

Fairweather Science - Key Personnel

Sheyna Wisdom, M.S.

General Manager/Senior Scientist
Anchorage, AK



Sheyna Wisdom, has 19 years of environmental consulting, program management, and research experience with an emphasis in acoustics and marine mammal biology. Her specific expertise is obtaining permits and implementing monitoring programs in accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and other Federal, state, and local regulations. She has cultivated strong relationships with agency personnel and is particularly adept as the interface between the client and the relevant agency to ensure project success from cradle to grave and is well versed in the subtle nuances among all the related, but different requirements. In addition, Sheyna is particularly skilled at large-scale program management with a strong logistical background. She was program manager for multiple large-scale marine research programs in the Arctic for industry, universities, and research organizations. In this role, she was responsible for over 200 subcontractors working in the Arctic marine environment, including project design, safety training and management, client/agency interface, permitting and reporting, financial management, vessel and logistics, and community/stakeholder outreach. Sheyna was awarded ConocoPhillips Safety Ambassador Award and was nominated for Shell’s Upstream Impact Award. Under Sheyna’s management, the Chukchi Sea Environmental Studies Project (CSESP), a jointly-funded industry marine research program, was awarded the Governor’s Safety Award for Excellence and the Arctic Technologies Conference Distinguished Achievement Award under her management. In her involvement in these projects, she has developed strong relationships with communities across the Alaskan arctic coast and thoroughly enjoys traveling to remote villages to collaborate with community members. Sheyna was a member of the North Slope Science Initiative (NSSI) 2016-2018, is on the Executive Board of the Prince William Sound Science Center, and is a member of the Cook Inlet Beluga Whale Habitat and Threat Committee. Prior to moving to Alaska in 2006, Sheyna lived in California as a biologist/noise analyst working throughout the U.S. with specific emphasis on assessing impacts of noise on wildlife and people. She remains actively involved in marine mammal research when possible, teaming with scientists conducting research in Hawaii, Mexico, California, and Alaska.

Qualifications	Expertise and Experience
<p>BS, Biology, Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, New Mexico, 1995</p> <p>MS, Marine Science, University of San Diego, San Diego, California, 2000</p> <p>19 years of experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Specific expertise in assessing impacts, obtaining permits, implementing mitigation and monitoring programs, and project compliance related to marine mammals and noise in accordance with MMPA, ESA, and NEPA, and other international, national, state, and local guidelines. • Specific expertise in program management of large-scale, multi-disciplinary marine projects for the oil and gas industry, universities, agencies, and organizations. • Expertise in the assessment of impacts of noise on wildlife, both terrestrial and aquatic. • Extensive experience in the use of various sound-level meters, spectrum analyzers, hydrophones, autonomous sensors for detecting marine mammal calls, various recording equipment, and sound analysis software.



Laura Young

Business Manager
Anchorage, AK



Laura Young has more than 30 years experience in environmental, planning, and engineering consulting. She is responsible for performing all phases of project work including program and project management, facilitation, contract negotiations and compliance, scheduling, work plan and scope development, data collection, data interpretation and analysis, literature reviews, CAD and GIS, and reporting. Laura also has over 10 years of experience in business and operations management. This has included P&L responsibilities, contract management and negotiations, management of a staff of over 100 FTEs, business development and strategic management.

Qualifications

B.S. (in progress),
Interdisciplinary Science,
UAA

FEMA NIMS, DMA
Certifications

30 years experience

Expertise and Experience

- Business and operations management for environmental and engineering consulting for large and small businesses that includes personnel, risk/contracts, financial performance and strategic growth.
- Program and project management for large and small projects for federal, private, and oil and gas clients.
- Technical practice development for natural hazards mitigation supporting local, state and federal clients nation-wide as well as emergency operations planning for community business partners.
- Environmental due diligence investigation management from phase I environmental site assessments through post-remediation restoration.

Sioned Sitkiewicz

Project Scientist

Anchorage, AK



Ms. Sioned Sitkiewicz has a highly diverse and adaptable skillset. She provides project management and logistical support to projects based on Alaska’s North Slope and Cook Inlet. Her specific project management experience includes: marine mammal monitoring and mitigation programs, environmental permit compliance programs and tool design, and on-call industrial support. Ms. Sitkiewicz is a strong writer and detail-oriented technical editor with skill in organizing, interpreting, and analyzing data with a variety of statistical software. She has authored or supported permit applications and regulatory documents including LOAs, IHAs, and ITRs, and led the preparation of many technical and 90-day reports. Ms. Sitkiewicz also provides

permitting and compliance support to Alaska’s resource development industry, and has designed and implemented North Slope community outreach events.

Ms. Sitkiewicz has a master’s degree in environmental science with a focus on fisheries and aquatic health, and continues her involvement at Alaska Pacific University by training student field sampling teams on an annual basis. Ms. Sitkiewicz has a variety of lab and technical field experience, including large-scale land restoration and research, vegetation surveys, and aquatic toxicology testing techniques. During the Chukchi Sea Environmental Studies Program, she was the discipline lead in the offshore Arctic in subject areas including benthic ecology, zooplankton ecology, and ocean acidification, and also has marine mammal and seabird observing experience. Ms. Sitkiewicz is the Fairweather Science Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) representative, and provides in-house graphic and logo design. She is proficient in taking on new challenges as Alaska’s economic and scientific priorities evolve.

Qualifications	Expertise and Experience
<p>M.Sc. Environmental Science: Alaska Pacific University, Anchorage, AK, 2018.</p> <p>B.A., Biology: Hope College, Holland, MI, 2012.</p> <p>Minor: Environmental Science</p> <p>>7 years of experience</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marine mammal mitigation programs ○ Environmental permit compliance • Permitting and compliance support & compliance tracking tool design • Master’s degree emphasizes fisheries health and aquatic disease • Educational background emphasizes ecological conservation and management, environmental public policy, and environmental research methods. • Experience with document preparation and support, including: LOAs, ITRs, IHAs, 90-Day reports. • Experience writing research papers, as well designing and coordinating scientific research projects. • Field experience includes marine mammal and seabird surveys, zooplankton collection, benthic and sediment sample collection, CTD and ocean acidification data collection, and terrestrial vegetation surveys • Experience with laboratory tools and techniques • Proficient in GIS and statistical analyses using R • Health, Safety, and Environment representative • Skilled in technical editing, outreach coordination, and graphic design

Kathleen Leonard

Marine Mammal Scientist
Anchorage, AK



Ms. Leonard has extensive marine mammal research experience both in terms of field-work and data analysis, having led or participated in visual surveys on land, vessels ranging in size from 18-380 ft in near and offshore waters, and multiple aircraft. Her experience includes abundance and distribution assessment, behavioral sampling, habitat utilization and diet analysis, and image analysis and photo ID. She has been involved in all phases of developing and delivering marine mammal monitoring and mitigation programs in accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA). Her work has entailed significant management, synthesis, and analysis of large datasets to evaluate potential impacts from industrial operations. She has coordinated and provided oversight on multifaceted large-scale programs and fostered effective working relationships with a multitude of collaborators, clients, and interested parties, including local, state, and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, Native corporations, industry representatives, as well as members of the academic community.

Qualifications

BA, Justice, American University, 2003
BS, Biology, Stony Brook University, 2008
MRes, Marine Mammal Science, University of St Andrews, 2011
15 years of experience

Expertise and Experience

- Significant experience developing and implementing vessel-, aerial-, and shore-based marine mammal monitoring and mitigation programs.
- Expertise in digital marine wildlife aerial surveys, including manual and automated detection image analysis.
- Experience managing, synthesizing, and analyzing large datasets.
- Permitting and regulatory compliance support, including petitions for incidental take regulations, applications for incidental harassment authorizations and letters of authorization, and marine mammal and monitoring and mitigation plans.
- 600+ sea days conducting marine mammal research in the Arctic, Atlantic, Pacific, and Southern Oceans.
- 500+ hours of flight time in small to medium-sized survey aircraft as a marine mammal observer.

Karen Wetzel

Junior Scientist
Tampa, FL



Karen Wetzel was hired in February 2018 as a Junior Scientist. Ms. Wetzel now works remotely, full-time from the sunny state of Florida. She has worked in research labs in areas of ecology, parasitology, and ocean acidification. She is a fast learner and has proven her ability to excel. Karen has experience in document control, research and organizing compliance records for large oil and gas operations and marine mammal observation. She has provided support in permitting for various operations with multiple private and state agencies. She is also a practised technical writer and communicator, as expressed in her logistics support and data summaries. Ms. Wetzel also has marine mammal observing and

participated in the 2019/2020 Artificial Polar Bear Den Research collaborative with Alaksa Oil and Gass Association, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, and U.S. Geological Society.

Qualifications

BS, Biology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, 2015
Concentration in Marine Biology
>2 years of experience

Expertise and Experience

- Educational background emphasizes technical editing, ecological conservation, and environmental research methods.
- Experience in permitting and compliance support and compliance tracking.
- Field experience includes marine mammal surveys and artificial polar bear den digging in the arctic.
- Experience with document preparation and support, including: LOAs, local, state and federal permit applications