

WHO ARE THE PEOPLE INVOLVED IN MARINE ANIMAL RESEARCH?



Blair Bentley

Postdoctoral
Researcher



PROFESSIONAL

Top-level responsibilities

As I'm early in my career as a researcher, I get involved with all aspects of a project. That includes planning what we will do, collecting and analysing the data, and writing up the results! So I spend a lot of time in the field studying sea turtles and understanding how they develop.

Day-to-day work and skills

I need to communicate my research to people of all backgrounds and education, as well as collaborate with other researchers. I use my writing skills daily to publish my findings and apply for grants to undertake new research.

“ WHEN I GREW UP I KNEW I WANTED TO BE ...

When I was at primary school, an officer from the parks and wildlife department took me to see some of Australia's wildlife. Since that experience I've always wanted to work with our unique native animals. I'm lucky that I've been able to live my childhood dream!

I grew up fishing, swimming and experiencing nature.

At school I studied maths, biology and chemistry.

PERSONAL



Current location or community

I've just returned to Perth after spending almost a year in the United States studying sea turtles.

My interests and hobbies

I love scuba diving, camping, fishing and photographing wildlife.

I am passionate about ...

Conserving the environment and the animals that are in it.

What I would say to 16-year-old me

Don't let setbacks deter you, it's all a learning experience.

... volunteered abroad, completed internships and am now doing my PhD through the University of Western Australia.

Since leaving school, I have undertaken a Bachelor of Science in Zoology and Genetics ...

I want to continue to apply what I've learnt to new regions and species to help conserve marine animals into the future!