

Sunny Louise Himes

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Work Experience

Lecturer, Western Carolina University, Department of Biology, Cullowhee, North Carolina, *August 2003-present, full-time*

- Teach freshman seminar in Plant and Society
- Teach Environmental Biology liberal studies course
- Coordinate and teach Introductory Biology laboratories each semester
 - Develop course syllabi, lab exercises, and teaching materials
 - Train and supervise 6-9 teaching assistants each semester
 - Order supplies and maintain equipment

Stewardship associate, The Land Trust for the Little Tennessee, Franklin, North Carolina, *June 2011-January 2015, part-time*

- Conducted annual conservation easement monitoring and wrote reports
- Managed and conducted exotic invasive plant control program
 - Created site-specific plans and budgets
 - Oversaw staff, volunteers, and sub-contractors
 - Maintained ATV, various herbicide sprayers, and herbicide storage area
- Participated in controlled burns, native grassland establishment, riparian buffer planting

Project manager, The Land Trust for the Little Tennessee, Franklin, North Carolina, *May 2009-June 2011, part-time*

- Wrote habitat restoration plan, including budget, for the Little Tennessee River Greenway, a 200-acre urban park in Franklin, North Carolina
- Managed the Greenway Invasives Partnership, a consortium of local conservation organizations dedicated to habitat restoration on the Little Tennessee River Greenway
 - Implemented habitat restoration plan
 - Developed relationships with key partners and stake holders
 - Planned and conducted educational and outreach events
 - Recruited and supervised volunteers

Vegetation specialist, The Balsam Mountain Trust, Sylva, North Carolina, *June 2003-Nov. 2008, part-time*

- Managed exotic invasive plant control program for the 4,400 acre property
 - Prepared annual operating plan and budget for exotic invasive plant control
 - Hired, trained, and supervised 2-5 seasonal employees in herbicide application
- Conducted native plant propagation program/Organized yearly native plant sales
- Managed rare plant rescue program
- Designed and implemented research protocols for forest succession study
- Collected, entered, and analyzed data for long-term vegetation survey

Burn crew member, The Nature Conservancy, Center, North Dakota, *March-May, 2003*

- Participated in fire ignition, maintenance of fire lines, mop-up, and equipment maintenance
- Built pasture fencing

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Prairie restoration/Grazing research technician, The Nature Conservancy, Aurora, Nebraska, *May 2002-November 2002*

- Collected, processed, and sowed seeds of native species
- Maintained greenhouse and two-acre garden of native plants
- Collected data on the effects of cattle grazing on native plant diversity and productivity
- Participated in controlled burns

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina, *August 1999-December 2001*

- Taught Human Anatomy and Physiology, Environmental Biology, and Human Biology laboratories
- Prepped equipment, supplies, and media for Microbiology laboratories

Certifications/Licenses/Skills

Proficient in ArcGIS and Microsoft Office
NC Division of Forest Resources, S-130, S-190, L-180 certified, February 2011
Soren Eriksson's Game of Logging Level I & II chainsaw certified, March 2011
Licensed Pesticide Applicator in categories G and H in North Carolina, January 2011-2014

Education

Master of Science in Biology

Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina, *received August, 2002*

Honors: Graduate Student Research Award, Southern Appalachian Botanical Society, 2001
Ralph M. Sargent Memorial Scholarship, The Highlands Biological Station, 2001
Charles W. Ash Memorial Scholarship, The Highlands Biological Station, 2000
Grant-in-aid, The Highlands Biological Station, *Summer 2000 and 2001*

Publications: Himes, Sonja and Robert Wyatt. 2005. Costs and benefits of self-fertility in *Asclepias exaltata* (Apocynaceae). Journal of the Torrey Botanical Society 132 (1): 24-32.

Bachelor of Arts in Biology

The University of North Carolina, Asheville, North Carolina, *received May, 1996*

Honors: Distinction in Major

Memberships/Service

Friends of the Greenway, Inc., Board of Directors member since 2012

- Grants written, received, and managed:
 - Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC Riparian Enhancement Fund, \$18,250.00, Dec., 2013
 - North Carolina Community Foundation, \$600.00, Nov. 2011

Watershed Association of the Tuckasegee River, member since 2004