

Kelli A. Iddings

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EDUCATION

- M.A. **Environmental Management**, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2017
Capstone Project: How gray whales find food: A novel approach offers insight into the factors that drive gray whale foraging at a local scale
- B.A. **Biological Sciences**, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, 2011

EXPERIENCE

Director of Conservation Programs, Lexington, Virginia (*November 1, 2018- September 2020*)

Conservation Partners

- Worked with landowners, government agencies, private companies, and non-profit organizations to conserve open-space lands and wildlife habitat
- Communicated the importance of land conservation through presentations and community outreach
- Researched, analyzed, and documented environmental data to support land conservation projects
- Used GIS to support land conservation projects
- Built and leveraged partnerships to meet our goals and the broader environmental goals of Virginia
- Assisted in the permanent protection of over 3000 acres of wildlife habitat across Virginia

Environmental Research Associate and Team Lead, Traverse City, Michigan (*2018*)

Great Lakes Environmental Center (EPA Contract: National Rivers and Streams Assessment)

- Trailered and handled 21-foot boat and navigated large and small rivers
- Collected, identified, and inventoried fish using seine and boat-mounted electro-fishing equipment
- Collected benthic samples, water samples, and physical data and recorded the data into a national database
- Followed Federal EPA standardized field and laboratory methods
- Processed, coordinated, and shipped samples daily
- Led and managed a four-person field crew daily under exhausting and sometimes dangerous conditions

Environmental GIS Analyst, Chapel Hill, North Carolina (*2017*)

Southern Environmental Law Center

- Worked with lawyers and experts to protect right whales from seismic blasting
- Collected data and reviewed literature to aid in analytical GIS-based projects
- Implemented geospatial solutions for wildlife and environmental issues
- Communicated political and scientific information via cartography and interactive deliverables
- Strategized with attorneys and partners to meet project objectives

Marine Mammal Research Associate and Field Supervisor, Newport, Oregon (*2015-2017*)

Geospatial Ecology of Marine Megafauna Laboratory, Oregon State University

- Designed and implemented a research project that used novel methods to study gray whale foraging
- Surveyed protected gray whales by boat in southern Oregon
- Collected and processed marine mammal visual survey data via spreadsheets and databases
- Collected over 90 days of field data in extreme and hazardous environments
- Analyzed data with video editing software, R, Python, ArcGIS, and Excel
- Presented results via professional and community presentations and a written report

Laboratory Manager and Research Associate, Durham, North Carolina (2014)

Duke University, Biology Department

- Administered lab safety training and ensured lab was in accordance with safety guidelines and policies
- Analyzed water and soil samples and managed thousands of DNA samples for high throughput sequencing
- Managed a \$100,000 laboratory relocation and laboratory budget
- Maintained, calibrated, and purchased laboratory equipment

Animal Care Intern and Educational Docent, Sausalito, California (2013)

Marine Mammal Center

- Led 1-hour educational facility tours
- Participated in facility presentations at community outreach events
- Prepared and administered marine mammal diets
- Handled aggressive and large marine mammals
- Cleaned and maintained patient enclosures
- Kept detailed logs of feeding times, behavior, and meal portions

Veterinary Technician Assistant and Office Receptionist, San Francisco, California (2013)

Mission Pet Hospital

- Welcomed and checked in patients, assessed emergencies, and took patient vitals
- Provided clients with service, technical knowledge of products, animal care advice, and treatment protocols
- Scheduled appointments, filled prescriptions, and prepared biological samples for laboratory testing
- Prepared and maintained patient forms, charts, and records
- Corresponded with clients, handled mail, and controlled inventory

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- **Steering Committee and Outreach Action Team Lead, Scottville, Virginia (2020)**
Upper and Middle James Riparian Consortium
- **Fundraising Committee, Harrisonburg, Virginia (2018-2020)**
Project Grows
- **Student Participant, Our Oceans One Future Leadership Summit, Washington D.C. (2016)**
U.S. Department of State
- **Event Coordinator, Durham, North Carolina (2015-2017)**
Duke University, Nicholas School of the Environment

VOLUNTEER AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

- **Water Quality Monitor, Staunton, Virginia (2019-2020)**
Friends of the Middle River
- **Wildlife Survey Volunteer and Team Coordinator, Savannah, Georgia (2013-2014)**
The Dolphin Project
- **Study Abroad: Tropical Biology in Belize, Belize, Central America (June, 2011)**
Belize Foundation for Research and Environment
- **Construction Volunteer, Michigan (2008-2011)**
Habitat for Humanity

PRESENTATIONS

- ***Getting to WILD (Work, Innovation, Leadership, Development)***, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, Team WILD (April, 2019)
- ***How gray whales find food: A novel approach offers insight into the factors that drive gray whale foraging at a local scale***, Duke University Master's Symposium (May, 2017)
- ***Overview and Analysis of Mexico's National Payments for Ecosystem Services Program***, Cash for Green: Payments for Ecosystem Services in the Global South (April 12, 2017)

HONORS AND AWARDS

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| • Esri Business GIS license and extensions grant (2019) | \$1,500 |
| • Edna Bailey Sussman Research Award (2016) | \$6,300 |
| • Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife grant (2016) | \$3,500 |
| • Nicholas Scholarship Fund (2015) | \$16,000 |

CERTIFICATES

- GIS Certification, Duke University (2017)
- Marine Planning Advancement Training, Duke University (2016)
- Valid US Drivers License
- Valid US Passport