

Student Profile

Marcus Goncalves – Master of Conservation and Restoration Science Program



Your Time at UCI

What made you decide to pursue a graduate degree?

After a long break, I decided to go back to the Biological Sciences and there was a need to update my knowledge in Conservation Sciences, as well as to gain knowledge about California's ecology.

Why did you choose to come to UCI?

I chose UCI for the Masters in Conservation and Restoration Sciences. In fact, I waited about two years for this program to open from the time I first heard about it.

What are your hobbies/passions outside of research?

"Backyarding" is my favorite past time. That includes, gardening, building and teaching natural sciences to our two children. We also hike a lot and hang at the beach, where we engage in various water activities.

Reflections

What are you most proud of accomplishing (so far) in your graduate program?

I have developed a rich network within the Habitat Restoration industry, which was one of my primary goals for going back to school for a graduate degree.

Career

What do you see yourself doing in five or ten years?

In the short term, I will pursue opportunities to gain experience within an environmental consulting business. In the long term, I hope my earned experiences will lead me to a public position in environmental regulation and enforcement, as I see that as the most important driver in conservation.