



Student Interns Advance Conservation Efforts

March 2017 Snapshots

Student interns are an integral part of the work done at BWSR and the opportunities are a win-win for both BWSR and students. Working with BWSR Technical Services staff, student interns have played a key role in furthering the field of conservation while gaining valuable, hands-on experience.

Interns have helped develop a wide range of technical resources designed to assist local government staff. Dan Shaw is BWSR's Senior Ecologist and Vegetation Specialist and has also been an adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota for the last fifteen years. This connection with the University has allowed him to connect with many talented students.

Jennifer Moeller is BWSR's most recent student intern. She is in the University of Minnesota's Landscape Architecture program and worked with BWSR part-time and full-time between May 2016 and January 2017, bringing a variety of technical and graphical skills. She spent much of her time developing a new database for the development of conservation seed mixes and helping to develop 45 new mixes for a variety of conservation uses from pollinator plots to slope stabilizing and conservation grazing.

She also assisted with writing featured plant articles, updating BWSR's Pollinator Toolbox and "What's Working" webpage, developing pollinator guidance for landfills, developing wetland restoration guidance, and updating BWSR's Landscape Resiliency and Climate Adaptation Toolbox.

Jennifer says, "I value being able to see multiple perspectives of my potential future work. BWSR has provided a wonderful opportunity to observe experts in the field, in the office and supporting the greater community." She also stated that, "the breadth of projects and trainings I was invited to participate in has benefited me greatly. I am more knowledgeable and aware of myself as a professional and am very grateful for the time and opportunities at BWSR."



BWSR Student Intern Jennifer Moeller reviewing pollinator materials with Senior Ecologist Dan Shaw.