

[HOME](#) \ [ABOUT](#) \ [RESEARCH](#)

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UAF Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center

KSMSC Teaches AMSEA Drill Conductor Class

Julie Matweyou has been offering AMSEA Drill Conductor classes at KSMSC since December of 2012. She has partnered with other AMSEA trained instructors based in Kodiak and USCG rescue swimmers and has instructed 96 Kodiak fishermen to date. In December 2014 Matweyou partnered with Art Schultz and USGC swimmers Tye Conklin and Jason McGrath to instruct 8 fishermen. These valuable partnerships are a win-win for our commercial fishing fleet! Classes have been offered prior to key commercial fishing openers or during lulls in the seasons, however classes may be delivered upon request. Contact Julie Matweyou at 486.1514 or the AMSEA office at 747.3287 for details.



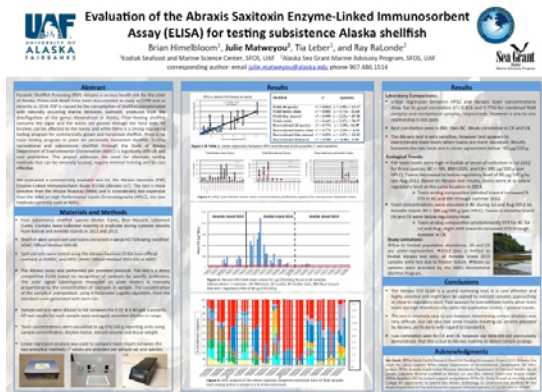
AMSEA instructor and USGC swimmer provide instruction on raft entry and survival



USCG rescue swimmers describe helicopter rescue

Evaluation of the Abraxis Saxitoxin ELISA PSP test

Brian Himelbloom and Julie Matweyou wrapped up a two-year study funded by the North Pacific Research Board to evaluate an emerging PSP test kit this. Julie Matweyou shared project results in a poster format at the 2015 Alaska Marine Science Symposium and in oral presentation at the 2015 Alaska Forum on the Environment.



Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (PSP) remains a serious health risk for the state of Alaska.

There is currently no toxin testing program in place for personally harvested shellfish and there is a need for timely and reduced-cost testing. This study evaluated a commercially available test kit, the Abraxis Saxitoxin (PSP) Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) [Abraxis LLC]. Results from the Abraxis test performed at KSMSC were compared to results from High Performance Liquid Chromatography conducted at the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation laboratory.

The study determined the Abraxis STX ELISA is a useful screening tool, with application in qualitative studies or in determining general toxin trends. The test is cost effective and highly sensitive and while it provides comparable results when toxins are approaching or close to the regulatory level, the test appears to overestimate toxins when toxin levels are high.

SFOS PhD Candidate Completes Laboratory Work at KSMSC

Charlotte Regula-Whitefield completed final analysis on project samples in January. Charlotte's dissertation focuses on the effects of maternal diet on egg and early larval development in the commercially harvested California sea cucumber (*Parastichopus californicus*). Through a combination of seasonal collections of wild commercial stocks by fisherman and controlled feeding experiments within the Seaward hatchery, she is determining how changes in natural food supplies (assessed by lipids and fatty acids) may affect reproduction and recruitment in commercial stocks, and she is identifying nutritional requirements that may maximize reproductive output of broodstock in aquaculture development. Over the course of her dissertation research, Charlotte has made several trips to the Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center, where she had been working closely with Dr. Alexandra Oliveira to conduct lipid and fatty acid analysis.



SFOS PhD candidate Charlotte Regula-Whitefield working at KSMSC lab



California sea cucumber (*Parastichopus californicus*)

Coming Up

"To Eat, or Not to Eat"...Kodiak Shellfish and PSP

12:00 pm-1:00 pm, February 19 at the Kodiak National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center
Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning remains a serious health risk for Kodiak residents. PSP toxin patterns are sporadic and unpredictable and personally harvested shellfish are not currently tested, leaving residents vulnerable. Julie Matweyou, the Kodiak Marine Advisory Agent, will be reporting on recent efforts to develop community based monitoring in two villages, and a recent study of alternate testing methods for toxin detection. Contact: Julie Matweyou, julie.matweyou@alaska.edu 907-486-1514

KSMSC presentation to the Kodiak Borough Assembly

7:00 pm, February 19 at the Borough Assembly Chambers
UAF KSMSC Coordinator Quentin Fong will give a talk to the Kodiak Island Borough about the Center and its activities Contact: Quentin Fong, qsfong@alaska.edu 907-486-1516.
The [meeting agenda](#) can be found online.

AMSEA Drill Conductor Class

8:00-5:00pm February 27-28 at the Kodiak Seafood and Marine Science Center
This is a two day class that meets the USGC requirements for commercial fishermen. Participants who complete all components of the class will receive a Drill Conductor Card that serves as proof of compliance. Contact: Julie Matweyou, julie.matweyou@alaska.edu 907-486-1514. [Registration](#) can be completed on the AMSEA website by selecting the 2/27 Kodiak class under Upcoming Courses.

For more information on trainings visit:

[Alaska Sea Grant Meetings and Workshops Page](#)



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