

## **Planning and Conservation League Executive Summary**

The Planning and Conservation League was an interesting and educational internship site, and I believe it made my UCCS experience truly beneficial. A small office of only thirteen staff and a varying number of interns makes for a close and comfortable working environment. The Planning and Conservation League partners with other California environmental organizations in order to maintain a presence and voice at the Capitol regarding environmental policies that affect everyone. Specializing in a wide range of environmental issues, such as water policy, global warming, land use, and public health and the environment, PCL can cater to a variety of interests. Each internship at PCL is unique depending on which program is joined.

I spent my time at PCL interning with executive director Traci Sheehan. My quarter-long project was starting the update process of the Central Valley Grassroots Guide, which once finished will be an online directory of groups and organizations working on similar environmental issues unique or problematic for the Central Valley area. Most of my time at PCL was spent independently researching environmental issues of the Central Valley, emailing/calling organization contacts to obtain submissions and information for the guide, and attending meetings to keep informed about prominent issues PCL was dealing with. I mostly enjoyed my time at PCL because of the independence I was given to plan my project and then implement that plan based on my own personal style; in a sense, I was my own project manager which was a great growing experience. PCL is an intern-friendly environment and as the legislature was not in session during my time there (Fall quarter), I know that during other quarters interns are given important responsibilities such as dropping off letters to the Capitol, doing legislative research, or even attending hearings and meetings on bills PCL is supporting at the time.