

## Ryan L. Fikes

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- Education**
- Bachelor of Science in Biology** (Marine Science Emphasis) Fall 2004  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
Dean's List
- Masters of Science in Biology** Spring 2008  
Center for Coastal Studies  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
Cum Laude
- Current Position**
- Restoration Program Manager** **January 2008-Present**  
Deputy Director
- Started as Project Coordinator in 2008, moved to Program Manager for Conservation & Restoration in early 2009, progressed to Deputy Director in March 2010.
  - Manage activities of the Gulf of Mexico Community-based Restoration Partnership, its steering committees, and team of GEMS managers
  - Oversee restoration projects and assist project leaders
  - Receive incoming reports project reports and prepare reports for granting agencies
  - Coordinate activities of the Habitat Conservation and Restoration Team (HCRT) of the Governor's Gulf of Mexico Alliance
  - Manage all federal grants and related subcontracts and prepare agency reports
  - Represent GMF through presentations, workshops, and restoration opportunities
  - Responsible for general office management
- Related Experience**
- Lab Operations Assistant** December 2006-January 2008  
Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies
- Implement lab safety and operation procedures for research labs
  - Ensure routine preventative maintenance on lab equipment and maintain service logs
  - Monitor HRI vehicles & boats, maintain service logs, and prepare state use forms
  - Supervise dive locker, including inspection of equipment, equipment check-out, and ensuring all equipment is in proper working condition
  - Participate in coordination of conference activities and promotion of HRI and their initiatives
- Intern Technician III** Summer 2006  
Texas Parks & Wildlife Department - Coastal Fisheries Division
- Collecting, processing and reporting data from marine activities in the ecosystem
  - Performing fisheries database entry, quality control, and data queries
  - Interact with public concerning Department activities
  - Routine resource sampling (trawls, bag seines, gill nets), harvest monitoring (interviewing)
  - Assistance with education outreach programs such as Sea Camp and Expo
- Graduate Teaching Assistant (TA)** January 2005-December 2006  
TAMU-CC Department of Physical & Life Sciences
- Lead laboratory in lecture topics, assignments, projects, & collections
  - Assist in develop new and interesting ways for students to retain material & increase learning capacity
  - Fill in for lecture professor when needed in classroom setting
  - Subjects taught: Biology II, Principles of Ecology, Marine Botany

**Laboratory Assistant:** January 2004-December 2004  
 TAMU-CC Fisheries Ecology Lab

- Conduct hands-on field work with sample collection procedures
- Sorting and identifying of organisms collected within samples
- Participation in scientific research design and manuscript preparation

**Research Survey Coordinator:** August 2002-January 2005  
 Pollution Prevention Partnership/Community Outreach

- Collected oil and gas compressor data for the 2003 annual *Emissions Inventory*
- Created updated database to be used by state agencies
- Present research findings to state agencies and create public awareness
- Researching control technology initiatives for future implementation

**Deckhand** Summer 2004  
 Rockport Birding & Kayak Adventures

- Participated in maintenance and operation of vessel in Aransas Bay System
- Led tours focusing on birding (whooping crane tours in season) and dolphins
- Provided history on the culture, geography, and wildlife of the area

**Wildlife Extern** Summer 2003  
 Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW), Sanibel Island, FL

- Handled daily cleaning of compounds and diet preparation
- Conducted orphan hand-rearing, patient handling, wildlife rescues and releases
- Observed and participated in patient admittances, diagnostics, surgeries & necropsies

**Biological Monitor** Summer 2002  
 Bellaire Environmental, Inc.

- Conducted on-site observations of seismic operations in bays and terrestrial habitat
- Assessed impact to wildlife/habitat and minimized habitat degradation
- Familiarized with GPS mapping and TPWD regulations/restrictions
- Prepared daily activity reports submitted to TPWD Resource Protection

**Training** NOAA Coastal Services Center Training Opportunities

- Coastal Community Planning and Development 2008
- Public Issues and Conflict Management 2009
- Introduction to ArcGIS I (ESRI Certified) 2009
- Ecological Restoration of Coastal Habitats 2009
- Coastal Bend Living Shorelines Workshop 2010

**Grants** Professional Grants:

- Co-PI: NOAA, NOS, Coastal Services Center Grant 2008-2011
  - Wetland & Coastal Conservation & Restoration: \$2,180,000
  - Support for the Gulf of Mexico Alliance
- Co-PI: NOAA, NMFS, Restoration Center Grant 2010-2014
  - Community-based Restoration Partnership: \$2,100,000
  - Support for years 10-12 of the GCRP
- CO-PI: USEPA, Gulf of Mexico Program 2010-2013
  - Habitat Conservation & Restoration: \$1,200,000
  - Continuation & Advancement of the HCRT (GOMA)

	Academic Grants:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PALS C.B.H.E.C. Grant</li> <li>• Texas Academy of Science Travel Grant</li> <li>• Hoshaw Travel Grant (Phycological Society of America)</li> <li>• Texas Public Education Grant (Graduate Research)</li> </ul>	Summer 2004 Spring 2006 Fall 2006 Fall 2006-Spring 2007
<b>Scholarships</b>	Received Scholarships:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caribbean Connection Marine Scholarship</li> <li>• David May Memorial Marine Scholarship</li> <li>• College of Science &amp; Technology Scholarship</li> <li>• Henry Hildebrand Endowed Scholarship</li> <li>• Sea Turtle Inc.® Conservation Scholarship</li> <li>• Sam’s Foundation Environmental Science Graduate Scholarship</li> <li>• Hans and Patricia Suter Endowed Scholarship</li> <li>• Rising Scholar Graduate Scholarship</li> </ul>	Spring 2005 Spring 2005 Fall 2005 Spring 2006 Spring 2006 Spring 2007 Spring 2007 Fall 2007 & Spring 2008
<b>Awards</b>	Received Honors:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TAMU-CC Student Employee of the Year Award</li> <li>• SE Regional Student Employee of the Year Award</li> <li>• National Student Employee of the Year Award</li> </ul>	2004-2005 2004-2005 2004-2005
<b>Service</b>	Virgin Islands Conservation Alliance	2009-2010
	Ecological Restoration of Coastal Habitats, St. Thomas, USVI	2009
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hosted workshop in conjunction with NOAA RC</li> </ul>	
	PRIMER-e Training Workshop	2008
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local organizer for HRI/TAMU-CC</li> </ul>	
	Law of the Sea Institute Conference	2007
	State of the Gulf of Mexico Summit	2006
	Gulf Estuarine Research Society Meeting	2006
	Wildlife Conservation & Rehabilitation Club (TAMU-CC)	2001-2005
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President 2002-2004</li> <li>• Student Organization of the Year 2004</li> </ul>	
	Physical & Life Sciences - Biology Mentor Program	2002-2003
	T-STEM Innovation Academy Volunteer (CCISD)	2007-Present
	National Ocean Sciences Bowl Volunteer	2007-Present
	Texas Adopt-A-Beach Cleanup	2002-Present
	Annual GoMex Youth Leadership in Stewardship Conference	2008
<b>Societies</b>	Sigma Xi – National Honors Research Society	2005-2009
	Phycological Society of America	2005-2009
	Texas Academy of Science	2005-2009
	National Geographic Society	2007-2009
	The Nature Conservancy	2008-Present
	Surfrider (OHANA)	2006-Present
	World Wildlife Foundation	2009-Present
	Society for Ecology Restoration International	2010-Present
<b>Expeditions</b>	Coral Reef Ecology expeditions to the Caribbean (Quintana Roo, Mexico)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific diving in multiple reef zones, tropical marine ecology</li> <li>• 2005 Expedition as a student</li> <li>• 2006 Expedition assistance for Center for Coastal Studies</li> <li>• 2007 Expedition assistant and driver for HRI and CCS</li> </ul>	

Seven and One-half Fathom Reef expedition (Gulf of Mexico)

- Scientific diving on a nearshore pleistocene reef
- 2006 Expedition assistant for Harte Research Institute

Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute: Bocas del Toro, Panama

- Tropical Field Phycology short-course (July 2008)
- Biodiversity updates and Barcode for Life Project

Gulf Intracoastal Wetlands Cruise (Texas Coast, Summer 2009)

- Hosted by the Gulf of Mexico Foundation & ConocoPhillips
- Served as an environmental educator for teachers attending trip

- Publications** Fikes, R.L. and R.L. Lehman. 2010. Recruitment and colonization of macroalgae to a newly developed rocky intertidal habitat in the Northwest Gulf of Mexico. *Gulf and Caribbean Research* 22: 9-20.
- Fikes, R.L. and R.L. Lehman. 2009. Small-scale recruitment of flora to a newly developed tidal inlet in the northwest Gulf of Mexico. *Gulf of Mexico Science* 26(2): 130-132.
- Fikes, R.L. and R.L. Lehman. 2008. The occurrence of *Agardhiella ramosissima* (Gigartinales) and *Acanthophora spicifera* (Ceramiales) in the Texas Coastal Bend. *Texas Journal of Science* 60(3): 221-224.
- Fikes, R.L. 2008. Recruitment and colonization of macroalgal species to the rocky jetties of Packery Channel, Corpus Christi, TX. Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Masters Thesis.
- Fikes, R.L., R.L. Lehman, and L.C. Smith. 2007. Characterization of a high energy macroalgal community in Quintana Roo, Mexico using digital image analysis. *Texas Journal of Science*. 52(2): 103-112.
- Contributed Papers** Fikes, R.L. and R.L. Lehman. 2008. Recruitment and colonization of macroalgal species to the rocky jetties of Packery Channel, Corpus Christi, Texas. Texas Academy of Science 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi, Texas.
- Fikes, R.L. and R.L. Lehman. 2005. Methods for analyzing recruitment and seasonal variation of the macroalgae of Packery Channel-Corpus Christi, Texas. Graduate Student Symposium, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Dauphin, Island, Alabama
- Published Abstracts** Withers, K. and R.L. Fikes. 2008. Land crabs and leaf litter in the Sian Ka'an Biosphere Reserve, Quintana Roo, Mexico. Proceedings of the Texas Academy of Science 101<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Corpus Christi, Texas.
- Fikes, R.L. and R.L. Lehman. 2007. Characterization of a high energy macroalgal community in Quintana Roo, Mexico using digital image analysis. Proceedings of the Texas Academy of Science 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Baylor University, Waco, Texas.
- Fikes, R.L. and R.L. Lehman. 2007. Macroalgal colonization: recruitment of a new rocky habitat along the south Texas coast. 61<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Phycological Society of America, Providence, Rhode Island. *Journal of Phycology* 43(s1): 37.
- Fikes, R.L. and R.L. Lehman. 2006. Analyzing recruitment of algal flora along the rocky jetties of Packery Channel-Corpus Christi, Texas. Proceedings of the Texas Academy of Science 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas.

Fikes, R.L. and K. Cammarata. 2006. Development of procedures for the analysis of epiphyte composition associated with the seagrass *Thalassia testudinum*. Proceedings of the Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting, University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, Texas.

Fikes, R.L., L.C. Smith, and R.L. Lehman. 2006. Characterization of the macroalgal community associated with the high energy zone of Punta Yu Yum, Quintana Roo, Mexico. 60<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Phycological Society of America, University of Alaska Southeast, Juneau, Alaska. *Journal of Phycology* 42(s1): 30.

Fikes, R.L., D.D. Burfeind, and G.W. Stunz. 2005. The effects of propeller scarring on benthic infaunal communities of Redfish Bay, TX. Proceedings of the Texas Bays and Estuaries Meeting, University of Texas Marine Science Institute, Port Aransas, Texas.

**Contributed Webpages**

Fikes, R.L. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Spyridia clavata*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/6347?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/6347?>)

Fikes, R.L. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Bryothamnion triquetrum*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/3453?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/3453?>)

Fikes, R.L. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Chondrophyucus papillosus*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/6329?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/6329?>)

Fikes, R.L. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Codium repens*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/6330?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/6330?>).

Fikes, R.L. and J. Samper-Villarreal. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Turbinaria turbinata*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/6350?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/6350?>).

Fikes, R.L. and J. Samper-Villarreal. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Gracilaria flabelliformis*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/6337?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/6337?>)

Fikes, R.L. and J. Samper-Villarreal. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Amphiroa hancockii*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/3444?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/3444?>)

Samper-Villarreal, J. and R.L. Fikes. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Halimeda opuntia*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/1715?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/1715?>)

Samper-Villarreal, J., R.L. Fikes, and M.R. Albis-Salas. "Bocas del Toro Species Database: *Udotea flabellum*." 2008. Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. 3 December 2008 <[http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas\\_database/search/species/1723?>](http://biogeodb.stri.si.edu/bocas_database/search/species/1723?>)

**References:** Available upon request.