

EDUCATION:

University of Miami – Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science Virginia Key, FL
• Masters of Marine Affairs & Policy. GPA 3.7 (*In progress*) 12/05

- Selected course work: Coastal Zone Management; Aquaculture I-III; Systematics of Fishes; International Ocean Law; Tropical Marine Biology.

Harvard University Cambridge, MA
• Bachelor's Degree in Biology. GPA 3.6 (*Cum Laude*) 6/99

- Graduate-level course work: Nature and Regulation of Marine Ecosystems; Tropical Ecology; Statistical Analysis of Biological Problems.
- Extensive independent research, writing, and public speaking on marine topics including: Corporate Cooperation and Conservation – Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge; International Marine Conservation Policy and the U.S. Pacific – Impacts of Ocean Nutrifcation in the Marshall Islands; The International Aquarium Trade and Sustainable Ornamental Fisheries Collection in Amozonia; An Assessment of Diver Impacts on Coral Reefs – Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary; Comparative conservation strategies for sea turtle nesting beaches of Costa Rica's Pacific Coast; and Danube Delta Wetlands Restoration.

St. Andrew's University Scotland, UK
• Master's Degree in English Literature and History of Art. 6/89

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

University of Miami – Cooperative Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Studies Miami, FL
NOAA-Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center 01/04 – present

Senior Research Associate

- Coordinate Early Life History of Fishes Lab's research and South Florida Science Program objectives with state/ federal agencies including the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary and Loxahatchee River District.
- Coordinate grant proposals, funding, and reports; and provide policy direction for South Florida and NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program projects.
- Coordinate input, design, and prepare conference presentations and abstracts, and Program Baseline Assessments with Science, Policy & Planning Division for NOAA-SEFSC Coral Reef Program Review, GCFI Special Session on Marine Protected Areas, and the Straits of Florida Colloquium, UM-RSMAS.
- Serve as NOAA-SEFSC Alternate on the SFWMD's Water Resources Advisory Council.
- Coordinate author correspondence/peer-review for *Early Stages of Fishes of the West-Central North Atlantic*.
- Manage and coordinate funding, budget, private/public-sector partnerships, experimental design, field work, and deliverables for NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program funded Juvenile Snapper Micro-Acoustic Tagging Project (JSMAT Project); supervise two field assistants.

Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Maui, HI
Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawai'i 11/00 – 02/04

Manager - Ocean Resources Program

- Coordinated with state/federal agencies – Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR), Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, Hawai'i Undersea Research Lab – to provide research and monitoring studies; supported and facilitated marine algae and deep submersible/ROV bottomfish surveys.
- Created the Kaho'olawe Ocean Resources Internship Program in partnership Island Marine Institute and University of Hawai'i's Marine Option Program; recruited full/part-time local volunteers.
- Coordinated with the NOAA Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary to include Reserve waters in the annual Ocean Count as an official count site.
- Created and maintained photo- and map-linked databases to track and survey incidental sightings of MMPA and ESA protected marine animals in the Reserve. Initiated the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Sensitive Coastal Habitat Plan emphasizing a cultural approach.

**Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve
Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawai‘i**Maui, HI
11/00 – 02/04Manager - Ocean Resources Program (continued)

- Revised, wrote, and established Administrative Rules for the Reserve providing for the integration of indigenous knowledge and traditional *kapu* in the management of marine natural and cultural resources. Worked with local fisherman and community groups to promote marine conservation awareness in the community.
- Drafted and wrote the KIRC-AAUS Dive Safety Manual, maintained staff dive records, and reviewed all in-house/UH dive plans.

**Belt Collins & Associates, Ltd.
Environmental Department**Honolulu, HI
8/99 – 8/00Environmental Scientist/Staff Biologist

- Coordinated field work with local biologists, state and federal agencies, including DAR, USFWS, and NOAA-NMFS, and the U.S. Navy. Reviewed fieldwork reports on coral reefs and essential fish habitats, coastal vegetation, protected seabird colonies, on/in U.S. Navy lands and waters. Wrote and completed the draft *Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan* for the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai and associated lands and waters on outer islands.
- Coordinated sub-contracts with local biologists and reviewed fieldwork reports on coastal habitats and native/endemic species for City of Honolulu’s *Pearl Harbor Historic Trail Plan*. Provided maps, evaluations, and recommendations for natural resources interpretive opportunities for the trail plan. Wrote the *Natural Resources Inventory* for the plan.
- Conducted coastal surveys and a study on percent coral cover for the State of Hawai‘i’s *Kealakekua Bay State Park Conceptual Plan*. Wrote and completed evaluations, recommendations, and mapping for a proposed kayak landing site on a protected shoreline.

FIELD EXPERIENCE:

**Kure Atoll Sea Bird Sanctuary
Department of Land and Natural Resources, State of Hawai‘i**NWHI
5/99 – 8/99Biological Field Technician

- Banded 1000+ albatross. Conducted periodic seabird surveys; collected recapture data for population estimates.
- Assisted in monk seal and spinner dolphin data collection and population monitoring. Performed seal scat analysis.

Cooperating Scientist – NOAA and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

- Coordinated/assisted in collecting, hauling, and removing six tons of marine debris, nets, and derelict lobster traps from reef and coastline. Established and maintained marine-radio contact safety protocols for remote survey work. Assisted in oceanographic CTD data collection aboard RV NOAA Townsend-Cromwell.

**Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**NWHI
5/98 – 8/98Native Plants Nursery / Habitat Restoration Intern

- Coordinated with up to ten volunteers in an alien plant eradication and habitat restoration program including large-scale native plant reintroduction. Prepared and wrote a training manual and project report detailing all propagation protocols and prioritizing habitat restoration goals by site, species, and potential for improvement.
- Created Excel database to track seedlings/cuttings survival rates by species, collection, and care routine for a newly expanded greenhouse.

Field Biologist Intern

- Conducted manta-tow coral reef surveys to mark and remove marine debris.
- Designed and assisted in extensive GPS mapping project of emergent reef to improve accuracy in seal location sightings for weekly surveys. Assisted in data analysis for reports on human disturbance on protected beaches.
- Collected and documented data on hatching and fledging rates of four sea-bird species for USFWS census.

Hawai'i Wildlife FundMaui, HI
8/98Field Biologist

- Radio-tracked Hawksbill turtles using GPS, hand-held, and stationary antennae to triangulate on habitat and feeding grounds; collected and recorded data while rotating through 24 hour watches.
- Conducted dives to characterize hawksbill coral reef habitat sites based on triangulation data.

**Caribbean Marine Research Center
Oregon State University**Exumas, Bahamas
6/97 - 8/97Research Diver

- Quantified, analyzed, and preserved nightly light-trap samples in the laboratory including extensive larval reef fish identification. Assisted in marine ecology overall field experiment implementation and data collection.
- Organized daily field expeditions including all safety, collecting, and field equipment; prepared and piloted boat to two remote reef survey sites.
- Collected daily dive-survey data on juvenile reef fish recruitment and settlement. Assisted in elastomer tagging of newly recruited/settled damselfish.

PUBLICATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS, AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Selected Publications, Presentations, and Technical Reports

- Whitcraft, S.** and M. Lara. 2005. *Gibberichthys*. Chapter in Early Stages of Fishes of the Western Central North Atlantic. B. Richards (ed.), CRC Press, Boca Raton FL.
- Laroche, W. A., Lamkin, J. T., and **S. Whitcraft**. 2005. *Carangidae*. Chapter in Early Stages of Fishes of the Western Central North Atlantic. B. Richards (ed.), CRC Press, Boca Raton FL.
- Whitcraft, S.** 2004. Thinking about Linking – Creating Networks of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Current. Volume 19. National Marine Educator's Association.
- Kaeo, K. and **S. Whitcraft**. 2004. Kaho'olawe Island's Marine Reserve; A Native Hawaiian approach to marine resources monitoring and management. Current. Vol. 19. National Marine Educator's Association.
- King, C., **S. Whitcraft** and L. Pytka. 2003. Threatened Hawaiian green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) and endangered Hawaiian hawksbill sea turtles (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) in the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve: Developing monitoring techniques for management purposes. Hawai'i Conservation Conference, Honolulu HI. July 10-11, 2003. Hawai'i Conservation Alliance, University of Hawai'i. (Poster presentation)
- Kelly, C. and **S. Whitcraft**. 2003. Is the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Enhancing the Bottomfish Fishery in Maui County and What is KIRC Doing to Protect These Resources? American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting – Hawai'i Chapter. Ma'alaea HI. (Presented talk)
- Whitcraft, S.** and L. Pytka. 2002. Methods of monitoring Hawaiian monk seals (*Monachus schauinslandi*) in the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve for Management Purposes. Hawai'i Conservation Conference, Honolulu HI. July 18-19, 2002. Secretariat for Conservation Biology, University of Hawai'i. (Poster presentation)
- Whitcraft, S.** 2000. Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan for the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kaua'i HI (DRAFT). Job No: 199820603. Prepared for Pacific Division Naval Facilities Engineering Command, U.S. Navy, Pearl Harbor HI. Belt Collins & Associates, Ltd. Honolulu HI.
- Whitcraft, S.** 2000. "Natural Resources in the Area of the Proposed Pearl Harbor Historic Trail." Pearl Harbor Historic Trail Inventory. Prepared for the Department of Planning and Permitting, City and County of Honolulu. Belt Collins & Associates, Ltd. Honolulu HI.
- Whitcraft, S.** 2000. "Comparative Survey of Live Coral Cover at Ka'awaloa, Kealahou Bay, South Kona, Hawai'i to Assess Potential Impacts at a Proposed Kayak Landing Site." Kealahou Bay State Historical Park Conceptual Plan. Prepared for the State of Hawai'i – Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of State Parks, State of Hawai'i. Belt Collins & Associates, Ltd. Honolulu HI.

Professional Affiliations

Professional Association of Dive Instructors; NOAA Scientific Diver; SFWMD Water Resources Advisory Council (alternate); Society for Conservation Biology; National Audubon Society.