



Where are they now?

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Montana State Winner
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Mollusks in Decline: An Ecological Study of a Rare Freshwater Mussel

What are you doing now?

Currently, I am working as a commercial fisheries observer for the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program and am enjoying learning about commercial fishing firsthand. As an observer, I deploy on commercial fishing vessels for 1-10 days and record what fishermen catch and what they decide to keep and discard. I also collect some economic and gear information, and biological samples like age structures (otoliths).

My favorite part of the job is speaking with fishermen about their thoughts on current regulations, and what changes they would like to see implemented. Overall, it is a challenging, yet very fun and exciting job!

How did the SJWP competition effect, or influence you?



Participating the SJWP encouraged me to pursue aquatic science for my career. I interned with WEF in the summer 2008, which was fantastic! I finished my B.A. in Marine Science from Boston University in 2010, and then earned my M.S. in Environmental Science from Washington State University Vancouver in 2012. For my thesis work, I studied the methods that Hawaii aquarium fishermen use to catch ornamental fish from the wild, and how these methods affect aquarium fish health in the short and long term.

Would you care to give a testimonial about the SJWP?

Participating in the SJWP was inspiring because I met other your people interested in aquatic science, and as mentioned above, the competition encouraged me to pursue a career in that field.

