

Brianna Elliott

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EDUCATION

- 2019-present**
Durham, NC USA **PhD Candidate**, Marine Science and Conservation
Certificate in College Teaching
Duke University, Nicholas School of the Environment/Duke Marine Lab
Dissertation title: “Untangling the Critical Conservation Threat of Cetacean Bycatch in the Indian Ocean”
Advised by: Dr. Andy Read
- May 2017**
Durham, NC USA **Master of Coastal Environmental Management**
Duke University, Nicholas School of the Environment
Master’s Thesis: Examining the Role of Sound under the Endangered Species Act: A Petition to Designate Critical Habitat for Sperm Whales (*Physeter microcephalus*) in the Gulf of Mexico Based on Its Acoustic Habitat
Advised by: Dr. Andy Read and Dr. Doug Nowacek
- May 2012**
Wilmington, NC USA **Bachelor of Science**, Environmental Science; Journalism minor
University of North Carolina Wilmington, Honors College
Study Abroad: University of Queensland, Australia (Jan.-June 2011)
Honors Thesis: Honors Thesis: Assessing Impacts of Beach Nourishment on Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*) Hatching Success on Bald Head Island, NC

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Marine Policy Experience

- Feb.-June 2021** **National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection**
Foreign Affairs Specialist
Helped implement the Marine Mammal Protection Act Import Provisions Rule. Assisted with developing policy to review Comparability Finding applications for nations exporting seafood to the U.S.; led presentations and technical consultations with dozens of nations about the Import Provisions; assisted with bycatch and database analyses. Also served as portfolio lead on the Pelly Amendment.

- Mar. 2018-June 2019**
Washington, D.C., USA **U.S. Department of State, Office of Marine Conservation**
NOAA Knauss Marine Policy Fellow (March 2018-March 2019) and Foreign Affairs Officer (on contract with Kenjya-Trusant Group) (April 2019-June 2019)
Assisted with writing position papers and representing the U.S. at bilateral and multilateral fora on fisheries-focused issues such as: ensuring compliance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act Import Provisions; co-lead coordination of the Our Ocean conferences; co-lead U.S.-China fisheries portfolio; and assist with U.S. policy formulation for the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas and the

South Pacific Regional Fishery Management Organization.

**July 2017-Mar.
2018**

Washington,
D.C., USA

**National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Protected Resources (on
contract with Ocean Associates)**

*Senior Analyst, Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal
Protection Act*

Analyzed applications for Incidental Take Authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, including reviewing applications, researching and writing Federal Register proposed and final rules, reviewing and responding to public comments on regulatory actions, and writing NEPA documents.

**Sep. 2016-July
2017**

Beaufort, NC
USA

Marine Conservation Ecology Lab, Duke University

Graduate Research Assistant

Lead author on public comments focused on marine mammal/ seismic survey-related regulatory decisions. Researched and wrote article on impacts from seismic testing on protected species for publication in Endangered Species Research (in review); drafted manuscript on stock assessments under the MMPA.

May-Aug. 2016

Honolulu, HI
USA

State of Hawaii

Graduate Protected Species Policy Intern

Advanced States' efforts on protected species: (1) Wrote report on incorporating human social and cultural factors into Hawaiian monk seal management and (2) Researched and wrote Hawaii's first draft management plan for green sea turtles.

Science Communications Experience

**April 2014-Aug.
2015**

Washington, D.C.
USA

Oceana

Online Editor

Managed online content by working with scientists and policy specialists to communicate on three major campaigns: sustainable fisheries, climate change, and protected species. Wrote daily articles on new studies, rulemaking, and policy.

Jan-Nov. 2013

New York, NY

National Audubon Society

Science Reporter

Contributed to Audubon's editorial goals by translating complex studies on climate and ornithological subjects into blog posts and short magazine articles.

Field Experience

April-July 2013

Naples, FL USA

Conservancy of Southwest Florida

Sea Turtle Field Technician

Supported long-withstanding turtle monitoring program by collecting biometric data on nesting sea turtles at night via UTV; tagged turtles; assisted with hatchings.

May-October 2012

Wilmington, NC

Audubon North Carolina

Biological Technician

- Chateaubriand STEM Fellowship**
- 2021 Funding to spend up to nine months conducting research with the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission on Réunion Island (1300 euro/month)
- 2021 **Duke University Center for International and Global Studies**
Grant to purchase satellite imagery for research on gillnet fishing in the Indian Ocean (\$1500)
- 2020 **Duke University Bass Instructor of Record (*declined)**
Funding to develop and teach my own undergraduate class, currently planned as "International Living Marine Resource Policy" (\$12375)
- 2020 **Duke Graduate Training Research Enhancement Grant**
Summer internship with U.S. State Department on a project titled, "Cetacean bycatch review in regional fisheries management organizations in collaboration with the U.S. Department of State" (\$9389)
- 2019 **Duke University Bass Connections Grant**
"Reducing Global Marine Mammal Bycatch through Development of Model Marine Mammal Legislation" (\$25392)
- 2018 **John A. Knauss NOAA Marine Policy Fellowship**
Placed with U.S. Department of State, Office of Marine Conservation (\$61500)
- 2016 **Edna Bailey Sussman Fund**
Awarded to support policy research on protected species management with the state of Hawaii (\$6000)

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2017 Duke Law Clinic Environmental Advocacy Award
- 2017 Forever Duke Award
- 2017 Best Student Poster, International Sea Turtle Society
- 2016 Duke Nicholas School of the Environment Alumni Council Fellowship

TEACHING AND MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- Spring 2022* **Coastal Resilience**
Teaching Assistant
- Summer 2021* **Humans and Changing Oceans**
Teaching Assistant
- Fall 2020* **Duke Bass Connections course, "Reducing Global Marine Mammal Bycatch through Development of Model Marine Mammal Legislation"**
Co-leader/instructor

Fall 2019, 2021

Ocean and Coastal Law and Policy, Duke University
Teaching Assistant

Spring 2016

Environmental Communication, Duke University
Teaching Assistant

*January 2020-
present*

Mentor to several Duke master's students conducting marine mammal science and policy research under Dr. Andy Read
- *Fall 2021-Spring 2022: US MMPA stock assessment review*
- *Spring 2020-2021: US MMPA stock assessment review (2 students)*
- *Fall 2020: Gulf of Mexico marine mammal depredation project*

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Jan. 2020-Mar. 2020
Durham, NC, USA

Animal Protection Society of Durham
Dog Care Volunteer

Dec. 2008-May 2009
Wilmington, NC, USA

Fort Fisher Aquarium
Education Volunteer

Summers 2005-2008
Bald Head Island, NC

Bald Head Island Conservancy
Education and Sea Turtle Volunteer

PROFESSIONAL SOCIETAL MEMBERSHIP

- Society for Marine Mammalogy, January 2017-present
- Society for Conservation Biology, January 2017-present
- International Sea Turtle Society, October 2015-present

GRADUATE STUDENT SERVICE AT DUKE UNIVERSITY

- Grant application reviewer, Duke University Graduate Student Training and Enhancement Grants, March 2022
- Graduate student representative, Marine Science and Conservation division, June 2021-present
- Seminar series coordinator, Marine Science and Conservation division, June 2020-2021
- Fellowship application reviewer, Knauss Marine Policy Fellowship, May 2020
- Policy coordinator, Ocean and Policy Working Ground, 2016-2017
- Student blogger, Nicholas School of the Environment, 2015-2017

SKILLS

- *Languages:* English (native), French (beginner), Indonesian (beginner)
- *U.S. environmental law and policy:* Advanced literacy, understanding, and application of key environmental statutes, including the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, Coastal Zone Management Act, Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, and Clean Water Act;
- *International environmental policy:* Served on U.S. delegations to the U.S.-China fisheries bilateral meeting in Chengdu, China (June 2018), the annual meeting Agreement on the International

Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP) in San Diego, California (August 2018), the 2018 Our Ocean conference in Bali, Indonesia (October 2018), the 57th meeting of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, in Dubrovnik, Croatia (November 2018), the 3rd Meeting of the Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks in Monaco (December 2018), and the Seventh Meeting of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization in The Hague, Netherlands (January 2019);

- *Computer:* R, ArcGIS, Wordpress, MATLAB, Drupal, Microsoft Office, Adobe Creative Suite;
- *Interpersonal:* Excellent public speaking, organizational, interpersonal and multitasking skills; highly adaptable to working in multiple work environments, cultures, and paces;
- *Certifications:* PADI Open Water Diver, Wilderness First Aid, CPR and AED;