

# NICHOLAS G. TAIT

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## PROFILE

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Geographer and writer with over six years of experience combining technical skills in geospatial analysis, science communication, and biological monitoring. Creates compelling stories and data visualizations that impact natural resource management decisions and educate a wide audience on important environmental topics. Highly motivated and creative team player currently serving as GIS Specialist for AECOM. Recently graduated from Penn State with a master's degree in Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### **GIS Specialist II** | AECOM | September 2024 – Present

- Provide daily geospatial support and coordination for federal clients
- Fulfill map requests and data requests to enhance management operations
- Educate clients on the importance and functionality of GIS tools to increase knowledge and efficiency
- Ensure data quality and maintain geospatial databases to provide updated and accurate information

### **Ecology Assistant (GIS Project Lead)** | National Park Service | November 2023 – August 2024

- Led the development of invasive plant management plans for NCR parks
- Used ArcGIS and Adobe products to compile data and created maps for internal process evaluations
- Supported science communication efforts to produce informational products

### **Science Communicator** | National Park Service | November 2022 – November 2023

- Communicated natural resource projects through articles for a technical and nontechnical audience
- Created promotional conservation pages on the NPS website using a Content Management System
- Worked closely with management both within and outside NPS to identify communication goals
- Created data visualizations including maps and graphs using ArcGIS Pro to accompany written work

### **Forestry and GIS Research Assistant** | Yale School of the Environment | October 2021 – July 2022

- Researched information on US forest carbon from divergent sources and compiled it into reports
- Collected leaf litter and soil samples in the field to assess carbon cycling in temperate US forests
- Compiled forest carbon datasets from disparate sources to gain an overview of US carbon stocks
- Created custom maps and summarized statistical data of carbon cycling to be included in reports

### **Seasonal Forestry Assistant** | Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station | May 2021 – September 2021

- Collected multivariate forestry data to provide a baseline for future change detection analysis
- Created map and brochure on native shrub garden to inform and guide farm visitors

### **Biological Science Technician** | National Park Service | April 2019 – August 2020

- Collected field data on forest vegetation health to provide key information to park leadership
- Created informational presentations to train new employees and volunteers
- Reviewed and edited scientific reports to prepare for publication
- Led volunteers and interns in field work activities

## EDUCATION

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**Pennsylvania State University** | Master of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) | 2024

**St. Mary's College of Maryland** | Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies | 2017