

Work Experience

Research Assistant Tern Island French Frigate Shoals, Hawaii **April 2012-September 2012**
USFWS Inventory and Monitoring Grant Project

“French Frigate Shoals Biological Monitoring Data Quality Control and Analyses” project

Dr. Paula Hartzell, USFWS: paulahartzell@hotmail.com

During this project I helped to compile data from nearly 30 years of biological monitoring at Tern Island Field Station. Tasks included compilation of monitoring data paper copies to scanned files and/or spreadsheets; proofing the accuracy of data used for analysis; and assisting in data analysis and writing as assigned by PI's. Data compiled included seabird reproductive success and phenology, seabird banding, seabird mark recapture, seabird counts, weather, tide, and temperature logger files. Additional tasks included entering current data, organizing and archiving digital data library, and making suggestions for improvement of data management at Tern Island Field Station.

Sea Turtle Technician East Island, French Frigate Shoals, Hawaii

July 2012

NOAA/USFWS

Dr. George Balazs, NOAA: george.balazs@noaa.gov

As a turtle tech during the 40th consecutive season of Hawaiian green Sea Turtle monitoring on East Island, I recorded data on all nesting female turtles encountered during 12 hour nocturnal shifts. I was trained to properly identify nesting behaviors, mototool identification numbers on carapaces, read and insert PIT tags, measure carapace lengths, and to check for metal tags and tumors. This position involved very long hours, strenuous working conditions, and required constant vigilance as to not to disturb endangered monk seals or other nesting turtles. Secondary tasks included data entry, camp setup and radio communication.

Seabird Volunteer Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals, Hawaii

December 2009 - June 2010

USFWS: Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge

December 2010 - June 2011

Dr. Paula Hartzell, USFWS: paulahartzell@hotmail.com

December 2011-April 2012

As a volunteer on Tern Island, I assisted in the collection of data for a large variety of long term seabird monitoring studies. My primary individual assignment was monitoring the tristram's storm-petrel reproductive success plot. A large task for my second season was to map the tristram's colony and define sub-plots for monitoring. During my second season I began work on the project that became my Masters Thesis study looking at Tristram's chick survival; addressing nest box temperature flux, chick growth, and plastic ingestion. During my third season I conducted field work for a collaboration with researchers from UCSC, testing wireless acoustic recording units. Additional monitoring tasks included (but we not limited to), conducting island wide mean incubation counts of breeding birds, censuses of breeding bonin petrels and tristrams storm petrels, and bi-monthly shorebird counts. I assisted with capture and handling of albatross and boobies for collection of blood and diet samples, and the deployment and removal of GPS and satellite tags. I banded an estimated 1,500 birds including black-footed and laysan albatross, masked and red footed booby, red-tailed tropic bird, wedge-tailed and christmas shearwater, white tern, bonin petrel, bulwers petrel, and tristram's Storm-petrel. Served as secondary boat operator during second season and third seasons. Auxiliary duties included data entry and tasks related to field station operations including maintenance, shared meal prep, invasive plant control, general cleaning tasks, and monitoring NOAA weather and University of Hawaii tide monitoring stations.

Work Experience continued

Biological Science Technician *East Amatuli Island, Barren Islands, Alaska*

July –September 2010

USFWS: Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge

July - October 2011

Supervisor: Arthur Kettle, USFWS: (907) 226-4614 -arthur_kettle@fws.gov

This seabird monitoring position involved the collection of data relating to the breeding success, population size, and diet composition of cliff and burrow nesting species. Observation of cliff nesting common murre and blacklegged kittiwakes was conducted using a spotting scope; plots were accessed via small boat and basic rock climbing. Manual surveying methods were used for burrow nesting species; tufted puffin and fork tailed storm petrel chicks were removed from burrows, weighed, and measured following growth measurement protocol. Storm petrel diet samples were collected using a mist net. I was acting crew leader for approximately two weeks during each season, during this period I was also primary boat operator. Field camp conditions were very basic and required manual hauling of water; supplies also had to be manually transported from drop point on the beach into camp. I was responsible for purchasing and packing supplies and field gear prior to the season, and cleaning and inventory of field gear post season. Auxiliary duties included data entry and maintenance of camp buildings and tent structures.

Seabird Field Assistant. *Pribilof Islands, Alaska*

July-August 2008

University of Alaska Fairbanks: Bering Sea Integrated Ecosystem Research Project (BSIERP)

July-August 2009

Dr. Alexander Kitaysky, University of Alaska : (907) 474-5179 -ffask@uaf.edu

As part of the Predator-Prey (Patch) Dynamics component of BSIERP, I worked with colonial seabirds on Saint Paul (2008) and Saint George (2009) Islands, Alaska. Field work entailed capture, blood and diet sampling, morphometric measurement, and banding of thick-billed murre, common murre, black-legged kittiwakes, redlegged kittiwakes, and least auklets. Birds were captured and sampled during incubation, early chick rearing, and late chick rearing. We deployed data loggers on **Seabird Field Assistant.** *Pribilof Islands, Alaska ctd.*

thick-billed murre during the early to mid chick rearing period. Limited capture of parakeet auklets, horned puffins, and red-faced cormorants was also conducted to collect blood and ectoparasite samples. Most birds were captured using noose poles, and least auklets were captured using noose carpets and mist nets. This position included processing of blood and ectoparasite samples from over 400 birds each season. At the end of the 2009 season I helped distribute surveys to residents of Saint George on their knowledge and opinions of the local seabirds.

Seabird Field Assistant. *Trinity Island, Louisiana*

March -May 2009

Louisiana State University

Cecilia Leumas, Louisiana State: cecilia.leumas@gmail.com

Trinity Island is the largest section of Isles Dernieres, an eroding Gulf Coast barrier island chain. As a field tech for this masters research project my efforts were focused on following methods attempting to establish new seabird colonies containing royal, sandwich, gull-billed, caspian, and least terns as well as black skimmers. Field work included behavior observations of target seabird species in flight, predator transect surveys, nest search and monitoring, and habitat surveys. Auxiliary duties included setup and maintenance of decoys, sound recordings, and predator exclosures. Travel to and from the island was on a weekly basis via small boat in often inclement weather and rough water.

Work Experience continued

Fish and Wildlife Technician II . Soldotna Alaska

Alaska Department of Fish and Game: Division of Sportfish

Jenny Cope: (907) 262-9368 jenny.cope@alaska.gov

May-June 2009, 2008

May-August 2007, 2006

May - July 2005

For five consecutive years, I conducted a creel survey on the Kasilof River for the early run of chinook salmon (May 16-June 30). Duties included conducting a short interview with all anglers upon completion of fishing to determine angler effort and success, and collecting samples from harvested fish. Data entry using excel and a small handheld computer was also a part of my position. Additional specific jobs of note during my five years in this position involved monitoring sockeye salmon fish wheels on the Kenai River and sampling commercial setnet caught Chinook Salmon, at approximately 15 buying stations. Throughout my time working for Alaska Fish and Game I have also gained small boat experience.

Education

M.S. Marine Science: Hawaii Pacific University, Waimanalo, HI

Begun Sept 2012

The proposed project will address factors relating to chick growth and survival in the Tristram's Storm-petrel, *Oceanodroma tristrami*, with work having been conducted on Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

B.S. Biological Sciences (magna cum laude): University of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK Aug 2004 - Dec 2008 Outstanding Undergraduate Biology Student (2008)

Coursework that directly addressed material relevant to work as a seabird field biologist was included in the following courses: Animal Behavior, Animal Physiology, Regression and Analysis of Variance, Vertebrate Endocrinology, Concepts of Infectious Disease, Comparative Anatomy of Vertebrates, and Wildlife Diseases. I also completed an independent research project for credit, stemming from an individual project in my animal behavior course. I collected observational, environmental, and physiological data on black-capped chickadees, conducted statistical analysis, and presented results at the 13th Alaska Bird Conference, Fairbanks AK March 3-7 2008 .

Soldotna High School, Soldotna, AK

Aug 2000- May 2004

Female Science Student of the Year (2004), Class Valedictorian, Score of 5 out of 5 on AP Biology Exam

Certifications

Motorboat Operation Certification Course July 2010

Presentations

Oral presentation. Alaska Bird Conference. (2008) Badges of Quality, Social Aggression, and Stress Hormones in Wintering Black-Capped-Chickadees (*Poecile atricapilla*).

Abstract accepted for Poster Presentation. Wildlife Society Conference. (2011) Challenges and Solutions for Quantifying Reproductive Effort and Success in Tristram's storm-petrel: A Cryptic Burrow-Nesting Seabird Breeding on Tern Island, French Frigate Shoals, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.