**EDUCATION**

**M.S., Fisheries and Mariculture**, December 2019

Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, TX

Thesis: *Extended incubation feeding protocol and hypersaline acclimation of larval spotted seatrout (Cynoscion nebulosus)*

Advisor: Dr. John Scarpa

**B.A., English** (*Summa cum laude)*, May 2009

Tarleton State University, Stephenville, TX

**EXPERIENCE**

**Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies**

**Technician II November 1, 2020 - Present**

**Technician I May 1, 2020 – November 1, 2020**

* Coordinated installation of adjustable long-line system for oyster mariculture
* Developed a hurricane plan, management plan, and collection of standard operating procedures for the farm
* Maintained records and logs on grant assets (boat and truck)
* Maintained weekly schedule/log of farm activities
* Maintained inventory of all project assets
* Created a filing system for farm and grant records
* Managed farm inventory and tasks using SmartOysters software
* Collected and recorded water quality data using YSI ProDSS and Hach DR3900 spectrophotometer
* Performed tasks associated with oyster farm management including biofouling removal, grading oysters, stocking cages, and cage density reductions
* Collected and recorded oyster growth and mortality data
* Developed a study to compare gear types and stocking densities
* Developed a study to compare diploid and triploid oyster growth and mortality
* Trained and supervised seasonal employees
* Compiled quarterly reports for submission to Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
* Assisted Texas SeaGrant in creating and administering oyster farming workshops for potential farmers

**Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (Coastal Conservation Association Marine Development Center; Perry R. Bass Marine Fisheries Research Station)**

**Volunteer July 2015 – May 2020**

* Assisted with pond culture duties (enumerating zooplankton densities, fertilizing ponds, stocking fry, feeding fingerlings, etc.)
* Assisted with harvesting of ponds, collection of harvest samples/data, and stocking of fingerlings into bays
* Collected water quality data
* Assisted with general facility maintenance
* Assisted with larviculture duties (rotifer and *Artemia* culture, feeding of larvae, cleaning incubation tanks, etc.)

**The Bait Bucket**

**Assistant Manager June 2014 – July 2018**

* Supervised/managed employees, including training of new employees
* Tended to live fish and shrimp (culling, water exchanges, feeding, etc.)
* Maintained recirculating system and sand filter for live bait
* Tested and monitored water quality in bait tanks
* Developed a system for tracking/cataloging dead bait
* Assisted with ordering tackle and live bait
* Assisted with inputting and managing inventory
* Angler education (rules/regulations, fishing tips/suggestions, etc.)

**Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi**

**Teaching Assistant – Microbiology August 2015 – December 2016**

* Prepared quizzes, lab practical exams, lab lectures, and supplemental teaching materials
* Instructed students how to perform lab duties, and assisted students as needed
* Graded assignments, lab reports, and exams
* Prepared media and bacterial cultures for use in labs

**SKILLS**

* General aquaculture knowledge, including fish hatchery and pond production methods, and oyster farming methods
* Oyster farming experience using adjustable long-line systems, floating cages, and floating bags
* Ability to work in a wide range of environments and conditions (outdoors, in the field, etc.)
* Ability to perform manual labor and physically demanding tasks, including lifting heavy objects
* Ability to work efficiently in the field at remote facilities with little or no supervision
* Ability to operate a boat or kayak in bay waters
* Ability to collect and record data and maintain accurate records
* Familiar with use and maintenance of YSI ProDSS and Hach DR3900 spectrophotometer
* Excellent organizational skills including attention to detail and multitasking
* Basic ability to use hand tools and power tools
* Ability to work a flexible/changing schedule, including working weekends, holidays, nights, etc.
* Basic knowledge of R studio statistical software
* Proficient with Microsoft Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, Teams) and Adobe Acrobat

**PUBLICATIONS**

* Schacht, B.E., Chapman Jr., E.L., & Fox, J.M. 2022. Installation and Management of a Semi-Commercial Scale Pilot Oyster Farm in Texas. *World Aquaculture* (53) 1:40-43.
* Schacht, B.E., Scarpa, J., Fox, J.M., &Vega, R.R. 2022. An Early Larval Feeding Protocol and Hypersaline Acclimation of Larval Spotted Seatrout. *North American Journal of Aquaculture* (84) 1:83-94. https://doi.org/10.1002/naaq.10219

**PRESENTATIONS**

* 2021 World Aquaculture Society Aquaculture America Conference. Oral presentation: Schacht, B.E., Chapman Jr., E.L., Drummond, C., & Fox, J.M. Installation and Management of a Semi-Commercial Scale Pilot Oyster Farm in Tres Palacios Bay, Palacios, Texas
* 2020 World Aquaculture Society Aquaculture America Conference. Poster presentation: Pearson, B.E., Scarpa, J., Vega, R., & Fox, J. Extended incubation feeding protocol and hypersaline acclimation of larval spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*)

**AWARDS**

* Fisheries and Mariculture Program Student Research and Conference Travel Award; funded attendance at World Aquaculture Society Aquaculture America Conference in San Antonio, TX. Spring 2017. $1,400.00
* Fisheries and Mariculture Program Student Research and Conference Travel Award; funded travel to the University of Miami’s Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, and the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute for research purposes. Fall 2015. $1,500.00

**PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS**

* American Fisheries Society, member since 2015
* Coastal Conservation Association, member since March 2022
* Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi Student Subunit of the American Fisheries Society, founding member, secretary/treasurer 2016 – 2017
* World Aquaculture Society, member since 2015