

VERA LIEBAU

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POSTAL ADDRESS Anchor Environmental Consultants, Suite 8 Steenberg House, Steenberg Office Park, Tokai, 7945, South Africa
BORN 13 August 1985, Berlin, Germany

SUMMARY PROFILE

Vera came to South Africa in 2006 to study marine biology at the University of Cape Town. During her undergraduate studies, Vera developed an interest in conservation along with the socioeconomic and legal aspects of the environment. She explored these aspects further during her honours (environmental management) and masters (conservation biology) degrees.

The thesis component of her MSc linked marine ecology and environmental resource management to South Africa's current environmental legislation governing intertidal resource exploitation. Working at Anchor Environmental Consultants has allowed her to apply her environmental management, conservation biology and environmental law proficiencies in the drafting of environmental legislation and associated implementation guidelines. Vera is also very interested in birds and has so far gained experience in identifying birds (visual and auditory) in the Fynbos, Nama Karoo and Succulent Karoo Biomes, as well as in coastal and inland freshwater environments.

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CONSERVATION BIOLOGY

With a focus on marine ecology and intertidal resource exploitation

(Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, Department of Zoology, University of Cape Town)

STATUS Graduated in June 2013

THESIS TITLE Exploitation of rocky intertidal marine resources in South Africa Implications for the conservation of boulder shores

Keywords: boulder shores as distinct intertidal habitats, conservation, intertidal marine living resource management in South Africa

Supervisor: Professor Charles Griffiths, Director of the Marine Research Institute at the University of Cape Town

COURSE WORK COMPONENT

- ✓ Biodiversity characterisation and assessment
- ✓ Demography and population viability assessment
- ✓ General ecology (community ecology, marine and freshwater systems)
- ✓ Applied ecology (disturbance, invasive species and restoration)
- ✓ Conservation genetics
- ✓ Climate change
- ✓ Conservation planning and landscape ecology

- ✓ Environmental economics and community-based conservation
- ✓ Societies and natural resource management

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS) DEGREE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

(Department of Environmental and Geographical Sciences, University of Cape Town)

STATUS Graduated in December 2011

THESIS TITLE A short term study on the effects of initial winter rainfall events on turbidity of the Great Berg Estuary, South Africa

Key words: Key words: sedimentation of rivers through agricultural practice, associated erosion and impacts of dams, water quality management

Supervisor: Dr Kevin Winter, Department of Environmental and Geographical Science, University of Cape Town

COURSE WORK COMPONENT

- ✓ Environmental Law for Non-Lawyers
- ✓ Understanding and Managing Conflict
- ✓ Theory and Practice of Environmental Management
- ✓ Applied Research in Environmental Management

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- ✓ Comparing and contrasting South African 2010 EIA regulations under the National Environmental Management Amendment Act (NEMAA) 62 of 2008 to the United State's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) EIA regulations.
- ✓ Community Based Environmental Monitoring of the Dawidskraal Estuary.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MARINE BIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

(University of Cape Town)

STATUS Graduated in December 2010

CONTENT Chemistry, mathematics, statistics, earth and geographical sciences, environmental management, ecology, marine biology, eco-physiology, zoology

AWARDS: Deans Merit List

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Laboratory assistant (July 2010 – June 2011)

Employer: Stefan Milandri, Master Student at the University of Cape Town Department of Environmental and Geographical Science

Project: Plants, biofiltration systems and stormwater

Contact: Dr Kevin Winter (kevin.winter@uct.ac.za)

Teaching assistant (August – September 2012)

Employer: Department of Zoology, University of Cape Town

Topic: Rocky shore field excursions and assignment evaluation

Contact: Charles Griffiths (charles.griffiths@uct.ac.za)

Cataloguing feather characteristics (September 2012)

Employer: Prof Peter Ryan, FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology,

University of Cape Town.
Contact: Prof Peter Ryan (peter.ryan@uct.ac.za)

Field assistant (September – October 2012)

Employer: Dr Deena Pillay, Marine Research Institute, University of Cape Town
Project: Grazer exclusion experiment on rocky shores
Contact: Dr Deena Pillay (deena.pillay@uct.ac.za)

Data capture and updating of a journal database (September – December 2012)

Employer: International Geographical Union (IGU)
Contact: IGU Secretary General Michael Meadows, Head of Department of Environmental and Geographical Science at the University of Cape Town (michael.meadows@uct.ac.za)

Environmental educator (October 2012)

Employer: Schools Development Unit, University of Cape Town
Topic: Investigating rocky shore intertidal habitats within the context of sustainable development and marine living resource use.
Contact: Andrew Peterson (andrew.peterson@uct.ac.za)

Environmental Consultant (March 2013 - present)

Employer: Anchor Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd
Projects:

- ✓ Drafting Norms and Standards in terms of NEMA: abalone and trout aquaculture industries
- ✓ St Lucia socio-economic survey, data analysis
- ✓ Wind farm bird specialist study, field trip logistics
- ✓ Betty's Bay, Goukamma and Robberg MPA re-zoning; Management of the public participation process

Reports (supporting author):

- ✓ Saldanha State of the Bay Report
- ✓ Marine baseline survey for Doringbaai, section on relevant environmental law
- ✓ Marine baseline survey for Brand-se-baai, section on relevant environmental law

Contact: Barry Clark (barry@anchorenvironmental.co.za)

PUBLICATION RECORD

Milandri, SG, KJ Winter, SBM Chimphango, NP Armitage, DN Mbui, GE Jackson and V Liebau. 2012. The performance of plant species in removing nutrients from stormwater in biofiltration systems in Cape Town. *Water SA*, **38**(5): 655-652.

COMPUTER PROFICIENCY

Microsoft Office 2007 Microsoft Office Excel 2007
Microsoft Office PowerPoint 2007

Microsoft Office Word 2007

Quantum GIS/Arc GIS

Importing of maps and images, geo – referencing, the manipulation of data, polygon and layer creation, displaying and printing the results of a research activity.

R Statistical software

Basic statistics, Generalised Linear Models (GLMs)

PRIMER-E version 6.1.5

Producing and analysing of Cluster analysis, Analysis of similarity (ANOSIM), Similarity percentage routines (SIMPER), Abundance-biomass comparisons (ABC).