

Bethany Wager

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EDUCATION

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC Expected: Spring 2027
Ph.D., Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology
Minor: **Quantitative Ecology**
GPA: 4.0

West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV Fall 2018 - May 2022
Bachelor of Science, **Wildlife and Fisheries Resources**
Minors: **Statistics and Conservation Ecology**
Honors College Student
GPA: 4.0

WORK EXPERIENCE

Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament, Morehead City, NC Summer 2023
Scientific Sampling Team Member

- Collected samples from blue marlin caught during the tournament

Undergraduate Research, Morgantown, WV Fall 2018-Spring 2022
Student Volunteer

- Conducted research on native Brook Trout populations in Dr. Kyle Hartman's lab

NOAA Northwest Fisheries Science Center, Seattle, WA Summer 2021
Intern under Dr. Correigh Greene

- Researched the ecological impacts of jellyfish on the Puget Sound ecosystem in WA

Dr. Stuart Welsh's Lab Technician, Morgantown, WV Fall 2019-Fall 2020
Employee

- Mounted and analyzed otoliths, ran trotlines

North Carolina State University CMAST, Morehead City, NC Summer 2020
Virtual Intern under Dr. Jie Cao

- Conducted angler knowledge phone surveys to aid in the construction of a management strategy evaluation tool for Cobia and Black Sea Bass fisheries
- Developed skills in fish population assessment data analysis in R

Honors College Ambassador, Morgantown, WV Fall 2018-Spring 2020
Ambassador

- Spoke about my experiences with undergraduate research at recruitment events

Dr. James Anderson's Student Assistant, Morgantown, WV Spring 2019-Spring 2020
Employee

- Performed literature reviews, formatted manuscripts for publication, created PowerPoints about wetland ecology/biogeochemistry

WVDNR Internship, District 6, Wood County, WV Summer 2019
Intern under Nate Taylor

- Electrofishing surveys, tagging study, boat ramp construction, Muskellunge stock care, geese banding, deer spotlight surveys

HONORS

- NOAA Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship** 2024
- North Carolina Wildlife Federation Conservation Leadership Grant 2023
- Marine Fisheries Section of the AFS Student Travel Award 2023
- North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Thomas J. Kwak Student Travel Award 2023
- 2023 Joseph E. and Robin C. Hightower Graduate Student Award 2023
- Harkema Graduate Award 2023
- Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center Global Change Fellow** 2022
- WVU Foundation Outstanding Senior 2022
- WVU Division of Forestry and Natural Resources Outstanding Senior 2022
- Gamma Sigma Delta Outstanding Senior Award 2022
- Barry Goldwater Scholar** 2021
- Farm Credit of the Virginias Value-Added Opportunity Fund 2021
- SCIF Sables McElroy Hunting Heritage Scholarship 2021
- WVU Forestry Endowment Fund Scholarship 2021
- NOAA Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship** 2020

- Florida International University Research Experience for Undergraduates (Accepted, COVID-19 cancellation) 2020
- **American Fisheries Society Skinner Award** 2020
- George A. Myles Natural Resources Undergraduate Student Enhancement Grant 2020
- American Fisheries Society National Meeting Undergraduate Travel Assistance Award 2019
- WVU Davis College Dean's Scholarship 2018
- TGKVF Leopold K. and Elizabeth F. Marmot Natural Resources Scholarship 2018

PRESENTATIONS

- Wager B. 2024. Spatiotemporal changes in catches of recreational fishes along the US Atlantic coast. 37th Annual Tidewater American Fisheries Society Chapter Meeting. Newport News, Virginia, March 1st, 2024. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2023. Spatiotemporal changes in catches of recreational fishes along the US Atlantic coast. 153rd American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Grand Rapids, Michigan, August 23, 2023. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2023. Integrating information from semi-structured interviews into management strategy evaluation: A case study for Southeast United States marine fisheries. 36th Annual Tidewater American Fisheries Society Chapter Meeting. Solomons Maryland, March 24, 2023. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2023. Integrating information from semi-structured interviews into management strategy evaluation: A case study for Southeast United States marine fisheries. 2023 Meeting of the North Carolina Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. Durham, NC, February 22, 2023. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2022. Evaluating the impacts of jellyfish along land use gradients in the Puget Sound, WA. Ocean Sciences Meeting 2022. Virtual, March 2, 2022. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2022. Evaluating the impacts of jellyfish along land use gradients in the Puget Sound, WA. Southern Division American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Charleston, SC, January 22, 2022. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2021. Ecological impacts of jellyfish in the Puget Sound, WA. American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. Virtual, November 6, 2021. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2021. Incorporating sex ratios into Brook Trout population assessment and management. West Virginia Chapter of the American Fisheries Society Meeting. Virtual, April 27, 2021. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2021. Let's talk fishing. AFS National Student Chapter Colloquium. Virtual, February 16, 2021. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2020. Identifying environmental drivers of sex ratio in brook trout to detect population resilience and spawning adult size structure. American Fisheries Society Virtual Annual Meeting. Virtual, September 14th, 2020. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2020. Using sex ratios of brook trout to identify population resilience and adult spawning size structure. West Virginia University Virtual Undergraduate Spring Symposium. Virtual, April 16th, 2020. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2020. Using sex ratios of brook trout to identify population resilience and adult spawning size structure. 17th Annual Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol. Charleston, WV, February 7, 2020. (Poster)
- Wager B. 2019. Using sex ratios of brook trout to identify population resilience and adult spawning size structure. American Fisheries Society and The Wildlife Society 2019 Joint Annual Conference. Reno, NV, September 29 - October 3, 2019. (Oral)
- Wager B. 2019. Using sex ratios of brook trout to identify population resilience and adult spawning size structure. Women in Natural Resources Symposium. Morgantown, WV, March 27, 2019. (Poster)
- Wager B. 2019. Using sex ratios of brook trout to identify population resilience and adult spawning size structure. 2019 Joint Meeting of the Virginia, Virginia Tech & West Virginia Chapters of the American Fisheries Society. Blacksburg, VA, February 19-21, 2019. (Oral)

MANUSCRIPTS

- Damiano M, **Wager B**, Rocco A, Shertzer KW, Murray GD and Cao J (2022) Integrating information from semi-structured interviews into management strategy evaluation: A case study for Southeast United States marine fisheries. *Front. Mar. Sci.* 9:1063260. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2022.1063260

GRANTS

Funded:

- FY24 Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program, \$206,000
- Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center, \$30,160

Unfunded:

- FY23 Dr. Nancy Foster Scholarship Program, \$196,000
- FY23 Cooperative Research Program, \$148,954.00 (Score: 390/400)
- 2022 NSF GRFP, \$147,000 (Intellectual Merit: Excellent, Excellent, Very Good. Broader Impacts: Very Good, Very Good, Good.)
- 2022 North Carolina Commercial Fishing Resource Fund, \$182,382.00

LEADERSHIP/ACTIVITIES

NCSU Student Chapter of The American Fisheries Society, Raleigh, NC
Member and 2023 President

Fall 2022-Present

WVU Student Chapter of The American Fisheries Society, Morgantown, WV

Fall 2018-Spring 2022

President and Parent Society Member

- National Student Chapter Colloquium hosted by West Virginia University Student AFS Chapter
- Created the 150 Years of Habitat Restoration display for the 2021 annual AFS meeting

WVU Student Chapter of The Wildlife Society, Morgantown, WV

Fall 2018- Spring 2022

Club Member

Volunteer

- CMAST Field Trip – Coordinated and ran a tour and outdoor lab for local high school students Spring 2024
- The Nature Conservancy – Tagged recreationally important fishes at Virginia Beach wind farm Spring 2024
- SciRen Coast – Provided educators with classroom ready lesson plans at educators/scientists networking event Spring 2024
- Girls in Science Club – Planned a lesson and taught young women about marine science Fall 2023
- Shad in the Classroom – Led a fish anatomy lecture and dissection Spring 2023
- NCSU Student Fisheries Society – Rocky Branch stream cleanup Spring 2023
- NCSU Student Fisheries Society – Maintaining fish feeders at public fishing access site Spring 2023
- Biology GSA – Mentored undergraduates during a coffee with graduate students event Fall 2022
- Friends of the Cheat River – Collected eDNA samples for Eastern Hellbender detection Fall 2021
- AFS Hutton Scholar Pen Pal – Mentored a high school student interested in fisheries science Summer 2021
- Boys and Girls Club Fisheries Camp – Coordinated and produced a fisheries science curriculum Summer 2021
- WVU Core Arboretum – Dug culverts and cleared trails Fall 2019
- Ohio River Sweep – Collected trash along the riverbanks Summer 2019
- National Hunting and Fishing Days – Educated children about rattlesnakes in West Virginia Fall 2018

SKILLS

AAUS Scientific Diver 30'

ACE Boater, Boating License

PERTINENT CLASSES

Physical Oceanography; Vertebrate Natural History; Foundations of Applied Geographic Information Systems; Intermediate Statistical Methods; Statistics: Introductory Design and Analysis; Introduction to Fisheries Management; Conservation Genetics; Applied Calculus; Ichthyology; Statistical Methods 1; Geomorphology; R Coding; Statistical Methods 2; Fundamentals of GIS; Science Communication Seminar, Fisheries Population Dynamics, Ecological Modeling in R, Applied Population Ecology, Applied Bayesian Analysis

REFERENCES

Dr. Jeffrey Buckel, Professor

North Carolina State University

303 College Cir,

Morehead City, NC 28557

252-222-6341

jabuckel@ncsu.edu

Dr. Amy Welsh, Professor

Wildlife and Fisheries Resources

West Virginia University

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