

Kel Rayens

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Education

Master of Science, Forestry Social and Economic Sciences

July 2013 – December 2015; University of Kentucky (Lexington, KY, US)

Thesis research (sponsored by Rwanda Wildlife Conservation Society):

- Multi-criteria analysis of tools for protecting ecosystem services of the Lake Kivu basin
- Survey evaluation of households using energy-efficient cookstoves and alternative energy technologies for decreased fuelwood dependence near Rwanda's Nyungwe National Park

Thesis title: *The Use of Improved Technology and Market-Based Incentives to Increase Forest Resource and Biodiversity Conservation in Rwanda*

Bachelor of Arts, Political Anthropology and German

August 2005 – December 2008; The College of Wooster (Wooster, OH, US)

and Humboldt Universität (Berlin, Germany)

Thesis title: *Easton's Systems Theory in Three German Political Regimes*

Work

Research Associate, BBC Research & Consulting

October 2017 – present (Denver, CO, US)

- Water and natural resource economics
- Diversity and disparity research in regional US markets

Tutor, Quantitative Analysis and Mathematics

November 2016 – October 2017 (Denver, CO, US)

- Individual and group tutoring for GRE mathematics
- Specialization in applied quantitative analysis

Conservation Research Fellow, Denver Zoo, Department of Conservation and Research

June 2015 – October 2016 (Denver, CO, US)

- Human dimensions researcher with wild bison reintroduction in Colorado
- Survey design and administration, public engagement, data collection, statistical analysis

Research Associate, Wildlife Conservation Society, Rwanda Program

May 2014 – June 2015 (Kigali and Gisakura, Rwanda)

- P.I. of two studies assessing economic and technological incentives for ecosystem service protection near Nyungwe National Park
- Survey design, data collection, statistical analysis, technical report writing

Caption Producer, Television New Zealand (TVNZ)

September 2012 – July 2013 (Auckland, New Zealand)

- High-quality captions for television in a fast-paced media environment
- Exceptional and rapid command of English syntax, grammar, and spelling

Finance Specialist, Visionstream New Zealand

June 2011 – September 2012 (Auckland, New Zealand)

- Financial liaison between this CSP and its independent contractors
- In-house accounting, logistics, contract billing, and equipment management

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Publications & Presentations	<p>K.C., B., Stainback, G.A., & Rayens, K. (2015). Comparison of three major forest types of the mid-hills region of Nepal for conservation and local benefits. <i>Small-scale Forestry</i>.</p> <p>Rayens, K. Presentation: <i>Stakeholder evaluation of the potential of market-based instruments (MBIs) for conservation in Rwanda</i>. Western Forest Economists & International Society of Forest Resource Economics Annual Conference. Vancouver, B.C. May 31 – June 2, 2015.</p>
Manuscripts in Progress	<p>Rayens, K., Stainback, G.A., & Masozera, M. Factors affecting adoption and use of improved cookstoves near Rwanda's Nyungwe National Park.</p> <p>Rayens, K., Stainback, G.A., & Masozera, M. Agricultural cooperatives' perceptions of market-based instruments for conservation near Rwanda's Nyungwe National Park.</p>
Awards & Grants	<p>University of Kentucky Department of Forestry Academic Excellence Award (2015)</p> <p>Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Eastern Afromontane Biodiversity Hotspot Grant (2014)</p> <p>The College of Wooster Copeland Fund Independent Research Grant (2008)</p> <p>The College of Wooster College Scholar Merit Award (2005-2008)</p>
Skills & Certifications	<p>CITI Human Subjects Research certification</p> <p>Member, International Society of Forest Resource Economics</p> <p>Member, Denver Evaluation Network</p> <p>Member, Society for Technical Communication</p> <p>Conversational fluency in German</p> <p>Basic conversation in Kinyarwanda</p> <p>International travel and research experience</p>
Interests	<p>Environmental equity; evaluation studies; conservation social science; statistical analysis; ecological economics, science communication; environmental valuation; survey and focus group methodologies; program evaluation; multi-criteria analysis</p>
