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Research Interests/Experience:

My main interests include cetacean distribution, habitat, ecology and the limitation of anthropogenic impacts. My doctoral research is focused on the distribution patterns of multiple dolphin species including bottlenose, Hector's, dusky, common dolphins and killer whales in Queen Charlotte Sound, NZ. Additionally I am exploring dolphin tourism and anthropogenic influence in the Sound.

Prior to starting my doctoral work, I completed a Masters which explored habitat associations of cetaceans in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean. I have a BS in biology, and a photography certificate. I have worked on large vessel and small vessel cetacean distribution, abundance, ecological and mitigation surveys in the Atlantic Ocean, Pacific Ocean and Gulf of Mexico. Furthermore, I have assisted with cetacean stranding efforts and necropsies. Additionally, I have been involved with sea turtle conservation work and pelagic fisheries studies in the Atlantic Ocean. I have experience as a science educator, working in marine tourism and the biomedical field.

Thesis Title:

An assessment of the distribution of Delphinids and aspects of dolphin tourism in Queen Charlotte Sound, New Zealand

Supervision:

Dr. Karen Stockin (Massey University, Albany)
Dr. Deanna Clement (Cawthron Institute, Nelson)

Study Aims:

- ❖ Exploration of the spatial and temporal distribution patterns and encounter rates of multiple Delphinids in Queen Charlotte Sound, NZ
- ❖ Examination of swim-with-dolphin tourism operations and anthropogenic use in the Sound

Funding:

- ❖ Massey University Doctoral Scholarship
- ❖ NZ Department of Conservation Research Grant

Publications/Reports:

Cross CL and KA Stockin. 2013. Queen Charlotte Sound: A Habitat for Marine Mammals. Internal Report to the Department of Conservation, New Zealand. 36p.

Cross CL. 2010. Predictive habitat models for four cetaceans in the Mid-Atlantic Bight. MSc Thesis. Nova Southeastern University, Dania Beach, Florida, USA.

Li Q, Yu J, Mu C, Yunmbam, MK, Slavsky, D, **Cross CL**, Bostick-Bruton F and E. Reed. 1999. *Association between the Level of ERCC-1 Expression and the Repair of Cisplatin-Induced DNA Damage in Human Ovarian Cancer Cells*. *Anticancer Research* 20: 645-652, 2000.

Conference presentations:

Cross CL, Clement D, and KA Stockin. 2013. Queen Charlotte Sound, NZ: A region of high species diversity and significance for nationally endangered cetacea. Presented at the 20th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Dunedin, New Zealand.

Contillo JP, Engleby L, Baran M, Powell J, Wicker J, Litz J, Mase, B. E, **Cross CL** and L. Wickman. 2011. *Individual Bottlenose Dolphins Move Between Adjacent Estuarine Systems in Southern Florida USA*. Presented at the 19th Biennial Conference of the Society for Marine Mammalogy, Tampa, Florida, USA.

Cross CL, Garrison LP & Kerstetter DW. 2010. Habitat Utilization of Four Cetaceans Along the United States Eastern Coast. The conference of the Florida Academy of Sciences, Fort Pierce, Florida, USA.

Cross CL, Garrison LP, Hirons, A, Keith EO & Kerstetter DW. 2009. Nova Southeastern University, Dania Beach, FL. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Miami, FL. Habitat Utilization of Four Cetaceans Along the United States Eastern Coast. The 18th biennial conference of the Society of Marine Mammalogy, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada.

Da Silva H, **Cross CL** and Kerstetter DW. 2009. Nova Southeastern University, Dania Beach Florida, 33004. Preliminary stomach content and stable isotope analyses of three mesopelagic teleosts. The annual meeting of the Florida Chapter of the American Fisheries Society, Ocala, Florida, USA.

Bonovich M, **Cross CL**, Reed E and C. Vinson. 2000. *Regulation of ERCC1, A DNA Repair Gene, by AFOS, an E1(-) Adenovirus Encoding a Dominant Negative to APl*. National Cancer Institute, Bethesda, Maryland, 20892. Presented at the 91st Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research. San Francisco, California, USA.