
Paige Kelly



PhD Candidate

Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies

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Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems CRC

Paige Kelly is a student at the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania & Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems CRC. Paige's PhD research is examining the co-occurrence of salps and Antarctic krill in the Southern Ocean; she is applying a range of techniques from classic microscopy to chemical assays such as bomb calorimetry and stable isotope analysis, and finally incorporating modelling designed to understand energy flow to higher predators. In particular, Paige will examine two important energy pathways in the Southern Ocean: that which moves primary production through krill to top predators and the alternative and poorly understood HNAN-salps-higher predators pathway. If reduced duration and thickness of sea ice eventually reduce krill biomass in the Southern Ocean, then salps could become the biomass-dominant species; however, at present our understanding of salps in the ecosystem is very poor. Paige's research is both timely and important for addressing this issue. With the award Paige will be attending two conferences, the 3rd International Symposium On Krill and the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR) Biology Symposium 2017.