

Taylor Azizeh

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📍 2030 SE Marine Science Drive
Newport, OR 97354

Education

Ph.D. in Wildlife Science

Sept 2024 – ongoing

Marine Mammal Institute – Oregon State University

Advisor: Dr. Joshua Stewart

Dissertation: Investigating the population impacts of predator-prey dynamics in marine megafauna

M.Sc. in Marine Science

Aug 2021 – Oct 2025

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories – San José State University

Advisor: Dr. Birgitte McDonald

Thesis: Estimating prey capture attempts and activity costs in foraging emperor penguins using integrated biologging data

Non-degree seeking

Jan 2020 – June 2020

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Courses taken: Arctic Marine Ecosystems in a Changing Climate, Greenhouse Gases and Climate Effects in the Arctic, Sea Ice Ecology, and Sustainable Use of Living Resources in the Arctic

B.Sc. in Wildlife Science

B.Sc. in Environmental Science

Aug 2015 – May 2019

University of Idaho

Selected courses: Wildlife Management, Natural Resource and Ecosystem Service Economics, Ecological Monitoring and Analysis, Fish and Wildlife Population Ecology, Society and Natural Resources, Environmental Philosophy, Politics of the Environment

Experience

R/V Sikuliaq

Marine Mammal Observer

AMBON

August 2025

Field – Spent three weeks systematically scanning to detect, identify, and record marine mammal presence in the Bering and Chukchi Seas (20 days at sea)

Ocean Ecology Lab

PhD Fellow

Marine Mammal Institute

September 2024 - current

Field – Assisted with biologging tag deployment on killer whales (*Orca orcinus*) and manta rays, collected photogrammetric data and skin biopsies of humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) in Bahía de Banderas, Mexico

Research – Helped create a catalogue of killer whales from drone-collected videos, created a Bayesian hierarchical latent-variable model for gray whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) body condition across life stages and migration phases

Vertebrate Ecology Lab

MSc Fellow

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

Aug 2021 – current

Field – Spent six weeks (43 days at sea) aboard the R/V Nathaniel B. Palmer, capturing and deploying satellite tags on post-moult emperor penguins in the Ross Sea, Antarctica, assisted with deployment and recovery of tags, translocation, flipper tag resights, and monitoring of chemically anesthetized northern elephant seals at Año Nuevo State Park, worked as a part of the MLML Stranding Network by responding to public reports of dead marine mammals at *in-situ* strandings within Monterey County, California to collect data for a long-term project, conducting public outreach and interpretation when necessary

Research – Led analysis of emperor penguin (*Aptenodytes forsteri*) accelerometer data to identify foraging signals

NOAA Upwell

Aerial Observer

Monterey, CA

Aug 2022 – Dec 2024

Field – Helped conduct turtle and cetacean aerial surveys to support vessel-based capture of foraging sea turtles off the California Pacific coast

Elkhorn Slough Foundation

Protected Species Observer

Moss Landing, CA

June 2022 – Aug 2024

Field – Monitored construction site to ensure the safety of marine mammals in the area and intervene when necessary, correctly identified harbour seals (*Phoca vitulina*), southern sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*), and more at distance

Cascadia Research Collective

Field Biologist

Monterey, CA

July 2022 – Dec 2022

Field – Assisted with boat-based photo-identification surveys of cetaceans off the California Pacific coast to inform the Dungeness Crab Fishery restrictions, with a focus on humpback whales (50 hours)

Sea Goddess Whale-watching

Senior Naturalist and Deckhand

Moss Landing, CA

Nov 2021 – Aug 2024

Field – Correctly identified marine wildlife in the Monterey Bay and educate large crowds about life history, conservation status, etc. Ensure the safety of the boat passengers, captain, and crew (160 hours)

British Antarctic Survey

Research Intern

Cambridge, England

August 2020 – May 2021

Research – Led analysis of historical whaling data to update estimates of southern right whale (*Eubalaena australis*) catch off Australia and New Zealand to estimate post-whaling recovery with first-author manuscript in preparation

Oceanomare Delphis Onlus

Research Intern

Ischia, Italy

August – September 2020

Field – Assisted with behavioural and acoustics cetacean surveys from the R/V Jean Gab in the Tyrrhenian Sea, with a focus on sperm whales to contribute to a long term dataset

Research – Assisted with photo-identification of dolphin dorsal fins

LeopardSeals.org

Research Intern

Remote

Nov 2020 – Mar 2021

Research – Used photo-identification to match sightings of leopard seals in New Zealand to a catalogue of known individuals

Marine Bioacoustics Lab

Student Researchers

Aarhus University

August 2019 – May 2021

Research – Led a research project on the effects of gull micropredation on southern right whales off Península Valdés, Argentina, gained experience in lead authoring manuscript and data analysis

Publications

- Azizeh, T.R.,** Moore, S. (2025). Marine Mammal Watch, collected from the Research Vessel Sikuliaq, Northern Bering Sea to Chukchi Sea. NSF Arctic Data Center. <https://arcticdata.io/catalog/view/doi:10.18739/A29S1KN2S>
- Findlay, K., Vermeulen, E., Chatwin, D., Seyboth, E., Katara, I., Ruiz-Sagalés, M., Double, M., Bell, E., **Azizeh T.R.** (2024). Report of the IWC SC 69B in the Rikli Balance Hotel, Bled, Slovenia, 20 – 21 April 2024. IWC Document Number C/69B/REP/05. <https://archive.iwc.int/?r=22318>
- Azizeh, T.R.,** Sprogis, K.R., Soley, R., Nielsen, M.L.K., Uhart, M.M., Sironi, M., Marón, C.F., Bejder, L., Madsen, P.T. and Christiansen, F. (2021). Acute and chronic behavioural effects of kelp gull micropredation on southern right whale mother-calf pairs off Península Valdés, Argentina. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 668:133 – 148. [DOI: 10.3354/meps13716](https://doi.org/10.3354/meps13716)
- Azizeh, T.R.,** Cisneros, R, Waits, L, Dalgo, P, Castillo, E, Avila, C, Myers, M, Roon, D, and Bailon, N. (2018) “Ecotoxicology of bats in urban, pasture, and forested sites of the southern Ecuadorian Andes.” 2do Congreso de Gestion Ambiental Urbana y 1er Concurso de Innovaciones Tecnologicas – Libro de Memorias. 68. [DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.21329.79201](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.21329.79201)

Conferences

April 2024 – International Whaling Commission: Bled, Slovenia

Invited Workshop Participant: Global estimates of historical southern right whale whaling

August 2022 – 24th Biennial Conference of the Society of Marine Mammalogy: Palm Springs, Florida

Session Talk: “Acute and chronic behavioural effects of kelp gull micropredation on southern right whale mother-calf pairs off Península Valdés, Argentina -- ***Awarded Best Regional Student Presentation: South America***

Fellowships, Grants, Scholarships

OSU Marine Mammal Institute

August 2025

Graduate Student Award

\$400

OSU Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, & Conservation Sciences

July 2025

Ted Thorgaard Student Research Fund

\$1,000

Oregon Lottery

May 2025

Graduate Student Scholarship

\$3,000

OSU Marine Mammal Institute

October 2024

Graduate Student Award

\$3,030

ARCS Award

July 2024 – July 2027

Sheila & Mike Goodwin Endowment Scholar

\$18,000

Oregon State University

July 2024 - present

Prestigious Diversity Fellow

\$42,000

National Science Foundation

August 2023 – present

Graduate Research Fellow

\$111,000 (Top 5% of Applicants)

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

May 2023

Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) Scholarship

\$625

CSU Program for Education and Research in Biotechnology

May 2022

Faculty-Graduate Student Research Collaboration Grant

\$10,000

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

March 2022

WAVE Award

\$500

COAST

November 2021

Dr. Kenneth Coale Graduate Scholar Award

\$3,000 (Top 1% of Applicants)

San José State University

August 2021

Viola Palmer Memorial Scholarship

\$637

Kirsten Scott Memorial Trust

August 2020

Research Grant

\$900

Fulbright Association

August 2019 – July 2020

Denmark and the Arctic Semester Greenland Open Study/Research Student

\$20,000

Society of Marine Mammalogy Conference

May 2021

Student Travel Grant

\$750

Auburn University

January 2019

Graduate Student Recruiting Grant

\$700

USAC

September 2017

University of Idaho

2015 - 2019

Dr. Meira Fields Scholarship

\$1,500

Silver Scholarship

\$1,500

Leadership & Community Involvement

2025

Graduate Representative

College of Agricultural Sciences Graduate Advisory Committee

Steward

Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Sciences – Coalition of Graduate Employees, Oregon State University

Special Events Coordinator

Hatfield Student Organization – Oregon State University

2024

Open House Planning Co-Chair

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

2023

Student Body President

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

Co-Founder

MLML Climate Collective – Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

2020 – 2022

International Student Ambassador

Aarhus University / Pinngortitaleriffik

2019

Founder and President

Women in Science Society – University of Idaho

2016 - 2019

Student Ambassador

College of Natural Resources – Oregon State University

Library Affairs Committee Student Representative

University of Idaho Library

2015

President and Founder

Earth Club – University of Idaho

Memberships

International Whaling Commission Scientific Committee Correspondence Group for Southern Right Whale Catch Data Member

Student Member in the Society for Marine Mammalogy

LGBTQIA+ Subcommittee Member in the Society for Marine Mammalogy

Tribal Land Acknowledgement Committee Member at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories

Professional Service

Ad-Hoc Reviewer

ARCTIC Journal (ISSN 0004-0843)

Awards & Achievements

Fulbright Australia

Semi-Finalist, Open Research – 2020

University of Idaho

Alumni Excellence Award – 2019

University of Idaho

Outstanding Environmental Science Senior Award – 2019

Teaching Experience

Instructor, Oregon Coast Community College

Introduction to Oregon's Marine Wildlife: Seabirds and Cetaceans

Graduate Teaching Assistant, Oregon State University

Fish and Wildlife 113 – *Introduction to Marine Mammals and Birds*

Certifications

Federal Aviation Administration

Part 107 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle License

U.S. Department of the Interior

A-312 Water Ditching and Survival (Dunker) Training

Outreach

Inspiration Dissemination Podcast

Host and Writer

Awarded the Mark of Excellence Award for Best Podcast in Region 10 (Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska) from the Society of Professional Journalists

<https://blogs.oregonstate.edu/inspiration/>