

# TIFFANY YAP, D.Env (Ph.D.)

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## SKILLS PROFILE

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Resourceful, adaptable, and enthusiastic interdisciplinary scientist with demonstrated abilities to conduct in-depth research and produce high quality documents while meeting deadlines, work well independently and as a valued team member, and effectively resolve problems through strong leadership. Strengths include:

- Excellent research, data organization, and data analysis skills.
- Excellent written and oral communication and management skills for scientific publications, technical and public-facing environmental reports, media engagement, and public presentations.
- Strong background in reviewing and commenting on environmental policy documents, including environmental impact reports, habitat conservation plans, regional transportation plans.
- Experience conducting field surveys and biological monitoring for the following: amphibians, recreational fisheries, intertidal habitat, marine mammals, and nesting birds.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite, ArcGIS, and Maxent (modeling software).

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## EDUCATION

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### **D.Env (Ph.D) Environmental Science & Engineering, Institute of the Environment, UCLA**

Dissertation: Amphibian disease: impacts of wildlife trade, invasive carrier species, and climate change.

Additional Research: Abundance and distribution of intertidal rockweeds along the US west coast.

### **M.S. Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, UCLA**

Research: Effects of urbanization on amphibian populations. Certification: Leaders in Sustainability.

### **BA Biology, Minor in Education, UC Berkeley**

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## ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Senior Scientist/Wildlife Connectivity Advocate**, Center for Biological Diversity, Oakland, CA 2018 – present

- Protect sensitive species and habitats in the urban wildland interface through administrative advocacy, litigation support, development of science-driven land-use policy and legislation, media engagement, and public education and outreach.
- Lead advocacy on enhancing wildlife connectivity and addressing wildfire risk to conserve biodiversity, protect people, and improve climate resilience locally, regionally, and statewide.
- Lead efforts to list Southern California and Central Coast mountain lions under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). The California Fish and Game Commission unanimously voted to advance these populations to candidacy status. A status review is pending.

**Affiliate/Postdoctoral Researcher**, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, UC Berkeley/San Francisco State University, San Francisco Bay Area, CA 2014 - 2018

- Published seminal study on wildlife trade and salamander disease risk that led to legislative action to protect salamander biodiversity in the U.S.
- Conducted amphibian disease research for my dissertation and postdoctoral research in collaboration with scientists at other academic institutions and government agencies.
- Presented research to academics, government agencies, non-profits, and the general public.

**Scientific Aid**, California Recreational Fisheries Survey, CDFW, Belmont, CA 2017 - 2018

- Interviewed anglers and collected fisheries data that inform stock assessments and regulations.
- Educated anglers and the general public about current fishing regulations.

**Environmental Scientist III**, AECOM, Oakland, CA 2011 - 2017

- Provided environmental impact assessment, permitting, compliance, planning, and oversight services for public and private sector clients to comply with federal, state, and local regulations, including the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Federal and California Endangered Species Act (ESA and CESA), Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation Act
- Conducted terrestrial and aquatic habitat assessments in California and Canada.
- Managed client, contractor, and agency relationships throughout project timelines.

## SELECT PUBLICATIONS

**Yap, T. A.**, Koo, M. S., Ambrose, R. F., Wake, D. B., & Vredenburg, V. T. (2015). [Averting a North American biodiversity crisis](#). *Science*.

**Yap, T. A.**, Gillespie, L., Ellison, S., Flechas, S. V., Koo, M. S., ... & Vredenburg, V. T. (2016). [Invasion of the fungal pathogen \*Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis\* on California Islands](#). *EcoHealth*.

**Yap, T. A.**, Nguyen, N. T., Serr, M., Shepack, A., & Vredenburg, V. T. (2017). [Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans and the Risk of a Second Amphibian Pandemic](#). *EcoHealth*.

**Yap, T. A.**, Rose, J. P., & Cummings, B. (2019). [A Petition to List the Southern California/Central Coast Evolutionarily Significant Unit \(ESU\) of Mountain Lions as Threatened under the California Endangered Species Act \(CESA\)](#). CESA Petition.

**Yap, T. A.**, Rose, J. P., Anderson, I., & Prabhala, A. (2021). [California Connections: How Wildlife Connectivity Can Fight Extinction and Protect Public Safety](#). Report.

## SELECT PRESENTATIONS &amp; INVITED LECTURES

San Francisco State University. Colloquium in Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology. "A new chytrid fungal pathogen threatens North American salamander biodiversity." (May 2015)

California Department of Fish and Wildlife Science Symposium. "Protecting amphibians from disease: Using models to guide conservation action." (November 2017)

Digital Data in Biodiversity Research Conference. "How the Center for Biological Diversity uses biodiversity data to fight for species and habitat protection." (June 2018).

Center for Biological Diversity Webinar. "Saving Life on Earth: A discussion on mountain lions and wildlife crossings." (October 2020).

San Francisco State University. Biol 532 Restoration Ecology Undergraduate Course "Wildlife Connectivity and Conservation in the Urban Wildland Interface." (October 2021).

## SELECT NEWS/MEDIA

KQED Science. (2015). [Killer fungus could "devour" California's salamanders](#).

Voice of San Diego. (2019). [San Diego County Is Disregarding Fire Risk to an Astonishing Degree](#).

LA Times. (2019). [California's mighty predator – the mountain lion – faces 'extinction vortex.'](#)

Bay Nature. (2021). [Santa Clara County Must Make Alma Bridge Road Safer for Wildlife](#).

Radio New Zealand. (2021). [Creating the largest wildlife corridor in the world](#).