

Kelsey L. Martin

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EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Marine Biology, 4.0, expected graduation Spring 2022
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX
Research Advisor: Dr. Greg Stunz
- M.S. Coastal Marine and Wetland Studies, 4.0, December 2017
Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC
Research Advisors: Dr. Daniel Abel and Dr. Derek Crane
Thesis: Habitat Use of Blacktip Sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) at Fishing Piers
- B.S. Marine Science, minor in Applied Mathematics, 3.9, Magna cum laude,
December 2012
Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC

PRESENT POSITIONS

- 2018 - present President of the Marine Science Graduate Student Organization
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX
- 2018 - present NOAA CCME Fellow
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX
- 2018 - present Research Assistant
Texas A&M University Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX
- 2017 - present Student Affairs Committee
American Elasmobranch Society

PAST POSITIONS

- 2015 - 2017 Graduate Assistant
Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC
- Facilitated conservation awareness through public outreach and educational programs
 - Instilled ecological and physiological aspects of shark biology in undergraduate students through lectures, presentations, and dissections
 - Designed and taught a lab on the applications of telemetry and how to analyze acoustic telemetry data
 - Led research cruises to catch, tag, and release elasmobranchs, and other related species, in Winyah Bay and coastal South Carolina

- 2014 – 2015 North Pacific Groundfish Observer
Alaskan Observers Incorporated, Seattle, WA
- Evaluated the compliance of fishing regulations
 - Developed random sample designs to accurately reflect population health
 - Conducted biological sampling on unsorted catch and efficiently entered into ATLAS software program
 - Entrusted with sensitive information essential to conservation of target species as well as bycatch
- 2013 – 2013 Volunteer
Bimini Biological Field Station Foundation, Bimini, Bahamas
- Operated and maintained research vessels and related equipment
 - Executed a variety of capture and handling techniques for seven species of shark and several other marine fish species
 - Assisted three PhD students with multiple aspects of their projects for elasmobranch conservation
 - Oversaw and captained course students during research experience cruises
- 2011 – 2012 Teaching Assistant
Coastal Carolina University, Conway, SC
- Enhanced the quality of learning by students in the area of Mathematics
 - Guided students through difficult problems to develop understanding
 - Prepared software program to allow students' access to course materials
 - Graded students' coursework and homework

RELATED SKILLS

Proficient in R, SPSS, SAS, GIS, ATLAS, VUE Software, and Linux operating systems

Scientific Diver In-Training, AAUS

Advanced SCUBA Diver Certification, NAUI

Certified in CPR and First Aid, National Safety Council

Competent with acoustic telemetry, surgery, accelerometry, longlining, gillnetting, and conducting behavioral trials for elasmobranchs and related species

FUNDING SOURCES/GRANTS AWARDED

- 2018 Fall graduate student scholarship. **Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi**. Kelsey Martin - \$1,000.
Vemco VR2W Receivers.
- 2016 – 2018 Habitat use of Blacktip Sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) at Fishing Piers. **Ocean Tracking Network**. K.L. Spencer (PI) - Loan of Five Vemco VR2W Receivers.
- 2017 Habitat use of Blacktip Sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) at Fishing Piers. **Myrtle Beach State Park**. K.L. Spencer (PI) – Donated three

- 2017 Vemco V9 transmitters.
Habitat use of Blacktip Sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) at Fishing Piers. **Essex County Turtle Back Zoo**. K.L. Spencer (PI) - \$250.
- 2016 - 2017 Habitat use of Blacktip Sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) at Fishing Piers. **Coastal Carolina University Graduate Incentive Grant**. K.L. Spencer (PI) - \$1,000.
- 2016 Habitat use of Blacktip Sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) at Fishing Piers. **Myrtle Beach State Park**. K.L. Spencer (PI) – Donated two Vemco V9 transmitters.

PUBLICATIONS

Manuscripts in Review/Revision in Peer-Reviewed Journals:

- K.L. Martin**, D.C. Abel, D.P. Crane, N. Hammerschlag, E.J. Burge. 2018. Blacktip shark *Carcharhinus limbatus* presence at fishing piers in South Carolina: potential association and environmental drivers. **Journal of Fish Biology** (*In review*).

CONTRIBUTED POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 **K.L. Spencer**, D.C. Abel, D.P. Crane, N. Hammerschlag, E.J. Burge, C.M. Collatos, M.E. Larsen, “Coastal Shark Movements near Fishing Piers along the NE Coast of South Carolina: Early Results”
Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists
Austin, TX
- 2017 **K.L. Spencer**, D.C. Abel, D.P. Crane, C.M. Collatos, “Coastal Shark Movements near Fishing Structures along the NE Coast of South Carolina: Early Results”
Benthic Ecology Meeting
Myrtle Beach, SC
- 2017 C.M. Collatos, D.C. Abel, S.J. Gary, **K.L. Spencer**, “Habitat Selection and Demographics of Sharks in Winyah Bay, SC”
Benthic Ecology Meeting
Myrtle Beach, SC
- 2017 **K.L. Spencer**, D.C. Abel, D.P. Crane, C.M. Collatos, “Pier Pressure: Composition and Movement of Sharks near Fishing Structures along the NE Coast of South Carolina”
SCAFS/SCFWA Joint Annual Meeting
McCormick, SC
- 2017 C.M. Collatos, D.C. Abel, S.J. Gary, **K.L. Spencer**, “Demographics of Shark Populations in Winyah Bay, SC”
SCAFS/SCFWA Joint Annual Meeting
McCormick, SC

2017

T. H. Schacht, E. J. Burge, **K. L. Spencer**, "Symbiosis between *Crustorhabditis* (Sudhaus, 1974) nematodes and Atlantic ghost crabs *Ocypode quadrata* (J.C. Fabricius, 1787)"
Benthic Ecology Meeting
Savannah, GA

MEDIA COVERAGE

WPDE-ABC News. "Biting into Coastal Carolina University's shark research findings."
March 31, 2017. <http://wpde.com/news/local/biting-into-coastal-carolinas-shark-research-teams-findings>

WFXB-FOX TV. "Coastal Carolina research on sharks." July 12, 2016.

<http://www.wfxb.com/2016/07/12/coastal-carolina-research-on-sharks/>

National Geographic, "When Sharks Attack: Carolina Chaos."

<http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/wild/when-sharks-attack/episodes/carolina-chaos/>