

ERIN RECHSTEINER

Awarded the 2008 Bulkley Valley Research Centre's Irving Fox Memorial Scholarship for Natural Resources Research Management



Erin Rechsteiner is the 2008 recipient of the Bulkley Valley Research Centre's Irving Fox Memorial Scholarship for Natural Resources Research Management. The fourth-year Bachelor of Science student, who is specializing in aquatic biology and geography at Vancouver Island University, has worked for several years in the natural resource management sector.

Erin's experience includes working as the natural resource management summer student project coordinator with the Ministry of Forests and Range in Queen Charlotte City in 2007. She worked as a park warden in Robson Bight Ecological Reserve near Alert Bay, B.C. this past summer, recording orca behaviour and educating boaters about marine mammal safety. She has also worked as an ecological monitoring technician for the Nature Conservancy of Canada, where she monitored protected areas on Vancouver Island and the Squamish Valley, and has been an instructor for Malaspina College and Outward Bound in a wide variety of outdoor activities, including mountaineering and sea and river kayaking. She is currently studying at Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre collecting data for her undergraduate research project, which studies *Astraea gibberosa* (red turban snail) and *Orthasterias koehlerii* (painted sea star) interactions in kelp forest ecosystems.

Erin's ultimate goal is to continue in the natural resource sector as a wildlife biologist, and to return to northern BC to work in the ecosystem management field.