

Kyra Bankhead

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Education

Present M.S. in Wildlife Science, Oregon State University (GPA 4.00)

June 2022 B.S. in Biology with a Marine Emphasis, Western Washington
University (GPA 3.94)

Professional Preparation

September 2022- Present	Researcher, <i>Lab for Animal Behavioral Interaction Research in the Ocean</i> Investigating the spreading dynamics of human-induced food provisioning on Sarasota dolphins. Identify the mechanism by which key individual dolphins spread the begging behavior in Sarasota to help stop the conditioning of dolphins to direct and indirect provisioning by humans. Involves supervision by Dr. Mauricio Cantor to program network-based diffusion analysis and implement research into manuscripts and grant applications.
September 2023	Field Assistant, <i>Sarasota Dolphin Research Program</i> Conducted dolphin population monitoring surveys from boat transects. Documented photo-ID data and collected basic environmental, behavior, and human interaction data. Conducted seasonal dolphin prey sampling surveys, used as an index for dolphin prey availability throughout the study area. Identified species, count, weigh, and measure all fish at each site, informing the monitoring of red tides.
April 2020- June 2022	Project Lead, <i>Marine Mammal Ecology Lab</i> Conducted independent and remote research involving the effects of anthropogenic noise disturbance on harbor seal haul-outs as well as biological statistical analysis of data from student observations using R programming and Excel. Involved remote supervision by Dr. Acevedo-Gutierrez to implementing accumulated data into a research publication and grant applications.
June 2019- April 2020	Field Assistant, <i>Marine Mammal Ecology Lab</i> Observed harbor seal habitats and surroundings each week for the Bellingham log pond project, concentrating on the responses of harbor seals to human disturbance. Attended weekly seminars and meetings with Dr. Acevedo-Gutierrez to discuss topics concerning a scientist's responsibilities.

Presentations

- July 2023 *Animal Behavioral Society Conference*
- Drivers of maladaptive behavioral propagation of human-centric foraging tactics in Sarasota Bay Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*).
- April 2023 *Research Advances in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Ecology Conference*
- Drivers of maladaptive behavioral propagation of human-centric foraging tactics in Sarasota Bay Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*).
- May 2021,
2022 & 2023 *The Society of Marine Mammalogy Conference*
- The Potential Effect of Anthropogenic Noise on the Number of Hauled-out Harbor Seals (*Phoca vitulina*).
- Drivers of maladaptive behavioral propagation of human-centric foraging tactics in Sarasota Bay Bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*).
- May 2022 *Scholar's Week*
- The Effect of Anthropogenic Noise on the Number of Hauled-out Harbor Seals (*Phoca vitulina*).

Publications

Kyra Bankhead, Grace Freeman, Wyatt Heimbichner Goebel, and Alejandro Acevedo-Gutiérrez. 2023. Effects of anthropogenic noise on haul-out numbers of harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*). *Canadian Journal of Zoology*. 101(9): 720-728. <https://doi.org/10.1139/cjz-2023-0053>

Teaching Experience

- May 2023 Lab Educator, *Hatfield Marine Science Day*
- Educated an audience of varying levels of knowledge about human-dolphin conflicts and sustainable practices for Hatfield's Marine Science Day. Designed three activities for the public based on differing levels of education. Engaged with the public through videos and activities on "good and bad" interactions between humans and dolphins while displaying the take-home message of respecting marine mammals in their natural environment.
- April 2020-
June 2020 Organismal Biology Teaching Assistant, *Western Washington University*
- Attended lab lectures and demonstrations. Attended seminars that focus on how to help students develop accurate views of the types of questions science can answer. Collaborated with instructors on lesson plans for education strategies in a virtual environment. Helped students understand lab materials and assignments by hosting office hours.
- September
2018 Marine Scholar, *Fidalgo Bay Day*
- Educated children about habitat diversity of the Salish Sea for Fidalgo Bay Day. Presented posters on the local wildlife species to the different elementary schools in Anacortes. Used touch tanks to demonstrate the importance of each organism in conserving a diverse community ecosystem.

Appointments & Extramural Funding

- 2023 Fred and Joan Crebbin Memorial Fellowship award
- 2023 Oregon Lottery Graduate Scholarship
- 2023 Amy R. Samuels Cetacean Behavior and Conservation Award
- 2022- 2023 Schamp Family Endowed Graduate Fellowship
- 2021- 2022 Francis and Alfred Baker Memorial Merit Scholarship
- 2020 Advancing Women in Science Scholarship
- 2018- 2022 Academic Achievement Award