

Sheena Sidhu, Ph.D.

chanpreet.sidhu@gmail.com | sheenabees.wordpress.com | 805-312-0515

Program Management | Agroecosystem Conservation | Stakeholder Engagement

Professional Summary

- Experienced program manager overseeing multiple concurrent agricultural and natural resource projects with cross-field collaborations demonstrated through initiating new ventures and individually raising over \$2.7M in project grants
- Full project development from identifying core problems via stakeholder engagement, developing a course of action, organizing teams and collaborations, raising funds, and managing budgets and logistics to deliver science-based content and solutions
- Excellent communication and influencing skills as evidenced by organizing and delivering 40+ talks, workshops, and trainings to agricultural professionals, publishing 11 scientific peer-reviewed papers, and cultivating strong relationships with clients and collaborators through public service and partnerships over the last 10 years

Skills and Knowledge

- Public-facing experience with San Mateo County community, government, and interest groups
- Communication: reports, proposals, presentations, workshops, informal outreach and education
- Collaboration leadership: meeting organization, planning & logistics, flexibility, conflict resolution
- Program Management and Staff Supervision
- Biological surveys, monitoring, habitat management, rare plants, entomology
- ArcGIS, GPS, Word, Excel, Powerpoint, R, SQL
- Data Analysis & Statistics: regression, mixed-models, multivariate, ANOVA, discrete, modeling

Work Experience

Public Service & Technical Assistance

November 2019 – Present

Program Manager at San Mateo Resource Conservation District

- Managed post-fire recovery response for 2020 CZU Lightning Complex, coordinating local, state, and federal agencies efforts to provide technical assistance for over 100 residents and landowners. Successes included implementing road, bridge, and hazardous tree recovery projects.
- Implemented \$2.5M forest health project to improve San Mateo County fire resiliency across 950 acres with partners across multiple agencies, including CAL FIRE, State Parks, County Parks, POST and private landowners

- Manage Neighborhood Chipper program serving over 1000 residents in 14 communities providing free vegetation chipping for fuel reduction and improved fire resiliency in high and very high fire risk communities of the WUI (Wildland Urban Interface)

Public Service & Engagement

April 2018 – October 2019

Biologist at County of San Mateo, Department of Agriculture

- Led department's public-facing engagement and communication of scientific information relating to agriculture for public and professional audiences through the development and delivery of educational lectures for 10+ events to develop trust in public-private partnerships in the Bay Area
- Responded to client needs relating to pest management (commercial, home, agricultural), and providing Subject Matter Expert advice on science-based solutions that minimize environmental and ecosystem impacts. Topics include: IPM, Sudden Oak Death, invasive species

Research & Project Management

March 2016 – April 2018

Research Associate at the University of California Cooperative Extension, San Mateo

- Developed and delivered client-engagement content and training focusing on sustainable agriculture for 30+ public presentations, Continuing Education (CE) trainings, and organized 4 hands-on workshops in San Mateo County
- Community building through responding to local client needs by writing grants to fund an interactive program that improves Bay Area children's access to healthy foods and sustainable living, resulting in 2 publications and program replication in other counties
- Natural resource project management examining rangeland insect communities with respect to cattle grazing regimes and invasive medusahead to identify IPM strategies

Researcher & Project Management

Jan 2014 – Feb 2016

Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of California Riverside

- Organized and managed multiple concurrent ecosystem service projects, which included writing 4 grants, full project design, staff training, data collection, and interdisciplinary cross-field synergies with other scientists resulting in 4 scientific publications and major technical report for US Navy and Federal lands regarding resource management, invasive species removal, and re-vegetation
- Created a community collaboration among local state park, California Conservation Corps, and university to establish an educational pollinator garden at the California Historic Citrus State Park. Results for water-wise, fire-resistant, and pollinator-friendly plant recommendations share through educational public presentations, outreach material, scientific talks, and peer-reviewed scientific publication

Scientific Researcher / Senior Project Manager

Aug 2008 – Dec 2013

Graduate Researcher at Pennsylvania State University

- Initiated a new line of research in an existing lab focusing on sustainable agriculture and natural resource conservation, which involved individually raising \$100K+ in grant funding through winning 3 grants as an academic student researcher
- Managed all administration of 3 concurrent grants, and served as program manager which involved: training a new team, managing data collection & analysis, regular communication with project partners and stakeholders, and distributing results through academic papers, scientific talks, public presentations, and public outreach materials

Education

Ph.D. Entomology – Pennsylvania State University	2008 - 2013
B.S. Environmental Systems – University of California San Diego	2002 - 2006