



## 2006-2007 WA-AWRA Student Fellowship Recipients

**Arden Thomas** is working toward a Master of Science degree through the University's College of Forest Resources. Her thesis work on "Identifying the cause of mortality in Bear Creek freshwater mussels" is being directed by Drs. Susan Bolton and Carolyn Friedman. Ms. Thomas hopes to determine the cause of mussel die offs that occur in streams where historic monitoring programs do not indicate water quality problems by using the ecophysiology of the western pearlshell mussel. Arden plans to complete the work by the end of 2007.

**Amy Yahnke's** work is focused on "Residential chemical use relative to storm water pond quality and amphibians." Dr. Jim Fridley of the University's College of Forest Resources is directing Amy's work. In her work Amy plans to investigate the impact that yard and garden chemicals, herbicides and insecticides, have on amphibians living in King County storm water ponds. Ultimately the work should lead to a better understanding of the types of amphibians occupying storm water ponds and the types of home chemicals that impact their populations. Amy intends to complete her studies MS studies in 2009 then carrying the work forward to a PhD program.