

Taylor Azizeh

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8272 Moss Landing Road, Moss Landing Road, CA 95039

Education

M.Sc. Student in Marine Science
Aug 2021 – ongoing

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories – San José State University

Advisor: Dr. Birgitte McDonald

Thesis: Foraging ecology of late chick-rearing emperor penguins in the Ross Sea, Antarctica

Non-degree seeking M.Sc. studies
Aug 2019 – July 2020

Aarhus University | Greenland Institute of Natural Resources (Pinngortitaleriffik)

Courses: Sea Ice Ecology, Arctic Marine Ecosystems in a Changing Climate, Greenhouse Gases and Climate Effects in the Arctic, Sustainable Use of Living Resources in the Arctic

B.Sc. in Environmental Science & B.Sc. in Wildlife Resources
Aug 2015 – May 2019

University of Idaho

Advisor: Dr. Lisette Waits

Capstone: Ecotoxicology of bats in urban, pasture and forested sites of the southern Ecuadorian Andes

Publications

Azizeh, T.R., Sprogis, K.R., Soley, R., Nielsen, M.L.K., Uhart, M.M., Sironi, M., Marón, C.F., Bejder, L., Madsen, P.T. and Christiansen, F. (2021). Acute and chronic behavioural effects of kelp gull micropredation on southern right whale mother-calf pairs off Península Valdés, Argentina. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 668:133 – 148. DOI: [10.3354/meps13716](https://doi.org/10.3354/meps13716)

Azizeh, T.R., Cisneros, R., Waits, L., Dalgo, P., Castillo, E., Avila, C., Myers, M., Roon, D., Bailón, N. (2018). Ecotoxicology of bats in urban, pasture and forested sites of the southern Ecuadorian Andes. *II Congreso de Gestión Ambiental Urbana: 1st Concurso de Innovaciones Tecnológicas*.

Research Experience

Vertebrate Ecology Lab

Graduate Fellow

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

August 2021 – present

- Lead analysis of emperor penguin (*Aptenodytes forsteri*) biologging data with the aim of identifying foraging events and identifying important locations for prey capture
- Assist with deployment and recovery of tags, translocation, flipper tag resights, and monitoring of chemically anesthetized northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) at Año Nuevo State Park
- Work as a part of the MLML Stranding Network by responding to public reports of dead marine mammals or turtles at *in-situ* strandings within Monterey County, California to collect data for a long-term project, conducting public outreach and interpretation when necessary
- Worked on the NSF R/V *Nathaniel B. Palmer* from January – March 2023, attaching satellite tags to post-moult adult emperor penguins: identified groups of penguins on suitable ice floes for tag deployment, approached via zodiac, herded, captured, and restrained penguins, attached tags and released

British Antarctic Survey

Research Intern

England, U.K.

August 2020 – May 2021

- Led analysis of historical whaling data to update estimates of southern right whale (*Eubalaena australis*) catch off Australia and New Zealand to estimate post-whaling recovery with first-author manuscript in preparation

Oceanomare Delphis Onlus

Field Officer

Ischia, Italy

June – September 2020

- Assisted with behavioural and acoustic cetacean surveys from the *R.V. Jean Gab*, with a focus on sperm whales, to contribute to a long-term dataset
- Assisted with photo-identification matching of cetaceans, primarily delphinids

LeopardSeals.org

Research Intern

Remote

November 2020 – March 2021

- Used photo-identification to match sightings of leopard seals in New Zealand to a catalogue of known individuals

Marine Bioacoustics Lab

Student Researcher

Aarhus University

August 2019 – May 2020

- Led a research project on the effects of gull micropredation on southern right whales off Península Valdés, Argentina
- Gained experience in lead authoring manuscript and data analysis

McGowan Comparative Biomechanics Lab

Student Researcher

University of Idaho

January 2019 – May 2019

- Led a research project examining the ecology of fear in desert kangaroo rats (*Dipodomys deserti*) and assisted with ten days of remote field work in the Mojave Desert

NSF International Research Experiences for Students

Student Researcher

University of Idaho

August 2019 – May 2019

- Led a research project studying the effects of urbanization of insectivorous bats in urban and rural Ecuador field sites and assisted with two months of field work in the Andes

Work Experience

Upwell

Aerial Observer

Monterey, CA

June 2022 – present

- Help conduct turtle aerial surveys to support vessel-based capture of foraging sea turtles off the California Pacific coast
- Assist with cetacean aerial surveys to inform the Dungeness Crab Fishery restrictions

Sea Goddess Whale-Watching

Senior Naturalist and Deckhand

Moss Landing, CA

November 2021 – September 2023

- Correctly identify marine wildlife in the Monterey Bay and educate large crowds about life history, conservation status, etc.
- Ensure the safety of the boat passengers, captain, and crew

Elkhorn Slough Foundation

Protected Species Observer

Elkhorn Slough, CA

June 2022 – present

- Monitor construction site to ensure the safety of marine mammals in the area and intervene when necessary
- Correctly identify harbour seals (*Phoca vitulina*), southern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*), and more at distance

Cascadia Research Collective

Field Biologist

Monterey, CA

September – December 2022

- Assist with boat-based photo-identification surveys of cetaceans off the California Pacific coast to inform the Dungeness Crab Fishery restrictions, with a focus on humpback whales

Conferences

August 2022

Session Talk: "Acute and chronic behavioural effects of kelp gull micropredation on southern right whale mother-calf pairs off Peninsula Valdés, Argentina"
24th Biennial Conference of the Society of Marine Mammalogy: Palm Springs, FL
Awarded Best Regional Student Presentation: South America

January 2019

Poster: "Ecotoxicology of bats in urban, pasture and forested sites of the southern Ecuadorian Andes"
The Wildlife Society, Idaho Chapter Meeting: Boise, ID

October 2018

Poster: "Ecotoxicology of bats in urban, pasture and forested sites of the southern Ecuadorian Andes"
The Wildlife Society, National Meeting: Cleveland, OH

Fellowships

National Science Foundation

August 2023 – present

Graduate Research Fellow

\$111,000

Fulbright Association

August 2019 – July 2020

Denmark and the Arctic Semester Greenland Open Study/Research Student

\$20,000

Grants & Scholarships

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

May 2023

Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Scholarship

\$625

CSU Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology

March 2022

Faculty-Graduate Student Research Collaboration Grant

\$10,000

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

May 2022

Wave Award

\$500

CSU Council on Ocean Affairs, Science, and Technology

November 2021

Graduate Student Research Grant

\$3,000

San José State University

August 2021

Viola Palmer Memorial Scholarship

\$637

Kirsten Scott Memorial Trust

March 2021

Research Grant

\$900

Awards

Society of Marine Mammalogy

August 2022

24th Biennial Conference

Best Regional Student Presentation Award: South America

Student Travel Award (\$350)

Fulbright Association

March 2021

Fulbright Australia

Semi-Finalist

University of Idaho

April 2019

College of Natural Resources

Outstanding Environmental Science Undergraduate Award

University of Idaho

November 2018

Alumni Offices

Alumni Excellence Award

Skills

Data Science

- Proficient in Microsoft Office, ImageJ, MATLAB, R, Hugo, Git, Solomon Coder, QGIS, ArcGIS
- Drone video analysis (respiratory cycles, behavioral focal follows)
- Accelerometer data analysis (big data manipulation, down-sampling, decimation, time-activity budgets, foraging event detection)
- Photo-identification matching
- Synthesis of historical whaling data
- Game camera analysis

Field

Mammals & birds

- Small mammal trap capture and handling
- Coastal and offshore marine mammal identification
- Behavioral and acoustic cetacean surveys
- Camera trap deployment
- Aid in monitoring of chemically anesthetized pinnipeds
- Biologging tag (satellite, TDR, accelerometer) attachment
- Large bird herding, capture, and restraint
- Translocation of large marine mammals
- Colony tag resight
- Stranding response
- Approach and deploy onto sea ice
- Large boat and R/V experience

Laboratory

- Extraction of DNA from mammal tissue, bird feathers, and fecal matter
- Preparation of fecal and feather sample
- Doubly labelled water distillation
- Collection and analysis of blood slides (hematocrit, cell counts)
- MLML Vertebrate Ecology Lab Safety Officer (2021 – 2023)

Leadership

Open House Co-chair

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, San José State University

August 2023 – present

Moss Landing, CA

Student Body President

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, San José State University

August 2022 – May 2023

Moss Landing, CA

Co-Chair and Co-Founder

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, San José State University

May 2022 – present

Moss Landing, CA

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Curriculum vitae

International Student Ambassador*Aarhus University*

August 2019 – January 2020

Aarhus, Denmark

Student Ambassador*College of Natural Resources, University of Idaho*

August 2017 – May 2019

Moscow, ID

President and Chapter Founder*Women in Science Society, University of Idaho*

August 2018 – May 2019

Moscow, ID

Service & Outreach

2023	Carmel Valley Library , Carmel Valley, CA – Volunteer Speaker
2021 – present	Vertebrate Ecology Lab Blog , Moss Landing, CA – Writer
2021 – present	Shared Adventures , Santa Cruz, CA – Volunteer
2021 – present	Future Leaders in Marine Science , Monterey County – K-12 Outreach
2021 – present	Skype-A-Scientist , remote – K-12 Outreach
2021	SJSU Affinity Mentoring for Academic Success , remote – Volunteer Mentee
2019 – 2020	Reach the World , remote – K-12 Outreach