

Daniel E. Sandborn, Ph.D.

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EDUCATION

University of Minnesota

2024

Ph.D. Limnology and Oceanography

Inorganic carbon cycling in Lake Superior and responses to anthropogenic carbon dioxide

Advisor: Elizabeth C. Minor

California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo

2020

B.S. Chemistry *summa cum laude* with Honors

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Washington — School of Oceanography

Seattle, WA

Postdoctoral Fellowship

January 2025 - Present

- Performed transient tracer measurements of seawater and maintained associated gas chromatographic equipment for the Warner lab.
- Integrated tracers into observation-based models of shifting ocean ventilation and anthropogenic carbon accumulation.

University of Minnesota — Large Lakes Observatory

Duluth, MN

Ph.D. Dissertation Research with Prof. E. Minor

August 2020 - November 2024

- Designed, built, and tested novel open-source alkalinity measurement instrumentation to advance the accessibility of high-quality inorganic carbon analysis.
- Described CO₂ dynamics in the Laurentian Great Lakes using continuous and discrete observation to inform statistical models of anthropogenic carbon accumulation and acidification.
- Advanced the use of CaCO₃ saturation state as a novel predictor of invasive mussel habitat in freshwater ecosystems.

California Polytechnic State University

San Luis Obispo, CA

Research Assistant to Prof. E. Bockmon

January 2018 - June 2020

- Assisted with seawater carbonate chemistry timeseries on the California Central Coast.
- Built spectrophotometric pH instrument capable of high-accuracy measurement of seawater chemistry.

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Richland, WA

Undergraduate Laboratory Internship with Dr. A. Sengupta

June 2019 - September 2019

- Developed methods for respiration rate analysis of soil and sediment samples.
- Participated in soil, water, and gas sampling study of salinity encroachment upon terrestrial ecosystems.

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Scientific Cruises

- Scientist, SeaGrant sampling campaign, *RV Blue Heron*, May 14-16 2024

- CTD Watchstander, GO-SHIP A13.5, *RV Marcus G. Langseth*, February 2-March 24 2024
- Scientist, GLOS Mooring Deployment, *RV Blue Heron*, June 7-9 2022
- Lead scientist, sampling campaign for CIGLR fellowship, *RV Kingfisher*, June 1 & August 11 2022
- Scientist, SeaGrant sampling campaign, *RV Blue Heron*, August 3-4 2022

Field Research

- EXCHANGE sampling campaign, Summer 2022
- WHONDRS Soil/water sampling, July 2019

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Publications

1. Carter, B. R., Schwinger, J., Sonnerup, R., Fassbender, A. J., Sharp, J. D., Dias, L. M., **Sandborn, D.E.** (2025). Tracer-based Rapid Anthropogenic Carbon Estimation (TRACEv1), Earth Syst. Sci. Data. *In print*. doi:10.5194/essd-2024-560
2. Christensen, V. G., Katona, L. R., Trompeter, H. E., Maki, R. P., Smith, J. C., & **Sandborn, D. E.** (2025). Water quality-based risk assessment for zebra mussel establishment: a case study of single- and multiple-factor methods in northern temperate lakes. *Lake and Reservoir Management*, 1–19. doi:10.1080/10402381.2025.2488829
3. **Sandborn, D. E.** & Minor, E. C. (2024). Underway $p\text{CO}_2$ surveys unravel CO_2 invasion of Lake Superior from seasonal variability. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences*, 129, e2023JG007877. doi: 10.1029/2023JG007877
4. Regier, P. et al. (2023) Coastal inundation regime moderates the short-term effects of sediment and soil additions on seawater oxygen and greenhouse gas dynamics: a microcosm experiment. *Frontiers in Mar. Sci.* doi: 10.3389/fmars.2023.1308590
5. Pennington, Stephanie C., et al. EXCHANGE Campaign 1: A Community-Driven Baseline Characterization of Soils, Sediments, and Water Across Coastal Gradients. OSTI, Feb. 2023. doi: 10.15485/1960313
6. **Sandborn, D. E.**, Minor, E. C., Hill, C. (2023). Total alkalinity measurement using an open-source platform. *Limnol. Oceanogr. Methods*, 21: 334-344. doi: 10.1002/lom3.10549

Submitted, in preparation and in review

1. **Sandborn, D. E.**, Minor, E. C., Austin, J. A. A neural network-based estimate of the seasonal to inter-annual variability of the Lake Superior carbon cycle. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Biogeosciences*. *In review*.
2. **Sandborn, D. E.**, Austin, J. A.; Lafrancois, B. M. Developing a particle tracking model in Lake Superior. NPS Reports. *In review*.
3. **Sandborn, D. E.**, Minor, E. C.; Errera, R. M. A survey of aragonite saturation state in lakes and association with calcifying mussel habitat. *In preparation*

Software and Data

1. **Sandborn, D. E.**, Minor, E. C., Austin, J. A. (2025). Lake Superior inorganic carbon cycling reconstruction 2019-2023. Data Repository for the University of Minnesota. doi: 10.13020/5qx4-zx91
2. **Sandborn, D. E.** & Carter, B. (2025). Tracer-based Rapid Anthropogenic Carbon Estimation (TRACEv0.1.0-Python) (v0.1.0-beta). Zenodo. [doi:10.5281/zenodo.15597123](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15597123)

3. Humphreys, M. P., Schiller, A. J., **Sandborn, D. E.**, Gregor, L., Pierrot, D., van Heuven, S. M. A. C., Lewis, E. R., and Wallace, D. W. R. (2022). PyCO2SYS: marine carbonate system calculations in Python. Zenodo. doi:10.5281/zenodo.3744275
4. **Sandborn, D.E.** RPi-Alkalinity: Publication Release. Zenodo. doi:10.5281/zenodo.7864447

PRESENTATIONS

Invited Presentations

1. **Sandborn, D. E.**; Minor, E.C.; Austin, J. "Drivers of Dreissenid Habitat: Moving Beyond Calcium and Temperature". Invasive Mussel Collaborative meeting. December 2024. *Virtual*.
2. **Sandborn, D. E.** & Minor, E.C. "The Breath of Lake Superior and Observation of "The Other CO₂ Problem". Twin Ports Freshwater Folk meeting. December 2024. *Virtual*.
3. Minor, E.C.; **Sandborn, D. E.**; Brinkley, G. 2022. "Are increasing atmospheric CO₂ concentrations causing lake acidification in Lake Superior?". MN AWWA Annual Conference. September 2022. Duluth, MN. [*Minor, invited oral presentation*]

Abstracts

1. Minor, E.C. & **Sandborn, D.E.** "A preliminary view of the carbon cycle in the five largest freshwater lakes" Meeting of the American Geophysical Union, 2024. Washington, D.C.
2. **Sandborn, D.E.**; Austin, J. "Patterns of Lake Superior AIS dispersal illustrated by particle tracking.". Meeting of the Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography. June 2024. Madison, WI.
3. **Sandborn, D.E.**; Austin, J. "Patterns of Lake Superior AIS dispersal illustrated by particle tracking.". Meeting of the International Association for Great Lakes Research. May 2024. Windsor, ON.
4. Kittaka, P. K.; **Sandborn, D.E.**; Minor, E.C. "Diel, Seasonal and Storm-related Changes in Carbonate System Variables in Lake Superior Tributaries". Meeting of the American Geophysical Union. December 2022. Chicago, IL.

Presentations

1. **Sandborn, D.E.**; Minor, E.C. "The Other CO₂ Problem in the Saltless Seas: High-Resolution Observations in Lake Superior". June 2023. Poster presentation. Ocean Carbon Biogeochemistry Summer Workshop. Woods Hole, MA, USA.
2. **Sandborn, D.E.**; Minor, E.C.; Errera, R.M. "CaCO₃ Saturation State: The Case for a Comprehensive Dreissenid Chemical Predictor". October 2022. Poster presentation. Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research All Partners Meeting. *Virtual*.
3. **Sandborn, D.E.**; Minor, E.C. "CO₂ Acidification in Lake Superior: Developing a Chemical Forecast". May 2022. Poster presentation. Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting, Grand Rapids, MI, USA.
4. **Sandborn, D.E.**; Minor, E.C. "Quantifying Spatiotemporal Heterogeneity in Inorganic Carbon Chemistry of Lakes Superior and Michigan". June 2021. Oral presentation. Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography Meeting. *Virtual*.
5. **Sandborn, D.E.**; Sengupta, A. "Developing methods for sediment carbon flux measurement via incubation". August 2019. Poster presentation. Pacific Northwest National Laboratories Undergraduate Symposium. Richland, WA, USA.

6. Bockmon, E.; **Sandborn, D.E.**; Schmidt, G.; Norgaard, A. "Improving instrumentation for characterizing the carbon dioxide system in seawater". August 2018. Poster presentation. Cal Poly Frost Symposium. San Luis Obispo, CA, USA.
7. Bockmon, E.; **Sandborn, D.E.**; Schmidt, G.; Norgaard, A. "Seawater carbonate chemistry at the Cal Poly Pier, Avila Beach". August 2018. Poster presentation, Cal Poly Frost Symposium. San Luis Obispo, CA, USA.
8. **Sandborn, D.E.**; Lehr, C.R.; "Solubility behavior of Cyanuric Acid". May 2018. Southern California Undergraduate Research Conference. Pomona, CA, USA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Minnesota Duluth

Duluth, MN

Graduate Teaching Assistant

August 2020 - December 2023

- CHEM 2212: Environmental Chemistry — 3 semesters

Redeveloped laboratory experiment manual to promote student engagement and application of environmental chemistry concepts to real-world contexts. Designed and delivered lectures on analytical methods. Planned and led field science activities.

- CHEM 1153: General Chemistry I — 2 semesters

Led discussion groups with undergraduate students.

- CHEM 1154: General Chemistry I Laboratory — 3 semesters

Led laboratory activities with undergraduate students.

California Polytechnic State University

San Luis Obispo, CA

Undergraduate Learning Assistant

August 2019 - January 2020

- CHEM 124: General Chemistry I — 1 quarter

Assisted faculty in studio chemistry classrooms.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Postdoctoral Tracer Fellowship

2024-2026

Global Ocean Ship-Based Hydrographic Investigations Program

Student Conference Award

2023

Northeastern Association of Marine and Great Lakes Laboratories

Graduate Research Fellowship

2022-2023

Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research

Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award

2022

Swenson College of Science and Engineering

Early Career Travel Award

2022

Association for the Sciences of Limnology and Oceanography

Learning Assistant of the Year

2020

Cal Poly Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

COAST Undergraduate Research Award

2019

Central Coast Center for Marine Sciences

Award for Excellence in Analytical Chemistry

2018

Cal Poly Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND AFFILIATIONS

Professional Affiliations

ACS Member 2016-Present
ASLO Member 2020-Present
IAGLR Member 2022-Present

Professional Service

Student Fees Coordinator for Large Lakes Observatory 2022-2024
Water Resources Students in Action Coordinator 2021-2022

Outreach

RV Blue Heron Science on Deck Volunteer 2023
LLO Open House Volunteer 2023
UMN Day of Data Presenter 2022
UMD Chemistry Mole Day Volunteer 2022
CCMS Pier Open House Volunteer 2019