

Curriculum Vitae for Robert (Robby) C. Thigpen

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Email: Robert-Thigpen@UrbanHeadwaters.com

Education: B.A. Appalachian State University, 2006
 ➤ Major: Anthropology, with concentration in Applied Anthropology
 ➤ Minor: Biology

Scholarships and Grants:

- | | |
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| ➤ (2004) Gilman International Scholarship | 5000.00 |
| ➤ (2005) Appalachian State University Office of Undergraduate Research | 1605.00 |
| ➤ (2006) Appalachian State University Prestigious Scholars | 750.00 |
| ➤ (2006) Sigma XI (The Scientific Research Society) | 600.00 |

Languages:

- Spanish: moderate
- Kiswahili: moderate
- Kriol: Excellent

Professional Affiliations:

- Association of Southeastern Biologists
- Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute
- Sigma XI The Scientific Research Society
- The Southern Anthropological Society

Professional Experience in Biology

Northern Fishermen's Co-operative Society Ltd. of Belize

(1/2005—8/2005) **Applied Anthropology Internship:** I worked on a lobster aqua-culture project on Caye Caulker, Belize. My duties included feeding juvenile lobsters, maintaining facility, collecting juvenile lobsters from "Witham" collectors, collecting data and working with fishermen in all capacities of the fishery as well as assess possible future research opportunities in Belize.

Stable Isotope Analysis of Commercially Important Marine Invertebrates in the Seagrass

Meadows of Northern Belize (4/2006—2/2007) Co-PI: R. P. Creed. I collected plant, animal and algal samples from the seagrass meadows in the vicinity of Caye Caulker, Belize during the months of April—August of 2007. I used the NFCS facilities and worked with fishermen to collect samples. Upon returning to the US, I prepared samples for SIA analysis.

Skills:

- GPS
- Scuba
- First Aid and CPR Instructor
- Wilderness First Responder
- Excel
- Statview
- Delorme X-MAP

Selected Work Experience:

- **Seismic Land Management-Graduation-current**
 1. Sedgwick 3D (Simpson formation) Worked local government to acquire road and highway permits. Permitted landowners and surface tenants in prospect. Trained new cartographer in use of X-MAP. Managed timeline and permitting for Illinois Township and other aspects of prospect.
 2. Udall 3D (Simpson formation) Researched the last of the minerals leases and leased and permitted stragglers on Udall 3D prospect. Managed drill crew, surveyors and seismic crews. Also coordinated access for client, surveyors, drill crew and seismic crew onto properties. Surveyed and assessed any additional damages to tracts and acted as advocate for landowners in disputes. Revised map using Delorme X-MAP. Projects 2-4 were worked in tandem.
 3. Ayres 3D (Simpson formation) Assessed any additional damages and coordinated for additional payment from client and acted as advocate for landowners.
 4. Rock 3D (Simpson formation) assessed any additional damages and coordinated for additional payment from client and acted as advocate for landowners.
 5. Chipmunk 3D (Nebraska formation) Coordinated surveyors and drill crew on Chipmunk 3D prospect in Colby, Kansas. Acted as liaison between land owners and client to coordinate and assess any additional damages and payments. Permitted hard to get land owners in order to keep the project running smoothly and on schedule.
 6. Performed chain of title research and leased minerals (Bakken formation) on Fort Berthold Indian Reservation in New Town, ND. Also coordinated between tribes (Hidasta & Arikara) and family alliances and with the Bureau of Indian Affairs to facilitate ease of transition for seismic permitting and helped locate old burials, tee pee rings etc to avoid disturbance of said items and report to state anthropologist.

My work experience was diverse prior to my attending Appalachian State University.

- **Commercial Fisherman**
Early eighties
Gill netted for Shad (*Alosa sapidissima*) and Spottail (*Sciaenops ocellatus*)
between 5 Fathoms (McClellanville, South Carolina) and Santee Delta
Channel netted for shrimp (Winyah Bay, South Carolina)
Penaeus aztecus, *Penaeus Litopenaeus*
Crabbed (Winyah Bay, South Carolina) *Callinectes sapidus*
- **Lugoff Paraflyte Club**
(1984—1993)
Skydiving instructor
- **Red Cross**
(1990—present)
Community First Aid and CPR instructor
- **Well drilling and bridge building projects in West Pokot, Kenya**
(1996)
- **Whitewater raft guide**
(2000—2003)
Class five Guides. Checked out on Ocoee, Nolichucky, Pigeon, Watauga and Doe
Rivers; and Wilson Creek

Guest Speaker:

- 2008- **September 26: Belize Fisheries Department Lobster research group Belize City, Belize**
Title: Water Flux in the Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*) a Fisheries Sustainability Concern.
- 2008- **January 12 English Department, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO**
Title: Rhetoric and the Environment
- 2006- **January 4-6 – 2nd Biannual Marine Science for Teachers Workshop, Hugh Parkey Foundation’s Educational Outreach Program Spanish Bay Conservation & Research Center, Spanish Lookout Caye, Belize**
Title: Marine Science is for all Belizeans

Presentations at professional conferences:

- 2005- **S. Appalachian Conf. on Arthropod Biology, UNC- Asheville, Asheville, NC**
Title: Sexual dimorphism in adolescent *Panulirus argus* (with S. R. Tuberty)
- 2005- **State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research Symposium, NCSU Raleigh, NC**
Title: Belize: Evolution in Invertebrate Fishing Technologies
- 2006- **Belize National Marine Science Symposium, Belize City, Belize**
Title: Belize: Common Practices and Sustainability Issues among Belizean Lobster Fishermen (with S. R. Tuberty)

2006- 59th Meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute, Belize City, Belize

Title: Non-lethal Methodology for Stable Isotope Analysis of Marine Invertebrates (with R. P. Creed)

2007- Association of Southeastern Biologist, USC, Columbia, SC

Title: Measuring Ontogenetic Shift in the Diet of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*) from Peurulus Stage through Adult using Stable Isotope Analysis (with R. P. Creed)

2007- Association of Southeastern Biologist, USC, Columbia, SC

Title: Technique for Non-lethal Stable Isotope Analysis of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*) and Stone Crab (*Menippe mercenaria*) (with R. Creed)

2007- Association of Southeastern Biologist, USC, Columbia, SC

Title: Prey size selection in juvenile Caribbean spiny lobster *Panulirus argus* (with T. Richardson)

Publications in Symposia Proceedings:

Thigpen III, R. C. and S.R. Tuberty. 2006. *Belize: Common Practices and Sustainability Issues among Belizean Lobster Fishermen*. Proceedings of the 1st Belize National Marine Science Symposium

Creed, R. P., and R. C. Thigpen III, 2006. *Non-lethal Methodology for Stable Isotope Analysis of Spiny Lobsters (*Panulirus argus*)*. Proceedings of the 59th annual meeting of the Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute.

Manuscripts in preparation:

Thigpen III, R. C. and R. P. Creed — *Non-lethal Tissue extraction Methodology for Stable Isotope Analysis of Caribbean Spiny Lobsters (*Panulirus argus*) and the Stone Crab (*Menippe mercenaria*)* (for *Crustaceana*)

Thigpen III, R. C. and R. P. Creed—*Stable Isotope Analysis Shows Ontogenetic Diet Shift of the Caribbean Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*)* (for *J. of Crustacean Biology*)

Research Publicity:

Channel 5 News Belize TV station incorrectly titled me in photograph:

URL: http://www.channel5belize.com/archive_detail_story.php?story_id=15544

The *Journal of the American Scientist*:

URL: <http://www.sigmaxi.org/about/news/SXT06ND.pdf>

ASU News:

URL: <http://www.news.appstate.edu/2006/10/02/community-service/>

References:**USA**

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Additional references are available upon request.