

# ALEXANDRA E. SMITH

aedwards.smith@gmail.com • +1 (305) 984 6242

## EDUCATION

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Master of Environmental Science and Management, June 2017

**Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California Santa Barbara**

Specialization: Coastal Marine Resource Management

Honors: Latin American Fisheries Fellow, 2015-2017

B.A. Economics and B.A. Political Science, May 2012

**Eckerd College, St. Petersburg, FL**

Thesis: Cross-sectional regression analysis of the determinants of foreign direct investment inflows

## FISHERIES EXPERIENCE

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**Fisheries Analyst**, June 2016 – Present

**Sustainable Fisheries Group, Santa Barbara, CA and Montserrat**

- Applied length-based modeling techniques to lead a data limited assessment of the spiny lobster fishery in Barbuda.
- Collected and processed length data from 15 fish species to complete a data limited assessment of small-scale fisheries in Montserrat.
- Performed SeaSketch surveys with fishermen to map ocean use and inform the ocean zoning management plan in Montserrat.
- Managed data repository and ensured the reproducibility of all analyses using GitHub and R Studio.

**Data Manager, Master's Thesis Group Project**, April 2016 – April 2017

**Client:** Rare / Fish Forever

*Quantifying the economic potential of small-scale fisheries through better management in the Gulf of Nicoya, Costa Rica*

- Created a bioeconomic model of the *Cynoscion albus* fishery to provide projected estimates of biomass and profit outcomes under competing management scenarios.
- Provided the client with model-backed recommendations for improving the economic performance of a key commercial fishery.
- Programmed interactive age-structured model using Shiny which automated our analysis and allows users to compare the outcome of management strategies.

**Development Officer**, June 2013 – June 2014

**Toledo Institute for Development and Environment (TIDE), Punta Gorda, Belize**

- Guided four fishermen's organizations through participatory project development of environmentally sustainable livelihood project proposals for submission to the Japanese Social Development Fund.
- Conducted critical evaluation of four Alternative Livelihoods programs executed by the organization. The resulting report was instrumental in designing future livelihoods projects.
- Designed the organization's first Sustainable Development and Livelihoods Program Strategy, which was validated by senior staff and incorporated into the 5-year strategic plan.
- Drafted and executed a stakeholder survey to gauge impact of TIDE's information campaigns and establish a baseline of socio-economic indicators for target communities.
- Wrote grant proposals for research, development, and enforcement projects.
- Collaborated with colleagues and local fishers to implement a pilot seaweed farm.

## FINANCE EXPERIENCE

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### **Microcredit Implementation Advisor to Asociación Kallpa, November 2014 – March 2015** **Cuso International, Lima, Perú**

- Managed the micro-credit program, oversaw loan process from vetting loan applicants to disbursing funds.
- Created policies, protocols, and risk diversification strategies to implement rotating a micro-credit fund of 30,000 USD.
- Conducted consultations with young entrepreneurs to develop their business plans, prepare for loan applications, and develop their personal professional skills.
- Delivered workshops on credit and banking options, as well as bookkeeping for financial planning purposes.

### **Investment Intern, September 2012 – March 2013** **Lewis Trust Group International Ltd., London, UK**

- Piloted exploratory evaluations for £10M global investment portfolio of consumer discretionary stocks, presented comparative valuation assessments of industry competitors to the executive team, and created a shortlist for investment project.
- Collaborated with the asset management team conducting in depth analysis of corporate structures, expansion plans, and stock performance, resulting in an investment of £10M across 50 stocks in 13 markets.
- Evaluated 20 potential investments for a private equity investment team by assembling market research, competitor analysis, and summary financial reports. Evaluations were employed by the team, making 3 investments totaling £20M.
- Generated high-level evaluations for target industries to create benchmarks for potential investments and assess overall growth potential of industry subsectors.

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

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**Research Assistant, May 2017 – present**  
Global Fishing Watch, Santa Barbara, CA

**Scientific Diver, June 2016 – August 2016**  
EDGE Coral Study, Montserrat

**Research Intern, October 2015 – April 2016**  
SNAP Open-Ocean Aquaculture Group at the National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis

## PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS

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Froehlich, H. **Smith, A.** Gentry, R. Halpern, B. 2017. “Offshore aquaculture: I know it when I see it” *Frontiers in Marine Science* 4.

**Smith, A.** Zapata P. 2017. “Chapter 1: Economic and Social Context of Fisheries in Belize”. In *State of Belize Fisheries*. Oceana (Draft)

## SKILLS AND CERTIFICATIONS

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- Fluent in Spanish
- Proficient in R Studio, GitHub, GIS, SeaSketch, SPSS, Bloomberg
- Grant writing
- Project management
- AAUS Scientific Diver
- PADI Dive Master