IAN R. COMBS

Large Area Imaging, Structure-from-Motion photogrammetry, Coral Restoration, Coral Reef Ecology



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EDUCATION

2019 2017

M.Sc. in Biological Sciences

Florida Atlantic University

Boca Raton, FL Thesis: Characterizing the impacts of stony coral tissue loss disease on coral in

southeast Florida using 3D photogrammetry

Advisor: Dr. Joshua Voss

2014 2010 **B.Sc. in Marine Science**

University of Delaware

• Newark, DE

Summerland Key, FL

Summerland Key, FL

Summerland Key, FL

Summerland Key, FL

♥ Ft. Pierce, FL

• Fort Pierce, FL



RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Present 2024

Senior Biologist, Lower Keys Coral Restoration Operations

Coordinator

Mote Marine Laboratory

Coral Restoration Program

Supervisor: Dr. Jason Spadaro

2024 2023 Senior Biologist, Coral Nursery Manager

Mote Marine Laboratory

Coral Restoration Program Supervisor: Dr. Jason Spadaro

2023

Senior Biologist, Coral Reef Ecosystems

Mote Marine Laboratory 2022

Coral Restoration Program

Supervisor: Dr. Jason Spadaro

2021 2020 Staff Biologist, Coral Reef Ecosystems

Mote Marine Laboratory

Coral Restoration Program

Supervisor: Dr. Erinn Muller

2020 2019 **Research Technician**

FAU, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute

Coral Reef Health and Molecular Ecology Lab

Supervisor: Dr. Joshua Voss

2019 2017 **Graduate Research Assistant**

FAU, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute

Coral Reef Health and Molecular Ecology Lab

Supervisor: Dr. Joshua Voss

CONTACT

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combs2017

Ian R Combs

SKILLS

Structure-from-Motion photogrammetry Large-Area Imagery Coral Restoration Ecology Coral Reef Ecology Coral Health and Disease 650+ Scientific Dives Multivariate Data Analysis

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Bash Python University of Delaware

Team Benthic Habitat Mapping Supervisor: Dr. Douglas Miller

n Benthic Habitat Mapping

• Lewes. DE

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2018 Graduate Teaching Assistant

Marine Biodiversity

2017 Research-based After-school Program for Students

2015 Alumni Service Corps

Gonzaga College High School

Washington, D.C.

STUDENTS MENTORED

2024 Ashley Binstock

2014

Mote URE Intern

Comparing fusion spacing of microfragmented coral using Strucutre-from-

Motion Photogrammetry

2024 Alana Boirie Mote URE Intern

Comparing fusion spacing of microfragmented coral using Strucutre-from-

Motion Photogrammetry

2024 Nathaniel Hand

Mote URE Intern

Comparing fusion spacing of microfragmented coral using Strucutre-from-

Motion Photogrammetry

2023 Amber Morera

Mote REU Intern

Quantifying changes in biodiversity in an experimentally ouptlanted reef site in

the Florida Keys, FL

2023 Lily Gullett

Mote REU Intern

Assessing coral restoration success and changes in benthic community composition collowing the removal of non-protected organisms within Eastern

Dry Rocks, Key West, FL

2022 Kamryn Blake

Mote REU Intern

Assessing if microfragmentation promotes accelerated growth in massive stony

corals using Structure-from-Motion photogrammetry

2021 Gabrielle D'Alonzo

Coral Restoration Intern

Assessing coral restoration's impacts on herbivorous fish communities.

2021 Ryan Rogers

Mote REU Intern

Does microfragmentation enhance the tissue growth and skeletal deposition of

brain corals?

2021 Briana Matthews

Coral Restoration Intern

Assessing changes in microfragmentation on skeletal deposition and tissue growth.

2020 Ashley Carreiro

Coral Reef Health and Ecology Lab

Determining stony coral tissue loss disease intervention success on *Montastraea cavernosa* using 3D photogrammetry

2019 Mckenna Rayburn

Link Fellowship Intern

Intervention methods and rate of tissue loss on stony coral tissue loss diseaseaffected *Montastraea cavernosa* in the Florida Reef Tract

2018 Diana Perez

2023

2021

2021

2023

2022

Link Fellowship Intern

Zooxanthellae characterization and connectivity in Montastraea cavernosa

REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

3. Large-area imaging in tropical shallow water coral reef monitoring, research, and restoration: A practical guide to survey planning, execution, and data extraction.

NOAA Technical Memorandum NOS NCCOS 313. (2023). doi:10.25923/5n6d-kx34

Edwards, C. B., Viehman, T. S., Battista, T., Bollinger, M. A., Charendoff, J., Cook, S., **Combs, I.**, Couch, C., Ferrari, R., Figueira, W., Gleason, A. C. R., Gordon, S., Greene, W., Kuester, F., McCarthy, O., Oliver, T., Pedersen, N. E., Petrovic, V., Rojano, S., Runyan, H., Sandin, S. A., and Zgliczynski, B. J.

2. Quantifying impacts of stony coral tissue loss disease on corals in Southeast Florida through surveys and 3D photogrammetry

PLoS ONE (2021). doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0252593

Combs IR, Studivan MS, Eckert RJ, Voss JD

1. Assessing the effectiveness of two intervention methods for stony coral tissue loss disease on Montastraea cavernosa

Scientific Reports (2021). doi:10.1038/s41598-021-86926-4 Shilling EN, Combs IR, Voss JD

PRESENTATIONS

Assessing coral restoration's effects on benthic community composition using Structure-from-Motion photogrammetry

Association of Marine Labs of the Caribbean 40th Scientific Meeting

St. Kitts & Nevis

Citations: 100

h-index: 3

i10-index: 3

Combs IR, D'Alonzo GL, Muller EM, Bartels E, Spadaro AJ Oral Presentation

Does microfragmentation accelerate the grow-out phase of asexually propagated brain corals?

Reef Futures 2022 • Key Largo, FL

Combs IR, Hamlyn SB, Matthews B, Rogers R, Muller EM Oral Presentation

2019	Characterizing impacts of scleractinian tissue loss disease on corals in southeast Florida with photogrammetry and 3D modeling 48th Annual Benthic Ecology Meeting ♥ St. John's, NL, Canada Combs IR, Beal J, Voss JD	
	Oral Presentation	
2019	Characterizing the impacts of scleractinian tissue loss disease on corals in southeast Florida	
	ASLO Aquatic Sciences Meeting	San Jaun, PR
	Combs IR, Beal J, Voss JD Poster Presentation	
2019	Impacts of scleractinian tissue loss disease on corals in southeast	
	Florida Indian River Lagoon Symposium	
	Combs IR, Beal J, Voss JD Poster Presentation	
	Outstanding Presentation Award	
2019	Undersatnding coral disease through 3D modeling HBOI Ocean Discovery Visitor Center Marine Science Fri	
	Combs IR	uays \bigvee Ft. Fletce, FL
	Oral Presentation	
2018	Eulogy for the St. Lucie Reef 3MT-Three Minute Thesis Competition	♥ Ft. Pierce, FL
	Combs IR	▼ 1 t. 1 leice, i L
	OralPresentation Heat 7 Runner-Up, 4th Place Overall	
2018	White blotch disease impacts on corals in southeast Florida	
	47th Annual Benthic Ecology Meeting Combs IR, Beal J, Voss JD	◆ Corpus Christi, TX
	Poster Presentation	
FUNDING		
2023	Mote Marine Laboratory POR Grant Program \$30,691	
2023	Indian River Lagoon Graduate Research Fellowshi	ip
2018	\$7,947	
2019	FAU GPSA Travel Awards	
 2018	\$1,600	
	CERTIFICATIONS	
	AAUS Scientific Diver	
	PADI Enriched Nitrox Certification	

DAN Oxygen Delivery, First Aid, and CPR for SCUBA diving injuries

USFWS Motorboat Operator Certification Course



SKILLS

Large-Area Imaging, Structure-from-Motion photogrammetry, Agisoft Metashape

Analysis of LAI and SfM products using Viscore, TagLab, MeshLab, and Rhinoceros 3D

Field research planning, logistics, and execution

Data visualization using R statistical software and R Markdown

Data mangement using GitHub

Coral sampling, benthic surveys, photography, navigation and mapping

Caribbean Coral ID, Caribbean Fish ID

Multivariate statstical analyses

Scientific SCUBA diving



REFERENCES

Dr. Jason Spadaro

Program Manager of Mote's Coral Reef Restoration Research Program

◆ Mote Marine Laboratory

+1 305-745-2729 ext. 713

jspadaro@mote.org

Dr. Erinn Muller

Associate Vice President for Research, Program Manager for Coral Health & Disease, and Senior Scientist

+1 (947) 388-4441 ext. 310

◆ Mote Marine Laboratory emuller@mote.org

Dr. Joshua Voss

Associate Research Professor, CIOERT Executive Director

+1 (772) 242-2538

◆ Florida Atlantic University jvoss2@fau.edu

Last updated on 2024-10-14.

This curriculum vitae was made

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