

2022 NARWC Vice Chair Board Nominees

Timothy Frasier, St. Mary's University

Tim Frasier is a professor in the department of Biology at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He has been studying North Atlantic right whales since 1999. Although he is interested in all things whale-related, and has been involved in aerial- and vessel-based surveys, his focus is on genetics. His lab houses the archival tissue and DNA bank for the species, and his research focuses on using genetics/genomics to aid population monitoring (through things like individual identification and parentage analyses), as well as to identify the degree to which genetic characteristics (e.g., low diversity and/or inbreeding) are limiting species recovery.

Heather Pettis, Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life at the New England Aquarium.

Heather Pettis is a Research Scientist in the Kraus Marine Mammal Conservation Program and has been studying North Atlantic right whales since 1999. Heather's primary research interests are using visual health assessments to examine trends in right whale health at both the individual and species levels and to investigate the impact of anthropogenic injuries on right whale health and survival over time. She played an integral role in the development of the visual health assessment technique for right whales and has advised researchers in the development of assessments for other cetacean species. She has served as the executive administrator for the North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium since 2004 and has supported researchers in the development of other single species focused consortia. She currently serves as an alternate member of the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team.