

Oren Hoffman, PhD.

Vegetation and ecosystem ecologist, agroecologist

2449 Elendil Ln. #3, Davis, CA - (530) 979-3087 – ohhoffman@gmail.com

EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Desert Ecology, Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, 2016

Dissertation: Assessing Vegetation Community and Ecosystem Responses to Environmental Drivers Using a Structural-Functional State and Transition Model.

Dissertation supervisors: Prof. Bertrand Boeken, Dr. Hezi Yizhaq

- M.Sc., Desert Studies, Jacob Blaustein Institute for Desert Research, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, 2011

Dissertation: Positive feedback interactions between annual plants and geomorphic processes in northern Negev semi-arid shrubland.

Dissertation supervisor: Prof. Bertrand Boeken

- B.Sc. Agr. (with honors), The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Biotechnology and the Environment, The Hebrew University, 2009

Major: Plant sciences, focus on nature preservation and open land management

RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE OVERVIEW

- 10+ years of field experience, including plant species identification, plant and soil sampling, field and lab soil measurements, soil incubation and greenhouse gas measurements, various cover estimation techniques, field validation of remote-sensing, and GPS/GIS documentation of wildlife.
- Computer skills - Experience with MS Office, ArcGIS (and other GIS) software, statistical analysis using Excel, statistical software and R, basic website edits.
- Other relevant experience – performing and presenting scientific work, writing research grant proposals, research progress reports, reviewing and editing scientific articles, organizing and moderating academic conferences, inter-agency and multiple stakeholder collaboration.

EMPLOYMENT

1. Postdoctoral researcher

Microbial Ecology lab- Dept. of Land, Air & Water Resources, UC Davis

Supervised by Prof. Kate Scow

- Managed two separate projects focused on agricultural management in organic field-crop production, including forage systems, vegetable crops, and integrated crop-livestock systems
- Managed lab safety reviews and training
- Supervised work by undergraduate student assistants
- Helped develop protocols for field and lab measurements

2. Research Assistant

University of California Cooperative Extension

May-November 2019

- Collected and analyzed field data on tree physiology (leaf water status), canopy size, and harvest yield
- Prepared reports of all data I collected
- Researched and prepared extension material on specialty perennial crops for the Sacramento Valley region

3. Ecologist, Nature survey project manager

Open Landscape Institute, Steinhardt Museum of Natural History, Tel-Aviv University

July 2016 – September 2018

- Headed a scenic-natural assessment in the Negev highlands
- Headed the vegetation monitoring field work within the national biodiversity monitoring program
- Participated in developing monitoring and survey methods of vegetation in desert ecosystems
- Wrote a mini-review for use as a basis in planning of ecological monitoring at Ashalim chemical spill site

4. Field technician

Dr. Itamar Giladi lab, BIDR, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

March 2016 – May 2016

- Field work – navigated by jeep or foot to field sites, collected specimens of plant species

VOLUNTEER AND FELLOWSHIP EXPERIENCE

1. UC Davis Postdoc Research Symposium committee member

2. Swiss Institute for Desert Environment and Energy student symposia

Organizing committee member July 2012 – June 2015

- Inviting foreign and local researchers to give lectures, managing schedule
- Managed event budget and logistics
- Co-edited special editions of peer-reviewed journal dedicated to symposia subjects and lecturers

3. Ben-Gurion University Sde Boqer campus student council

Campus coordinator August 2010 – July 2012

- Developed coordination between main university campus and research institute campus
- Coordinated and managed budget between student bodies of campuses
- Coordinated services by outside contractors

4. Ramat Hanegev Young Professional Forum

Volunteer, co-founder and fellow September 2011 – September 2014

- Organized and promoted cultural activities for young professionals
- Helped build a regional network of young entrepreneurs
- Assisted in producing and hosting over 50 events, including lectures, field trips, musical performances, and public debates

PUBLICATIONS

1. **Hoffman, O.**, Yitzhaq, H., and Boeken, B. (2013) Small-scale effects of woody and herbaceous vegetation on sediment dispersal under field conditions. *Catena* 109: 157-163.
 2. Greenbaum, G., **Hoffman, O.**, Shalev, O. and Zelnik, Y. R. (2015) Complex networks in ecology. *The Israel Journal of Ecology and Evolution* 61: 67-68. DOI: 10.1080/15659801.2016.1145890
 3. **Hoffman, O.**, DeFalco, N., Yitzhaq, H., and Boeken, B. (2016) Annual plant diversity decreases across scales following widespread ecosystem engineer shrub mortality. *Journal of Vegetation Science* 27: 578-586. DOI: 10.1111/jvs.12372
 4. **Hoffman, O.**, Yitzhaq, H., and Boeken, B. (2017) Shifts in landscape ecohydrological structural-functional relationship driven by experimental manipulations and ecological interactions. *Ecohydrology* 2017; 10: e1806. DOI: 10.1002/eco.1806.
 5. **Hoffman, O.**, Rotem, G., Shalev, O., Mendelsohn, A., Zivan, Z., Bar-natan, D., Ron, M., Perelberg, A., Kagan, G., and Ramon, U., (2019) Scenic-Natural Survey of Halukim Ridge and Upper Zin Wadi. Open Landscape Institute, Tel Aviv University.
- **20+ Oral presentations in academic conferences and departmental seminars**

LANGUAGE SKILLS: English (mother tongue), Hebrew (mother tongue), Spanish (fluent)

CITIZENSHIP: Israeli, American