

# 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
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## 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.

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## 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

### *Ecology, evolution, and marine biology*

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

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## 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**

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### **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 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> grade classrooms throughout NJ)
2018	Redshaw Elementary STEM Festival presenter

## **Certifications**

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American Academy of Underwater Sciences Scientific Diver