

Jay Queenin

MSc Student

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Research Interests/Experience:

My experience in marine research includes photo-identification, ecology and conservation of cetaceans in New Zealand. I am currently researching small cetaceans' diet composition through stomach content analysis. Specifically, I am investigating variance in common dolphin diet between populations and individuals. I am also interested in social structure and vocalisations of odontocetes.

Before commencing my master's thesis, I completed a Post Graduate Diploma in Science at Massey University (Albany) in Conservation Biology in 2012. I also completed a Graduate Diploma in Health Science at Auckland University (2006) in Neuroscience, and a Bachelor of Art from Bennington College, Vermont, USA (1999).

Thesis:

Stomach contents and diet composition of the common dolphin (*Delphinus* sp.) and other small, coastal *delphinids* in New Zealand waters.

Supervision:

Dr Karen Stockin (Massey University, Albany)

Study Aims:

- ❖ Characterise the diet of the common dolphin (*Delphinus* sp.) in New Zealand waters via stomach content analysis
- ❖ Assess variance in the prey quality of common dolphins in New Zealand waters in relation to sex and life history using nutritional geometric models
- ❖ Provide first insights into the diet other small *delphinids* from New Zealand waters via stomach contents analysis