

# ADAM GRIFFITH

## EDUCATION

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2005 - 2008    Western Carolina University                      Cullowhee, NC  
*Master of Science in Biology*

1995 - 1999    Roanoke College    Salem, VA  
*Bachelor of Science in Biology, Minor in Environmental Science*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

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2008 – Present    Western Carolina University                                      Cullowhee, NC  
*Research Scientist*

- Launched non-profit Beachcare.org in 2008 via an exclusive partnership
- Created over 100 pages of original web content to developers for new non-profit
- Launched successful branding campaign for the plant river cane via internet, newspapers, lectures, and festivals
- Established office as world leader in information about beach sand mining

2002 - 2006    Nantahala Outdoor Center    Bryson City, NC  
*Head Guide on the Nantahala River and Kayak Instructor*

- Managed daily operations and staff of 50+ for largest rafting company in the eastern United States.
- Taught whitewater kayaking for the premier kayaking school in the country.

2002 - 2004    Alta Peruvian Lodge    Alta, UT  
*Dining Room Assistant Manager*

1999 - 2002    Houston Independent School District                                      Houston, TX  
*6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Teacher at W.I. Stevenson Middle School*

- Created lesson plans, prepared labs, and evaluated work for over 150 students.
- Organized and acquired funding for over ten field trips.
- Coordinated school science fair for 100+ students and accompanied 20+ students to district and city-wide science fairs for two years.
- Coached boy's soccer team to city semi-finals two years in a row.

1999-2001    Teach for America Corps Member    Houston, TX

- Selected to Teach for America, which places recent college graduates into urban and rural Title I public schools to close the achievement gap between the rich and poor.
- Teach for America is currently more selective than Harvard.

#### PAPERS PUBLISHED

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- Griffith, A.D., McDowell, K., & Young, R.S. (2007). Rivercane restoration project: recovering an ecologically and culturally significant species (North Carolina). *Ecological Restoration*. 25, 144-145.
- Griffith, A.D., Kinner, D.A., Tanner, B.R., Moore, A., Mathews, K.G. & Young, R.S. (2009). Nutrient and physical soil characteristics of rivercane (*Arundinaria gigantea*) stands, western North Carolina. *Castanea*. 74(3).

#### PAPERS IN PREPARATION

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- The wetland status of *Arundinaria gigantea*. Anticipated journal *Wetlands*.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED

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- The global extent of beach sand mining. GSA, Portland, OR (Oct., 2009)
- Rivercane restoration on the campus of Cherokee Central Schools, NC. Choctaw, MS (Oct, 2009)
- Rivercane: basics and benefits. Presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Bamboo Festival at the NC Arboretum (July, 2009).
- Documenting the global effects of beach sand mining. European Geosciences Annual Meeting, Vienna, Austria (April, 2009).
- The chemical and physical soil properties of *Arundinaria gigantea* in western North Carolina. Paper presented to The Association of Southeastern Biologists, WCU Graduate Research Symposium, and WCU Biology Department (April, 2008).
- Soil Characterization for rivercane (*Arundinaria gigantea*) restoration in western North Carolina. Paper presented to The Association of Southeastern Biologists, WCU Graduate Research Symposium, and WCU Biology Department (April, 2007).
- Soil Characterization for rivercane (*Arundinaria gigantea*) restoration in western North Carolina. Paper presented to The Geological Society of America (October, 2007).
- The relationships of phylogeny and distribution patterns in *Sabatia* (Gentianaceae). Paper presented to The Association of Southeastern Biologists (March, 2006).
- GIS as a tool for determining relationships of phylogeny and distribution in *Sabatia* (Gentianaceae). Paper presented to WCU Graduate Research Symposium (April, 2006).
- Biogeography and Conservation of Endemic, High-elevation Rock Outcrop Plant Species. Paper presented to WCU Graduate Research Symposium (April, 2006).

#### COMPUTER SKILLS

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- Strong skills in Microsoft Office Suite: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, over three years experience with ArcGIS 9.1/9.2/9.3 including RiverTools and ArcCatalog, Photoshop, Final Cut Pro, Adobe CS3, SketchUp, basic skills in Dreamweaver, SAS, and R.

#### RELATED COURSEWORK

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Biogeography, Biostatistics, Vascular Plants, Environmental Geochemistry, Geology, Fluvial Geomorphology, Plant Physiology, Principles of Systematics, Introduction to GIS, Foundations of Ecology, Watershed Management, and Wetlands.

#### AWARDS AND CERTIFICATIONS

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1<sup>st</sup> Place 2006 WCU Graduate Student Paper Competition in Science

ESRI Introduction to ArcGIS II – 24 hour course, May, 2007

Advanced Wilderness First Aid – Solo expired May, 2009

CPR – American Heart Association, expired May, 2009

Tri-Beta Biological Honor Society (Roanoke College)

Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society (Roanoke College)

Provisionally Certified Teacher in Texas in Secondary Science

Commercial driver's license, Class B with passenger and air brake endorsements