

Gabriel Dax Anderson



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seafly.zone

EDUCATION

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

June 2025

B.S. Marine Sciences; 4-year Frost Scholar Fellowship

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Watershed Stewards Program**, *Central Coast Wetlands Group, Moss Landing, CA* 2025–2026
- ❖ Conducted fish, vegetation, eDNA, crab pot, and BRUV surveys for CA EMPA monitoring
 - ❖ Lead volunteer groups and individually restored native dune habitat on State and Federal beaches
 - ❖ Collected soil and water samples and assisted with CRAM at 70+ remote CA estuaries for EPA's NWCA
- Civilian Drone Pilot**, *Fantastic Data LLC, California* 2025
- ❖ Pilot & safe operations consultant for experimental automated drone network
- Research Assistant**, *White Lab, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA* 2024–Present
- ❖ Designed & created K-12 NGSS ecology lessons; developed & recorded SCUBA videos
- Docent**, *NOAA Coastal Discovery Center, San Simeon, CA* 2024
- ❖ National marine sanctuary interpretation for K-12 & general public audiences
- Principal Investigator**, *Capstone Research Project, Cal Poly, Pismo Beach, CA* 2023–2024
- ❖ Mapped sites monthly using drone structure-from-motion (SfM) photogrammetry
 - ❖ Collected GPS data to calculate change in each site's relative elevation & sand volume
- Research Assistant**, *Marine Conservation Lab, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA* 2021–Present
- ❖ Lead intertidal population surveys of the overharvested Pismo clam (*Tivela stultorum*)
 - ❖ Developed & tested husbandry methods & maintained long-term aquaculture aquaria
- Drone Technician**, *Woodlands Conservancy, New Orleans & Belle Chasse, LA* 2021–Present
- ❖ Mapped recovery of degraded bottom-land hardwood forest across SE Louisiana
 - ❖ Piloted quadcopters & fixed-wing UAVs near controlled military airspace
- Principal Investigator**, *Coral Recovery Study, Lizard Island Research Station, Australia* 2023
- ❖ Quantified bleached coral recovery via subtidal surveys & analysis of historic data
 - ❖ Sole-author publication with *Frontiers in Marine Science* (DOI: 10.3389/fmars.2024.1509455)
- Research Assistant**, *Kurfess Lab, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo County, CA* 2022–2023
- ❖ Tracked tiger shark migration with UAVs; conducted flight readiness reviews
- Research Assistant**, *Physical Oceanography Lab, Cal Poly, Morro Bay, CA* 2022–2023
- ❖ Mapped native & invasive marine & coastal plant species across Morro Bay estuary
 - ❖ Planned & executed drone mapping runs with mix of open-source & commercial apps
- Drone & Field Technician**, *Patsch Lab, CSU Channel Islands, Central & Southern CA* 2020–2022
- ❖ Mapped geomorphologic change & tracked visitor abundance across 58 CA beaches

CERTIFICATIONS & LICENSES

Queensland, AUS Small Boat Operator License, *Queensland Dept. of Transport* since 2023; **Scientific SCUBA Diver**, *AAUS* since 2022; **Wilderness First Aid**, *NOLS* since 2021; **Motorboat Operator Training Course**, *SBSA* since 2021; **California Boating Card** #B632136562, *CA Boating & Waterways* since 2021; **Part 107 Commercial Drone Operator License** #4548017, *FAA* since 2021; **CPR & AED Certified** *American Red Cross* since 2021; **California Driver's License** since 2019; **SCUBA OW I** #16080Q9320, *PADI* since 2016; **Sea Fly Solutions LLC, California sole proprietor** since 2025