

**Zoe Volenec**

Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 08544  
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**Research Interests** Conservation Biology, Landscape Ecology, Socioeconomics of Conservation Planning

**Education** **Princeton University**, Princeton, NJ *2016-present*  
Ph.D., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
Dissertation Focus:  
Advisor: Andrew Dobson  
Committee: Daniel Rubenstein, Christina Riehl, David Wilcove

**University of Notre Dame** *2012-2016*  
B.S., Environmental Science, Economics major  
Biological Honors Program, Glynn Family Honors Program  
Thesis: Ecosystem responses to climate change in a Montana bunchgrass prairie  
Advisor: Gary Belovsky  
GPA: 3.97/4.0

**Research Experience** **Princeton University**, Princeton, NJ *2016-present*  
NSF Graduate Research Fellow

**University of Notre Dame**, Notre Dame, Indiana *2014-2016*  
Senior Thesis Research

**University of Notre Dame**, Notre Dame, Indiana *2013*  
Summer Research Assistant, Tank Lab

**University of Notre Dame**, Notre Dame, Indiana *2012-2013*  
Undergraduate Research Assistant, McLachlan Lab

**Publications** **Volenec, Z.** and G. Belovsky. Ecosystem responses to climate change in a Montana bunchgrass prairie. *Manuscript in preparation.*

Crawford, C.\*, **Z. Volenec\***, and D. Rubenstein. Behavioral and ecological implications of planned cattle grazing in an East African savanna ecosystem. *In review in Rangeland Ecology and Management.*

\*authors contributed equally to this work

**Presentations and Posters** **Zoe Volenec** and Gary Belovsky. "Climate Change's Effect on Montana's Bunchgrass Prairie." Notre Dame's College of Science Joint Annual Meeting, Notre Dame, IN. April 29, 2016.

**Zoe Volenec** and Gary Belovsky. "Climate Change's Effect on Montana's Bunchgrass Prairie." Midwest Ecology and Evolution Conference. Oxford, Ohio. March, 19, 2016.

**Zoe Volenec** and Gary Belovsky. “Climate Change’s Effect on Montana’s Bunchgrass Prairie.” Notre Dame’s College of Science Joint Annual Meeting, Notre Dame, IN. May 1, 2015.

Michelle Mueller, **Zoe Volenec**, Jason McLachlan, Jillian Deines. “Forest Composition Shifts in the Chicago Region from the Early 1800s to Today.” Notre Dame’s College of Science Joint Annual Meeting, Notre Dame, IN. May 3, 2013.

## Teaching Experience

### **Ecology and Epidemiology of Parasites and Infectious Diseases [Panama-based field course]** *Spring 2017*

Assistant in Instruction

- Helped students to design research projects and conduct the associated statistical analyses in R

### **Life on Earth** *Fall 2016*

Assistant in Instruction

- Responsible for teaching lab sections, grading student assignments, and holding weekly office hours

### **The Marine Environment** *Spring 2016*

Teaching Assistant

- Held office hours to supplement those offered by the professor
- Graded exams and homework assignments

### **Biostatistics** *Spring 2015, Spring 2016*

Teaching Assistant

- Responsible for teaching a tutorial session, grading assignments, and meeting with students for office hours (2016)
- Assisted graduate teaching assistants with holding tutorials (2015)
- Guided students in learning the basics of R

### **General Ecology Lab** *Fall 2015*

Teaching Assistant

- Assisted with organization and execution of study topic activities
- Promoted class engagement and participation

### **Student-Athlete Tutor** *Fall 2013-Fall 2015*

- Tutored General Biology I and II, Organic Chemistry

## Leadership Experience

### **Women in STEM Leadership Council** *Spring 2017-present*

- Work to raise awareness of issues related to women in STEM through holding annual lectures [past topics include intersectionality in STEM, how to be a male ally] and through a graduate-wide survey

### **Girls on the Run Coach** *Fall 2017-present*

- Coached practices twice a week with lessons geared towards using running and outdoor activity to teach girls confidence, body positivity, and strategies to handle bullying and peer pressure
- Helped girls design a community impact project to raise money for a charity of their choice

**Biological Sciences Department Senior  
Leadership Committee**

*Fall 2014-Spring 2016*

- Reviewed possible curriculum changes in the University of Notre Dame's core requirements
- Established concentrations within the Biological Sciences major
- Remodeled the Biology department website
- Hosted prospective Biology students and held recruiting events

**Dinners for Increased Scholarly Engagement,  
Co-President**

*Fall 2013-Spring 2016*

- Organized dinners held at College of Science faculty homes to promote undergrads engagement in research and student faculty interaction
- Coordinated structure within the program to encourage its continued success and sustainability

**Honors and Fellowships**

2016 NSF GRFP Recipient  
Phi Beta Kappa  
2015 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention  
Dean's List Fall 2012-Fall 2015  
National Merit Scholar

**Skills**

Computer: R, STATA, SYSTAT, ArcGIS, MySQL, Python

Field: Multispectral Radiometer; Identification of Western Montana grasshopper, forb, and graminoid species