

Karen Dyson

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Objective: To research, design, and implement innovative methods of improving the habitat value of human dominated landscapes in order to preserve and increase biodiversity and promote biodiversity conservation.

Professional Profile

- History of excellence in conducting research projects and clearly presenting results.
- Ability to learn quickly and excel in diverse disciplines including conservation biology, environmental policy, economics, and marine and U.S. coastal law.
- Hard working individual able to work effectively independently or as part of a team.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills, familiarity with ArcGIS and Adobe Design Suite.

Education

PhD Student, Expected 2014 Interdisciplinary PhD Program in Urban Design and Planning, UW

- Dissertation Question: “What is the potential, including resident’s support and ecological feasibility, for successfully promoting conservation on corporate lands?”
- Member of the Urban Ecology Research Laboratory

Master of Marine Affairs, 2009 School of Marine Affairs, University of Washington

- Thesis: Habitat Enhancing Marine Structures: Creating habitat in urban waters
- Student Editor for the Coastal Management Journal in 2008 and 2009

Bachelor of Science; 2006 Department of Natural Resources, Cornell University

- Concentration in Conservation and Population Biology
- Minor in Environmental and Resource Economics
- Thesis: Potential shift in the ranges of *Illex illecebrosus* (northern short-finned squid) and *Loligo pealei* (long-finned squid) resulting from global climate change
- Graduated Summa Cum Laude

Research Accomplishments

Research Associate University of Washington, September 2011 – June 2012

Social Trail Impacts in Mount Rainier National Park
Dr. Regina Rochefort

Compiled and updated a geodatabase of the social trails in Mt. Rainier National Park based on records archived in multiple ESRI ArcGIS and Microsoft Excel formats. Selected and calculated different indices of social trail impacts using ArcGIS and Excel based on existing literature, and provided detailed step by step “how-to” documentation directions for future use by park personnel. Created maps communicating the extent of social trails in Mt. Rainier National Park and developed data collection recommendations for a summary document that will be used for future research and budget decisions.

Research Associate**University of Washington, April 2010 – February 2011**

Waterfront Revitalization in Puget Sound
Dr. Thomas Leschine, Dr. Jongseong Ryu

Designed a web-based survey and conducted elite interviews to develop four case studies of waterfront and urban revitalization in the Puget Sound region. Wrote and edited a report for the Korea Maritime Institute, which was also distributed to the Washington Coastal Planners Group.

Master's Thesis**University of Washington, May 2008 – June 2009**

Habitat Enhancing Marine Structures: Creating habitat in urban waters
Dr. Daniel Huppert and Dr. Martha Groom

Took the initiative to conceive and design a project in a new field of study. Contacted and interviewed multiple professionals in private industry and at research institutions. Performed an extensive literature review that included research from many different countries. Synthesized information from multiple fields including marine law, ecology and conservation, and marine policy and planning to create a cohesive and comprehensive document. Final thesis product was scientifically rigorous as well as accessible and useful to coastal management professionals.

Research Assistant**University of Washington, March 2008 – September 2008**

Economic Impact of Razor Clam Fishery Closures on Pacific and Greys Harbor Counties
Dr. Daniel Huppert

Designed, printed, and prepared a mail-back survey for distribution to razor clammers under a tight deadline. Aggregated and analyzed the data from returned surveys using Excel. Consulted with other colleagues to adapt an Excel-based Input-Output Model for use with the study counties. Wrote and edited a report based on the model's results for the Washington State Department of Ecology as well as a peer-reviewed journal article now published in *Harmful Algae*.

Research Assistant**University of Washington, September 2007 – March 2008**

Impacts of climate change on the coasts of Washington State
Dr. Daniel Huppert

Performed literature searches and spoke with experts to compile the known impacts of climate change on Washington's coasts. Collaborated with colleagues to write and edit a report to the Washington Legislature based on this information.

Honor's Thesis**Cornell University, January 2006 – May 2006**

Potential shift in the ranges of *Illex illecebrosus* (northern short-finned squid) and *Loligo pealei* (long-finned squid) resulting from global climate change

Designed and carried out research on the effects of global climate change on two species of squid using climatological datasets and ArcGIS.

Publications

- Dyson, K., and Huppert, D.D. 2010. Regional economic impacts of razor clam beach closures due to harmful algal blooms (HABS) on the Pacific coast of Washington. *Harmful Algae*.
- Dyson, K. 2010. Pollution in paradise: A conceptual model of beach pollution and tourism - Links between beach pollution and tourism. *KMI International Journal of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries*.
- Ryu, J., T. Leschine, J. Nam, W. K. Chang, and K. Dyson. 2011. A resilience-based approach for comparing expert preferences across two large-scale coastal management programs. *Journal of Environmental Management*.
- Nam, J., J. Ryu, D. Fluharty, C. Koh, K. Dyson, W. K. Chang, H. Choi, D. Kang, J. S. Khim, and C. Lee. 2010. Designation processes for marine protected areas in the coastal wetlands of South Korea. *Ocean and Coastal Management*.
- Huppert, D.D., A. Moore, and K. Dyson. 2009. Impacts of climate change on the coasts of Washington State. Chapter 8 in *The Washington Climate Change Impacts Assessment: Evaluating Washington's Future in a Changing Climate*, Climate Impacts Group, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.
- Huppert, D.D. and Dyson, K. 2009. The regional economic impact of razor clam beach closures due to harmful algal blooms (HABS) in Washington State. WCCOHH Publication No. 25.

Posters and Presentations

- Can community collected data be used to detect changes in bird community composition along the urban gradient in Seattle, WA? The Ecological Society of America's 97th Meeting, August 9th, 2012.
- Improving the habitat value of urban waters. The Coastal Society's 22nd Biennial Conference, June 16th, 2010.
- Habitat Enhancing Marine Structures: Creating habitat in urban waters, Seattle Public Utilities. November 3rd, 2009.
- Adapting to Climate Change to Improve Social-Ecological Resilience. The Coastal Society's 21st Biennial Conference with D. Huppert and A. Moore, June 30th, 2008.

Conferences

- The Ecological Society of America's 97th Meeting, Portland, Oregon, August 5-10th, 2012
- 22nd International Conference of The Coastal Society, Wilmington, North Carolina, June 13-16th, 2010
- Coastal Zone, Boston, Massachusetts, July 19 to 23, 2009
- Restore America's Estuaries, Providence, Rhode Island, October 11-15, 2008
- 21st International Conference of The Coastal Society, Redondo Beach, California, June 29 - July 2, 2008

Other Experience

Heartland Animal Shelter

Volunteer, December 2006 – August 2007

Interviewed and screened potential adopters to ensure successful adoptions. Provided customer service to advise and inform potential adopters. Optimized and performed data entry procedures that resulted in increased visibility of the animals at the shelter to the public. Self-starting mentality and quick uptake of procedures reduced oversight requirements for staff.