

GREGORY BRUCE MERRILL

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Ecology , Duke University	Expected 2024
M. Sc. Biological Sciences , University of Alaska Anchorage Thesis: Maternal foraging trip duration of northern fur seals as an index to prey availability in the Eastern Bering Sea ecosystem	2019
B. Sc. Biological Sciences , Marine Biology Emphasis, University of California Davis Minors: (1) Oceanography (2) Wildlife, Fish, and Conservation Biology	2014

RESEARCH FUNDING (2016 – Present)

\$644 Plastic in Polar Environments Fellowship	2019
\$700 One Health Research of Alaska Travel Grant	2019
\$2,000 Alaska INBRE Travel Grant (3)	2018
\$2,000 Alaska INBRE Travel Grant (2)	2017
\$2,000 Alaska INBRE Travel Grant (1)	2017
\$138,000 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP)	2017
\$1,800 LGL Graduate Student Research Award	2016
\$30,000 Nova Scotia Graduate Research Grant	2016

ORAL PRESENTATIONS (2018 – Present)

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Northern fur seal maternal foraging trip durations, an index of pup survival? **Invited Speaker**. University of Alaska Anchorage Biological Sciences Seminar. 2020 Jan; Anchorage, AK, USA.

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Northern fur seal maternal foraging trip durations, an index of pup survival? Oral. Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research PI Symposium. 2020 Jan; Anchorage, AK, USA.

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Maternal foraging trip durations: Establishing a monitoring index for the northern fur seal. Oral. University Program in Ecology Symposium. 2019 Sept; Beaufort, NC, USA.

Merrill, GB. Maternal foraging trip durations: Establishing a monitoring index of pup survival, habitat quality, and prey availability for the northern fur seal. Oral. Thesis Defense. 23 April 2019; Anchorage, Alaska.

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Maternal foraging trip duration of the northern fur seals: an index to prey availability in the Eastern Bering Sea. Oral. Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center PI Symposium; 1 Feb 2019; Anchorage, Alaska.

Merrill, GB. Understanding mom's shopping habits: Establishing an index of reproductive success and prey availability for the northern fur seal. Alaska Sea Life Center Ocean Sciences Symposium; 10 May 2018; Seward, Alaska.

Merrill, GB. Maternal foraging trip duration of Northern Fur Seals. Oral. Alaska Fisheries Science Center; 2018 Feb 28; Seattle, Washington.

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Maternal foraging trip duration of the northern fur seals: an index to prey availability in the Eastern Bering Sea. Oral. Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center PI Symposium; 26 Jan 2018; Anchorage, Alaska.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS (2018 – Present)

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Maternal foraging trip duration of northern fur seals: An index of pup survival. Poster. Alaska Marine Science Symposium. 2020 January; Anchorage, AK, USA.

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Maternal foraging trip duration of northern fur seals: An index of pup survival. Poster. World Marine Mammal Conference. 2019 December; Barcelona, Spain.

Merrill, GB. Maternal foraging trip durations: Establishing a monitoring index for the northern fur seal. Poster session presented at: One Health Research Conference of Alaska. 15 May 2019; Fairbanks, Alaska.

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Establishing an index of habitat quality and reproductive success for the northern fur seal. Poster session presented at: Alaska Marine Science Symposium; 2018 January 28- February 1; Anchorage, Alaska, USA.

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Establishing an index of habitat quality and reproductive success for the northern fur seal. Poster session presented at: American Physiological Society Comparative Physiology Meeting; 2018 October 25-28; New Orleans, LA, USA.

Merrill GB, Testa JW, Burns JM. Foraging Trip Duration: an index of prey availability & reproductive success in a depleted marine mammal - northern fur seals (*Callorhinus ursinus*). Poster session presented at: Alaska Marine Science Symposium; 2018 January 22-26; Anchorage, Alaska, USA.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (2016 – Present)

Invited Instructor, Introduction to R. American Fisheries Society, Alaska Chapter 2019
Laboratory Instructor. Introductory Biology. University of Alaska Anchorage Teaching Asst. 2017
Mentor. Independent Studies. Andrea Cruz and Diana Hernandez. 2016
Morphometric effects of new-age herbicides on larval Delta smelt. UC Davis.

OUTREACH (2016 – Present)

STEM Fair. University of Alaska Anchorage science open house 2017
Bering Sea Days. Marine science outreach to native Alaskan children on Pribilof Islands 2016
STEM Fair. University of Alaska Anchorage science open house 2016

ACTIVITIES/COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERISM (2016 – Present)

Creek Clean-Up Day; Organized group to pick up trash at Campbell Creek, Anchorage AK. 2019
Humpback Whale Necropsy w/ Vet. Path. Services of AK 2019
Alaska Sea Life Center Gala Fundraiser 2019
Alaska Sea Life Center Fundraiser: Beers by the Bay; catered event 2018
Creek Clean-Up Day; Organized group to pick up trash at Goose Lake, Anchorage AK. 2018
Society for Marine Mammalogy Student Chapter 2018
Alaska Sea Grant: Alaska Tsunami Ocean Sciences Bowl 2018
Alaska Sea Life Center Gala Fundraiser 2018

ADDITIONAL FIELD & LABORATORY EXPERIENCE (2016 – Present)

Field Assistant, NOAA/NMML, St. George Island AK. 2016
Re-sighted northern fur seal females during peak breeding season, identifying individuals by tag number and behavior. Reproductive and maternal behaviors were assessed.

CERTIFICATIONS/ TRAINING (2016 – Present)

Research Mentoring Training, National Research Mentoring Network Anchorage AK 2018

A-312 Water Ditching and Survival, Department of the Interior Office of Aviation Services Training Division and Interagency Partners, Anchorage AK. 2018

HAZWOPER 24 hr for Wildlife Responders HTML5, AK Sea Life Center, Anchorage AK. 2018