

8th SOUTHERN AFRICAN SHARK & RAY SYMPOSIUM



PROGRAMME: **Day 1, Tuesday 16th September**

08:50 KEYNOTE: Kim Bassos-Hull – Connecting for conservation: New discoveries in pelagic ray biology and ecology while building global capacity	
Biology, physiology & ecology	09:30 Mandy Lombard: A research framework to improve knowledge of reproductive biology and movement ecology in threatened chondrichthyans
	09:45 Edward Bevan: Reef manta ray reproduction: guiding conservation through underwater ultrasound-based monitoring in southern Mozambique
	10:00 François Lampen: Using elasmobranch ultrasonography to identify ecologically important habitat types and reproductive activity in the smooth hound shark (<i>Mustelus mustelus</i>) and diamond ray (<i>Gymnura natalensis</i>)
	10:15 Kristina Naidoo: Development and comparison of gonadosomatic and hepatosomatic indices for sharks caught in the KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board bather protection programme
	10:30 Leigh de Necker: The trophic dynamics of False Bay's top predators: Who eats who?
	10:45 Mark Fitzgibbon: Comparing subtidal and beach stranded shark egg case records in False Bay
11:00 GROUP PHOTOGRAPH (outdoor amphitheatre) FOLLOWED BY MORNING TEA	
Biology, physiology & ecology	11:30 Alison Kock: Investigating the ecological role of white sharks in a Cape fur seal rabies outbreak
	11:45 Anthony Bernard: Talk title changed; still confirming
	12:00 Jessica Morrison: Blueprints: Validating photo-identification for endemic blue stingrays as tool for monitoring a critical aggregation site
	12:15 Jule Buschmann: Manta ray cleaning ecology: Novel insights from long-term remote camera monitoring in southern Mozambique
	12:30 Stela Fernando: Breeding behaviour of <i>Narcine rierai</i> in Mozambique coast
	12:45 Megan Maroen: The first empirical population trend assessment of white sharks, <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> , in Gansbaai, South Africa
	13:00 Ralph Watson: Inter-dorsal fin lengths strongly correlate with other commonly-used length measurements in targeted elasmobranch species in South Africa
13:05 LUNCH	
Genetics	14:00 Juliana Klein: Population genomics of the spotted gully shark <i>Triakis megalopterus</i>
	14:15 Jessica Winn: Mitogenome sequencing reveals deep phylogeographic structure and a Northern Hemisphere origin in the common smoothhound shark <i>Mustelus mustelus</i>
	14:30 Kelvin Hull: Unravelling the evolutionary history and population demographics of the pyjama shark utilising genomic data
	14:45 Michaela van Staden: Molecular taxonomy of South Africa's catsharks: How far have we come?
	15:00 Karla Redelinghuys: Update on the species delimitation of whiplays (Genus: <i>Himantura</i>) in the Western Indian Ocean
	15:15 Maëva Grondin-Bergerat: Understanding the genetic connectivity of bronze whaler sharks in the Western Indian Ocean: insights from Reunion Island
15:30 AFTERNOON TEA	
Diversity	16:00 Josh Rambahiniarison: Updating ecological knowledge on sharks and rays in Comoros
	16:15 Laure Amelia Desire: Patterns in shark and ray diversity and abundance across Seychelles: A synthesis from stereo-BRUVs surveys
	16:30 Dércio Pequeno Maoze: Preliminary assessment of elasmobranch diversity using baited remote underwater video (BRUVs) in southern Inhambane, Mozambique
	16:35 Érica Tovela: Elasmobranch diversity and distribution in Mozambique: Insights from museum collections and eDNA monitoring surveys
	16:50 Melissa Nel: Evaluating elasmobranch community dynamics in Plettenberg Bay: A multi-method approach
	17:05 Abigail Eddy: Elasmobranch community structure on the continental slope offshore East London, South Africa
17:20 END OF DAY 1	
18:30 DINNER AT THE LOWLANDER (6 Worcester Street)	

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PROGRAMME: **Day 2, Wednesday 17th September**

08:50 KEYNOTE: Miguel Gonçalves – Protecting sharks and rays in Maputo National Park: Policy pathways for sustainable marine conservation	
Conservation & management	09:30 Steve Gerber: Elasmobranch spatial ecology in a global biodiversity hotspot
	09:45 Kristina Loosen: Advancing chondrichthyan conservation along the South African coastline: an eDNA metabarcoding approach
	10:00 Dylan Irlion: Integrating long-term datasets to estimate regional abundance of white sharks in southern Africa using continuous-time population models
	10:15 Naseeba Sidat: Supporting sustainable fisheries management and shark and ray conservation at Zalala Beach, in Mozambique
	10:30 Riaan Cedras: Making shark and ray monitoring matter for iSimangaliso Marine Protected Area management
	10:45 Charles Lucas Makio: Beyond data: Building conservation impact through local community-led BRUV surveys
11:00 MORNING TEA	
Conservation & management	11:30 Aseeqah Davids: The effectiveness of BRUVs in detecting and monitoring inshore elasmobranch communities within Marine Protected Areas
	11:45 Jorge Siteo: Assessing shark and ray diversity and abundance: Long-term stereo-BRUV monitoring in Maputo National Park, Mozambique – implications for Marine Protected Area (MPA) management
	12:00 Nakia Cullain: Tracking transboundary movements of manta rays to inform marine spatial planning in Mozambique and South Africa
	12:15 Bruce Mann: Movement patterns of the flapnose houndshark <i>Scylliogaleus queckettii</i> in the Pondoland Marine Protected Area using both external dart tagging and acoustic telemetry
	12:30 Youri Ivann Mvomo Minko: Trophic ecology and nursery role of southern Gabonese waters for coastal sharks, critical data for marine spatial management
	12:45 Nick Clemo: Conservation genetics of scalloped hammerhead sharks in the Southwestern Indian Ocean
	13:00 Leigh de Necker: Safeguarding South Africa's Threatened Chondrichthyans
13:05 LUNCH	
Movement ecology	14:00 Ryan Daly: Breaking barriers: Transoceanic migration by a bull shark
	14:15 Stephanie Venables: Acoustic telemetry reveals spatial management priorities for bull sharks (<i>Carcharhinus leucas</i>) in Mozambique
	14:30 Alex Winkler: Crossing continental divides, habitat use of <i>Myliobatis aquila</i> in South Africa and Portugal, a comparative biogeographic movement analysis
	14:45 Alison Towner: Uncharted waters: An update on white shark movement in South Africa and a landmark dispersal event
	15:00 Chantel Elston: Blue stingrays in the Knysna Estuary: evidence for first ray pupping ground in South Africa
	15:15 Enrico Gennari: Use of passive acoustic telemetry on targeted and by-caught elasmobranch fishery species to inform future management strategies in South Africa
15:30 AFTERNOON TEA	
Movement ecology	16:00 Kevin Spiby: Insights into the movements of previously captive ragged-tooth sharks along the South African coastline
	16:15 Mia Hattingh: Habitat use by lesser guitarfish <i>Acroteriobatus annulatus</i> along the Kleinemonde coastline (Eastern Cape, South Africa)
	16:30 Stella Diamant: Understanding whale shark habitat use in Nosy Be, Madagascar: Insights from acoustic telemetry
	16:45 Ralph Watson: Site-fidelity and environmental patterns through observational data & photo-identification of <i>Bathytoshia brevicaudata</i> in Gansbaai
	17:00 Inge Adams: Release of a captive born short-tail stingray to the wild
17:05 END OF DAY 2	
18:30 INFORMAL DINNER AT MAJOR FRASERS (38 Somerset Street; for your own account)	

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PROGRAMME: **Day 3, Thursday 18th September**

08:50 KEYNOTE: Elisabeth Fahrni Mansur – Connecting minds, hearts, and hands through scientifically grounded, strategically planned educational outreach to create and sustain effective marine conservation solutions

Education, science engagement & comms	09:30	Judy Mann: Using communication to inspire care for the ocean – and sharks
	09:45	Ghofrane El Abyedh: Coasts of care: Fishing community-led conservation efforts to conserve sharks and rays in Cameroon
	10:00	Isaah Seidu: Local Ecological Knowledge and socio-economic drivers of migration of artisanal shark fishers in West Africa
	10:15	Nico Booyens: Justice4Jaws: Youth-led advocacy and outreach for shark conservation
	10:30	Justin Blake: Meet a real-life shark scientist – Lessons from 1,000+ online talks
	10:45	Wade Naude: Decolonising the terminology and language in marine conservation
	11:00	Charles Lucas Makio: Enhancing elasmobranch conservation awareness through education: Knowledge gains and attitude shifts among fishers and students in coastal Kenya
11:05 MORNING TEA		
Sharks & humans	11:30	Sarah Waries: Unpacking multi-stakeholder roles in managing the risk and repercussions of unprovoked shark bites
	11:45	Matt Dicken: The South African shark risk management strategy of KwaZulu-Natal
	12:00	Sébastien Jaquemet: Global shark risk management: where are we coming from and where do we go?
	12:15	Michaël Hoarau: Innovative tools for shark detection and risk mitigation in Reunion: Insights from the Centre Sécurité Requin
	12:30	Cicely Nagel: A comparative study of colour and contrast discrimination in oceanic blacktip and bronze whaler sharks
	12:45	Nadeem Nazurally: Sharks, cages, and concerns: Disentangling myths from evidence in aquaculture settings
	13:00	Matt Dicken: Political dimension of shark risk management in South Africa
13:05 LUNCH		
Fisheries & trade	14:00	Bernadine Everett: Collateral damage in the KwaZulu-Natal crustacean trawl fishery
	14:15	Nina Faure-Beaulieu: Shark and ray catches across South Africa's hake bottom trawl fishery: comparing observer and logbook catch records
	14:30	Abdalla Abdulla: Status of shark and ray landings in Tanzania and implications for management
	14:45	Elvinah Nyale: Interactions between the artisanal fishery and the Critically Endangered scalloped hammerhead shark in Kenya
	15:00	Oliver Wright: An interactive, data-driven platform for monitoring shark fin trade and detecting shark fin trafficking
	15:15	Simone Louw: South African shark and ray trade dynamics
15:30 AFTERNOON TEA		
Fisheries & trade	16:00	Warren Potts: Pro-environmental behavioural intervention improves angler catch and release practices and the health of released elasmobranchs
	16:15	Shanan Atkins: Quo vadis shark nets?
	16:30	Matt Farthing: Global meta-analysis for predicting post-release mortality in marine recreational fisheries
	16:45	Thembelihle Ndlovu: Long-term catch trends of the bull ray <i>Aetomylaeus bovinus</i> along the KwaZulu-Natal coast, South Africa
16:50 END OF DAY 3		
18:30 CLOSING DINNER AT HIGH CORNER (112 High Street)		