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Dr. HEALY HAMILTON is a biodiversity scientist at the California Academy of Sciences, and an adjunct professor in the Department of Geography at San Francisco State University. She directs the Academy's Center for Applied Biodiversity Informatics (CABI), a program that integrates biological and geospatial data for biodiversity research, conservation, and education. CABI's focus is on the developing field of Conservation Biogeography, which investigates geographic patterns of biodiversity in the past, present, and future for science-based conservation planning. Current research projects include developing methods for forecasting species range shifts induced by climate change to support the design and implementation of large landscape wildland networks, which represent a central strategy for biodiversity adaptation to climate change. Another set of projects in the Hamilton lab apply comparative DNA sequence analysis to questions about the taxonomy, evolution and conservation of groups of aquatic organisms, including river dolphins, seahorses, pipefish, and octopuses.

Dr. Hamilton received her masters degree from Yale University and her Ph.D. in Integrative Biology from the University of California, Berkeley. For both degrees she conducted extensive field research in Latin America, and she continues expedition research today across a range of marine environments. Dr. Hamilton is a former U.S. Fulbright Fellow and a Switzer Foundation Environmental Leadership Grantee.