

Lorna May Brown

Marine Biologist

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EDUCATION

MSc Marine Vertebrate Ecology and Conservation

September 2020 – February 2022

University of Exeter, Cornwall, UK

First-Class Honours.

GIS in Conservation Science / Statistical Modelling / Approaches of Evolutionary and Behavioural Ecology

BSc Integrative Animal Biology

August 2015 – May 2019

University of South Florida, Tampa, USA

Magna Cum Laude; GPA 3.87/4.00

Adv. Coursework: Conservation Biology / Vertebrate Natural History / Seminar in Marine Biology

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Research Project & Dissertation

September 2020 – February 2022

University of Exeter, Cornwall, UK

- First nation-wide assessment of the abundance and distribution of three endangered sea turtle species in Belize, using large dataset covering eight years of underwater visual censuses and baited remote underwater videos.
- Large focus on anthropogenic impact assessment and management considerations, including an evaluation of the effectiveness of spatio-temporal monitoring efforts and practices in Belize.
- Highly competent use of QGIS to visualise and organise data, with the use of geoprocessing tools for analysis; R and RStudio for analysis (including the use of linear, generalised, and generalised linear mixed models), and for visualisation. LaTeX and Python used for visualisation, organisation, and write-up.
- Pursuing publication in the Ocean & Coastal Management Journal under Elsevier publishing.

Lead Sea Turtle Research Assistant

May 2019 – August 2019

Ecology Project International (EPI), Pacuare Reserve, Costa Rica

- Worked remotely with minimum supervision as part of a small research team.
- Led daily night beach censuses for sea turtles to gather data on size metrics and behaviour, used flipper and Argos satellite tags for identification and tracking, and to collect and relocate eggs.
- As lead, coordinated and scheduled team daily and weekly fieldwork activities and projects, including managing exhumations and retriangulations. Additionally, supervised and proofed all activities, data entry and reports.
- Worked to educate and involve both local and international groups with sea turtle monitoring and conservation initiatives by conducting interactive presentations/talks with a wide audience.

Aquarist & 'DOME' Keeper

May 2018 – May 2019

The Florida Aquarium, Tampa, USA

- Began as an intern mentee of Animal Ambassador primarily working with African penguins [*Spheniscus demersus*], and later continued volunteering with 'DOME' team (primarily wetland terrestrial species), and then migrated to Aquarist team working with freshwater and saltwater animals.
- Led interactive and educational presentations unsupervised with guests on diverse topics.
- Experience handling both terrestrial and marine animals, particularly worked close with African Penguins, North American River Otters, American Alligators, and various species under the family Syngnathidae.
- Conceptualized a successful program in object discrimination using operant conditioning with African penguins.

Small Cat Keeper & Trainer

March – December 2016

Big Cat Rescue (BCR), Tampa, USA

- Assisted with computerized data entry daily of behaviour and diet consumption.
- Trained new volunteers and interns on husbandry practices, safety procedures, and risk management.
- Diet preparation, including insertion of medicine into food.
- Feeding and cleaning enclosures of small cats.

Coral Reef Research & Conservation Assistant

March – June 2015

Global Vision International (GVI), Mahé Island, Seychelles

- Actively participated in coral reef identification, monitoring, and recovery research of dozens of fish, invertebrate, and coral species.
- Independently conducted daily line transects and quadrat for data collection and recording towards research in association with the Seychellois Government.
- Contributed to Sea Turtle breeding ground monitoring in Cape Turnay.
- Organized educational presentations for marine conservation awareness program at the local community.

Animal Attendant

June – August 2013

Dangerous Wild Animal Rescue Facility, Essex, UK

- Performed daily checks on animals; trained in animal husbandry of many of the species.
- Helped perform risk assessments for quarterly safety review.
- Trained to manage safely and care for wild and dangerous animals including Burmese pythons, American crocodiles, green iguanas, buzzards, and others.
- Performed maintenance checks and repairs of the enclosures.

MOST RECENT EMPLOYMENT

PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor

May – August 2022

Tenerife Diving Academy, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain

- Organized and taught sixty-six courses to effectively meet PADI standards and ensure adherence to H&S regulations.
- Led and encouraged customers and staff to ensure motivated and positive dive shop atmosphere.

Duty Manager

October 2021 – April 2022

Brewers Fayre Lodmoor, Weymouth, UK

- Managed entire facility encompassing three departments ensuring effective communication and workload allocation.
- Supervised stock control, waste management, daily and weekly sales reports, and purchase orders.

SUMMARY OF SKILLS AND CERTIFICATES

Languages

English (Fluent)
Spanish (Fluent)
French (Beginner)

Field-related Skills

Animal Handling
Cognitive Training
Satellite and Flipper Tagging
Beach Census Experience
Report & Paper Writing
BRUV deployment & analysis

Basic Laboratory Training
Remote Fieldwork Experience
Underwater Visual Surveys (SCUBA & Snorkel)
Basic Aquaria Experience
Presentation skills
Large Dataset handling

Relevant Certificates

PADI Master Scuba Diver Trainer
Emergency First Aid Instructor
PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor (With 10 Instructor Specialities)
BDMLR Marine Mammal Medic
JNCC Marine Mammal Observer (Seiche)
WiSe Scheme Accreditation

Date Completed

August 2022
May 2022
May 2022
April 2021
February 2021
November 2020

Computer Programmes/Languages

Microsoft Office
R and RStudio
LaTeX
Python
QGIS & Conservation Planning (CLUZ)

Level of Proficiency

Advanced
Intermediate High
Novice High
Novice
Intermediate