

Diana L. Steller

Research & Teaching Faculty, DSO

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EDUCATION

B.A.	Aquatic Biology	University of California, Santa Barbara	1988
M.S.	Marine Science	San Jose State University and Moss Landing Marine Laboratories	1993
Ph.D.	Biology	University of California Santa Cruz	2003

VITAE

2004 - present	Research Faculty / Diving Safety Officer – Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
1992 - present	Lecturer in Biological Science (MLML/SJSU)
2002 – 2003	Lecturer in Biological Sciences (UCSC), Marine Botany
1996 – 2003	Graduate Researcher in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (UC Santa Cruz)
1995 – 1996	Biology Instructor (CSUMB, SFSU, Hartnell Community College)
1993 – 1995	Assistant Researcher (Stanford/UCLA) Algal physiology, (Dr. R. Zimmerman)
1991 – 1992	Instructor & Acting DSO (MLML), Marine Science Diving

ACADEMIC TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Subtidal Ecology, Marine Science Diving, Marine Environmental Studies of the Gulf of CA, Seminar - Modern Carbonate Ecology (MLML), Marine Botany – UCSC and MLML, Marine Ecology, Environmental Science, Island Conservation, Watershed Ecology, Conservation in Tropical Ecosystem (CSUMB, Hartnell College, SFSU, Univ. Mass)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- Gabara S.S., S.L. Hamilton, M.E. Edwards, **D.L. Steller**. 2018. Rhodolith structural loss decreases abundance, diversity, and stability of benthic communities at Santa Catalina Island, CA Marine Ecology Progress Series. Vol. 595: 71–88, 2018
- Tompkins, P.T., **D.L. Steller** 2016. Living carbonate habitats in temperate California waters: distribution, growth, and disturbance of Catalina Island rhodoliths. *Mar. Ecol. Prog. Series* 560:135-145
- T. M. Williams, P. Bengtson, D. L. Steller, D. A. Croll, R. W. Davis. 2015. The Healthy heart: lessons from nature's elite athletes. *Physiology*, 30 (5) 349-357, DOI: 10.1152/physiol.00017.2015
- McConnico, L., M.S. Foster, **D.L. Steller**, R. Riosmena-Rodriguez. 2014. Population biology of a long-lived rhodolith: the consequences of becoming old and large. *Mar. Ecol. Prog. Series* 504-109-118.
- Foster, M.S., G. Amado-Filho, N. Kamenos, R. Riosmena-Rodriguez, **D.L. Steller**, 2013, Rhodoliths and rhodolith beds. *Smithsonian Contributions to the Marine Sciences*, 39: 143-155.
- Pearse, J.S., M.H, Carr, C.H. Baxter, J. M. Watanabe, M.S. Foster, **D.L. Steller**, J.A. Coyer, D.O. Duggins, B. Konar, P.K. Dayton. 2013. Kelp beds as classrooms: lessons and lessons learned. *Smithsonian Contributions to the Marine Sciences*, 39:133-142.
- Riosmena-Rodriguez, R., **Steller, D.L.**, Foster, M.S. and Hinojosa, G. 2010. Biology and conservation of rhodolith beds in the Gulf of California. R. Brusca (ed.). *Marine Biodiversity and Conservation in the Gulf of California*. University of Arizona Press, Tucson.pp. 49-72.
- Steller, D. L.**, Riosmena-Rodriguez, R. and Foster, M.S. 2009. Living rhodolith bed ecosystems in the Gulf of California. In: M.E. Johnson and J. Ledesma-Vázquez (eds.) *Atlas of Coastal Ecosystems in the Gulf of California*. University of Arizona Press, Tucson. Pp. 72-82.
- Steller, D.L.**, C. Caceres-Martinez, 2009. Coralline algal rhodoliths enhance larval settlement and growth of the commercially important scallop *Argopecten ventricosus*. *Mar Ecol Prog Series*. 396:49-60.

- Steller, D.L.**, M. Hernandez, R. Riosmena-Rodriguez, A. Cabello-Pasini. 2007. Effect of Temperature on Photosynthesis, Growth and Calcification rates of the Free-living Coralline Alga *Lithophyllum margaritae*. *Ciencias Marinas*. 33:441-456.
- Steller, D.L.**, Foster, M.S. and Riosmena-Rodriguez, R. 2007. Sampling and monitoring rhodolith beds, p. 93-97. In: Rigby, P.R., Iken, K. and Shirayama, Y. (eds), *Sampling biodiversity in coastal communities: NaGISA protocols for seagrass and macroalgal habitats - A NaGISA handbook*. Kyoto University Press, Kyoto, Japan.
- Foster, M.S., McConnico, L.M., Lundsten, L., Wadsworth, T., Kimball, T., Brooks, L.B., Medina-Lopez, M. Riosmena-Rodriguez, R., Hernandez-Carmona, G., Vasquez-Slizondo, R.M., Johnson, S. and **Steller, D.L.** 2007. The diversity and natural history of a *Lithothamnion muelleri* - *Sargassum horridum* community in the Gulf of California. *Ciencias Marinas* 33:367-384.
- Steller, D.L.**, R. Riosmena-Rodriguez, M.S. Foster and C.A. Roberts. 2003. Species assemblages associated with Mexican rhodolith beds: the importance of rhodolith structure. *Aquatic Conservation – Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*. 13: S5-S20.
- Steller, D. L.** 2003. Rhodoliths in the Gulf of California: growth, demography, disturbance and effects on population dynamics of catarina scallops. Ph.D., University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA.
- Zimmerman, R.C., **D. L. Steller**, D.G. Kohrs and R.S. Alberte. 2001. Top-down impact through a bottom-up mechanism II: in situ effects of limpet grazing on growth, light requirements and survival of *Zostera marina* L. (eelgrass). *Mar Eco Prog Series*. V218:127-140.
- Steller, D. L.**, R. Riosmena-Rodriguez, P.T. Raimondi and M. S. Foster. 1999. The importance of rhodolith beds as recruitment habitat for the catarina scallop *Argopecten ventricosus* along the coasts of the Baja California peninsula, Mexico. In *Diving for Science*. 1999. Eds. J.N. Heine, D. Canestro, G. Wuttken. *Proceedings of the American Academy of Underwater Sciences*. Pgs. 11-124.
- Coyer, J.A., **D.L. Steller**, J.Witman. 1999. The underwater catalog: a guide to methods in underwater research. Shoals Marine Laboratory, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. 151 pp.
- Zimmerman, R. C., D. G. Kohrs, **D. L. Steller**, R.S. Alberte. 1997. Impacts of CO² enrichment on productivity and light requirements of eelgrass. *Plant Physiology* 115(2):599-607.
- Steller, D. L.**, and M. S. Foster. 1995. Environmental factors influencing distribution and morphology of rhodoliths in Bahia Concepcion, B.C.S., Mexico. *Jour Exp Mar Bio Eco* 194:201-212.
- Coyer, J. A., **Steller, D. L.**, Alberte, R. S. 1995. A field-compatible method for extraction of fingerprint-quality DNA from *Macrocystis pyrifera* (Phaeophyceae). *Journal of Phycology*. 31(1):177-180.
- Zimmerman, R. C., Kohrs, D. G., **Steller, D. L.**, Alberte, R. S. 1995. Carbon partitioning in eelgrass: Regulation by photosynthesis and the response to daily light-dark cycles. *Plant Physiology* 108(4): 1665-1671.
- Steller, D. L.** 1993. The ecology of rhodoliths in the Bahia Concepcion, B.C.S., Mexico. MS thesis, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, SJSU. 83pp.

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Reviewer – Ecology, MEPS, JEMBE, Marine Biology, Aquatic Conservation, Aquatic Botany, Botanica Marina. Ciencias Marinas, Hydrobiologia. Board Member – AAUS Scholarship Chair (2012-14), Western Society of Naturalists Secretariat – 2012-2015

STUDENT ADVISING – 10+ graduate students (MS/Ph.D.), numerous undergraduates

GRANTS

California Sea Grant College, 2018-2020. D. Steller/M. Edwards. Minimizing disturbance impacts by California vessel mooring systems on living rhodolith benthos in Catalina MPAs: an experimental assessment. (\$218,380)

World Wildlife Fund Mexico. 2016: Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Sea Turtle Research in the Gulf of California, Mexico - 4 Wildlife Computers FastLoc GPS tags - \$14,135 (submitted through UCSC with collaborators)

World Wildlife Fund World Wildlife Fund Mexico. 2017. Eastern Pacific Hawksbill Sea Turtle Research in the Gulf of California, Mexico - 4 Wildlife Computers FastLoc GPS tags - \$13,735

UC MEXUS – 2015. Effectiveness of spatial strategies for the conservation of large pelagic vertebrates: locally managed protected areas as a strategy for the conservation of hawksbill turtles in the Sea of Cortez (30,000\$, w/ UCSC researchers for field).

Packard Foundation: UCSC Collaborative grants, R. Mehta, D. Steller, 2012. Ecology of the California Moray, *Gymnothorax mordax* around Catalina Island. (\$20,000 student field/lab support for isotope samples).

CSU COAST – 2011 Collaborative Resource Sharing Award *Utilizing the CSUMB Acoustic Habitat Mapping Assets to Delineate The Shallow-water Rhodolith Beds at Catalina Island, California* in collaboration with Dr. Rikk Kvitek at CSU Monterey Bay. (\$5,000).

California Sea Grant College. 2010-2011. Reefs that rock and roll: Critical assessment of rhodolith bed habitat at Catalina Island to inform the California South Coast Region MPA process. (15K research, \$19,800 traineeship)

National Science Foundation. 2009-10. Improving the scientific capabilities and safety of the Marine Operations and diving programs at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. (\$235,830)

National Science Foundation. 2006. Vulnerability of rhodolith beds to global climate change: future research. 2nd International workshop on rhodoliths La Paz, Mexico (\$25,000).

CONACYT 2006. Collaborative grant with Rafael Riosemena-Rodriguez of UABCS. Long-term monitoring of Mexican rhodolith beds. (\$100,000), awarded.

UC Santa Cruz Instructional Improvement Grant 2002-2003 - Student Development of a Marine Botany Laboratory Manual: The Integration of New Technology, D. Steller/M. Edwards (\$10,000).

UC MEXUS / CONACYT 2000 to D. Steller and P. Raimondi (UCSC/Biology), A. Cabello-Pasini (UABC), R. Riosmena Rodriguez (UABCS), J. Zachos (UCSC Earth Sciences). “Archives of Global Climate Change: A Novel Use of Coralline Red Algae for Reconstructing Annual to Centennial Scale Environmental Variability”. (\$25,000)