
PATRICE HOSTETTER

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Diverse background spanning field research, wildlife observation, and environmental education. Experience in data collection, analysis, and project management. Led and mentored teams of interns, divemaster trainees, and aerial observers. Public educator to a wide range of audiences and mediums.

WORK HISTORY

Assistant Scientist I, 5/2024-Current

New England Aquarium – Boston, United States

Collected in-flight survey data and photo documentation for analysis, following data collection protocols. Analyzed digital imagery for species detection and identifications. Conducted data quality checking and assurance, assisted with summarizing data, and writing reports. Assisted with right whale photo-identification and catalog processing.

- Accumulated 123 hours of aerial surveys

North Atlantic Right Whale Aerial Observer, 11/2021 - 03/2024

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission – Saint Augustine, United States

Implemented data collection protocols and collected in-flight survey data and right whale photo documentation for analysis. Facilitated data entry, processing, and archival tasks to ensure the accuracy and accessibility of survey information. Supported aerial survey crew by providing ground support and communicating effectively with partner state and federal agencies, NGO representatives, and the general public.

- Accumulated over 556 hours of aerial surveys and 50 hours of vessel surveys over 3 seasons
- Participated in 2 live cetacean strandings and contributed to multi-agency large whale disentanglement operations, as well as various genetic sampling efforts

Divemaster and Assistant Instructor, 05/2022 - 10/2023

Lepia Dive Center – Rhodes, Greece

Managed local dive excursions, guiding certified divers with expertise and ensuring safety protocols. Provided support in dive courses, equipment maintenance, and logistics coordination. Maintained professional and friendly communication with clients to enhance their experience.

- Mentored and supervised 3 divemaster trainees, contributing to their professional development
- Led more than 300 enjoyable and safe dives

Naturalist, 08/2021 - 10/2021

Allen Marine Tours – Juneau, United States

Developed tour guide narrative plans in collaboration with captain for each voyage, emphasizing local wildlife and natural history. Enforced safety procedures and emergency protocols to maintain a secure environment for passengers and crew on board.

- Delivered personalized service to up to 110 passengers during tours
- Crafted engaging commentary that captivated passengers and enhanced their wildlife experience
- Maintained high standards of cleanliness, sanitation, and safety aboard vessels, ensuring a comfortable environment for passengers

Marine Mammal Researcher and Team Supervisor, 08/2019 - 09/2020

Archipelagos Institute of Marine Conservation – Samos, Greece

Performed in-depth research on marine mammal populations, including data collection, analysis, and interpretation. Initiated new studies to expand knowledge in a data-deficient area and to utilize various techniques. Interacted with international partners and stakeholders to exchange research methodologies, data, and best practices for marine conservation efforts. Generated reports to present to donors and international collaborators.

- Led and coordinated over 25 surveys focused on monitoring cetacean populations, collecting data on distribution, behavior, and bioacoustics
- Submitted and presented publication for MetroSea 2020 conference
- Designed transects using Distance, RStudio, and QGIS to expand study area for cetacean population monitoring
- Revamped protocols for collecting and analyzing photo-identification data and completed database for photos spanning 4 years
- Formulated training protocols for consistent data collection and organized databases collected from boat surveys spanning 4 years
- Trained and managed over 50 on-site interns and 12 remote interns in data collection, analysis, and strandings response, supervising BSc and TYR dissertations.

EDUCATION

Master of Science: Marine Biology, 2019

James Cook University - Townsville, Australia

Bachelor of Science: Biology, 2015

Eastern Mennonite University - Harrisonburg, United States

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Video Analyst, Global FinPrint - Australia **2018-2019**

Education Coordinator and Animal Care Intern, Seal Rescue Ireland - Ireland **2017**

Animal Care Intern, National Marine Life Center - Massachusetts, USA **2016**

Marine Mammal Rescue and Research Intern, IFAW - Massachusetts, USA **2015-2016**

Research Intern, Pacific Whale Foundation - Hawaii, USA **2014**

PUBLICATIONS

Hostetter, P., Koroza, A., Tsimpidis, T., Pietroluongo, G., Carlucci, R., Cipriano, G. 2020. Occurrence of *Physeter macrocephalus* and *Ziphius cavirostris* in the North Ikaria Basin, Aegean Sea. *IMEKO TC-19 Conference on Metrology for the Sea, Naples, Italy, 5-7 October 5-7*