

CURRICULUM VITAE

Lara Jane Atkinson (Pr.Sci.Nat.)

Profession: Marine Biologist / Ecologist

Marine Offshore Researcher (SAEON Egagasini Node)

Academic qualifications:

Doctor of Philosophy, Marine Science, University of Cape Town 2010

Master of Science, Marine Science, University of Cape Town 2001

Bachelor of Science Honours (1st Class), Marine Biology, University of Cape Town, 1998

Bachelor of Science, University of Port Elizabeth, 1996

Other qualifications: Class IV Scientific Dive Supervisor, registered with SACNASP as a marine ecologist

Computer literacy: Proficient with Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Access), PRIMER & PERMANOVA, Statistica, ArcView 3.3, Coral Graphics and internet.

Nationality: South African

Date of birth: 29th September 1974

Language proficiency: English and Afrikaans

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Employment history: **2010 - Current:** South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) Egagasini Node: Marine Offshore Researcher.

2008-2010: Project co-ordinator for the offshore benthic biodiversity assessment on the Agulhas Bank, considering the potential role of petroleum infrastructure

2006 - 2010: *Ad hoc* consultative project implementation, coordination and management

2002 – 2006: Senior Consultant, Anchor Environmental Consultants CC, Cape Town fulfilling various project co-ordination, management and leadership requirements

2002 – Current: Honorary Research Associate at the University of Cape Town

Committee membership: 2012-2014: Nominated as National Representative for the South African Network for Coastal and Oceanic Research (SANCOR).

Academic supervision: 2013 - Co-supervision of PhD candidates J. Currie & K. Tunley, UCT

2012 - Mentorship of two DST-NRF interns

2012-2014 – Mentorship of post-doctoral fellow (Dr Charles von der Meden).

2009 -2014: Lecture multivariate statistics course (PERMANOVA) and practical sessions to post-graduate students at University of Cape Town.

2008 - Zoology 3rd year students project mentor

2008 - Co-supervision BSc honours project (student: C. Haley)

2003 - Co-supervised BSc honours student project (student: G. Dubber)

PUBLICATION RECORD

SCIENTIFIC PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS:

- Kirkman S., Yemane D., Atkinson L., Kathena J., Nsiangango S., Singh L., Axelsen, B.E., and Samaai T. 2014. Regime shifts in demersal assemblages of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem: a comparative assessment. *Fisheries Oceanography*. doi:10.1111/fog.12053.
- Fleddum A., Atkinson L., Field J.G. and Shin P. 2013. Changes in biological traits of macro-benthic communities subjected to different intensities of demersal trawling along the west coast of southern Africa. *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom*. doi:10.1017/S0025315413000647.
- Field, J.G., Attwood, C.G., Jarre, A, Sink, K.J, Atkinson, L.J. and Petersen, S. 2013. Cooperation between scientists, NGOs and industry in support of sustainable fisheries: the South African hake *Merluccius* spp. trawl fishery experience. *Journal of Fish Biology*. doi:10.1111/jfb.12118.
- Atkinson, L.J., Jarre, A, Shannon, L.J. and Field, J.G. 2012. Evidence for shifts in demersal fish populations on the West Coast of South Africa: 1986 to 2009. In G.H. Kruse, H.I. Browman, K.L. Cochrane, D. Evans, G.S. Jamieson, P.A. Livingston, D. Woodby and C.I. Zhang (eds.) *Global Progress in Ecosystem-Based Fisheries Management*. Alaska Sea Grant, University of Alaska Fairbanks. doi:10.4027/gpebfm.2012.03.
- Atkinson, L.J., Field, J.G. and Hutchings, L. 2011. Effects of demersal trawling along the west coast of southern Africa: multivariate analysis of benthic assemblages. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 430:241-255.
- Atkinson, L.J., Leslie, R.W., Field, J.G. and Jarre, A. 2011. Changes in demersal fish assemblages on the west coast of South Africa 1986-2009. *African Journal of Marine Science* 33(1): 167-170.
- Haley, C., Blamey, L., Atkinson, L.J. and Branch, G.M. 2011. Dietary change of the rock lobster (*Jasus lalandii*) after an 'invasive' geographic shift: Effects of size, density and food availability. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 93: 160-170.
- Hutchings, K., Clark, B.M., Atkinson, L.J. and Attwood, C. 2008. Monitoring of the linefishery in the Berg River estuary (Western Cape, South Africa) with evidence of recovery subsequent to closure of commercial gill netting. *African Journal of Marine Science* 30 (3) 507-517.
- Atkinson L.J. and Mayfield S. 2005. Preliminary understanding of the movement patterns of *Jasus lalandii*: Utility of acoustic tracking. *African Journal of Marine Science* 27 (2): 401-408.
- Dubber, G.G., Branch G M. and Atkinson L.J. 2004. The effects of temperature and diet on the survival, growth and food uptake of aquarium-held postpueruli rock lobster, *Jasus lalandii*. *Aquaculture* 240: 249-266.
- Atkinson L.J. and Branch G.M. 2003. Large-scale movements of adult male *Jasus lalandii*: Evidence from long-term tag recaptures. *African Journal of Marine Science* 25: 387-390.
- Mayfield, S. Atkinson, L.J. Branch G.M. and Cockcroft A.C. 2000. Variation in the diet of the West Coast rock lobster, *Jasus lalandii*: influence of rock-lobster size, sex, capture depth, latitude and moult stage. *South African Journal of Marine Science* 22: 57-69.
- PHD. THESIS:**
- Atkinson, L. J. 2010. Effects of demersal trawling on marine infaunal, epifaunal and fish assemblages: studies in the southern Benguela and Oslofjord. University of Cape Town, pp. 141
- M. Sc. THESIS:**
- Atkinson, L. J. 2001. Small- and large-scale movement patterns of the West Coast rock lobster (*Jasus lalandii*). University of Cape Town, pp. 100.

TECHNICAL AND POLICY REPORTS

- Weerts S.P., Newman B.K., Blair A.G. and Atkinson L.J. 2013. Assessment of the inshore subtidal environment in the vicinity of the PetroSA outfall in Vleesbaai: November 2012 survey. CSIR Report CSIR/NRE/CO/ER/2013/0061/C.

- Weerts S.P., Newman B.K., Blair A.G. and Atkinson L.J. 2012. Assessment of the inshore subtidal environment in the vicinity of the PetroSA Vleesbaai pipeline: November 2011 survey. CSIR Report CSIR/NRE/CO/ER/2012/0040/C. pp. 75
- Sink K, Holness S, Harris L, Majiedt P, Atkinson L., Robinson T, Kirkman S, Hutchings L, Leslie R, Lamberth S, Kerwath S, von der Heyden S, Lombard A, Attwood C, Branch G, Fairweather T, Taljaard S, Weerts S, Cowley P, Awad A, Halpern B, Grantham H, Wolf T. 2012. National Biodiversity Assessment 2011: Marine and Coastal Component Report. Pretoria: South African National Biodiversity Institute. pp. 322.
- Sink K.J, Wilkinson S., Atkinson L.J., Sims P.F, Leslie R.W. and Attwood C.G. 2012. The potential impacts of South Africa's demersal hake trawl fishery on benthic habitats: historical perspectives, spatial analyses, current review and potential management actions. Unpublished report, South African National Biodiversity Institute. pp 75. (Demersal Working Group document FISHERIES/2012/MaySWG-DEM/15)
- Atkinson L.J., Attwood, C, Sink, K.J. and Lindholm J. 2012. Trawl closure experimental design report. Unpublished report South African Environmental Observation Network pp. 28.
- Sink K.J., Attwood C.G., Lombard A.T., Grantham H, Leslie R, Samaai T, Kerwath S, Majiedt P, Fairweather T, Hutchings L, van der Lingen C, Atkinson L.J., Wilkinson S, Holness S and Wolf T. 2011. Spatial planning to identify focus areas for offshore biodiversity protection in South Africa. Final Report for the Offshore Marine Protected Area Project. South African National Biodiversity Institute. pp. 77
- Sink K.J., Atkinson L.J., Kerwath, S and Samaai, T. 2010. Assessment of offshore benthic biodiversity on the Agulhas Bank and the potential role of petroleum infrastructure in offshore spatial management. Technical report prepared for WWF South Africa and PetroSA through a SANBI initiative pp. 77.
- Atkinson L.J. and Sink K.J. 2008. User profiles for the South African offshore environment. South African National Biodiversity Institute Biodiversity Series 10, pp. 66.