

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

- 2025 – Present Postdoctoral Researcher, Northwest Fisheries Science Center
- 2024 – 2025 Visiting Assistant Professor, Occidental College
- 2023 – 2025 Postdoctoral Researcher, Occidental College
- 2019 – 2023 Teaching Assistant Project Associate, Rutgers University
- 2019 – 2023 Rutgers Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, 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 Orr’s 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 and 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 University
- 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 author*

11. **Kitchel Z. J.**, Claisse, J. T., Pondella II, D. J., Williams, C. M., Williams, J. P., & Shroeder, D. (2025). Community structure of southern California’s subtidal rocky reefs and implications for artificial reef design. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 774:91-108.

10. **Kitchel, Z. J.**, et al. (2025). Marine communities do not follow the paradigm of increasing similarity through time. *PLOS Climate*, 4(7).
9. Free C. M., **Kitchel Z. J.**, Seeley M., Shields A. (2025). Quota allocation policies in U.S. federal fisheries management and implications for climate resilience. *Fish and Fisheries*, 26(5): 790-808.
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. (2025). FISHGLOB: a collaborative infrastructure for marine science and management. *Conservation Science and Practice*, 7(6).
7. Selden, R. L., **Kitchel, Z. J.**, Coleman, K. E., Calzada, L., Nogues, B., and St. Martin, K. (2024). Using historical catch flexibility and fishing ground mobility as measures of the adaptive capacity of fishing communities to future ocean change. *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. (2024). FishGlob_data: an integrated database of fish biodiversity sampled with scientific bottom-trawl surveys. *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.

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.

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

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

Reviewer for Conservation Biology, Ecology Letters, Ecography, Fish and Fisheries, Global Change Biology, ICES Journal of Marine Science, Marine Ecology Progress Series, PNAS, Philosophical Transactions B, Science

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 3rd and 4th 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 6th grade classrooms throughout NJ)
2018 Redshaw Elementary STEM Festival presenter

Certifications

American Academy of Underwater Sciences Scientific Diver, US Drivers License, CPR/First Aid