

Fiona Melady

5 November 2020

Scientific Literature SLO Reflection

The artifact that I selected to represent the Scientific Literature Student Learning Outcome is the poster presentation on Sandbar and Dusky Shark fisheries and their sustainability. I chose this artifact as it was an assignment from one of my favorite courses, Marine Biology, and because I used a variety of scientific sources in the writing and compiling of this poster, as well as the analysis of those sources. I examined how the scientific literature I cited related to the data I was analyzing and the questions I was answering, as well as the overall picture. The learning outcome relating to scientific literature is such that students must be able to find, compile, correctly cite, and evaluate relevant primary academic literature in biology, and I believe that this artifact shows that I have met this outcome due to the variety of biological sources used and cited throughout each section of the poster, including the figures. I was also able to sufficiently connect different sources to each other based on their subject matter and their importance, and was able to discern important pieces of information from each source. One thing I learned while creating this artifact was that I very much enjoy reading and writing about marine fisheries and sharks, which are my all-time favorite marine animal. In fact, I hope to work in shark conservation and/or shark research in the future. I also learned that a good scientific poster should not be difficult to understand and interpret.

One strength of this artifact includes the amount of detailed information about Sandbar and Dusky Shark fisheries, their history, the stakeholders, economic and political considerations. Another strength would be the clarity of the proposed solution as it was written in a way that is easy to understand. One weakness may include the amount of text on the poster compared to the average scientific poster for a poster session. There is a lot of text on this poster and if I were to recreate it I would attempt to scale down the amount of text, such as through the use of bullet

points rather than full sentences. On the other hand, each section for this poster was required by the rubric for the assignment, and it is difficult to articulate some of this information primarily through figures. If I recreated it, then I would attempt to use more figures to describe the information to the best of my ability. One thing I like about this artifact is the way I cited my sources in-text such that they are interspersed sufficiently throughout the sentences and corresponding sections.