

2018 Hutton Junior Fisheries Biology Program

Hutton Scholar Spotlight



Adriana Pena

Location: Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, Maryland

Mentor: Dr. Robert Aguilar

“I am extremely grateful for this opportunity that both AFS and SERC provided me with this summer. Now, more than ever, do I truly think of the Chesapeake Bay as home with all of the work and ecosystems I was able to witness through this internship. I look forward to the future when I can learn and work with these systems in greater depth.”



Alexandra Grayson

**Location: Institute of Marine and Environmental Technology/University of Maryland
Center for Environmental Science/National Aquarium in Baltimore, Maryland**

Mentor: Dr. Eric Schott

“For me personally, after this summer I realized I am very interested in studying biology. I always have been, but there is a disconnect between my interest and the confidence needed to pursue that field or degree. This confidence may be a result of both my race and gender that can oftentimes lead to self-doubt and barriers in that field. The mentorship was a great way to help alleviate this, but potentially going more in depth with helping with addressing the issue of self-doubt for young minority women in STEM classes and STEM related fields, or fields that do not typically cater to us or represent us in general.”



Alice Keating

Location: Bureau of Land Management in Coos Bay, Oregon

Mentor: Dr. Stephanie Messerle

“Before I started this program, I had never really thought about a career in fisheries, or any natural science for that matter... I knew I liked science, but I was more interested in genetics and psychology and I didn't think this program would really show me anything new. I'm happy to say I was wrong... As the program has progressed, I've found myself more and more interested in the natural world in a way I just wasn't before, mostly due to a lack of technical experience on my part. Knowing more about the management and research side of things has lead me to long discussions with people I've worked with and I've constantly found myself overflowing with questions that I would never have thought of before. The more I think about what I've learned, the more questions I discover, and the more I want to learn, so I'm certain I would enjoy studying this field in college.”



Ashley Hrdina

Location: University of Missouri in Columbia, Missouri

Mentors: Dr. Darby Niswonger and Dr. Michael Moore

"The Hutton program not only increased my interest in fisheries but conservation especially. I plan to make conservation my major in college and more than likely in the fisheries department... With this program I made great professional connections and friends while at the same time having an adventure filled summer!"



Brady Rudh

Location: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in St. Paul, Minnesota

Mentor: Dr. Loren Miller

“As for the Hutton program itself, I believe that if I was not already dedicated to fisheries before this summer, I certainly am now. My experiences confirmed my interest in fisheries, giving me a focus for college and beyond. I learned such a large amount of things in one summer that it is really difficult for me to pick just one thing as most important. I have so much more knowledge, not only about fisheries, but how to get into the fisheries world and what working in the fisheries is like.”



Catherine Nguyen

Location: Discovery World in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Mentor: Kelly Christman

“My experience as a [Hutton Scholar] was a whole new experience for me full of enrichment, enjoyment, and learning.”



Chelsea Li

Location: University of Washington in Seattle, Washington

Mentor: Dr. Julian Olden

“I have been able to observe the lifestyle and job of people in the fisheries profession. It is nice to see the passion the people in the lab have for their job as well as the close community here. Being able to see what it is like to work among such a nice group of people has exceeded my expectations.”



Claire Vaage

Location: Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Nampa, Idaho

Mentor: Dr. Patrick Kennedy

“The Hutton Program has most definitely influenced my major choice; it has validated my passions, made me ponder my ultimate goals, and offered me a skill set to pursue those... However, thanks to the ASF Hutton Scholar Program, I feel more prepared and confident than ever to achieve my goals whether it be fisheries or some variation of such!”



Diego De La Fuente

Location: A.E. Wood Fish Hatchery in San Marcos, Texas

Mentor: Michael Matthews

“I would definitely say that the Hutton program has influenced what I want to study in college, because before entering this program I was also interested in doing engineering, and I realized that I’m much more interested by the natural sciences because my experiences.”

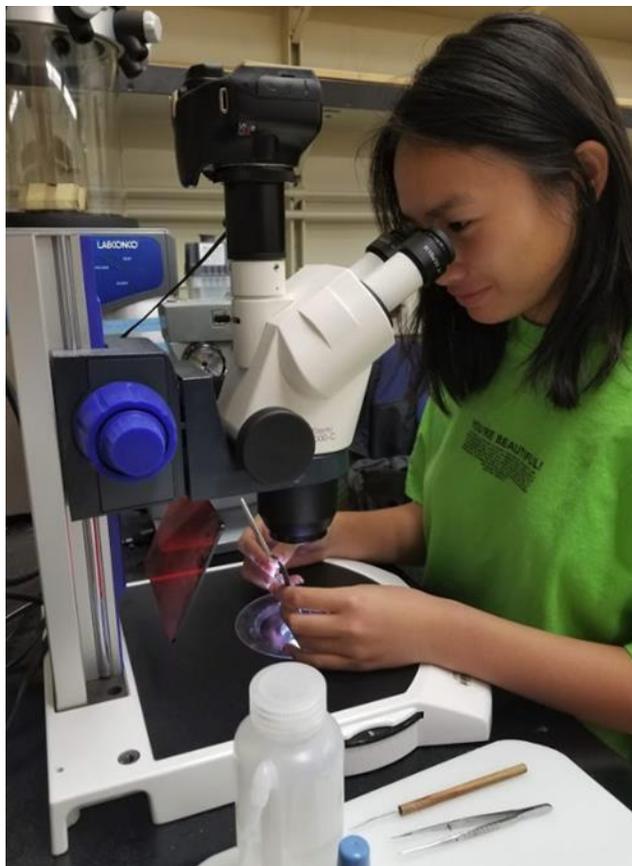


Donte Salter

Location: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; Fish and Wildlife Research Institute in Apollo Beach, Florida

Mentors: Kathy Guindon and Joshua Patterson

“I would like to thank the Hutton program for allowing me the opportunity to get a taste of what it is like to be in the profession and reaffirming my passion for it.”



Elizabeth Nguyen

Location: NOAA and the Scripps Institute of Oceanic Research in La Jolla, California

Mentor: Noah Ben-Aderet

“...researchers who are planning boat trips later on in the summer to go tag different species of fish. I am particularly excited about this because I want to experience the process and environment of what it is like doing field work. Also it’s a great opportunity to talk with other researchers about their projects and what they are studying. I love talking with the other researchers because they all share a similar excitement about the work they do, and it creates a very encouraging environment.”



Gabriel McMillen

Location: University of Washington and USGS Washington Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit in Seattle, Washington

Mentor: Dr. Jaqueline Padilla-Gamino

“... we went out on a boat to collect some of Lindsay's samples and cages, and I had the time of my life...I was very excited to assist the divers because diving has always interested me. The program has exceeded my expectations because I was able to participate in a study, which will determine the sustainability of mussels in the increasingly acidic waters in the Pacific Northwest.”



Jewel Walden

Location: Florida International University in Miami, Florida

Mentor: Dr. Jennifer Rehage

“I’ve already started recommending the Hutton program to my friends since it has opened my eyes and has given me an experience I couldn’t have gotten anywhere else...”



Julia Wolf

Location: NOAA in Highlands, New Jersey

Mentor: Dr. Chris Chambers

“Hutton has shown me the vast opportunities of fisheries science. While going to the AFS meeting, I saw the range of research. I originally thought that fisheries science was just observers on commercial fishing boats. I now realize that it really is research that give insight into fisheries.”



Justin Abrahamson

Location: Spokane Tribal Fisheries Department in Wellpinit, Washington

Mentor: Alix Blake

“I have learned that conservation is important for the tribe’s cultural way of life to preserve that native fish that are in Lake Roosevelt. Lake Roosevelt is comprised of the Spokane River and Columbia River.”

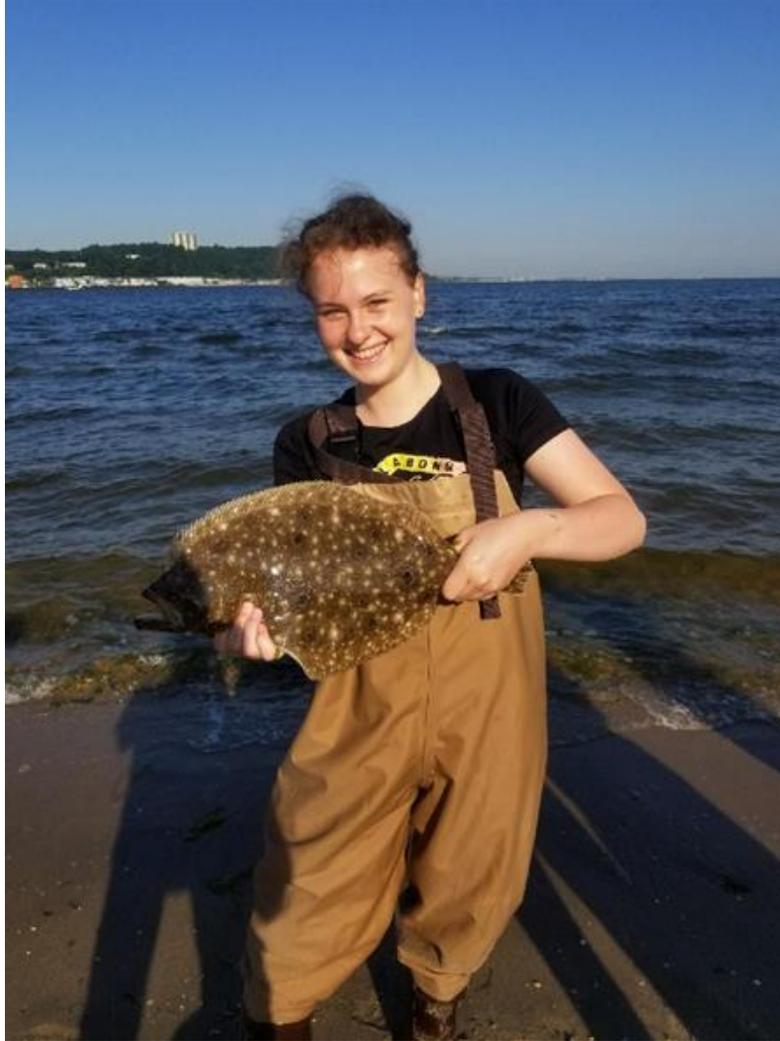


Kalten Hendrickson

Location: Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks in Missoula, Montana

Mentor: Dr. Patrick Saffel

“The experience that the Hutton program has provided cannot be matched by any class or seminar that are available at my age. This summer I had the opportunity to work alongside multiple biologists and techs.”



Karolina Szenkiel

Location: NOAA-Northeast Fisheries Science Center in Highlands, New Jersey

Mentor: Dr. Chris Chambers

“The Hutton Program has most definitely increased my interest in fisheries. After seeing the vast potential in the field and the opportunity for growth, I’ll definitely be pursuing more education in ichthyology and conservation science this year when I’m in college.”



Kathryn McCarthy

Location: Iowa Department of Natural Resources (Missouri River Unit) in Onawa, Iowa

Mentor: Dr. Ryan Hupfeld

“The program gave me some research experience that’ll be helpful when I begin my college career and internship at Georgia Tech. I enjoy learning and I was able to learn many things with the Hutton’s Program.”



Kerby Nulud

Location: Maryland Department of Natural Resources in Annapolis, Maryland

Mentor: Dr. Tomas Ivasauskas

“...I had to opportunity to build relationships with my coworkers by simply asking questions or creating small talk, and that made me learn many things about pursuing this field of work and what obstacles I may face along the way. The Hutton Program has increased my interest in fisheries and in environmental science in general. I was very fortunate to be able to learn more than I expected about the fisheries and environmental field, and the options of what specific career I want to pursue has certainly increased.”



Malakai Lurker

Location: United States Geological Survey in Hilo, Hawaii

Mentor: Dr. Tim Grabowski

“The Hutton program has made me more aware of the complex in fisheries and has helped me know that I want to definitely work with sharks or some form of fisheries.”



Maria Arellano

Location: Bureau of Land Management in Coos Bay, Oregon

Mentor: Stephanie Messerle

“The Hutton program allowed me to meet so many wonderful natural resource specialist, hydrologist, fish biologist, restoration biologist and exotic species specialist.”

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MeiLin Precourt

Location: University of Victoria in Victoria, British Columbia

Mentor: Dr. Francis Juanes

“Hutton is an amazing program, very few get the opportunity to look firsthand into a professional setting of the career path they want to follow. Putting this Fisheries Mentorship on things like resumes and college applications will make so much difference and give Hutton fellows a leg up on their peers.”



Nalani Atilas

Location: University of Puerto Rico at Aguadilla in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico

Mentor: Dr. Robert Mayer

“I think that the most important thing I learned was the consciousness we should all have with our environment and our nature, taking care of our woods, beaches, and every other ecological environment. The Hutton Program has definitely increased my interest in fisheries and has reassured my interest in my passion for marine biology.”



Natalia Quintana Parrilla

Location: Fish and Wildlife Service in San Juan, Puerto Rico

Mentors: Brent Murry and Miguel Toño

“The Hutton Program gave me an insight of what it could be like if I were to go into that area in the future and without a doubt, I know it is where I want to start with in college. I am more interested in aquatic environments, specifically coral reefs, and fisheries have a very important relationship with them; my plan is to study thoroughly both of them in college.”



Sebastian Sanchez

Location: University of California at San Diego, CA

Mentor: Lyall Bellquist

“The internship has widened my scope about conservation issues and I’ve observed that ocean conservation is a complex subject with many factors. Every day at my laboratory, I see passionate people solving conservation issues with different approaches, perspectives, and skills...Learning about conservation was a great insight I gained.”



Zach Kelly

Location: US Geological Survey at the Leetown Science Center in Leetown, West Virginia

Mentor: Dr. Nathaniel Hitt

“The most important thing I’ve learned is how to determine the best methods to implement in field work studies to get the best and most accurate data. This program has solidified my interest in fisheries, specifically ecology.”