

Laura McCandlish Ryser

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Bremerton, WA

SKILLS & TRAINING

Mixed Methods Research

Public Administration

Data Analytics &
Visualization

Strategic Planning & Logic
Models

Project Design & Evaluation

Impact Reporting

Community Outreach &
Facilitation

Cultural Competence &
Anti-Racist Practice

Excellent written and oral
communication skills

Office365 Suite

ArcGIS Online Mapping

STRENGTHS

Critical Thinker

High Degree of Empathy

Accountability

Lifelong Learner

METRICS

+ \$3.76 million secured
and managed for
environmental and
social sciences since
2015

+ Trained & supervised
over 40 employees

+ Over \$1 million
invested in local
economy through
program activity

PROFILE

Strategic leader, project manager, researcher, and outreach specialist with 20 years' experience in the public and non-profit sectors looking to advance bold practices and projects that advance sustainability and resilient communities. Expertise in policy, systems, and environmental change approaches to issues related to water quality, food, waste, climate change, health equity, and transportation.

EDUCATION

M.A. Environment & Community, Antioch University Seattle.....2009

B.A. Anthropology, University of Vermont.....2001

School for International Training, Western Samoa & Fiji.....2000

EXPERIENCE

Planning Supervisor, Sustainable Resources Division, Pierce County.....2022-Current

- Leading implementation of the Sustainability 2030 Plan and manager of the County's Transportation Demand Management program

Director & Associate Professor, Food Systems & Community Development.....2014-2022
Washington State University - Kitsap County Extension

- Secured a broad base of federal and state-level funding, county contracts, and sustained funds for programs designed to equitably address social and environmental issues, increase the public's quality of life, and document impact. Prepared and presented annual workplans, budgets, and impact reports for the Kitsap County Commissioners, Kitsap Public Works, and state and federal funding agencies.

Associate Director, Pacific Bamboo Resources.....2013-2014

- Served as a leader for strategy and managed partnerships and funds for this international non-profit. Cultivated networks to strengthen the local food movement in Washington State and facilitated strategic planning and fundraising efforts to support bamboo agroforestry and biochar internationally.

Land Use Planning & Water Quality Educator, Lake Champlain Sea Grant.....2010-2013
University of Vermont

- Designed, funded, and executed from the ground up environmental stewardship, green infrastructure demonstration projects, and climate change communication strategies. Drove financial investment from state agencies and regional commissions into public outreach programs.

Research Associate, Comprehensive Prospect Research.....2008-2009

- Conducted prospect and donor research for clients such as the American Museum of Natural History, the Nature Conservancy, and Boston University. Provided prospect lists, asset identification and evaluation, lead generation and strategies for developing solicitation ask amounts.

Graduate Assistant in Outcomes Assessments, Antioch University.....2007-2008

- Designed evaluation protocols to measure student learning for programs in the Center for Creative Change. Formalized the review process to ensure University accreditation through student learning, outcome assessments, and alignment with program goals.

Program Coordinator, Center for World Indigenous Studies.....2004-2007

- Engaged indigenous leaders internationally to develop the Forum for Global Exchange, serving as a catalyst aimed at developing public policy and strategic implementation of ingenious Nations' position in multilateral negotiations and trade.