

## NINA OAKLEY

**Nina Oakley**, one of our Nevada state CoCoRaHS co-coordinators, is a research climatologist with the Western Regional Climate Center in Reno, Nevada. Nina holds a bachelor's degree in geography and Spanish from the University of Santa Barbara, California, a master's degree in atmospheric science from University of Nevada, Reno, and is currently working on a doctoral degree in atmospheric science at UNR. Her main research interests are closed lows, slow moving low pressure systems that occur frequently in the West and can bring large amounts of precipitation to the region. Nina also completed a Teacher Education Program at the University of Hawaii, Manoa and spent five years as a science teacher in Hawaii and California.

Nina first became interested in weather as a teenager growing up surfing in California. Having some knowledge of weather helped in predicting when swells would arrive and which beaches would have the best conditions for quality waves. Now, living in the Great Basin, Nina uses her knowledge of weather to plan long distance paddling excursions on Lake Tahoe and other lakes in the region and competes in local outrigger canoe and stand-up paddleboard races. In addition to water sports, Nina enjoys backcountry snowboarding, mountain biking, running, cooking, and cloud watching.

