

Jessica Lopez

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EDUCATION

Masters of Science in Marine Science, expected Spring 2011

Hawaii Pacific University, Honolulu, Hawaii

Bachelor of Science in Marine Biology, Minor in Psychology September, 2000 - December, 2004

University of California, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, California

- GPA 3.76, Graduated with Honors
- University of California Regents Scholar

Relevant Coursework

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|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| ▪ Ecology | ▪ Tropical Community Ecology | ▪ Organic Chemistry |
| ▪ Marine Conservation Biology | ▪ Ocean Ecosystems | ▪ Biochemistry |
| ▪ Marine Mammal Biology | ▪ Vertebrate Physiology | ▪ Invertebrate Zoology |

Monteverde Tropical Biology and Conservation Program

October - December 2004

Monteverde Institute, UC Education Abroad Program, Monteverde, Costa Rica

- Participated in field research, courses, and independent research project to satisfy undergraduate course requirements.

RESEARCH

Field Research Supervisor

January 2006 – present

Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii in cooperation with NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, Honolulu, HI

- Lead remote field camp of 3-4 people in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands for the Hawaiian monk seal population assessment program.
- Collect census and life history data on a population of Hawaiian monk seals (*Monachus schauinslandi*), collection of biological samples including scats and spews for foraging ecology analysis, tissue samples for DNA analysis, tagging and measurement of all weaned pups.
- Train field assistants in all aspects of remote field camps including research activities, boating, equipment and camp maintenance.
- Conducted surveys, photo identification, and assisted in biopsy sampling of Hawaiian spinner dolphins (*Stenella longirostris*). Edit, analyze, and match photos upon return to Honolulu.
- 2008: Assisted State of Hawaii personnel with field research on resident sea birds.

Field Biological Technician

April - September 2005 & April 2006 – August 2006

Aquatic Farms Ltd, contractor for NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, Honolulu, Hawaii

- Live and work in remote field camp conducting research on Hawaiian monk seals. Participated in daily research activities, maintenance and operation of field camp including boating operations at multiple-island atoll.
- Participate in training and packing activities prior to field season including wilderness first aid training, small boat operation training, and HAZCOM training.
- Assist with return, repair, and clean up of field equipment and supplies at the end of field season as well as packing and preparation for the following field season.

Education Abroad Student

October – December 2004

Monteverde Institute, UC Education Abroad Program, Monteverde, Costa Rica

- Conduct independent research project on the effect of shape on fruit choice of frugivorous bats of the Monteverde area. Collected and cared for bats of various species for flight cage trials.

Marine Mammal Trainer and Research Assistant**December 2001 – August 2004**Long Marine Laboratory, University of California, Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, California

- Responsible for the care and training of Atlantic bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*), California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*), and Southern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*).
- Implemented classical and operant conditioning techniques in the training of research, and husbandry behaviors.
- Fed, restrained, and assisted with research and medical procedures for several wild California sea lions, Guadalupe fur seals (*Arctocephalus townsendi*), and Pacific harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*).
- Assisted with the collection of various data for conservation research including metabolics, blood analysis, morphometrics, and ultrasound.
- Prepared food and equipment for training sessions and data collection.

OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Richmond Bridge Harbor Seal Project Volunteer**January 2005**Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, Moss Landing, California

- Member of boat crew for capture of harbor seals using tangle nets. Set nets near haul-out sites, recovered entrapped seals, transferred seals to beach crew.
- Assisted in restraint of seals for blood and tissue samples as well as flipper tagging and radio/satellite tag placement.

Oil Spill Response Volunteer**December 2001 - March 2002**Long Marine Laboratory, University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA

- Participated in beach searches for oiled birds and mammals.
- Provided medical care and husbandry for oiled sea birds in association with the California Department of Fish and Game during the San Mateo mystery spill of 2001-2002.

AFFILIATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS

- Associate member of Society for Marine Mammalogy - September 2005 to Present
- WMI wilderness first aid training - April 2005, March 2006, April 2007, April 2009
- Emergency Aviation Dunker training – December 2006
- NOAA/DOI small boat operator training - April 2005, September 2006
- NOAA/DOI motorboat operator certification course instructor – October 2007
- HAZCOM training – January 2002, April 2005, May, 2007, April 2009
- Active member of International Marine Animal Trainers Association - 2003 to 2005
- Completion of lecture series on animal training, Long Marine Lab – March 2003
- NAUI Scuba Certified - March 2002 to Present

REFERENCES

Traci Fink
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Long Marine Laboratories
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