

# Matthew McDonald

mcdonaldmc2@g.cofc.edu

Undergraduate Biology Student

## EDUCATION

**College of Charleston, Charleston** — *B.S Biology*

GPA: 3.7/4.00

Expected Graduation: 2026

## Awards

SC HOPE Scholarship (\$2,500)

## EXPERIENCE

**SCDNR, Charleston** — *Wildlife Technician*

June 2021- August 20, 2022

- Preparing and assisting in installing recycled oyster reefs and Spartina Grass as a means of shoreline restoration, erosion mitigation, and providing of habitat. Responsibilities include:
  - Installing oyster reefs and salt marsh grass restoration
  - Surveying reef biodiversity through gill and seine netting
  - Collecting geospatial data through Trimble GIS
  - Greenhouse growing and planting of Spartina marsh grass
  - Educating students and the public on coastal natural resources
  - Towing operation medium-sized boats in coastal SC waters

**Turtle Survival Alliance**, South Carolina/ Florida — *Volunteer*

2020 - 2022

- Volunteer in the two-day population survey of Weeki Wachee Springs State Park in Florida. Species surveyed included species in the Pseudemys and Trachemys Genera. Responsibilities include:
  - hand capture of turtles by snorkeling
  - weighing, measuring, marking, and assisting in PIT tagging
- Assisting in 2019-2022 population surveys on Kiawah Island SC for Diamondback Terrapins. Surveying responsibilities include:
  - visual surveying and seine netting of intertidal creeks in and around the Kiawah River
  - Safely transporting and releasing captured turtles

**Audubon Society, South Carolina** — *Volunteer*

2021

- Population Survey of Eastern Bluebirds in Charleston, SC. Part of the

Survival By Degrees program which models the impact of climate change on bird populations. Responsibilities include:

- identifying suitable Eastern Bluebird habitat
- identifying and recording Eastern Bluebirds and other passerines
- entering species presence and abundance data into the Ebird application

## **Various Organizations, South Carolina — Volunteer**

2020- Present

- Radio Telemetry tracking of Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnakes and Northern Pine Snakes
- Installation and monitoring of animal drift fences
- Assisting in a prescribed burn of Longleaf Pine Savannah
- Assisting in habitat enhancement for Black Rails in wetlands

## **Certifications**

NSC First Aid and CPR Certification — Jun 2022 - Jun 2024

SCDNR Boater Education Certification — 2022

## **References**

Whit Gibbons, Professor Emeritus of Ecology — University of Georgia

Email: wgibbons@uga.edu

Phone (personal): 803-640-5681

Michael Hodges, Head Biologist — SCDNR Oyster Recycling and Enhancement Program

Email: hodgesm@dnr.sc.gov

Phone (personal): 843-209-1662

Stephen Czwartacki, Biologist and Recycling Coordinator — SCDNR Oyster Recycling and Enhancement Program

Email: CzwartackiS@dnr.sc.gov

Phone (personal): 843-953-9397

Kevin Swain, Biologist — SCDNR Oyster Recycling and Enhancement Program

Email: swaink@dnr.sc.gov

Phone (personal): 843-991-4781

Kelly Lambert, Wildlife Technician — SCDNR Oyster Recycling and Enhancement Program

Email: LambertK@dnr.sc.gov

Phone (personal): 404-309-9153

