Young Professional Spotlight

Young Professional members of AIFRB represent the next generation of leaders in fisheries science and management. Through *Briefs* and our social media platforms we will be highlighting our Young Professionals as a way to introduce them to the full membership and create opportunities for collaborations. AIFRB's Young Professional Representative, Connor Capizzano (connor.capizzano001@umb.edu), will be showcasing new Young Professionals throughout the year using a series of biographical interviews. This month's Young Professional Spotlight features **Darien Satterfield**, **Northern California District** and **PhD student** at the **University of California Davis** in **Davis, CA**.

Darien Satterfield – Northern California District

What is your current position, with what company/organization, and what is the focus of your research/work?
I am a first year PhD student at the University of California, Davis in the Population Biology graduate group. My research focus is on how swimming behaviors and morphology varies among species which are commonly caught for the aquarium trade versus those caught for sale in markets, and non-target species.

Where did you receive your education, and what helped pave your way to your current position?
I recently completed my MS from California State University, Long Beach, studying behavioral adaptive responses to spearfishing pressure in California kelp forest species. Before that I received my BS at California State University, Northridge in 2015, where I studied assortative mating in Black Surfperch. Hands on experience with research along the way has guided my interests and goals. I also have much thanks to give to the incredible advisors and mentors who helped with my projects.

How does your work apply to, or influence, fishery management (e.g., stock assessments, sportfishing, commercial regulations, habitat protection, etc.)?
Aquarium fisheries remove charismatic coral reef species in large numbers. Methods used to remove these fish are typically non-lethal but are unique compared to methods used for market fish. My research aims are to assess how variable fishing methods selectively remove individuals with particular combinations of morphological and behavioral traits. This will be informative in comparing the degree to which different fishing techniques influence diversity on coral reefs.

What is your professional outlook for fisheries management? In other words, what will the future of fisheries management look like 10-20 years from now. What are we doing correctly, what needs to be improved (e.g., in research, policy, education)?
Currently, the inclusion of behavioral responses in fish to fishing pressures or regulation is minimal in fishing management plans. It has become clear through recent studies that behavior can vary widely over space and time and is largely important in mediating mortality. I hope that in the coming years in reviewing

management progress analyzing behavior becomes as common as measuring abundance and diversity of fish.

What is the importance of young fishery professionals today and for the future of fishery management?

Fisheries management is an evolving field. As data continues to be collected on the efficacy of management practices, young professionals can offer recent education and experience with modern data analysis tools. It is important for young professionals to receive training in fisheries management so that we can use and advance the techniques which have been in practice for generations before.

What drew you to AIFRB, and what does AIFRB do for you and what can it do for other young professionals in this field?

I learned of AIFRB through my eligibility for a student research presentation award for a conference I was presenting at. I think the support AIFRB supplies to students allows young professionals to develop their research projects. I also appreciate the availability of workshops to build my experience with practical skills in fisheries science.

Please contact Darien (drsatterfield@ucdavis.edu) to continue the conversation!