



## PERSONAL INFORMATION



Verdiana Vellani

📍 Italy

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Sex: F | Date of birth: 08/01/1997 Trieste (TS) Italy | Nationality: Italian

## MAIN WORK EXPERIENCES

May 2025 – March 2034

**Research Collaborator for CoNISMa** for the TERNA ELBA-CONTINENTE project (C-3972).

Jan. 2024 – Jan. 2025

**Collaboration at the University of Trieste for the Research Project** ‘Support for marine monitoring analysis activities of Trezze and Duino Cliffs’, Life Sciences Department, University of Trieste, Italy.

Jan. 2023 – Jan. 2024

**Collaboration at the University of Trieste for the Research Project** ‘Analysis of photographic samples from the hard bottom monitoring (H1170) in the ZPS/ZSC IT3330009 Trezze di San Pietro e Bardelli’, Life Sciences Department, University of Trieste, Italy.

June 2023 – July 2023

**Occasional collaboration for CoNISMa.** Analysis of seabed ROV videographic samples and of macrozoobenthos sorting activities, project ‘MONITA’ FO\_3 action.

Nov. 2022 – Oct. 2025

**PhD student in Marine Ecotoxicology – University of Trieste.** PhD Program in Environmental Life Sciences. Main topic: Ecotoxicological responses of climate change and chemical pollution on marine reef-forming organisms in the Mediterranean

April 2022 – April 2025

**Collaborator for CoNISMa** for the TERNA MONITA project (C-3630). Implementation of the Marine Environmental Monitoring Plan related to the construction of the Italy – Montenegro optical fiber connection (MONITA).

19<sup>th</sup> April – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2022

**Self-employment contract in occasional collaboration for CoNISMa.** Activities: Marine sediment sampling activity. Project: MONITA (MONTenegro – ITALY).

Sept. 2021 – April 2022

**Research Assistant – University of Trieste,** Department of Life Sciences, Research Project ‘Mitigation and monitoring of the interaction between artisanal fishing and the fish fauna, the protected species of aquatic avifauna and the benthic habitats of Natura 2000 sites (MITFISH -N2K)’ – PO FEAMP Measure 1.40 – Project code 071 / RBN / 20 – CUP D48D20000730009. Co-supervisor for a master’s thesis entitled: ‘Long term analysis of the rocky subtidal microbenthic assemblages: a case study of the MPA of Miramare’.

## OTHER WORK EXPERIENCES

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April 2022 – October 2023	<b>Writing environmental-themed articles for a periodical magazine</b> for the magazine: “Nuova Iniziativa Isontina”, Gorizia – Italy.
July 2021	<b>Reception service</b> for ‘AF Management’ in Banca Intesa San Paolo, Gorizia – Italy
June 2021	<b>Hostess/Promoter</b> for ‘Mode’ event marketing agency, Trieste – Italy
2021 / 2022	<b>Private tuition / Tutoring</b>
October 2019	<b>Hostess/Promoter</b> for ‘One Ocean Foundation’, Trieste – Italy
September 2019	<b>Grape harvest</b> at ‘Azienda Agricola Mauro Drius’, Cormons – Italy
June - July 2018	<b>Hostess/Promoter</b> at ‘Palmanova Outlet Village’, Palmanova – Italy
September 2016 - March 2017	<b>Bartender</b> at ‘Full Gass bar’, Trieste – Italy
Sept. – Dec. 2015	<b>Bartender</b> at ‘Al Dragone’, Cormons – Italy
August – Sept. 2015	<b>Grape harvest</b> at ‘Azienda Agricola Mauro Drius’, Cormons – Italy
2009 – in progress	<b>Management, organization, and reception service</b> at ‘Bed and Breakfast Morena’, family business, Cormons – Italy

## FURTHER INFORMATION

**Speaker at a congress**

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28 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup> August 2022	<b>Oral presentation of the master thesis project at the 32nd ESCPB Congress.</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	<b>Oral presentation of the master thesis project at YOUMARES 13</b> , the conference for young marine researchers, Berlin Germany.
12 <sup>th</sup> -14 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	<b>Oral presentation at ‘Incontro dei Dottorandi e Giovani Ricercatori in Ecologia e Scienze dei Sistemi Acquatici’.</b>
11 <sup>th</sup> October 2023	<b>Oral presentation at ‘2° Annual Workshop SETAC Italian Language Branch’</b> at Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Rome Italy.
7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	<b>Oral presentation at ‘Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry’ SETAC Europe 34<sup>th</sup> annual meeting</b> , Seville, Spain.
2 <sup>nd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	<b>Poster presentation at ‘European Coral Reef Symposium’ ECRS 2024</b> , in Naples, Italy
11-12 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	<b>Poster presentation at Società Italiana di Biologia Marina (SIBM)</b> , Naples IT.
1-4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	<b>Poster presentation at ‘International Temperate Reefs symposium’ ITRS 2025</b> , Brest, France.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

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- October/November 2024 **Internship as visiting PhD student** at University of Milano Bicocca (Italy). Topic: biomarkers analysis and chlorophyll contents in tropical corals.
- June 2024 – Sept. 2024 **Internship abroad as visiting PhD student** at the National Institute of Biology (NIB) in Piran, Slovenia. Topic: Ecotoxicological analysis on Mediterranean corals and the effect of heatwaves, from comet assay to biomarkers. Project funded by a Marine Animal Forest (MAF) World COST Action's scholarship for travel.
- February 2024 – May 2024 **Erasmus + Traineeship as visiting PhD student** Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark. Topic: microsensors in the coral gastric of tropical corals; effects of heatwaves.
- October 2023 **Short-term doctoral mobility with the European program ERASMUS+** Period carried out at the National Institute of Biology (NIB) in Piran, Slovenia. Topic: Ecotoxicological tests on marine calcifying organisms.
- June 2022 – Sept. 2022 **Graduate internship abroad** University Malaysia Terengganu (Malaysia), Faculty of Science and Marine Environment, and Prince of Songkhla University (Thailand), Faculty of Environmental Management, Coastal Oceanography and Climate Change Research Center (COCC). Topic: how exposure to hypoxia and anoxia conditions can affect corals' health.
- Sept. 2018 – May 2021 **Global Change Ecology – Master's degree** University of Trieste. Final mark: full marks with honors (110/110 cum laude). Internship at Stazione Zoologica Napoli - Ischia Marine Centre (IMC) – Villa Dohrn (from July to December 2020). Thesis title: “Physiological response of corals exposed to a combination of heat waves and microplastics. A Mediterranean case study with *Astroides calycularis* (Pallas, 1766)”.
- Sept. 2015 – Oct. 2018 **Science and Technology for Environment and Nature – Bachelor's degree** University of Trieste. Internship at MaRHE Center | Marine Research and High Education (Magoodhoo, Maldives) - Università degli Studi di Milano-Bicocca (1 month in November 2017). The internship took place during the "Tropical Marine Ecology" course. Thesis title: “Analisi delle tecniche di ripristino di scogliere coralline degradate” (Analysis of the restoration techniques of degraded coral reefs).
- Sept. 2010 – June 2015 **State Higher Secondary Education Institute “G. D’Annunzio – M. Fabiani”** in Gorizia – address: Environmental Biotechnology. Internship carried out at OGS – Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e di Geofisica Sperimentale, Trieste (from May to July 2014). Thesis focused on mercury pollution in the Gulf of Trieste and bioaccumulation in Mediterranean mussels (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*).

## QUALIFICATIONS

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- November 2021 **Qualified to practice as a Biologist**  
Section A. University of Trieste - Italy.

## OTHER

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- 9-17<sup>th</sup> December 2024 **Coral Bleaching Automated Stress System (CBASS) workshop.** Magoodhoo, Maldives - Marine Research and High Education Center.
- 4-9<sup>th</sup> June 2023 **Training internship in scientific diving on Marine Biology and Ecology.**  
Topic: Marine Bioconstructions. Palinuro (SA), Italy.
- 8-12<sup>th</sup> May 2023 **Workshop: Primer 7 software,** Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn, Naples Italy.  
Topics: data pretreatment, clustering, ordinations, etc.
- December 2020 **Public Science Communication Course.** University of Trieste and ‘Scuola Internazionale Superiore di Studi Avanzati’, 25 h
- November 2018 **Coral Restoration Course** at Blue Corner Dive - Lembongan, Bali, Indonesia.
- September - October 2018 **Scuba diving for monitoring *Pinna nobilis*** at "Area Marina Protetta Miramare", Trieste - Italy
- November 2017 **Stage of Tropical Marine Ecology.** Magoodhoo, Maldives - Marine Research and High Education Center
- September 2017 **Summer Diving Scientific School** at Panarea - Italy, ECCSEL Lab.
- September 2016 **Volunteer experience** at the "Civico Acquario Marino di Trieste", Trieste - Italy
- August - September 2016 **Volunteer experience** at "Fondazione Cetacea Onlus", Riccione - Italy.

## AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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- January 2024 **Cost Action CA20102 MAF World - Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM) Grant.** Travel grant for the project “Biochemical responses of the Mediterranean reef former *Cladocora caespitosa* to summer temperatures”
- October 2023 **“Majorca” Degree Award - ed. 2023, 1<sup>st</sup> place**  
The recognition aims to promote the advancement of knowledge and research in the field of marine biology and sea protection among young people. First prize for the master thesis.
- June 2022 **“Paolo Brancaccio Scholarship - 2022 Edition” – 2<sup>nd</sup> place**  
The scholarship, aimed at encouraging and supporting the training course, is reserved for young graduates who want to conduct research in the field of marine sciences.
- April 2022 **“Il pianeta Azzurro” Award for thesis in Marine Biology - V Ed. 2021, 3<sup>rd</sup> place**  
Award for a master's degree thesis in the field of Marine Biology that intends to make use of underwater investigations for its implementation.
- February 2022 **"Ennio Vio" Study Award - ed. 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> place**  
The study award is aimed at students graduating from the Master's Degree course in Ecology of Global Changes at the University of Trieste (Italy), who have written a thesis that covers topics related to Marine Biology. First prize for the master thesis.
- January 2022 **“Eugenio Rosmann” Degree Award - ed. 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> place**  
awarded by the "Associazione Ambientalista Eugenio Rosmann", Monfalcone (Italy). First prize for the thesis entitled: “Physiological response of corals exposed to a combination of heat waves and microplastics. A Mediterranean case study with *Astroides calycularis* (Pallas, 1766)”.

PERSONAL SKILLS

Mother tongue(s)  
Other language(s)

Italian	UNDERSTANDING		SPEAKING		WRITING
	Listening	Reading	Spoken interaction	Spoken production	
English	B1/B2 level	B1/B2 level	B1/B2 level	B1/B2 level	B1/B2 level

Communication skills

Good communication skills gained through my experiences in volunteer period and in some course, also abroad.

Digital skills

SELF-ASSESSMENT				
Information processing	Communication	Content creation	Safety	Problem solving
Advanced level	Advanced/ Intermediate	Advanced level	Advanced level	Advance/ Intermediate
<b>Level: Independent user</b>				

Good command of office suite (word processor, spread sheet, presentation software). Enter level command of photo editing software gained as an amateur photographer (Lightroom and Photoshop). ECDL course – the computer licence (arguments: computer fundamentals, data processing, Internet browsing, electronic and calculation sheets, online communication and collaboration, database management, connection building). Knowledge of the Quantum GIS platform, to acquire and analyze georeferenced data. Knowledge of the R studio software, useful for programming for statistical and graphical processing. Masterclass Excel (Excel a 360°) by Tutored.

Others skills

Organizational skills; Critical thinking; Problem solving skills; Teamwork skills; High capacities in fieldwork, in particular underwater (scientific diving).

CERTIFICATES

Driving licence

B. April 2015

Diving licences

**PADI licence - Open Water Diver** at Sistiana Diving, Italy. July 2016  
**PADI licence - Advanced Open Water Diver**, Sistiana Diving, Italy. July 2017  
**PADI licence - Deep Diver** at Sistiana Diving, Italy. July 2017  
**Digital Underwater Photography Licence** at Sistiana Diving, Italy. June 2018  
**Coral Restoration Course and Diving Licence** at Blue Corner Dive, Lembongan, Bali, Indonesia. PADI Coral Restoration licence. November 2018  
**Oxygen Provider licence** at Marco Polo Diving Rijeka, Croatia. May 2022.  
**ESD - European Scientific Diver licence** by A.I.O.S.S. (Associazione Italiana Operatori Scientifici Subacquei). May 2022

Others

**BLSD Course.** Basic Life Support - early Defibrillation (DAE) Course. May 2021  
**Environmental School.** 12 online seminars for in-depth analysis of multiple environmental issues (ARPA FVG) October – November 2021  
**Webinar** FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) and General Fisheries Commission of the Mediterranean. Training course: identification of microbenthic invertebrates incidentally caught during fishing operation  
**1st level Apnea Course.** International certificate CMAS - December 2022

## SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS

OrcID profile: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6883-2258>

- January 2026  
Piccardo M., Motta G., **Vellani V.**, Avian M., Rogelja M., Bevilacqua S. Can nuisance species profit from new materials for marine artificial structures? A pilot study on settlement of *Chrysaora hysoscella* on biochar-based concrete. *Marine Environmental Research* 213 (2026) 107623. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marenvres.2025.107623>
- November 2025  
**Vellani V.**, Piccardo M., Provenza F., Anselmi S., Pitacco V., Lipej L., Bevilacqua S., Renzi M. Combined Climate and Chemical Stressors: How Spatial Variability Shapes the Response of *Ficopomatus enigmaticus* (Fauvel, 1923) to Dimethyl Sulfoxide (DMSO) and Heatwaves, and What It Means for Ecotoxicology. *Journal of Xenobiotics (JoX)* 15(6). <https://doi.org/10.3390/jox15060181>
- April 2025  
Motta G.†, **Vellani V.**†, Piccardo M., De Luca M., Ciriaco S., Segarich M., Peratoner L., Spoto M., Terlizzi A., Renzi M. and Bevilacqua S. Monitoring the Status of Mesophotic Biogenic Reefs in the Northern Adriatic Sea: Comparing a Biotic Index and Multivariate Community Patterns. *Environments* 2025, 12(4), <https://doi.org/10.3390/environments12040124>
- March 2025  
Bevilacqua S., Piccardo M., Motta G., **Vellani V.** (2024). Analisi di campioni fotografici sui popolamenti macrobentonici ed elaborazione dei dati raccolti. Report tecnico- scientifico. Progetto di monitoraggio Trezze S. Pietro e Bardelli e Falesie di Duino – II. Area Marina Protetta Miramare – Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia, pp. 25
- December 2024  
**Vellani V.**, Oliva M., Pretti C., Renzi M. Stress-Related Molecular Biomarkers to Monitor the Effects of Global Changes on Calcifying Reef-Forming Organisms: A Review in the Mediterranean. *Journal of Marine Science and Engineering*. 2025; 13(1), 4. <https://doi.org/10.3390/jmse13010004>
- April 2024  
Bevilacqua S., Piccardo M., **Vellani V.** (2024) Analisi di campioni fotografici su bioconcrezioni delle trezze ed elaborazione dei dati raccolti. Progetto di Monitoraggio Trezze S. Pietro e Bardelli, Area Marina Protetta Miramare – Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia, pp. 19
- March 2024  
**Vellani V.**, Cuccaro A., Oliva M., Pretti C., Renzi M. Assessing combined effects of long-term exposure to copper and marine heatwaves on the reef-forming serpulid *Ficopomatus enigmaticus* through a biomarker approach. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 201, 116269. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marpolbul.2024.116269>
- February 2024  
Piccardo M., **Vellani V.**, Anselmi S., Grazioli E., Renzi M., Terlizzi A., Pittura L., D’Errico G., Regoli F., Bevilacqua S. The application of the Weight-Of-Evidence approach for an integrated ecological risk assessment of marine protected sites. *Ecological Indicators*, 159, 111676. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2024.111676>
- January 2024  
Piccardo M., **Vellani V.**, Anselmi S., Bentivoglio T., Provenza F., Renzi M., Bevilacqua S. The First Evidence of the Water Bioremediation Potential of *Ficopomatus enigmaticus* (Fauvel 1923): From Threat to Resource? *Water*, 16(3), 368. <https://doi.org/10.3390/w16030368>.
- June 2022  
Bevilacqua S., **Vellani V.**, Fabbriozio P., Falace A., Ciriaco S., Segarich M., Spoto M. Multidecadal monitoring highlighted long-term stability of protected assemblages within a Mediterranean marine reserve. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 274, 107946. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2022.107946>

Io sottoscritta Verdiana Vellani autorizzo l'utilizzo dei dati personali e professionali riportati in questo curriculum per le esigenze di selezione e per una migliore valutazione della propria candidatura ai fini del Decreto Legislativo 196/2003. Ai sensi dell'art. 15, comma 1 della Legge 12/11/2011, n. 183 le certificazioni rilasciate dalla P.A. in ordine a stati, qualità personali e fatti sono valide e utilizzabili solo nei rapporti tra privati; nei rapporti con gli Organi della Pubblica Amministrazione e i gestori di pubblici servizi, i certificati sono sempre sostituiti dalle dichiarazioni sostitutive di certificazione o dall'atto di notorietà di cui agli artt. 46 e 47 del DPR 445/2000.

In fede