



## CURRICULUM VITAE

Kate E. McNutt B.Sc. (Hons)

### EDUCATION

**B.Sc (Hons.)** Ecology with a Year in Europe, First Class Hons. University of East Anglia, Norwich.

Modules studied include Conservation Biology, Fisheries Biology, Marine Ecology, Aquatic Ecology, Plant Ecology, Community and Population Ecology, Introduction to Statistics. Research Project: The Spatial Distribution of Crustacean Eggs of Resistance and Plant Seeds in the Sediment of a Temporary Pond in the Vars Region in the South of France.

Loreto Community School, Donegal, 1995-2000. Leaving Certificate

### CAREER HISTORY

**Assistant Ecologist, BEC Consultants** June 2006 - present (full-time)

Involvement in both office-based work and fieldwork for various projects, the most prominent of which being the Irish National Native Woodland Survey. Key elements include the identification of suitable sites for survey using both aerial photographs and GIS, preparation of survey packs, arranging access for surveys, botanical survey of various habitats, the collection of samples for further analysis, later identification of retained specimens using microscopes, data entry and checking, report writing.

*Project involvement:*

- The National Survey of Native Irish Woodlands
- Survey of Rare/Threatened Vascular Plants of Counties Cavan, Louth, Meath, Monaghan and WestMeath
- The Monaghan Wetland Survey

**Research Volunteer with Bat Conservation Madagascar, Madagascar.** Dec 2004 & Jan 2005

Designed and carried out a research project on the diurnal behaviour of the Malagasy Flying Fox, *Pteropus rufus*. This involved collection of behavioural data as well as training and supervising a team of local people. I also assisted another research team in the mist netting of Microchiroptera.

**Participant on tropical biology course, Kirindy Forest, Madagascar. Tropical Biology Association, Cambridge** Nov 2004.

Current concepts and techniques in ecology, conservation biology, experimental design and sampling methods were topics explored through a series of lectures, seminars, practical analysis and an independent two week research project. Research Project: 'Vertebrate Dispersal and Predation Processes of Seeds and Seedlings in a Species of *Strychnos* in a Dry Deciduous Forest in Western Madagascar'.

**Teaching Assistant, Woodsmoke – School of Wilderness Living Skills, UK** July 2001 & July 2004.

Supported the instruction team during teaching and aided with course logistics within an expedition-style camp. Skills required were practical skills in camp craft, navigation, nature awareness and tracking as well as organisational and team-working abilities.

**Student Placement, Laboratoire de Biodiversité Aix-Marseille II, Marseille** May 2002 - July 2002.

I worked with a PhD student, carrying out background research and subsequently designing, setting up and running an experiment. I presented the results from an early capture of data in a report written entirely in French. Research Project: Development of a Method of Quantitatively Sampling Freshwater Invertebrates Using Artificial Substrates.

## **SKILLS & ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Communication & Interpersonal Skills**

- Experience gained in writing reports during my degree and various work experience.
- Public speaking experience gained from guided walks for Woodsmoke, as well as seminars and project presentations during my degree.
- Teaching skills acquired from a 100 hour TEFL certificate gained in Nov. 2005, and also from experience of being a teaching assistant with Woodsmoke.
- I am fluent in both written and spoken French. I also have intermediate-advanced Italian.
- I work successfully as an individual and as a leader. Carrying out a research project for Bat Conservation Madagascar required individual responsibility and organisation as well as leadership qualities when managing a team of assistants. This latter was especially necessary when conducting fieldwork in what were often arduous conditions. Similarly I have led survey teams in the National Survey of Native Irish Woodlands.
- I work well within a team, having completed many team projects during my degree and having also closely worked with colleagues at BEC Consultants on several projects, this is especially true during long periods of fieldwork when close collaboration is necessary.

### **Computing & Word Processing**

- My work and studies have given me a high level of proficiency in data entry, data analysis and report writing.
- I am experienced in the use of Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, SPSS, the Internet, Access, ArcView GIS and Recorder.
- I have completed a Professional Development course in Geographical Information Systems at DIT, Dublin (2007/2008).

### **Identification Skills**

- I have excellent plant species identification skills, including bryophytes.
- I have also diverse experience in identifying aquatic invertebrates.

### **Other Skills**

- I hold a full clean driving licence.
- I hold an up-to-date first aid certificate issued by St. Johns Ambulance.