



“It’s exciting to know that we may be archiving a set of tissues that could help identify what may be an emerging contaminant or a disease that wasn’t detected 20 years ago in the marine environment.”

Rebecca Pugh, M.S.

QUICK FACTS:

- The *DWH/NRDA* samples take up four of the bank’s -80 °C upright freezers and one LN₂ vapor-phase (-150 °C) freezer.
- The specimen bank houses 12,400 frozen marine mammal samples collected from more than 1,200 animals as part of *DWH* incident.
- At the request of NOAA, the Marine Environmental Specimen Bank has shipped more than 3,000 samples to researchers for analysis.
- In total, the bank stores over 85,000 frozen samples representing 49 species of marine mammals, 10 species of sea birds, 5 species of sea turtles, and several species of mussels, oysters and fish.



Amanda Moors and Rebecca Pugh prepare samples for the NIST Marine Environmental Specimen Bank.

