

Brian Yurasits

brianyurasits@gmail.com
18 Rush Street
Somerville, MA
516-582-2707 (cell)

EDUCATION

Stony Brook University 2015-2016

Master's Degree, August 2016
Marine Conservation and Policy
Cumulative GPA: 3.8

New York University 2011-2015

Bachelor of Arts Degree, May 2015; Associate Degree in Liberal Studies
Major: Environmental Science
Minors: Business Studies, Environmental Biology
Cumulative GPA: 3.777
Honors: Cum Laude, Founder's Day Award

WORK EXPERIENCE

The TerraMar Project

Boston, MA

Director Of Operations, Development, and Communications: March 2017 to present, 60-70 hours/week

- Share the latest ocean-related news to The TerraMar Project's newsletter, The Daily Catch. This includes producing original content (interviews, blog posts, press releases) and sharing content from partners.
- Develop and execute education campaigns targeting climate change, overfishing, and marine debris. This includes TerraMar's 'Take Ocean Action' campaign, '#NoMoreButts' campaign, and 'How I Sea' interview series.
- Strategically manage TerraMar's website and social media platforms to maximize engagement and reach new audiences (fishing and surfing communities).
- Control The TerraMar Project's advertising expenses, and develop strategies to maximize the return from these expenses.
- Create free educational materials on marine conservation topics for both students and teachers. These include lesson plans, infographics, multimedia presentations, activities, and videos.
- Curate a list of global ocean actions that mobilize viewers to become involved with ocean solutions (citizen science projects, petitions, beach cleanups, volunteer work) in their local communities.
- Analyze The TerraMar Project's growth and development using google analytics.
- Maintain communications with TerraMar's users.
- Help to organize and promote the 2018 March For The Ocean in Washington D.C.
- Manage TerraMar's network of interns and volunteers.
- First point of contact with The TerraMar Project's collaborators.
- Assist the island nation of Barbados in promoting an island-wide ban on single use plastics.

MRAG Americas

Hampton Bays, NY

NOAA Northeast Fisheries Observer - July 2016 to March 2017, 12-15 sea days/month

- Solicit fishing trips with trawl and gill-net fishing vessels in the Northeast United States.
- Conduct vessel and trip reports: includes economic data on trip costs and vessel information.
- Complete gear logs for each trip: describes the details of each fishing gear used onboard.
- Complete haul logs for each haul in the trip: includes estimations (or actual weights) of catch by species and by disposition (i.e. kept, discarded). Also includes haul data on longitude/latitude, water temperature, depth, weather, time.
- Perform biological sampling of priority species, and collect length frequency data from the catch in each haul.
- Report Incidental takes of marine mammals, turtles, and seabirds: Includes capturing appropriate photographs and measurements, collecting biological samples from individual, and tagging the individual.
- Conduct pre-trip safety inspections of fishing vessels.

Global FinPrint Project

StonyBrook, NY

Data Management Intern - October 2015 to September 2016, 20 hours/week

- Oversee a team of undergraduate interns in the collection of data on ecological metrics of species abundance/diversity at different marine reserve locations in the Caribbean and Belize.
 - Interns watch GoPro video files that were collected using BRUV methodology.
- Be able to correctly identify all common elasmobranch and fish species found in Caribbean reef ecosystems.
- Organize data collected by undergraduate interns for statistical analysis.
- Compare the accuracy of data collected by interns (in identifying different ecological metrics), and draw conclusions about the success of BRUV methodology and citizen science as a method for scientific data collection.
- Determine the effect that marine reserves have on shark and ray species, when there is already a moratorium on the exploitation of these species in place (what affects shark abundance and diversity greater: prey availability or exploitation).
- Manage the project's social media platform for increased public outreach.

TECHNOLOGY

Adobe Premier Pro, Adobe Lightroom, ArcGIS, MS Office, MS Excel, MS PowerPoint, WordPress, Social Media, Digital Media

LICENSES

Padi Open Water Diver, Certified Fisheries Observer for Gill-Net and Trawl Gear, Personal Watercraft Operation, CPR/AED, First Aid, Lifeguarding