

Dana Morton

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Areas of Expertise: marine ecology, food webs, parasitology, spatial ecology

EDUCATION

2020 Ph.D. (Ecology) University of California, Santa Barbara

Advisors: Armand Kuris and Kevin Lafferty; GPA: 4.0

2012 M.S. (Ecology) San Diego State University

Advisor: Todd Anderson; GPA: 4.0

2007 B.S. (Marine Biology) University of California, Santa Cruz

Highest Honors; GPA: 3.9

PUBLICATIONS

Morton, Dana N., Antonino, C., Broughton, F., Dykman, L., Kuris, A., and Kevin D. Lafferty. 2021. A food web including parasites for kelp forests of the Santa Barbara Channel, California. *Scientific Data*. 8. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-021-00880-4>

Morton, Dana N., and Kevin D. Lafferty. Parasites in kelp-forest food webs increase food-chain length, complexity and specialization, reduce connectance. Submitted to *Ecological Monographs*.

Morton, Dana N., and Kevin D. Lafferty. In prep. Kelp-forest food web structure changes along a temperature gradient.

Morton, Dana N. 2020. The effects of parasites on the kelp-forest food web. Doctoral dissertation, UC Santa Barbara.

McLaughlin, John P., **Morton, D.**, and Kevin D. Lafferty. 2020. "Parasites in Marine Food Webs". *Marine Disease Ecology*. (Eds) Behringer, Silliman, & Lafferty. Oxford University Press

Morton, Dana N., Bell, T.W., and Todd W. Anderson. 2016. Spatial synchrony of amphipods in giant kelp forests. *Marine Biology*. 163: 1-11.

Morton, D. N., and Todd W. Anderson. 2013. Spatial patterns of invertebrate settlement in giant kelp forests. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*. 485: 75-89.

Morton, D. N., and Jeff S. Shima. 2013. Habitat configuration and availability influences the settlement of temperate reef fishes (Tripterygiidae). *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*. 449: 215-220.

DATA PRODUCTS

Morton, D. *et al.* 2021. Data from: A food web including parasites for kelp forests of the Santa Barbara Channel, California. Dryad Digit. Repos. 3.
doi:<https://doi.org/10.25349/D9JG70>.

Lafferty, K.D., Rassweiler, A., Gotschalk, C.C., **Morton, D.N.**, Bell, T.W., Henderikx, F., Kushner, D.J. Sprague, J., Johnson, C. and Washburn, L. 2019. The response of kelp forest organisms to spatial and temporal variation in wave energy in the California Channel Islands. Camarillo (CA): US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management. OCS Study BOEM.

Lafferty, K.D., and **Morton, D.N.**, 2018, Site table and bias corrections for Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP) hind casts at the California Channel Islands: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/P9FV1X7H>.

Washburn, L., Gotschalk, C.C., Rassweiler, A., **Morton, D.N.** and Lafferty, K.D., 2018,

Hourly wave-height observations from 2013 to 2017 at 32 sites throughout the Channel Islands National Park and San Nicolas Island: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/P90QS9WZ>.

Lafferty, K.D., **Morton, D.N.**, Gotschalk, C.C., Henderikx, F., Rassweiler, A., and Washburn, L., 2018, Hourly wave height and period hindcasts at 32 sites throughout the Channel Islands National Park and San Nicolas Island from 2000-2017: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/P91KH2Q7>.

APPOINTMENTS

2020* to 2021	Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar, U.S.- Norway Fulbright Foundation
2020	Assistant Project Scientist, Marine Science Institute, UCSB
2014 to 2018	Graduate Research Assistant, Marine Science Institute, UCSB
2017	Co-Instructor of Record, Dept. of EEMB, UCSB
2014 to 2020	Teaching Assistant, Dept. of EEMB, UCSB
2011 to 2012	Fulbright US Student Award, VUW, Wellington, New Zealand

*start date delayed due to COVID-19.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Fulbright U.S. Scholar (to Norway), 2020-2021 (delayed due to COVID-19)
Rafe Sagarin Award for Observational Ecology, Hon. Mention, November 2018
UC Santa Barbara Block Grant, June 2017-September 2017
Rafe Sagarin Award for Observational Ecology, November 2016
Nejat Ezal Memorial Fellowship (\$3000), June 2016
Lerner – Gray Memorial Fund (\$2000), May 2014
Lewis and Clark Fund for Field Exploration (\$4500), May 2014
Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowship Hon. Mention, 2013
UC Santa Barbara Graduate Fellowship, September 2012-March 2013
Fulbright Graduate Student Award, November 2011-September 2012
COAST Student Travel Award, December 2010
Jordan D. Covin Memorial Scholarship, September 2010
Mabel Myers Memorial Scholarship, September 2009
Highest Honors in Major, University of California, Santa Cruz, June 14, 2007

CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

“Diverse specialist parasites in kelp-forest food webs decrease connectance, in contrast to other systems”, Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, Virtual Meeting, November 2020
“Parasite effects on network topology in kelp forest food webs”, Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America, August 2020
“Something about parasites in kelp forest food webs”, Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, Ensenada, Mexico, November 2019
“Food web topology of southern California kelp forests”, Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, Tacoma, WA, November 2018
“Food web topology of southern California kelp forests”, Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America, New Orleans, LA, August 2018
“Parasite assemblage informs the trophic network of kelp forest surfperches (Embiotocidae)”, Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America, Portland, OR, August 2017

“Parasite diversity and niche overlap of common kelp forest surfperches (Embiotocidae)”, Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, Monterey, CA, November 2016

“Parasite diversity of common kelp forest surfperches (Embiotocidae)”, Annual Meeting of the Southern California Academy of Sciences, Los Angeles, CA, May 2016

“Spatial synchrony of amphipods in giant kelp forests”, Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, Sacramento, CA, November 2015

“Spatial synchrony of amphipods in giant kelp forests”, Poster. Annual Meeting of the Ecological Society of America, Baltimore, MD, August 2015

“What is the parasitic component of kelp forest biodiversity?”, Annual Meeting of the Southern California Academy of Sciences, Camarillo, CA, May 2014

“What is the parasitic component of kelp forest biodiversity?”, Annual Meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists, New Orleans, LA, July 2014

“What is the parasitic component of kelp forest biodiversity?”, Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, Oxnard, CA, November 2013

“Habitat configuration and availability influences the settlement of temperate reef fishes (Tripterygiidae)”, Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, Seaside, CA, November 2012

“Spatial patterns of invertebrate settlement in giant kelp forests”, Benthic Ecology Meeting, Mobile, Alabama, March 2011

“Spatial patterns of invertebrate settlement in giant kelp forests”, Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Naturalists, San Diego, CA, November 2010

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS AND OUTREACH

“Parasitic Worms in a Dark Wet Forest”, Science Pub (Hosted by Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History), Dargan’s Pub, Santa Barbara, CA, September 10, 2018.

“Giant kelp forests: Hot spots of life in cold waters”, Marine Education Centre, Island Bay, Wellington, New Zealand, February 19, 2012.

PROGRAM MENTOR

California Alliance for Minority Participation (CAMP)
EUREKA, Center of Science and Engineering Partnerships

SPECIALIZED SKILLS

Statistical analyses and work with large datasets in R, including packages: igraph, cheddar, vegan, ggplot2, bipartite

Novice level experience with deterministic model construction in Matlab.

Proficient in SYSTAT and PRIMER-E statistical packages, as well as Sigma-Plot.

AAUS certified scientific diver (to 60 feet), California boat operator, New Zealand skipper certification.

Experience working in remote field settings and managing field campaigns.

Experience handling animal care and use protocols, scientific collecting permits (submitting and reporting).

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Reviewer For

Bulletin of the Southern California Academy of Sciences

Conservation Biology

Ecography

FONDECYT Regular 2016 grant competition, an initiative of the Chilean National Science and Technology Commission (CONICYT - Chile).

Hydrobiologia

Journal of Zoology

Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology

New Zealand Journal of Marine and Freshwater Research

Scientific Reports