

Claire L. Thomas
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Education

B.Sc. in Psychology, December 2009, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (UIUC);
Minor in Sociology, GPA: 3.39/4.0

B.Sc. in Earth Systems, Environment and Society, UIUC, December 2009; Concentration
in Society and the Environment, GPA: 3.39/4.0; *Graduated with Distinction*

M.Sc. in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, UIUC, December 2011
Concentration in Fish and Wildlife Conservation & Aquatic Eco÷

Courses taught: *Environmental Biology* (both regular and Adult Fast Track), *Introduction to Biological Principles I*

Taught biology courses at the college level, including /

Operated small watercraft

Managed the CEI blog

Organized and published the CEI eNews every quarter, which involved collaborating with scientists on different teams, to elicit articles on relevant research

Updated and edited content for the CEI website

Provided edited content to the island-wide newspaper, The Eleutheran, aimed at

Education and building relationships with the island community

Researched and catalogued marine crustaceans from the Southern Illinois University at

Carbondale collection into the INHS Crustacean Teaching Collection.

Conducted fish and crayfish surveys for the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT)

Identified native fish and crayfish

Catalogued threatened/endangered species at potential bridge construction sites

Published articles in the Eleutheran

Participated in community events

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Thomas, Claire, S. Auscavitch, A. Brooks, and A. Stoner. 2014. 7 November 2014. "Assessing essential queen conch habitat in South Eleuthera, The Bahamas: Recent research suggests urgent need for protection." Oral presentation at the 67th Gulf and Fisheries Caribbean Institute meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados.

Thomas, Claire & C. Elvidge. 2016. 16 March 2016. "Would you sleep in a graveyard? Assessing queen conch's behavioral response to knocked shells." Oral presentation at the 3rd Bahamas National Trust Natural History Conference, Nassau, The Bahamas.

Publications and Proceedings

Elvidge, C.K., C. Britain, P. Szekeres, _____, and S.J. Cooke. 2023. A field test of the "graveyard hypothesis" reveals avoidance of chemical but not visual cues in Bahamian queen conch (*Aliger gigas*). *Behavioural Processes* 210: 1-7.

Sherman, K.D., A.D. Shultz, C.P. Dahlgren, _____, E. Brooks, A. Brooks, D.R. Brumbaugh, L. Gittens, and K. Murchie. 2018. Contemporary and emerging fisheries in The Bahamas- Conservation and management challenges, achievements, and future directions. *Fisheries Management and Ecology* 1: 1-13.

_____, S. Auscavitch, A. Brooks, and A. Stoner. 2016. Assessing essential queen conch habitat in South Eleuthera, The Bahamas: Recent research suggests urgent need for protection. *Proceedings of the 67th Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute* 67: 344-347.

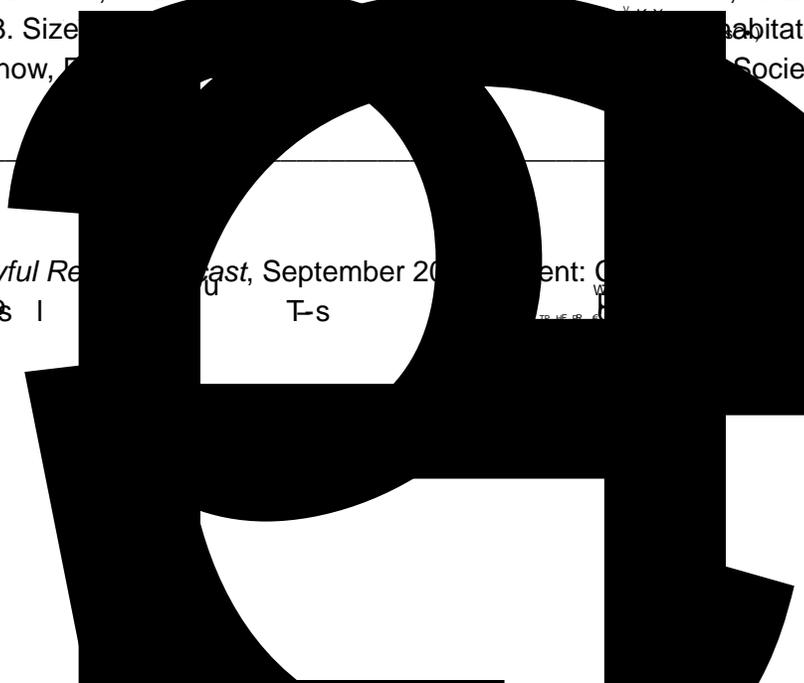
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_____, and C.A. Taylor. 2013. Crayfish: Scavenger or deadly predator? Examining a potential predator-prey relationship between crayfish and benthic fish in aquatic food webs. *Freshwater Science* 32(4): 1309-1317.

Welsh, D., M. Zhou, S. Mussman, L. Fields, _____, S. Pearish, S. Kilburn, J. Parker, L. Stein, J. Bartlett, C. Bertram, T. Bland, K. Laskowski, B. Mommer, X. Zhuang, and R. Fuller. 2013. Size structure and habitat use of queen conch (*Aliger gigas*) in the blackstripe topminnow, *Fundulus heteroclitus*. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 108: 784-789.

Service

Co-host of *The Joyful Reef* podcast, September 20____. Content: _____ weekly podcast that covers _____ T-s _____



strategies in the field of positive psychology. We have ~4000 episode downloads YTD. I also post free yoga + m

References

Dr. Christopher A. Taylor, Master's advisor, INHS, Senior research scientist

Phone: 217-244-2153

Dr. Aaron Shultz, Director (*former*), Cape Eleuthera Institute

Phone: 269-290-7605

Dr. Annabelle Brooks, Supervisor of Marine Research (*former*), Cape Eleuthera Institute

Dr. Julie Claussen

Leah Porche, RD, LDN, co-owner of Root2Rise Yoga Studio

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