

Florenxia Cerutti, PhD
Marine science and conservation

PERSONAL DETAILS

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Linkedin and Academia: Florenxia Cerutti
ResearchGate: Florenxia Cerutti-Pereyra
Nationality: Italian and Mexican

KEY ATTRIBUTES

- Excellent communicator of complex data and results to people with diverse backgrounds.
- Comprehensive intercultural and international experiences (Mexico, Australia, Indonesia, Ecuador), worked in global teams.
- Multi-lingual: professional level of Spanish and English, intermediate French, basic Italian and Indonesian.
- Effective coordination of teams, analysis, monitoring, technical documents, and communication of results.
- Focused on fisheries, sharks and rays, and marine protected areas.
- Fast adaptation to new challenges and surroundings.
- Passionate about understanding marine systems and developing solutions for its management and conservation.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Marine Ecology, Charles Darwin University/Australian Institute of Marine Science. Darwin, Australia. 2013.

Thesis: Spatial ecology, genetic barcoding, and vulnerability of tropical Indo-West Pacific batoids, with a focus on Australian species.

Supervisors: Mark Meekan, Chris Austin, Kareyn Edyvane, Peter Kyne

Marine Biology- Science Degree, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Sur. La Paz, B.C.S. México. 2004.

Thesis: Trophic ecology and behavior of devil rays in the Gulf of California using stable isotope techniques. (CICIMAR-IPN).

Supervisor: Felipe Galván

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Marine ecologist. Charles Darwin Foundation for the Galapagos Islands. Puerto Ayora, Galapagos, Ecuador. 2017-2019

- Ongoing assessment of the vulnerability of chondrichthyan fish to the threat of climate change in the Tropical Eastern Pacific.
- Analyzed bycatch in artisanal longline fishery within the Galapagos Marine Reserve to understand its impacts on protected megafauna.

- Analyzed diver-operated video surveys to assess the effects of MPAs on sharks and fish assemblages.
- Led video surveys using SCUBA diving.
- Organized fieldwork including catching/tagging sharks.
- Prepared and delivered grants, papers and reports.
- Supervised interns and research assistants.
- Coordinated the logistics for international workshops.
- Advised education and outreach materials.

Fisheries consultant. Colectividad Razonatura, A. C. Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, México. 2016- 2017.

- Developed protocols for assessing the impact of spiny lobster fisheries on the environment in two marine protected areas.
- Organized and delivered environmental education programs to primary schools in remote locations of the Mexican Caribbean.

Principal scientist. Blue Core A.C. Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo, México. 2015- 2017.

- Led spotted eagle ray research and conservation in the Mexican Caribbean project.
- Coordinated a citizen science project for data collection and outreach.
- Led the assessment of divers' impacts on coral reefs in a marine park.
- Participated in coral reef health surveys (fish-ID) using AGGRA method.
- Coordinated two teams, their timelines, and fieldwork.
- Prepared and delivered grants, papers and reports.
- Delivered informative talks at community events, educational programs and as scientist on board with diving companies.

Field assistant. Universidad de Quintana Roo, Chetumal, Quintana Roo, México. 2014.

- Participated in visual surveys of seaweed meadows in shallow environments to assess coastal pollution.

Marine consultant. Conservation International-Indonesia. Raja Ampat, West Papua, Indonesia. 2013.

- Developed protocols for monitoring reef elasmobranchs in a network of marine protected areas.
- Produced a baseline of reef sharks and rays for the first Shark Sanctuary in Indonesia.
- Assessed effectiveness of marine protected areas for populations of sharks and rays using underwater videos.
- Identified key areas of aggregations of manta rays.
- Coordinated a multidisciplinary team to undertake fieldwork.
- Coordinated international science workshop.
- Delivered capacity building programs.

Marine biologist and PhD candidate. Charles Darwin University and Australian Institute of Marine Science. Darwin, Australia. 2007-2012.

- Managed a five-year long project including administration, budgeting, permits, grant proposals, and field work.
- Led field work: catching, sampling, tagging sharks and rays.
- Determined movement patterns and habitat use of juvenile and adult rays using passive acoustic monitoring.
- Identified nursery areas for juvenile rays in a marine park.
- Participated in visual surveys of reef sharks and rays using transects.
- Assessed the utility of DNA barcoding for identification of rays.
- Assessed the vulnerability of 16 species tropical rays to the risk of fishing and habitat degradation, and of research gaps and priorities of tropical rays in the Indo-West Pacific.
- Coordinated multi-cultural teams and activities during field work in remote locations.

Research assistant. Arafura Timor Research Facility. Charles Darwin University and Australian Institute of Marine Science. Darwin, Australia. 2006-2012.

- Participated in population genetics and phylogeny lab work.
- Participated in sawfish data collection.
- Managed and analyzed data for demography studies of whale sharks and manta rays.
- Led field work: external tagging, photographing, and sampling of manta rays and whale sharks while snorkeling.
- Participated in sediment sampling.
- Participated in tagging and nest surveying of marine turtles on nesting beaches.

Field assistant. Laboratory of Fish Ecology, CICIMAR-IPN. La Paz, B.C.S., México. 2001-2005.

- Participated and coordinated fisheries field work.
- Analyzed tissues samples for stable isotope studies.

EDUCATION and OUTREACH

Environmental writer. The Playa Times Newspaper. Playa del Carmen, Quintana Roo México. 2016-2018.

- Delivered informative articles in English on trendy topics related to conservation, science and environment for a non-expert audience.
<http://www.theplayatimes.com/author/florencia-cerutti/>

Environment education consultant. Manatus México, S. A. de C.V. Puerto Morelos, Quintana Roo, México. 2016-2017.

- Developed short-courses on environment and marine biology for recreational divers and guides for a better understanding and protection of local coral reefs and marine ecosystems.

English teacher at Centro Universitario Inglés. Quintana Roo, México. 2015-2016.

- Delivered intermediate English language (B1) classes to university students.

Science tutor. Northern Territory Medical Program Flinders University. Darwin, Australia. 2011- 2012.

- Developed biology, anatomy, and physiology topic content for medical program.

Science tutor and Lab demonstrator. School of Environmental and Life Sciences, Charles Darwin University. Darwin, Australia. 2008-2012.

- Tutored and assisted lab work for science undergraduate units: Anatomy and Physiology, Life of Cells, Medicinal Chemistry, Chemical Concepts, Design and Analysis of Biological Studies, Ecology of Plants, Introductory Marine Science, basic scientific methods and scientific thinking.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Cerutti-Pereyra, F.**, López-I., Sánchez-Rivera, G., Arvizu, X., Francisco-Ramos, V., Adame T., García-Carrillo, I. *In prep.* Effects of SCUBA divers on the coral reefs of a national park in the Mexican Caribbean. *Journal of Sustainable Tourism*.
- Salinas-de-León, P., Marín Jarrín, J., **Cerutti, F.**, Buglass, S., Bucaram, S., Cheung, W., Hickey, V., Medina, M., Pauly, D., Orellana, D., Ostregard, R., Stock, C., Witman, J., Worm, B. Jiménez-Uzategui, G., Keith, I., Martí-Puig, P., Bermudez, J., Andrade, S., Arnés-Urgellés, C., De la Hoz, C. Moya, A. *In prep.* Evolution of the Galapagos in the Anthropocene. *Science*
- **Cerutti, F.**, Moity, N., Dureuil, M., Ramírez-González, J, Marín-Jarrín, J, Reyes, H, Budd, K., Salinas-de-León, P. *Submitted.* The effects of experimental longline fishing on marine megafauna of the Galapagos Marine Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage site. *Marine and Coastal Management*.

- **Cerutti-Pereyra, F.** Bassos-Hull, K., Arvizu, X., García-Carrillo, I. 2019. Ciencia ciudadana apoyando la investigación y conservación de rayas águila en el caribe mexicano. *Revista Ecofronteras-ECOSUR*: 66- Mayo.
- **Cerutti-Pereyra, F.** Yanez, A.B., Ebert, D., Arnes-Urgelles, C. Salinas-de-Leon, P. 2018. New record and range extensión of the deepsea skate, *Bathyraja abyssicola*, in the Galapagos Islands. *Journal of Ocean Science Foundation*, 30, 85–89. <http://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1400761>
- Salinas-de-León, P., Philips, B., Ebert, D, Shivji, M., **Cerutti-Pereyra, F.**, Ruck, C., Fisher, C., Marsh, L. 2018. Deep-sea hydrothermal vents as natural egg-case incubators at the Galapagos Rift. *Scientific Reports*: 8.
- **Cerutti-Pereyra, F.** Bassos-Hull, K., Arvizu, X., Wilkinson. K., García-Carrillo, I., Perez-Jimenez, J., Heuter, R. 2017. First insight into spotted eagle ray (*Aetobatus narinari*) aggregations in the Mexican Caribbean using photo-ID. *Environmental Biology of Fishes*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10641-017-0694-y>
- **Cerutti-Pereyra, F.** Thums, M., Austin, C., Bradshaw, C., Stevens, J., Babcock, R., Pillans, R., and Meekan, M. 2013. Restricted movements of juvenile rays in the lagoon of Ningaloo Reef, Western Australia - evidence for the existence of a nursery. *Environmental Biology of Fishes*. 97:371-383
- **Cerutti-Pereyra, F.**, M. G. Meekan, N.-W. V. Wei, O. O'Shea, C. J. A. Bradshaw, and C. M. Austin. 2012. Identification of Rays through DNA Barcoding: An Application for Ecologists. *PLoS ONE* 7:e36479.

REPORTS

- Cerutti, F. and A. Moya. 2018. Protocol for diver-operated video analysis. Ecology of Sharks Project. Charles Darwin Foundation. Ecuador. 23p.
- Cerutti-Pereyra, F. 2016. Proyecto de investigación y conservación de la raya águila (*Aetobatus narinari*) en el caribe mexicano- estudio de foto identificación. Blue Core A. C., Q. Roo, México. Reporte 1: 2015-2016. 32p.
- Cerutti, F. 2013. Monitoring elasmobranchs at Raja Ampat & monitoring program support report. Conservation International. 122p.
- Cerutti-Pereyra, F. 2011. Ecological and genetic connectivity of rays at Ningaloo Reef. Ningaloo research. CSIRO Ningaloo Collaboration Cluster, WAMSI, and AIMS.
- Cerutti, F. 2011. Project 3.9: Nursery ground and movement patterns for tropical rays at Ningaloo Reef, W.A. *In* Simpson, C and Waples, K. (eds). Summary Report Node 3: Ningaloo Marine Park Research Program. Final report submitted to the Western Australian Marine Science Institution. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth. <http://ningaloo-atlas.org.au/sites/default/files/article/510/wamsi-3-final-synthesis-report.pdf>
- Cerutti, F. 2011. Project 3.9: DNA barcoding of rays at Ningaloo Reef. *In* Simpson, C and Waples, K. (eds). Summary Report Node 3: Ningaloo Marine Park Research Program. Final report submitted to the Western Australian Marine Science Institution. Department of Environment and Conservation, Perth. <http://ningaloo-atlas.org.au/sites/default/files/article/510/wamsi-3-final-synthesis-report.pdf>

CONFERENCE TALKS

- **Sharks International.** Joao Pessoa, Brazil (2018). Paper presentation: The effects of experimental longline fishing on marine megafauna of the Galapagos Marine Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
- **ECOCIEC.** Cayo Coco, Cuba (2016). Paper presentation: First insight into the aggregations of spotted eagle rays *Aetobatus narinari* in the Mexican Caribbean.
- **Oceania Chondrichthyan Society (OCS).** Gold Coast, Australia (2011). Paper presentation: DNA Barcoding of rays at Ningaloo reef, an application for ecologists.

- **Sharks international.** Carins, Australia, (2010). Paper presentation: Movement patterns of rays at Ningaloo Reef, WA.
- **Segundo Simposium Internacional de Tiburones y Rayas.** Mexico City, México, (2006). Poster presentation: Stable isotopes in mobula rays.
- **Primer Simposium Internacional de Tiburones y Rayas.** México. Mexico City, (2004). Poster presentation: Reproduction of mobulid rays.

COURSES and WORKSHOPS

- **R software.** Charles Darwin Foundation. Galapagos, Ecuador. 2018.
- **Multivariate analysis to study community ecology and its applications to elasmobranchs.** Squalus Foundation, Sharks International Workshops. Joao Pessoa, Brazil. 2018.
- **Atlantic and Gulf Rapid Reef Assessment (AGRR) Reef fish ID certification.** Healthy Reefs Initiative. 2016.
- **Sharks! Global biodiversity, biology, and conservation.** Online courses at University of Queensland (UQx). Australia. 2016.
- **Community journalism.** Online course. Cardiff University. England. 2016.
- **Data to insight.** Online course. University of Auckland. New Zealand. 2015.
- **Managing people.** Online course. Henley Business School Future Learn, University of Reading. England. 2015.
- **Fundraising: How to connect with Donors.** Online course. Philanthropy University. Berkeley Haas School of Business, University of California Berkeley. USA. 2015.
- **Tropics101x. Tropical Coastal Ecosystem.** Online course. University of Queensland (UQx). Australia. 2015.
- **Contemporary Issues in Ocean Governance.** Online course. University of Wollongong. Australia. 2015.
- **Writing and presentation skills for science, project management, time management for early-career scientists.** Charles Darwin University. Australia. 2011.
- **Translate research into appropriate and relevant conservation and management workshop.** Oceania Chondrichthyan Society conference. Australia. 2011.
- **The Biology of Cartilaginous Fish.** Centro Interdisciplinario de Ciencias Marinas, Mote Marine Laboratory and Universidad of California. México.2004.
- **Stable Isotope workshop.** Centro Interdisciplinario de Ciencias Marinas and Interamerican Tropical Tuna Commission. México. 2004.

FOREIGN LANGAGUES

- English and Spanish fluent, professional level.
- French intermediate level.
- Indonesian, Italian basic level.

REFERENCES

- **José Marín Jarrín**
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