

Zoë J. Kitchel, Ph.D.

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Education

- 2017 – 2023 Ph.D. in Ecology & Evolution, Rutgers University. Advisor: Dr. Malin Pinsky. Dissertation: “Detecting impacts of climate change and fishing on shelf ecosystems”
- 2011 – 2015 B.S. in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Yale University, *magna cum laude*. Thesis: “Forest and savanna tree demography along a rainfall gradient: a meta-analysis”
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Professional experience

- 2023 – Present Postdoctoral Researcher, Occidental College
- 2024 – Present Groundfish scientist, Ocean Associates, Inc. Consulting (NWFSC, NOAA)
- 2024 – 2025 Visiting Assistant Professor, Occidental College
- 2019 – 2023 Teaching Assistant Project Associate, Rutgers University
- 2018 – 2023 Graduate Research Assistant, Rutgers University
- 2015 – 2017 Fisheries Technology and Biology Project Coordinator, University of Alaska
- 2016 – 2017 Research Diver, Sitka Sound Science Center, Alaska
- 2015 Research Assistant, Gulf of Maine Research Institute
- 2007-2015 Orrs Bailey Yacht Club Sailing Instructor and Launch Operator, Maine
- 2014 Conservation Intern, Damariscotta Lake Watershed Association, Maine
- 2013 Stream Watershed Assessment Tech., Maine Dept. of Environmental Protection
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Awards/Grants

- 2020 Manasquan Marlin and Tuna Club Burlew Scholarship (\$1000)
- 2020 Lewis and Clark Field Scholar (\$3700)
- 2019 – 2020 Institute of Earth, Ocean, and Atmospheric Sciences Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers
- 2019 School of Environmental and Biological Sciences Travel Award, Rutgers (\$617)
- 2019 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Honorable Mention
- 2019 Buell Award for Undergraduate Mentorship, Rutgers (\$3500)
- 2018 National Defense Science and Engineering Graduate Fellowship Alternate
- 2018 Ecology and Evolution Program Small Grant Award, Rutgers (\$1500)
- 2018 Coastal Climate Risk and Resiliency Traineeship Travel Award, Rutgers (\$500)
- 2017 – 2018 School of Environmental and Biological Sciences Excellence Fellowship, Rutgers

Peer-reviewed publications **student mentee authors*

- Schaffzin, M.*, **Kitchel Z. J.**, & Pondella II, D. J. Factors Influencing Gorgonian Distribution and Density at Artificial and Natural Reef Ecosystems in Los Angeles. In prep.
11. **Kitchel Z. J.**, et al., Claisse, J. T., Pondella II, D. J., Williams, C. M., Williams, J. P., & Shroeder, D. Community structure of southern California's subtidal rocky reefs and implications for artificial reef design. In press at Marine Ecology Progress Series.
 10. **Kitchel, Z. J.**, et al. Marine fish communities cycle between homogenized and differentiated states through time. 2025. *PLOS Climate*, 4(7), e0000659.
 9. Free C. M., **Kitchel Z. J.**, Seeley M., Shields A. Quota allocation policies in U.S. federal fisheries management and implications for climate resilience. *Fish and Fisheries*: 10.1111/faf.70000.
 8. Maureaud, A. A., **Kitchel, Z.**, Fredston, A., Guralnick, R., Palacios Abrantes, J., Deng Palomares, M. L., Pinsky, M. L., Shackell N., Thorson, J. T., Merigot B, and members of the FISHGLOB Consortium. FISHGLOB: a collaborative infrastructure for marine science and management. 2025. *Conservation Science and Practice*, 7(6), e70035.
 7. Selden, R. L., **Kitchel, Z. J.**, Coleman, K. E., Calzada, L., Nogues, B., and St. Martin, K. Using historical catch flexibility and fishing ground mobility as measures of the adaptive capacity of fishing communities to future ocean change. (2024). *ICES Journal of Marine Science*, 81(10), 1972–1987.
 6. Maureaud, A. A., Palacios-Abrantes, J., **Kitchel, Z.**, Mannocci, L., Pinsky, M., Fredston, A., Beukhof, E., Forrest, D., Frelat, R., Palomares, M. L. D., Pecuchet, L., Thorson, J., van Denderen, P. D., and Merigot, B. FishGlob_data: an integrated database of fish biodiversity sampled with scientific bottom-trawl surveys. (2024). *Scientific Data*, 11(1).
 5. Fredston, A.L., Cheung, W.W., Frölicher, T.L., **Kitchel, Z.J.**, Maureaud, A.A., Thorson, J.T., Auber, A., Mérigot, B., Palacios-Abrantes, J., Palomares, M.L.D., Pecuchet, L., Shackell, N.L., & Pinsky, M.L. (2023). Marine heatwaves are not a dominant driver of change in demersal fishes. *Nature*, 621(7978), 324-329.
 4. **Kitchel, Z. J.** and Pinsky, M.L. (2023). Regional species gains outpace losses across North American continental shelf regions. *Global Ecology and Biogeography*, 32(7), 1205-1217.
 3. **Kitchel, Z. J.**, Conrad, H. M.*, Selden, R. S., & Pinsky, M. L. (2022). The role of continental shelf bathymetry in shaping marine range shifts in the face of climate change. *Global Change Biology*, 28(17), 5185-5199.
 2. **Kitchel, Z. J.** & Zemeckis, D. R. (2021). Climate Change Impacts on New Jersey's Marine Fisheries. *Rutgers Cooperative Extension Bulletin E369*. <https://njaes.rutgers.edu/e369/>
 1. Pinsky, M. L., Selden, R. L., & **Kitchel, Z. J.** (2019). Climate-Driven Shifts in Marine Species Ranges: Scaling from Organisms to Communities. *Annual Review of Marine Science*, 12.

Technical reports

- Free C. M., **Kitchel Z. J.**, Seeley M., Shields A. (2024) Quota allocation policies in US federal fisheries management and implications for climate resilience. Environmental Defense Fund. New York, New York.
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Teaching experience

Science and studies of the environment

2025	Biostatistics
2024	Biology of Marine Fishes
2021	Ecology, Evolution, Natural Resources Senior Seminar
2020	Global Change Ecology

Pedagogical course and workshop instruction

2020-2023	Role of the Instructor in the College Classroom (workshop, facilitator)
2021-2022	Developing Culturally Responsive Curriculum (workshop, facilitator)
2020-2022	Introduction to College Teaching, Rutgers (semester course, instructor)
2021	Time Management as a Teaching Assistant (workshop, facilitator)
2020	Boosting Confidence as an Instructor In Person and Online (workshop, facilitator)
2019-2020	Designing Your Own College Course, Rutgers (semester course, instructor)
2019	Developing Classroom Policies (workshop, facilitator)
2019	Facilitating Classroom Conversations (workshop, facilitator)
2019	Working with Students with Disabilities (workshop, facilitator)

Undergraduate mentoring

2025	Maggie Schaffzin – gorgonian distribution in southern California
2024	Katie Placencia – carbon sequestration potential of artificial reefs in CA
2022	Jesenia Rosa-Miranda – morphological variation in Atlantic Croaker larvae over time
2021	Justin Deutsch – morphological variation in Atlantic Croaker larvae over space
2020	Hailey Conrad – global assessment of continental shelf habitat availability
2019-2020	Ria Koberness – spatial sorting in range expansions of North American fishes
2019	Cassiel Padilla-Duran – variation in life history strategies in marine invertebrates

Guest Lectures

2023	Introductory Fisheries Science for Stakeholders, Rutgers
2022	Environmental Science, Kentucky Wesleyan College
2022	Quantitative Fisheries Approaches, Rutgers
2020	Ecological Data Analysis, Rutgers

Working groups, conferences, workshops, invited seminars

Working Groups

2024-Present	Beijer Young Scholars, Swedish Royal Academy of Sciences, Stockholm, Sweden
2020-Present	FISHGLOB, Center for Synthesis and Analysis of Biodiversity, Montpellier, FR
2018-2023	NEREUS Global Partnership, Graduate Student Fellow, University of Washington

Contributed talks and posters^*

2025	Southern California Academy of Sciences Annual Meeting, Irvine, CA*
2024	Ecological Society of America, Long Beach, CA*
2024	Ocean Sciences Meeting, New Orleans, LA^
2023	Effects of Climate Change on the World Ocean*
2023	American Society of Naturalists, Monterey, CA*
2022	Mid-Atlantic Chapter American Fisheries Society, Asbury Park, NJ*

2022	Ocean Sciences Meeting, Virtual*
2020	Western Society of Naturalists, Virtual*
2019	Species on the Move, Kruger National Park, South Africa*
2019	NEREUS Science Conference, Princeton, NJ*

Workshop Attendance

2019	Sustainable Development Goals Integration Workshop, UBC, Vancouver, Canada
2018	Species Distribution Modeling, University of Evora, Portugal

Invited Seminars

2025	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
2024	College of the Atlantic
2023	Southern California Association of Ichthyological Taxonomists and Ecologists
2023	Occidental College
2020	Southampton University

Outreach, service, and science communication

Reviewer for Science, ICES, Ecology Letters, Fish and Fisheries, PNAS, Conservation Biology, and Philosophical Transactions B

2020-Present	Skype a Scientist participant
2025	Guest on 94.1 KPFA - Terra Verde
2025	Guest on KPCC LAIST - AirTalk
2025	Speaker at Malibu Divers monthly meeting
2023	New York Marine Science Educators Presenter
2015-2017	Whalefest Conference volunteer, Sitka, Alaska
2015-2016	Science fellow, University of Alaska Southeast
2015-2017	Microscope lesson teacher in 3 rd and 4 th grade classrooms, Sitka, Alaska

Rutgers University

2019-2022	Undergraduate research mentor
2018-2022	Marine field station volunteer field researcher
2021-2022	School of Graduate Studies diversity, equity, inclusion committee
2018-2021	Shorebowl moderator
2017-2021	Ecology Graduate Student Association (Secretary 2018-19, President 2019-2021)
2019	Geology museum open house presenter
2017-2019	Ecology visiting student day coordinator
2018	Future Scholars mentor
2017-2018	Science communications course final project evaluator

New Jersey Public Schools

2021	NJ City STEAM Mentor
2018-2019	Rutgers Science Bus Fellow (presenter to 6 th grade classrooms throughout NJ)
2018	Redshaw Elementary STEM Festival presenter

Certifications

American Academy of Underwater Sciences Scientific Diver