

Elisabeth A. Maxwell

Research ♦ Conservation ♦ Exploration
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EDUCATION

University of Maine

Current

Masters of Science, Dual-degree: Marine Biology and Marine Policy

Thesis titles: "Settlement of soft-shell clam larvae (*Mya arenaria*) as a response to calcium carbonate availability on mud-flat environments." and "Evaluation of the management structure for soft-shell clams in Maine."

Lamar University

2013

Bachelors of Science, Biology; Honors Program graduate

Thesis title: "To Tickle a Manta: Development of a non-invasive DNA sampling technique for manta rays."

LEADERSHIP

University of Maine

Student mentoring

2015 – 2017

- Marine biology: one undergraduate student – laboratory work and data analysis.
- Marine policy: two undergraduate students – interviews and data analysis.

Marine Science Professional Development Club: chair & co-chair

2015 – 2017

- Organized website development workshop, literature skills workshop, and two student retreats.

SMS Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium: planning committee

2016 – 2017

American Fisheries Society

2016 – 2017

- National Habitat blog: writer
- UMaine Student Subunit: vice chair

Maine Marine Resources Exchange: planning committee

2016

Undergraduate Responsible Conduct of Research Training: facilitator

2015

Lamar University

Student Ambassador

2011 – 2013

Honors Student Association: historian

2011 – 2012

Rotaract Club of Lamar University: president, vice president

2010 – 2012

LU Sailing Club: treasurer

2013

PUBLICATIONS

Kashiwagi, T., Maxwell, E.A., Marshall, A.D. and A.B. Christensen (2015) Evaluating manta ray mucus as an alternative DNA source for population genetics study: underwater-sampling, dry-storage and PCR success. *PeerJ*, 3:e1188 <https://dx.doi.org/10.7717/peerj.1188>

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, La Grande, Oregon: biologist

2014

Columbia Habitat Monitoring Project

Duties: river surveys; riparian and habitat assessment; daily equipment maintenance.

Marine Mega-fauna Foundation, Tofo Beach, Mozambique: research assistant

2012

Non-invasive DNA sampling project

Duties: field sample collection (via SCUBA); laboratory processing; data analysis.

South African Shark Conservancy, Hermanus, South Africa: intern

2011

Outreach and experimental research

Duties: animal husbandry; public outreach activities and tours; research design.

PRESENTATIONS

November 2016: Undergraduate course, SMS491 – Marine Pollution Policy. Guest lecture – “Soft-shell clam management in Maine: the role and implication of pollution.”

October 2016: Lamar University Honors College. Presentation – “History and ecology of the Neches River.”

October 2016: Undergraduate course, SMS230 – Introduction to Marine Policy & Fisheries Management. Guest lecture – “Soft-shell clam management in Maine.”

April 2016: Graduate Student Expo. Poster – “Digging into Maine’s soft-shell clam fishery: Understanding the co-management system.”

March 2016: Maine Sustainability and Water Conference. Poster – “Digging into Maine’s soft-shell clam fishery: Understanding the co-management system.”

October 2015: Mote Marine Laboratory Fisheries Symposium. Poster – “Propagating TURFs through partnerships: lessons from Maine’s co-managed soft-shell clam fishery.”

August 2015: American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Poster – “Evaluating Maine’s co-management system for shellfish resources.”

April 2015: Graduate Student Expo. Poster – “From the flat: perceptions of shellfish flat closure and stakeholder response.”

March 2015: Maine Sustainability and Water Conference. Poster – “How stakeholders respond to and gain information about shellfish flat closures.”

March 2015: Maine Fisherman’s Forum. Co-presenter – “Threats facing Maine’s shellfish industry.”

December 2014: Maine EPSCoR State Conference. Poster – “From the Flat: perceptions of threats facing Maine’s shellfish industry.”

January 2013 & 2014: JASON Project of Southeast Texas. Presentation – “Development of a Non-Invasive DNA sampling Technique for Manta Rays.” Audience: 7th and 8th grade students.

Fall 2013: Marine biology and conservation workshop. Caldwood Elementary, 3rd grade class.

SKILLS

Experience with semi-structured interviews and interview analysis; field observation and data collection; underwater sampling; water quality parameters; theodolite operation; surveys; ecology experimental design. Trained in molecular genetic techniques: extraction, amplification (PCR), electrophoresis, and purification. Computer skills: R, ArcGIS, GeoDa, Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator, Microsoft Office, and video editing

PADI Advanced Open Water and Rescue Diver certified (67 dives to date)	2016
AAUS Scientific Diver certified	2016
American Heart Association CPR First Aid and AED certified	2015
Texas Boater Education/Safety certified	2013

SERVICE

American Red Cross: Large-scale aviation accident response training, ERV driver.	2015
American Fisheries Society: community projects, outreach activities, educational presentations	2013 – 2016
National Ocean Sciences Bowl - Nor’easter Bowl: moderator	2015
Texas Stream Team: monthly water quality assessment, volunteer of the month award.	2009 – 2011

HONORS & AWARDS

Mote Symposium, student travel grant, 2015; SeaGrant graduate fellowship, 2014; TX Space Grant STEM Columbia Crew Memorial Scholarship, 2013; Phi Beta Delta – Beane & Gliozzo Domestic Student Award for International Achievement, 2013; David J. Beck Fellowship recipient, 2011; David J. Beck Fellowship recipient, 2010; Gene Ohmstede Endowed Scholarship in Biology, 2010; Volunteer Leaders Association of Texas Scholarship, 2010; Jefferson County Extension Education Association Scholarship, 2009; Richard Wallrath Educational Scholarship, 2009; Jefferson County Go-Texan Scholarship, 2009; Lamar University, President’s List, 2013; Lamar University, Dean’s List, 2009, 2010.