

SEAN P. GRIFFIN
SENIOR CONSULTANT

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Department of Marine Sciences, University of Puerto Rico, 2005
Bachelor of Arts, Biology, Boston University, 1995

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

As a senior consultant with LTCI, Dr. Griffin is involved in natural resource damage assessment projects in Puerto Rico. Projects include damage assessments, restoration and monitoring after ship groundings and oil spills. Dr. Griffin provides technical expertise in biology and ecology. Dr. Griffin has over 10 years of experience conducting research on coral reefs. The main focus of his research activities has been in Puerto Rico, Hawaii and the Caribbean.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Montana State University
- Arkansas State University
- Upper Iowa University
- Limestone College

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, Guanica Oil Spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment, Guanica, Puerto Rico. Part of the LTCI team developing a natural resource damage assessment in response to the Guanica Oil Spill of 2007 [2007 – Present].

Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, M/T Margara, Natural Resource Damage Assessment, Guanica, Puerto Rico. Part of the LTCI team developing a natural resource damage assessment, restoration projects and monitoring program in response to the M/T Margara grounding in Guayanilla, Puerto Rico [2006 – Present].

Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources, University of Puerto Rico, and NOAA, Coral Reef Health and Diseases. Conducted reef surveys around Puerto Rico to determine the incidence of coral disease and the health of the reefs [2006].

University of North Carolina, Wilmington, University of Puerto Rico and NOAA. Coral Spawning Research. Collected gametes during the coral spawning, cultivated the larvae in the lab, and conducted experiments and research on larval stages of coral [2006].

Barco Escuela Puertorriqueño Santa María, Inc. Executive Director. Responsible for incorporation, grant and proposal writing and fund-raising. Developed curriculum and assisted in recruitment and promotion for Semesters in Marine Science at InterAmerican University. Developed K-12 educational programs and workshops and participated in the Tall Ship's Challenge 2005 Pacific Coast Series [2004 – 2005].

Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, Kaneohe, Hawaii. Assessing the Health of Pacific Corals. Participated in workshops and conducted research on the thermotolerance and acclimation potentials of Hawaiian corals. This research was part of his Ph.D. thesis [2002-2003].



National Science Foundation, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. Conducted research comparing molecular biomarkers in corals exposed to elevated temperatures [2001 – 2003].

Department of Fish and Wildlife, Mayaguez, Puerto Rico. Conch population surveys. Conducted conch population surveys using SCUBA and underwater scooters in southwest Puerto Rico to help assess the status of conch populations in Puerto Rico [2001 – 2002].

Autoridad Energia Electrica, San Juan, Puerto Rico. Environmental Impact Assessment. Conducted benthic surveys using SCUBA in Culebra and Vieques Island for the Puerto Rican electric company as part of an environmental impact assessment for installation of a new electric cable between the islands [1998].

SELECTED REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Griffin, S.P., Nemeth, M. 2007. Ship Grounding in the Caribbean: Considerations for Coral Reef Recovery after Marine Incidents. *Our Watery World: Humans and the Sea*. CEA-CC Publications. Mayagüez, Puerto Rico. Pages 181-192.

Griffin, S.P., Baghooli, R., and Weil, E. 2006. Evaluation of thermal acclimation capacity in corals with different thermal histories based on catalase concentrations and antioxidant potentials. *Comparative Biochemistry & Physiology*. 144 (2): 155-162.

Griffin, S.P. 2005. Comparison of Molecular Biomarkers Within and Across Scleractinian Coral Species Exposed to Elevated Temperatures. Ph. D Thesis. Published Online.
<http://grad.uprm.edu/tesis/tesiscima.htm>

Breitbart, M., Baghooli, R., Griffin, S., Johnston, I., Rohwer, F. 2005. Microbial communities associated with skeletal tumors on *Porites compressa*. *FEMS Microbiology Letters*.

Griffin, S.P. and Baghooli, R. 2004. Measuring antioxidant potential in corals using the FRAP assay. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology* 302(2): 201-211.

Griffin, S.P., Garcia, R.P., Weil, E. 2003. Bioerosion in coral reef communities in southwest Puerto Rico by the sea urchin *Echinometra viridis*. *Marine Biology* 143 (1): 79-84

Griffin, S. P. 1998. The effects of sunlight on the progression of Black Band Disease. *Revista Biológica Tropical*. 46 Supl. (4): 175-179.

OTHER RESEARCH AREAS OF INTEREST

With his education in coral reef ecology and biological oceanography, Dr. Griffin has conducted research throughout the Caribbean and in Hawaii. His primary research has been in coral reef ecology and coral biology (pathology, bleaching, biomarkers, spawning and thermo tolerance), but he has also worked in several other areas of marine ecology. He has conducted research at the University of Puerto Rico, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, Bermuda Biological Station for Research and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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