

Tiffini J. Brookens
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EDUCATION

Master of Science, Marine Science Moss Landing Marine Laboratories/California State University Monterey Bay	2001-Present
Bachelor of Science, Marine Science & Biology, Magna cum laude Minors in Chemistry and Environmental Science Coastal Carolina University	5/2001

RESEARCH

Mercury concentrations of the Pacific harbor seal, <i>Phoca vitulina richardii</i>, in central California Master's Thesis, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories/California State University Monterey Bay	2003-Present
Tracing reproductive maturity through age, growth, and ovarian characteristics in the bottlenose dolphin, <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> Independent Undergraduate Research, National Ocean Service/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	1998

PUBLICATIONS

Mercury concentrations in the fur of the Pacific harbor seal, <i>Phoca vitulina richardii</i>, in central California Final report, San Francisco Estuarine Institute, 3004-Task 92D	6/2005
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PRESENTATIONS

Mercury concentrations in the Pacific harbor seal, <i>Phoca vitulina richardii</i>, in central California: How "hot" are they? Poster Presentation, The 16 th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals	12/2005
Mercury concentrations in the Pacific harbor seal, <i>Phoca vitulina richardii</i>, in central California Oral Presentation, American Cetacean Society, Monterey Bay and San Francisco Chapters	9 & 10/2005
How many stranded? Call-in reports vs. systematic beach surveys Poster Presentation, National Marine Mammal Stranding Network Conference	4/2005
When to call a die-off "unusual": Documenting stranding rates with systematic beach surveys Oral Presentation, California Marine Mammal Stranding Network Conference	3/2004

RECENT WORK AND VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Accounts Payable , San Jose State University Foundation, Moss Landing, CA Pay vendor invoices, facilitate administration of grants totaling \$14 million	8/01-Present
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Stranding Network Coordinator , Moss Landing Marine Labs, Moss Landing, CA Field and respond to stranding reports in Monterey County, identify/collect carcasses and perform necropsies, manage Stranding Network Database	11/02-Present
Field Researcher , Moss Landing Marine Labs, Moss Landing, CA Sample live and beachcast harbor seals, perform necropsies, sample and analyze feces	1/03-Present
Data Analyst , BeachCOMBERS, Moss Landing, CA Manage database associated with beachcast marine mammals, birds, and turtles	5/03-Present
Lab Technician , Moss Landing Marine Labs, Moss Landing, CA Aliquot, digest, and QA/QC samples for trace metals	6/04-Present
Marine Mammal Observer , Golden State Bridge Construction, Moss Landing, CA Observe marine mammal and bird behavior during construction of new Sandholdt Bridge in Moss Landing	7/05-Present
Marine Mammal Observer , Moss Landing Marine Labs, Moss Landing, CA Identify and observe behavior of tagged and untagged cetaceans, mainly large whales	9/01
Data Analyst , Stranding Network, Moss Landing, CA Input of beachcast marine mammal data into Stranding Network Database	9/01-6/02
Field Researcher/Student , Bimini Biological Field Station, Bimini, Bahamas Observed and assisted in tag/recapture of sharks, in depth field class on sharks	5/00
Toxicological Laboratory Intern , National Ocean Service, Charleston, SC Assisted with necropsies, photo id, and lab work on cetaceans; extracted, sectioned, and aged teeth and ovarian scars to correlate age, length, and maturity of stranded bottlenose dolphins	5/98-8/98

GRANTS, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Body burden assessments of total mercury in the stranded Pacific harbor seal, *Phoca vitulina richardii*, in central California
NOAA/NMFS Prescott Grant 2005

Mercury concentrations of the Pacific harbor seal, *Phoca vitulina richardii*, in central California
San Francisco Estuarine Institute Grant 2004, American Cetacean Society-Monterey Bay Chapter Grant 2004, Dr. Earl H. Myers and Ethel M. Myers Oceanographic & Marine Biology Trust 2004, National Park Service Grant-2003, American Cetacean Society-San Francisco Chapter Grant 2003, Packard Grant 2003

Phi Epsilon Sigma National Honor Society, Zeta Beta Mu National Honor Society, Alpha Mu Gamma National Honor Society, Dean's and Presidential Honor List 1996-2001, Coastal Carolina Scholar Award 1996-2001, Shuck-Klein endowment

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

Training Courses

Small boat operations, defensive driving (for state vehicles), PADI certified SCUBA diver

Skills

Proficient in Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint), QuickBooks, Systat, Resampling Stats
Use of Buehler® Isomet saw and Leica® sledge microtome for sectioning teeth; use of GC/MS
Proficient in analytical/trace metal clean techniques and digestions for metal analyses
Proficient in identifying and performing necropsies on marine mammals

