

Jane Champion was born in the Boston area, she got her bachelor's degree in Human Ecology from College of the Atlantic in Bar Harbor, Maine. Her studies there focused on Tropical Marine Ecology and Conservation, including working with a sea turtle rescue organization in Kenya. She has spent the last ten years working for the National Outdoor Leadership School based out of Lander, Wyoming. This work includes leading 30 day backpacking or horse packing trips in the United States as well as International locations including Mexico, Canada, and India. These courses focus on developing leadership skills, group dynamics, and environmental studies.

Jane first came to Belize in 2010 as a field assistant at the country's only spider monkey research site at Runaway Creek Nature Reserve. She went on to get her Master's degree in primatology from the University of Calgary, conducting her research at the same location in Belize. Her thesis focused on the effects of Hurricane Richard on the local population of spider monkeys. She continued to manage the research site after she received her degree. Since 2010, she has also led an annual primatology field school with undergraduate students in Monkey River, Belize. This month-long field school focuses on behavioural data collection of howler monkeys as well as vegetation research collection.

Jane will be co-teaching the Wildlife Ecology and Conservation course with the Institute for Sustainable International Studies, beginning the winter of 2014.