

# **Jesse Montes** B.A. (with Distinction), M.N.R.M., EP, P.Ag.

Gender: Male

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## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **Lecturer – Environmental Studies**

July 2013 – Present

Royal Thimphu College

- Curriculum development, lesson planning, lecturing, student advising.
- Courses conducted: Introduction to Environment, Environmental Planning and Impact Assessment, Ecotourism
- Position based out of Thimphu, Bhutan.

### **Technical Advisor – Environmental Management**

March 2012 – Present

Plateau Perspectives

- General oversight and management of Plateau Perspectives' capacity building projects, with focus on development of community ecotourism in the Sanjiangyuan area
- Support for the further development of co-management approach to conservation in the Sanjiangyuan National Nature Reserve, with focus on technical training for wildlife research and conservation
- Position based out of Xining, Qinghai, China.

### **Environmental Management Officer**

August 2008 – March 2012

BC Ministry of Environment

- Duties include project management of policy initiatives, project coordination of numerous policy and regulatory reviews, working with team members to effectively communicate ministry activities to key stakeholders, development of best practices for regulatory development, and organizing workshops and training opportunities.
- This position has required me to develop proficiency in numerous areas such as community waste reduction, financial securities, acid rain, waste water management, air emissions, land use, integrated pest management and renewable energies.

### **Researcher/Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Team Member**

July 2008 – Sept. 2008

The King's University College

- Duties included conducting a review of literature, data collection, data analysis, community interviews and the production of an EIA report.
- Other responsibilities included coordinating meetings with various Tanzanian government organizations, budgeting and tracking expenditures, research planning, international travel, and presenting findings.

### **Environmental Technician – Soil & Ground Water Remediation**

Sept. 2005 – April 2006

Biogenie

- Responsibilities involved conducting large scale on-site remediation of contaminated soil and groundwater, mostly in the context of the Alberta oil & gas sector. I was required to have knowledge of sampling methodology and periodically conducted soil and groundwater testing in order to determine the extent of contamination.

### **Research Technologist – Wetland Hydrology**

May 2005 – Sept. 2005

University of Alberta

- Responsibilities included setting up field research sites, data collection, and data analysis. Weekly visits to the sites were conducted in order to download information to a field laptop. Information was then used in spreadsheet analyses.

## **EDUCATION**

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### **PhD Candidate – Social Sciences**

2015 - present

Wageningen University

Netherlands

Thesis: *Exploring Neoliberal Elements of Ecotourism Policy and Implementation: The Case Study of Bhutan*

- Thesis focused on Political Ecology and Post-Structural interpretations of neoliberal trends in environmental management. Ecotourism in Bhutan is explored as a specific case study drawing on the discourse of Gross National Happiness.

### **Masters of Natural Resources Management**

2006-2008

University of Manitoba

Winnipeg, MB

**GPA: 4.0 (4.5 scale)**

Thesis: *Community Environmental Assessment in Rural Kenya – Decision Making for the Future*

- Thesis focused on adult education theories and their application for improving environmental decision-making.
- Interdisciplinary program covering numerous issues such as: environmental sustainability, public participation, social impacts, economics, natural resource management, policy development/analysis, environmental impact assessment, and environmental law.

### **Bachelor of Arts (with Distinction) (Environmental Studies)**

1998-2002

The King's University College

Edmonton, AB

**GPA: 3.54 (4point scale)**

- Partial fulfillment of this degree included a three-month internship in Honduras. Duties included educating locals on natural resources, establishment of a natural history museum, photography of local flora & fauna, and report writing

## REFERENCES

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**John Sinclair, Ph. D. – Professor, Natural Resources Institute**

Natural Resources Institute  
University of Manitoba  
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**Harry Spaling, Ph. D. – Vice President Academic & Professor, The King's University College**

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