

Forams as Storytellers: Researcher Bio

Kelsey Lane

Kelsey Lane is a Ph.D. student at Oregon State University studying the oceans and climate change. She grew up in South Dakota, attended college at Brown University in Providence, RI and studied Geology-Biology. She discovered marine science in college and decided to pursue it as a career after studying dolphins in Florida and the rocky shore in Alaska. After college, she worked as a scientist and merchant mariner on sailing ships and research vessels traveling the Atlantic, Pacific, and Mediterranean oceans for seven years.

Kelsey started graduate school at Oregon State University in 2018. Kelsey studies foraminifera (or forams), a tiny, shelled plankton that tells the story of ancient oceans in the chemistry of its shells. She's studying how recent marine heatwaves have changed the foraminifera community off the Oregon coast over the last decade.



Kelsey sampling plankton with a net on the Newport Hydrographic Line off the Oregon Coast. You sample at night as much as you can to capture the most organisms.



Kelsey picking foraminifera underneath a microscope. Foraminifera are about the size of a grain of sand, so you need a microscope to identify them to the species level.

Check out more foram research happening at Oregon State University at http://www.foraminarium.com

ORSEA 2021-2022