

## Researcher Bio – Kaimyn O’Neill

### Belugas out of Balance



#### About Kaimyn

- Born on Whidbey Island, WA
- I loved tidepooling so much as a kid that I decided to become a marine biologist!
- Volunteered at the Seattle Aquarium in high school as an exhibit interpreter.
- Majored in biology (with a concentration in ecology and evolution) at Colby College in Maine.
- Discovered I loved genetics through my college coursework, so now I am pursuing a career in marine conservation genetics!
- Participated in a Research Experience for Undergraduates at OSU, where I became involved with epigenetic research on Cook Inlet belugas.
- I returned to OSU in the summer after graduating and worked as a laboratory technician, continuing to help with the beluga epigenetic research, until I started my master’s at OSU that fall.
- Currently developing an epigenetic clock for Hector’s dolphins and Māui dolphins for my master’s thesis research, using the same methods as the beluga epigenetic research.

#### Related publication

Bors EK, Baker CS, Wade PR, et al. An epigenetic clock to estimate the age of living beluga whales. *Evol Appl.* 2020;00:1–11. <https://doi.org/10.1111/eva.13195>