

Jessica Whelpley

Curriculum Vitae

Contact Information:

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EDUCATION

2013 B.S. Biology, Marine Biology & Ecology Concentrations, Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT. Minor in Mathematics.

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

Undergraduate: Marine Invertebrate Zoology, Special Topics Seminar: Principles of Aquaculture, Biology Research (2 semesters), Evolutionary Biology, Genetics, Vertebrate Zoology, Freshwater Ecology, Organic Chemistry I & II, General Physics I & II and Accelerated Statistics

EMPLOYMENT

- 2014 **Contractor with the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History working with their Deep-Sea Hydrothermal Vent Collection, Washington, DC.**
- Catalog, curate, and label backlogged samples and newly sorted samples (~1200 lots).
 - Organized data set of dive information from *Alvin*, *Cyana*, *Pisces IV*, *Sea Cliff* & *Turtle* (1977-2010).
 - Sorted and counted mixed lot samples by taxa from various hydrothermal vents (~30 lots).
 - Supervised two summer interns on the hydrothermal vent collection project.
- 2014 **Coastal Monitoring Assistant at the Marine Environmental Research Institute, Blue Hill, ME.**
- Oversaw wet and dry lab in research facility.
 - Assisted in managing the microplastic research project, locally and internationally. Received and processed 1 L water samples and counted microplastic particles in order to quantify the density of microplastic in marine waters and identify point sources of microplastic pollution.
 - Prepared presentations regarding invasive *Hemigrapsus sanguineus* for local fishing community.
- 2013 **Coastal Monitoring Intern at the Marine Environmental Research Institute, Blue Hill, ME.**
- Conducted in situ water quality monitoring using a DataSonde multi-parameter probe.
 - Performed water chemistry analysis and bacterial assays.
 - Monitored phytoplankton for the Maine Department of Marine Resources in Blue Hill and Penobscot Bays.
 - Monitored invasive species and native lobster and crab species using lobster traps.
 - Monitored pinniped haul-out sites and responded to pinniped strandings.
 - Assisted with data entry, analysis and field log updates.
 - Oversaw a large portion of the volunteer water quality program.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- 2014 Participant on Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute's Northern Expedition 2014 to Axial Seamount on R/V *Western Flyer* with ROV *Doc Ricketts* (10 days).
- Collected, photographed, took tissue samples and fixed Enteropneusts from the family Torquaratoridae, swimming acrocirrid polychaetes and polynoids for Dr. Karen Osborn.

- Helped volcanologists prepare sediment core samples for further analysis upon return to harbor.
- 2013 Team member with Projeto Tamar in Farol de Sao Thome, Brazil.
 - Worked with Projeto Tamar in Farol de Sao Thome, Brazil to measure how beach lighting affects ocean finding capabilities of *Caretta caretta* hatchlings.
- 2012-2013 Research Assistant (Dr. Diane Brousseau), Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT.
 - Looked at the size specific fecundity of native *Panopeus herbstii* and invasive *Hemigrapsus sanguineus* in Long Island Sound, CT. Used microscopy photography to measure size of eggs and count number of eggs per gravid female.
 - Observed the patterns of distribution of *Carcinus maenas* in Milford Harbor, CT.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2013-2014 Microplastic concentrations along the coast of Maine and around the world. The Marine Environmental Research Institute and Adventurers & Scientist's for Conservation.
- 2013-2014 State of the Bay, Blue Hill Bay, ME. Ten-year research on the health of Blue Hill Bay and the surrounding watershed. The Marine Environmental Research Institute.
- 2013 *Caretta caretta* hatchling orientation & the affect of artificial light on sea finding. Advisors: Dr. Shannon Gerry & Dr. Ashley Byun.
- 2012-2013 Comparison of size specific fecundity between native *Panopeus herbstii* and invasive *Hemigrapsus sanguineus*. Advisor: Dr. Diane Brousseau.
- 2012-2013 Update on the biology of *Carcinus maenas* in Milford Harbor (CT, USA). Advisor: Dr. Diane Brousseau.

PRESENTATIONS

- Jan. 2015 Whelpley, J. "MBARI's 2014 Northern Expedition to Axial Seamount: Collecting Enteropneusts and swimming acrocirrid polychaetes." *Invited*: Sant Ocean Hall at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC.
- Nov. 2014 Whelpley, J., M. Berning, M. Chung, A. Blankenbicker. "The Smithsonian Institute's Deep-Sea Hydrothermal Vent Collection." Q&A at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, Washington, DC.
- 2014 Whelpley, J. "MBARI's 2014 Northern Expedition to Axial Seamount: Collecting Enteropneusts and swimming acrocirrid polychaetes." Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, Invertebrate Zoology Department Informal Talks, Washington, DC.
- 2014 Whelpley, J., M. Berning and M. Chung. "The Smithsonian Institute's Deep-Sea Hydrothermal Vent Collection." Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History Invertebrate Zoology Department Informal Talks, Washington, DC.
- 2014 Barrows, A. and J. Whelpley. "Microplastics Pollution Monitoring Project." (Poster) 2014 Maine Sea Grant Research Symposium, Orono, ME.

- 2014 Barrows, A. (presenter) and J. Whelpley. “*Carcinus maenas*: the European green shore crab along the coast of Maine.” Penobscot East Resource Center, Stonington, ME.
- 2013 “Comparison of size specific fecundity between native *Panopeus herbstii* and invasive *Hemigrapsus sanguineus*.” (Poster) 13th Annual Sigma Xi Poster Session, Fairfield, CT.
- 2013 “Update on the biology of *Carcinus maenas* in Milford Harbor (CT, USA).” (Poster) 13th Annual Sigma Xi Poster Session, Fairfield, CT.
- 2013 “Loggerhead hatchling orientation & the effect of artificial light on sea finding.” (Poster) 13th Annual Sigma Xi Poster Session, Fairfield, CT.

AWARDS & HONORS

Dean’s List: Spring & Fall 2012, Spring 2013
Sigma Xi inductee Spring 2013

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society; American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); Society for Conservation & Biology

TECHNICAL SKILLS

<i>Computer</i>	Microsoft Office including Word, Excel, Access & PowerPoint; KE Electronic Museum (EMu); Adobe LightRoom; Adobe Photoshop; SPSS; Introduction to GIS and ArcGIS with full training in December 2014
<i>Boat</i>	Worked on 30’ lobster boat; Comfortable on Boston Whalers, dinghies, sailboats and large research vessels
<i>Photography</i>	Canon EOS 5D; Leica microscope camera; Moticam
<i>Certifications</i>	IATA Special Provisions A180 & A189, August 2014; Basic Sea Survival Training, August 2014
<i>Language</i>	English (native), Spanish (proficient)
<i>Other</i>	Textural analysis of sediments using settling tube