

# MITCH TOBIN

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## EDUCATION

**University of California at Berkeley**, Berkeley, CA

M.A. in Political Science, May 1997

Honors: Winner, Ira and Georgia Abraham University Fellowship (1996-1998)

**Yale University**, New Haven, CT

B.A. in Ethics, Politics and Economics, May 1992, with distinction

Honors: *Summa Cum Laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*, highest G.P.A. in residential college

## EXPERIENCE

**Sea to Snow LLC**, Denver, CO: Owner

Manage my own consulting business that helps clients with communications strategy, writing/editing, presentations, policy research, data visualization, and grantmaking evaluations. (9/14 to present)

**California Environmental Associates**, San Francisco, CA: Communications Director

Provided non-partisan policy analysis and evaluated grantmaking for philanthropic foundations. Clients included: David and Lucile Packard Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Walton Family Foundation, and ClimateWorks Foundation. Managed a grant/contract budget of more than \$250,000 per year. (4/07 to 2/15)

**ClimateWorks Foundation**, San Francisco, CA: Communications Officer

Responsibilities included writing, editing, presentations, case studies, and policy analysis. Developed materials for executive team, board of directors, external partners, funders, and the public. Co-wrote final report for "Design to Win," the research effort that led funders to commit \$1 billion to the foundation. (5/08 to 12/09)

**Alicia Patterson Foundation**, Washington, DC: Fellow

Won a grant from American journalism's oldest writing fellowship to support research on endangered species of the American Southwest. This work culminated in my first book, *Endangered: Biodiversity on the Brink*, which was published by Fulcrum in 2010 and won a gold medal in the Independent Publisher Book Awards. (3/06 to 9/06)

**Arizona Daily Star**, Tucson, AZ: Staff Writer

Environment writer for four years, specializing in water, wildlife, and wildfires. Also developed a new beat, Southern Arizona Reporter, which focused on the border, outlying communities, database reporting, and enterprise/investigative packages for Sunday paper. Named *Star's* Employee of the Year in 2002. (2/01 to 3/06)

**Pima Community College**, Tucson, AZ: Adjunct Instructor

Taught course on newspaper publishing and served as faculty adviser to student newspaper. Designed and taught a workshop on science and nature writing. (8/04 to 12/04 and 10/05)

**Tucson Citizen**, Tucson, AZ: Staff Writer

Covered city hall and science/research at University of Arizona. Named *Citizen's* Reporter of the Year in 2000. (10/99 to 2/01)

**Napa Valley Register**, Napa, CA: Staff Writer

County and environment reporter. Beat included: Board of Supervisors, local congressional district, land use, and a \$1 billion flood control project. (7/98 to 9/99)

## SPECIAL SKILLS

- Photographer (<http://mitch.photos>) and videographer (<https://vimeo.com/mitchtobin>)
- Conversant in Spanish (volunteer English teacher in Ecuador from 9/94 to 4/95)
- Experienced with database, mapping, statistical, data visualization, web design, and digital image programs, including Excel, ArcGIS, Google Earth, Tableau, WordPress, HTML/CSS, Photoshop, Lightroom, and Premiere Pro
- FAA-certified remote pilot with a small unmanned aircraft system rating (license #4002345)
- PSIA Level I ski instructor: alpine and children's specialist (member #258246)

## **JOURNALISM AWARDS AND HONORS**

### **2012**

Media Fellow, The Bill Lane Center for the American West at Stanford University

### **2011**

Gold medal in Environment/Ecology/Nature category from Independent Publisher Book Awards, for *Endangered*

### **2007**

UNLV University Forum Lecture on the Endangered Species Act

Zion Field Institute Lecture on endangered species of the Southwest

### **2006**

Winner, Six-Month Fellowship, Alicia Patterson Foundation

### **2005**

Outdoor Writer of the Year, Arizona Game and Fish Department

Winner, Summer Media Fellowship, Environmental Law Center, Vermont Law School

1<sup>st</sup> place, Environmental Reporting, Arizona Associated Press Managing Editors, for “Thirsty Cities” series

2<sup>nd</sup> place, Environmental Reporting, Arizona Press Club, for “Thirsty Cities” series

Participant, Scripps Howard Institute on the Environment, University of Colorado School of Journalism

### **2004**

Finalist, John B. Oakes Award for Distinguished Environmental Journalism, for “Arizona’s Endangered Species”

2<sup>nd</sup> place, Environmental Reporting, Arizona Associated Press Managing Editors, for “Arizona’s Endangered Species”

### **2003**

Nominated for Pulitzer Prize in Local News Coverage for reporting on Aspen Fire

Environmental Journalism Fellowship at National Tropical Botanical Gardens, Kauai, Hawaii

Arizona Press Club

1<sup>st</sup> place, Online Breaking News, for coverage of Aspen Fire

3<sup>rd</sup> place, Environmental Reporting, for “Dwindling Snowmelt”

Arizona Associated Press Managing Editors Association

2<sup>nd</sup> place, Environmental Reporting, for “Dwindling Snowmelt”

3<sup>rd</sup> place, Enterprise Reporting, for special section on Aspen Fire

### **2002**

*Arizona Daily Star* Employee of the Year

Nominated for Pulitzer Prize in Local News Coverage for reporting on wildfires and University of Arizona shootings

Best of the West, Walter Cronkite School of Journalism, Arizona State University

3<sup>rd</sup> place, Environment and Natural Resources Reporting, for coverage of Arizona wildfires

Arizona Associated Press Managing Editors Association

1<sup>st</sup> place, Environmental Reporting, for “Our Perilous Public Lands” series

Honorable Mention, Beat Reporting, for coverage of wildfires

Arizona Press Club

2<sup>nd</sup> place, Environmental Reporting, for “Our Perilous Public Lands” series

3<sup>rd</sup> place, Explanatory Reporting, for “Endangered Species or Land Grab?”

3<sup>rd</sup> place, Beat Reporting, for coverage of wildlife issues

### **2001**

2<sup>nd</sup> place and Honorable Mention, Environmental Reporting, Arizona Associated Press Managing Editors

2<sup>nd</sup> place, Environmental Reporting, Arizona Press Club

### **2000**

*Tucson Citizen* Reporter of the Year