

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## Kathleen Tripp

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### **EDUCATION**

- Ph.D.**  
2004-2008      **University of Florida: Gainesville, Florida**  
College of Veterinary Medicine- Aquatic Animal Health Program  
Major: Veterinary Medical Sciences  
Degree Earned: May 2008
- Master's Certificate**  
2004-2005      **University of Florida: Gainesville, Florida**  
College of Engineering  
Major: Environmental Policy and Management  
Certificate Earned: January 2006
- Bachelor of Science**  
1999-2003      **Eckerd College: St. Petersburg, Florida**  
Major: Marine Science  
Minors: Environmental Policy, Chemistry  
Degree Earned: May 2003 (with honors)

### **RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

- 2012      **PI and Supervisor- Kings Bay Boating Study**  
Designed study and supervised intern collecting field data; analyzed data and compiled research results for publication
- 2011      **PI and Supervisor- Blue Spring and Crystal River winter manatee research**  
Designed and implemented a field project observing manatee behavior at two winter sites. Supervised a team of interns working at the sites, analyzed data, working on compiling results.
- 2004-2008      **Graduate Research Assistant – Manatee Reproduction and Stress Research**  
University of Florida: Gainesville, Florida
- Researched reproduction and stress in manatees, including gross, histological, and immunohistochemical examination of ovarian corpora lutea, and immunoassays to measure progesterone, cortisol, and ACTH.
- 2002-2003      **Undergraduate Thesis Research- Gross Morphology of the Manatee Ovary**  
Marine Mammal Pathobiology Laboratory and Eckerd College: St. Petersburg, Florida
- Characterized the ovaries of the Florida manatee at different stages of reproductive maturity and pregnancy to create a guide by which other manatee biologists could evaluate these organs at necropsy.
- 2000-2002      **Research Assistant**  
Eckerd College: St. Petersburg, Florida
- Researched Hawaiian environmental and cultural issues.
- 2000-2001      **Desalination Researcher**

Lancy Foundation and Eckerd College: St. Petersburg, Florida

- Researched pertinent environmental, social, and economic issues surrounding a proposed desalination facility for Tampa Bay and prepared a Cost-Benefit Analysis for the plant. Presented this work at a symposium held at Eckerd College in November 2000 and at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Lexington, Kentucky in March 2001.

## **RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2005–2008     **Consultant: Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project**

South Florida Water Management District: West Palm Beach and Ft. Myers, Florida

- Served as a manatee issues consultant on the Picayune Strand Restoration Project, Collier County. Provide guidance to ensure that the freshwater, warm water, and other habitat needs of manatees in the project area will be met after restoration. Assessment of hydrodynamic and geologic model data and analysis of other historical and projected environmental data.

2002-2007     **Manatee Health Assessment Participation**

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission: Tampa Bay, Florida

U.S.G.S. Sirenia Project: Crystal River, Florida

Wildlife Trust: Gales Point, Belize

- Assisted with capture, data collection, and processing of biological samples.

2002            **Sea Turtle Program Intern**

Clearwater Marine Aquarium: Clearwater, Florida

- Patrolled Pinellas County beaches, marked and monitored nests, assisted with hatchling releases, salvaged carcasses, transported injured turtles, cared for turtles at the aquarium, and conducted informational sessions.

2001-2003     **Marine Mammal Pathobiology Laboratory (MMPL) Biologist**

Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission: St. Petersburg, Florida

- Assisted with manatee and cetacean necropsies, carcass salvage, marine mammal rescues, necropsy report editing, and general lab maintenance. Served as MMPL web team representative and wrote articles for the agency's website. Worked on aging manatees (via their earbones) and conducted my own manatee ovarian and uterine research. Organized training workshops for members of the Florida Marine Mammal Stranding Network, filled dolphin-related information requests, and corresponded with NOAA and other agencies regarding local cetacean strandings.

## **CONFERENCES ATTENDED**

2012	Florida Marine Mammal Health Conference IV	Sarasota, Florida
2011	19 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals	Tampa, Florida

2008	Florida Marine Mammal Health Conference III	St. Augustine, Florida
2007	International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine	Orlando, Florida
2006	International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine	Nassau, Bahamas
2005	Florida Marine Mammal Health Conference II	Gainesville, Florida
2005	Sierra Club Environmental Summit	Winter Park, Florida
2003	15 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals	Greensboro, North Carolina
2001	15 <sup>th</sup> National Conference on Undergraduate Research	Lexington, Kentucky

## **ABSTRACTS AND PUBLICATIONS**

**Tripp, K.** and L. Walsh. 2012. Summer Vessel Activity & Compliance in Important Manatee Habitat-Kings Bay, Florida. Page 45 in Abstracts- Florida Marine Mammal Health Conference IV, 24-27 April, 2012. Sarasota, Florida.

**Tripp, K.,** J.P. Verstegen, C.J. Deutsch, R.K. Bonde, M. DeWit, C. Manire, J. Gaspard III, and K.E. Harr. 2009. Evaluation of adrenocortical function in Florida manatees (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*). [Zoo Biology 29: 1-15.](#)

**Tripp, K.,** M. Dubois, P. Delahaut, and J.P. Verstegen. 2009. Detection and identification of plasma progesterone metabolites in the Florida manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*) using GC/MS/MS. [Theriogenology 72: 365-371.](#)

**Tripp, K.,** J.P. Verstegen, C.J. Deutsch, R.K. Bonde, M. Rodriguez, B. Morales, D.L. Schmitt, and K.E. Harr. 2008. Validation of a serum immunoassay to measure progesterone and diagnose pregnancy in the West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*). [Theriogenology 70: 1030-1040.](#)

**Tripp, K.,** D.A. Samuelson, M.J. Fields, and P.A. Lewis. Morphometric and immunohistochemical analyses of Florida manatee corpora lutea. Page 52 in Abstracts – Florida Marine Mammal Health Conference, 22-25 April 2008, St. Augustine, Florida.

**Tripp, K.** Reproductive and Stress Analyses in West Indian Manatees (*Trichechus manatus*). Ph.D. Dissertation. University of Florida, Gainesville: April 2008.

**Tripp, K.,** K. Harr, and J. Verstegen. Evaluation of stress analyses in the Florida manatee. Pages 153-155 in Abstracts – 38<sup>th</sup> Conference of the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine, 5-9 May, 2007. Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

**Tripp, K.,** K. Harr, and J. Verstegen. Validation of a serum-based pregnancy diagnostic for the Florida manatee. Pages 44-45 in Abstracts - 37<sup>th</sup> Conference of the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine, 6-10 May, 2006. Nassau, Bahamas.

**Tripp, K.** and S. Rommel. Functional morphology of the ovaries of the Florida manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*). Page 165 in Abstracts - 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, 14-19 Dec. 2003. Greensboro, North Carolina.

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**Tripp, K.** Functional morphology of the ovaries of the Florida manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*). Honors Thesis in Marine Science, May 2003. Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, Florida.

Rommel, S., **K. Tripp**, and A. Costidis. Hypogastric fossae in Florida manatees: homologous or analogous to structures in terrestrial mammals? Pages 40 & 41 in R.E. Fordyce and M. Walker, eds. Abstracts – Third Conference on Secondary Adaptation to Life in Water, 9-13 Dec. 2002. Department of Geology, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand.

**Tripp, K.** Does desal make “cents”? A Cost- Benefit Analysis of the Proposed Desalination Facility at Apollo Beach, Florida. In R.D. Yearout, ed. Proceedings – 15<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Undergraduate Research, 15-17 March, 2001. University of Kentucky, Lexington.

### **AWARDS AND HONORS**

- 2008 Reep, Bonde Prize for Advancing Knowledge of Manatee Biology
- 2006 & 2007 Florida League of Conservation Voters Betsy Wood Fellow
- 2006 Recipient of “Manatee Hero” Medal from Save the Manatee Club
- 2002-2003 Ford Foundation Scholar
- 2001-2002 Morris K. Udall Scholar for excellence in environmental policy
- 2000-2001 Lancy Foundation Scholar
- 1999-2003 Eckerd College Honors & Presidential Scholar