I was born in Wilmington, DE but grew up in Tigard, OR. It was the trips to the coast with my family that convinced me by the time I was 10 that I wanted to work on, around, and in the ocean. To achieve that goal I earned my B.S. in Biology from the University of Washington (Go Huskies!) and got a Master’s and PhD at North Carolina State University.

When I’m not working I still love getting out on the ocean. When you get one of those gloriously warm, glassy calm days on the northeast Pacific, where the water is oily smooth, the ocean is alive, and you’re not in a hurry to be anywhere, it’s about the best possible day you can have.

My research interests are the physiological ecology of fishes. In particular, how physiology, behavior, and life history traits affect the interactions between fish populations, their respective fisheries, and the environment.

I have worked on blue fin tuna on the Atlantic high seas, Mediterranean, and east coast of the United States, on groupers throughout the southeast Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico, on rockfish in Oregon and Alaska, on forage fishes in the eastern Bering Sea, and on trout, steelhead, and salmon in Japan and the high deserts of eastern Oregon and Northern Nevada.

Basically I love working with fish wherever they can be found and where interesting questions can be asked and answered.

I teach classes in Fishery Biology, the Biology of Marine Fishes, Management Principles of Pacific Salmon in the Northwest, and Problem Solving and Fisheries and Wildlife. My favorite “teaching” responsibility is coordinating the undergraduate internship to attend the annual meeting of the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. I like it because it’s the best advising opportunity to showcase to our students how far they can go with their careers if they really apply themselves.

Seeing how that single experience energizes my students makes me happy every year, and helps reminds me of why I love my job.