaching Assistant***  
**UC Davis (Davis, CA)**  
2014 to 2015

Instructor for Identification and Ecology of Grasses Lab (PLS131) and Restoration Ecology Lab (ENH160L). Duties for PLS131 included leading the field collection for nearly 100 species of native and exotic grass species throughout California, lab set-up included organizing daily specimens to display by grass tribe, teaching students how to key grass specimens using the Jepson Manual and Weeds of the West ID database, answering questions, lab practical set-up, proctoring exams, and grading quizzes and final exams. Duties for ENH160L included leading the field instruction for the class restoration project, assisting student teams in the development of all elements of a habitat restoration plan including: site description, restoration planning, planting design, invasive species management, implementation, and monitoring. Other duties included grading lab reports, papers, and exams. Job required extensive fieldwork.

***Project Scientist/Project Manager***  
**PlantRight/Sustainable Conservation (San Francisco, CA)**  
2008 to 2014

As the primary researcher in the development of a Plant Risk Evaluation (PRE) tool from 2011 to 2014, duties include PRE tool research and development, technical advising on invasive plant issues, and assisting with the development of the invasive plant screening program. Originally hired as Project Manager with duties including managing the California Horticultural Invasive Prevention (Cal-HIP) steering committee, conducting public and industry outreach, strategic planning, managing budgets, and securing grant funding.

***Restoration Biologist/Project Manager***  
**River Partners (Chico, CA)**  
2005 to 2008

Designed and implemented large-scale riparian habitat restoration and invasive species removal projects throughout northern California. Duties included writing restoration plans and other publications, conducted public meetings and workshops, managed project implementation and monitoring, analyzed monitoring and experimental data, managed collection of native plant propagation materials, and developed outreach materials including an outdoor environmental education program with a local elementary school. Job required extensive fieldwork.

***Restoration Biologist/Researcher***  
**Instituto de Ecología, A.C. (Xalapa, México)**  
2002 to 2003

Designed and implemented a research project on the effects of forest fragmentation and conversion to pastureland on soil invertebrates in tropical montane cloud forests (TMCF). Other duties included evaluating and developing TMCF restoration protocols for the BIOCORES project. Job required extensive fieldwork.

***Statistical Analyst and Restoration Handbook Editor***  
**Golden Gate National Parks Association (San Francisco, CA)**  
2000 to 2002

Analyst duties included collaborating with the Vegetation Management Team to design ecological experiments to test new restoration techniques and refine ecological monitoring programs, trained data collectors, analyzed monitoring data, and incorporated findings into reports and presentations. Editor duties included first evaluating and refining GGNRA's existing habitat restoration and weed removal monitoring programs, then designing a habitat restoration handbook with monitoring protocols for training technicians and interns. Job required extensive fieldwork.

***Co-Director of Invertebrate Survey***  
**SF Natural Areas Program, SF Rec & Parks (San Francisco, CA)**  
2000 to 2000

Hired as part of a team to develop an ecological monitoring program for invertebrates in San Francisco remnant natural areas as a measure of ecosystem diversity and health. Duties included project design, data collection and analysis, and report writing. Job required extensive fieldwork.

***Graduate Student Teaching Assistant***  
**SFSU Dept. of Biology (San Francisco, CA)**  
1999 to 2001

Hired to TA Principles of Ecology (Biol 313), General Biology Lab (Biol 240), and World of Plants Lab (Biol 150). Duties included designing and delivering weekly lab lectures, grading lab reports, papers, and exams.

***Science Education Consultant***  
**Friends of SF Rec & Parks (San Francisco, CA)**  
1999 to 1999

Duties included organizing outdoor educational activities in Golden Gate Park for the Discovery Walk Program for K-5 classes from SFUSD, leading teacher workshops, giving public presentations, and the publication of the quarterly newsletter.

***Weed Removal Crew***  
**Golden Gate National Recreation Area (San Francisco, CA)**  
1998 to 1998

Hired as part of a summer work crew for the Lobos Creek Dune Restoration Project working to restore critical habitat for the San Francisco lessingia (*Lessingia germanorum*), a rare and endangered plant species endemic to San Francisco. Duties included removing invasive plants and completing monitoring reports. Job required extensive fieldwork.

***Restoration Team Leader***  
**SF Natural Areas Program, SF Rec & Parks (San Francisco, CA)**  
1997 to 1998

Hired to supervise the monitoring and maintenance of a community habitat restoration project in Brooks Park by a neighborhood youth work crew. Job required extensive fieldwork.

***Field Assistant***  
**Plant Ecology Lab, SFSU Dept. of Biology (San Francisco, CA)**  
1996 to 1999

Assisted several graduate student's data collection for their thesis projects, both in the lab and in the field throughout California. Job required extensive travel and camping in field conditions. Projects focused on fire ecology and seed bank research throughout chaparral plant communities in California. Job required extensive fieldwork.

## PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Conser C, Seebacher L, Fujino DW, Reichard S, DiTomaso JM (2015) The development of a Plant Risk Evaluation (PRE) tool for assessing the invasive potential of ornamental plants. [PLOS ONE](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0121053) DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0121053. March 24, 2015.
- Conser C, Adams B (2014) The PlantRight PRE: A New Screening Process for Invasiveness. [Acta Horticulturae 1055: 183:187](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actahort.2014.05.001).
- Conser C, Connor EF (2009) Assessing the residual effects of *Carpobrotus edulis* invasion, implications for restoration. [Biological Invasions 11\(2\): 349-358](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.bioc.2009.06.001).

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- DiTomaso JM, Conser C (2014) *Developing an Accuracy Risk Assessment Tool for Evaluating the Potential Invasiveness of Ornamental Plants*. [California Weed Science Society \(CWSS\) Research Update and News 10\(2\): 2-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actahort.2014.05.001).
- Conser C (2012) *Invasive Plants Sold in California*. UC IPM's quarterly *Retail Nursery and Garden Center IPM News*, June 2012.
- Conser C (2011) *What invasive plants are for sale in California?* [Cal-IPC News, Fall 2011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actahort.2011.05.001).
- DiTomaso, JM, Seebacher L, Conser C, Brush R (2011) *Development of a More Accurate Weed Risk Assessment Model for Potential Third-Party Certification of Non-invasive Horticultural Plants*. [UC ANR Blog, UC Weed Science](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actahort.2011.05.001), August 9, 2011.
- Contributor (2006) [Don't Plant a Pest brochure, Central Valley version](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actahort.2006.05.001). Cal-IPC, Berkeley, CA.

## TECHNICAL REPORTS

- Conser C (2021) *Hidden Valley Wildlife Area Restoration Project Natural Environment Study Report (Minimal Impacts)*. HANA Resources, Lake Forest, CA.
- Conser C (2021) *Biological Resources Report for Mount Owen Rifle Range, Fresno County, California*. HANA Resources, Lake Forest, CA.
- Conser C (2021) *2020 (Year 4) Serenity Lodge Restoration and Monitoring Annual Report Lake Arrowhead, San Bernardino County, CA*. HANA Resources, Lake Forest, CA.
- Conser C (2020) *2019 (Year 3) Serenity Lodge Restoration and Monitoring Annual Report Lake Arrowhead, San Bernardino County, CA*. HANA Resources, Lake Forest, CA.
- Conser C (2019) *Annual Monitoring Report for Lost Canyons Development Project, Ventura County, CA*. Chambers Group, Santa Ana, CA.
- Conser C (2019) *Weed Management Plan for San Bernardino National Forest for Nestle Waters*. Chambers Group, Santa Ana, CA.
- Conser C (2013) *Invasive Species Pathway Risk Analysis for California*. [Technical report for the California Invasive Species Advisory Committee \(CISAC\) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture \(CDFA\)](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actahort.2013.05.001). California Invasive Species Advisory Council (CISAC) and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), Sacramento, CA
- Conser C, Efsseff D (2007) [Landowner's Manual for the Lower Stony Creek Watershed, Glenn County Resource Conservation District](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actahort.2007.05.001), Glenn County, California. River Partners, Chico, CA.
- Conser C, Griggs T (2007) *Lower Stony Creek Demonstration Project Site Plan, Glenn County Resource Conservation District, Glenn County, California*. River Partners, Chico, CA.
- Conser C, Griggs T (2006) *Pre-Restoration Plan for Gover Ranch Riparian Conservation Easement, Shasta and Tehama Counties, California*. River Partners, Chico, CA.
- Conser C, Griggs T, Kirk P, Cederborg M (2006) [O'Connor Lakes Unit Riparian Restoration Plan](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.actahort.2006.05.001) for CA Dept. of Fish & Game, Feather River Wildlife Area, Sutter County, California. River Partners, Chico, CA.
- Contributor (1999) *San Francisco Natural Areas Program Restoration Handbook*. San Francisco Recreation and Parks Department, San Francisco, CA.

## FUNDED GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- California Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program. Funding for Hidden Valley Wildlife Area Restoration– Phase 1 Planning Project, Riverside, CA. HANA Resources, Lake Forest, CA. (2020)
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Southern California Forests and Watershed Wildfire Restoration grant. Funding for Spanish Broom Removal and Habitat Restoration Project, Los Padres National Forest, Santa Barbara, CA. HANA Resources, Lake Forest, CA. (2020)
- California Association of Nursery and Garden Centers (CANGC), [CANERS Foundation Research Grant](#) (2014)
- University of California’s Agriculture and Natural Resources ([ANR](#)) [Competitive Grants Program](#) (2012)
- Horticultural Research Institute ([HRI](#)) [Competitive Grants](#) (2008 & 2011)
- California Association of Nursery and Garden Centers, [CANERS Foundation Research Grant](#) (2010)
- [Graduate Student Council in Biology](#) Research Grant; San Francisco State University, Department of Biology (2001 to 2002)
- [ARCS Foundation Academic Scholarship](#) (2000 to 2001)

## ORAL PRESENTATIONS

- Conser C, DiTomaso J (2014) The development and refinement of a Plant Risk Evaluation (PRE) tool for evaluating the invasive potential of ornamental plants. [Cal-IPC Symposium, October 10, 2014.](#)
- Conser C (2014) A Plant Risk Evaluation (PRE) tool for evaluating the invasive potential of ornamental plants. [99<sup>th</sup> Ecological Society of America \(ESA\) Meeting, August 15, 2014.](#)
- Conser C (2014) The Ecological Context of Invasive Plants, Biodiversity, and Habitat Restoration. PlantRight webinar presentation, April 4, 2014.
- Conser C, Adams B (2013) The PlantRight PRE: A New Screening Process for Invasiveness. [The 54th Annual Meeting International Plant Propagators Society, Western Regional Conference, October 4, 2013.](#)
- Conser C, DiTomaso J (2013) Weed Risk Assessment for Ornamentals – A New Approach. Society of American Florists Pest and Production Management Conference, February 26, 2013.
- Conser C (2012) The Right Plant for the Right Place: The Issue of Invasives in Horticulture. The Sacramento Valley Nursery & Landscape Expo, December 5, 2012.
- DiTomaso J, Conser C, Seebacher L, Brush-Brownsey R (2012) The development and validation of a more accurate weed risk assessment tool for evaluating the invasive potential of ornamental plants. [Cal-IPC Symposium, October 11, 2012.](#)
- Conser C, Seebacher L, Brush-Brownsey R, DiTomaso J (2012) The development and validation of a more accurate weed risk assessment tool for evaluating the invasive potential of ornamental plants. UC Davis Weed Day, July 19, 2012.
- Conser C (2012) Reframing the Invasive Plant Issue. Educating the Public About Invasive Species Symposium, UC Davis, CA. April 24, 2012.
- Conser C, DiTomaso J, Seebacher L, Brush-Brownsey R (2011) Developing a More Accurate Weed Risk Assessment Model. California Nursery Conference, October 6, 2011.
- Conser C (2010) Protecting California from Ornamental Invasive Plants. National Master Gardener Conference, October 19, 2010.
- Conser C (2010) Developing a Voluntary Weed Risk Assessment Program for California’s Nursery Industry. Presentation for California Nursery and Garden Centers (CANGC) Funding Board, March 9, 2010.
- Conser C (2009) Overview of PlantRight program. Santa Clara Master Gardener meeting, November 19, 2009.
- Conser C, Connor EF (2002) Assessing the Residual Effects of *Carpobrotus edulis* Invasion on the Survivorship, Growth and Reproduction of *Gilia millefoliata*. Oral Presentation at the Ecological Society of America Meeting.

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

- [Essential Facilitation](#) training (2008), Interaction Associates, San Francisco, CA.
- [Facilitative Leadership](#) training (2009), Interaction Associates, San Francisco, CA.