

IPFC 10

INDO-PACIFIC FISH CONFERENCE

36 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL COHESION IN

ICHTHYOLOGICAL SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

1981 - 2017



CRIIBE



AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM



Book designed by the CRIOBE
IPFC documents collected by
C.Berthe, D.Hoese and J.Paxton
Tahiti, French Polynesia
<https://ipfc10.criobe.pf>
2017

Several documents have been gathered, that could not be presented in this book. Proceedings, participants lists, pictures, etc. are available on request to the authors of this book.

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PREFACE BY
DOUG HOESE & JOHN PAXTON
CO-FOUNDERS OF THE IPFC

When we established the first meeting in Sydney in 1981, we could never have imagined that it would grow into such a large set of conferences involving many different individuals from all over the world. We are pleased to have seen nine successful conferences over the years and look forward to a very successful one in Tahiti and continuing venues through out the Indo-Pacific region in coming years.

Since the beginning of these conferences the themes and subject matter of the conferences have changed and expanded considerably. While the first meeting focused on systematics, the title of the second meeting in Tokyo in 1985, “Second International Conference on Indo-Pacific Fishes”, broadened the scope of the meeting in topics, with a number of different themes, as well as numbers of participants. The third meeting in Wellington in 1989 went back to the original. “Evolution and Systematics of Indo-Pacific Fishes”, and added “3rd Indo-Pacific Fish Conference”, with a reduced scope of topics. When the fourth meeting was hosted by the Fisheries Faculty of Kasetsart University our title, “4th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference” was firmly established, and numerous themes including many aspects of ecology, biology and conservation were included. These have subsequently expanded into a broad variety of topics, that continue to improve a highly successful international conference.

In 1997, the 5th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference was held in Noumea, New Caledonia, with Bernard Seret as Chair/Host. The 4th IPFC in Bangkok had a number of fisheries themes in the symposia, as the Chair was based in the Fisheries Faculty at one of the universities. The Noumea IPFC expanded these, with aquaculture and reef ecology also highlights. A new group of researchers came to IPFC for the first time, and all were enhanced by the interactions. The two of us have been to eight and nine of the previous conferences respectively. We look forward to the first week for both of us in Tahiti with great expectations. The islands are well known for their marine environment and their spectacular landscapes are world famous. The list of symposia titles covers a broad spectrum, so all attendees should find something within their speciality, as well as stimulation from new areas of research.

Each new IPFC brings something of the old, especially in the broad patterns of management and arrangement. And something new. IPFC 9 in Okinawa, while still in Japan, like IPFC2 in Tokyo, presented differences in life style, customs, nature, and a new group of young students from the southern islands. We expect IPFC 10 will also be similar to and different from IPFC 5 in New Caledonia.

We are excited by the prospects.





PREFACE BY
DAVID LECCHINI
CHAIRMAN OF THE 10TH IPFC

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the *Indo-Pacific Fish Conference Anniversary Book*, a publication that pays tribute to all of the conference organisers and participants from the previous IPFCs. To paraphrase the words of Doug and John, the continuity of this conference was unexpected but its success continues to grow with each conference. Elements including group photos, the IPFC logo and the various conference themes have been compiled in this Anniversary edition to acknowledge the history of the Indo-Pacific Fish Conference and to celebrate where we are today. Our hope is that this year's conference will add a French Polynesia perspective and exotic cultural context to the already rich history that the IPFC enjoys.

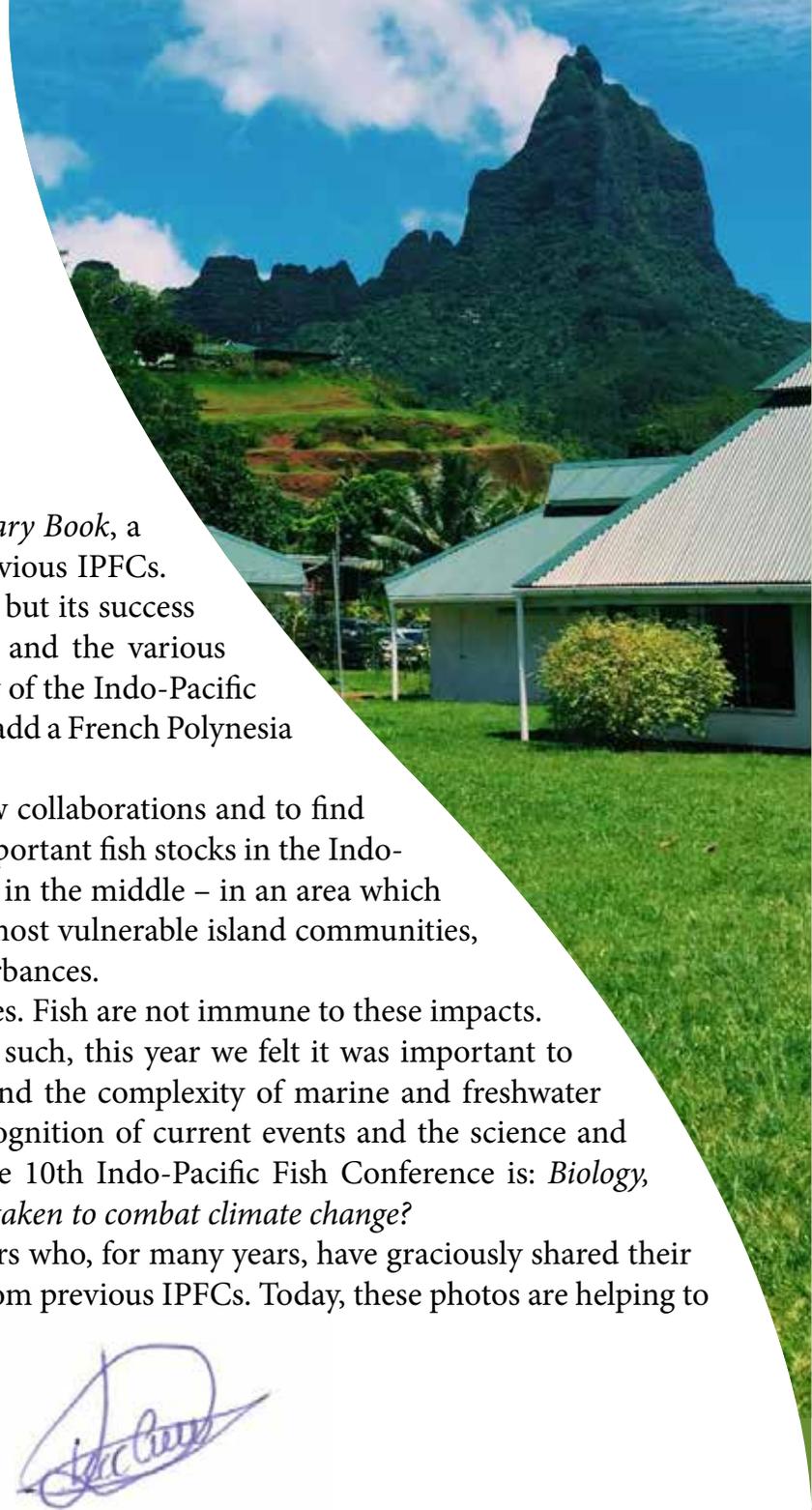
The Indo-Pacific Fish Conference is a place to gather, to share knowledge, to build new collaborations and to find new and innovative ways of managing and ensuring the long-term sustainability of globally important fish stocks in the Indo-Pacific. The IPFC has travelled to the limits of the Pacific Ocean and this year finds itself right in the middle – in an area which by most would be considered protected due to its remote location but in reality is one of the most vulnerable island communities, particularly with respect to its fragile resilience in response to human and climate related disturbances.

We now know, unequivocally, that our actions directly impact and alter natural processes. Fish are not immune to these impacts. Their populations face increasing threats from overfishing, pollution and climate change. As such, this year we felt it was important to highlight the value of integrative and multidisciplinary research designed to better understand the complexity of marine and freshwater ecosystems, in order to improve conservation and management of our fish resources. In recognition of current events and the science and management needed to ensure healthy fish populations well into the future, the title for the 10th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference is: *Biology, Traditional Skills and Management of Fish Stocks in the Indo-Pacific: What measures have to be taken to combat climate change?*

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many researcher-photographers who, for many years, have graciously shared their amazing photos with the CRIOBE. Thanks also to the participants who shared their pictures from previous IPFCs. Today, these photos are helping to bring this publication to life, and for this, I am most grateful. Thank you.

We hope you will enjoy this book as much as we enjoyed gathering the memories!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Lecchini', written in a cursive style.



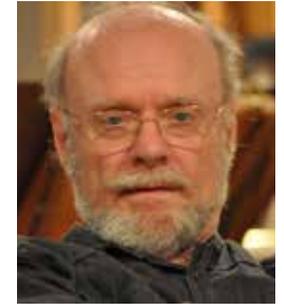
IPFC ORIGIN

In 1981, John Paxton and Doug Hoese, researchers at the Australian Museum of Sydney, organized the first Indo-Pacific Fish Conference (IPFC). This international conference, gathering hundreds of specialists in ichthyology (including sharks, rays and teleost fishes) from dozens of countries, takes place every four years, and is considered one of the best ichthyological conferences in the world.

The first “Indo-Pacific Fish Conference” was held in Sydney in September, 1981, with the formal title *International Conference, Systematics and Evolution of Indo-Pacific Fishes*. Many countries have Fish Societies, but we thought that there was a need for a truly international conference that focused specifically on research in the region. At that time, there were regular conferences on coral reef ecology, like the triannual International Coral Reef Symposia. As a result, the first conference stressed the themes of systematics and evolution of all fishes in the Indo-Pacific region.

DR. DOUGLASS F. HOESE

Doug Hoese joined the Australian Museum in 1971. He worked as a research scientist and manager, becoming Head of Science in 1999. He has published 103 scientific and popular articles, dealing with the systematics and ecology of shore fishes of the world. His research interests are the systematics and general ecology of shore fishes of the Indo-Pacific. He was chair of the Council of Heads of Australian Faunal Collections when Online Collections of Australian Museums was established. He served on a number of whole of government committees on biodiversity and data management and various other database committees in Australia. He is currently a Senior Fellow at the Australian Museum.



DR. JOHN R. PAXTON

John Paxton arrived at the Australian Museum in 1968 after his PhD research in California. Under numerous titles from Curator through Principal Research Scientist to current Senior Fellow, he has spent his entire career as a fish researcher at this institution. He was a founding member of the Australian Society for Fish Biology in the early 1970s. Much of his efforts in the early years were on collection building with his colleagues, that included research cruises on many different vessels. Most of his publications were on the taxonomy and systematics of a broad spectrum of families, with an emphasis on deep-sea fishes. After ‘retirement’ he was heavily involved in fish conservation, but now focuses only on a few families of deep-sea fishes, trying to complete some long-overdue projects on lanternfishes and whalefishes, as well as giving help to a younger generation of deep-sea ichthyologists.





An underwater photograph showing a large, dense school of silver fish swimming in a curved pattern in the upper half of the frame. The water is a deep blue, and sunlight filters down from the top right. In the lower half, a dark, rocky coral reef is visible with some smaller fish swimming around it.

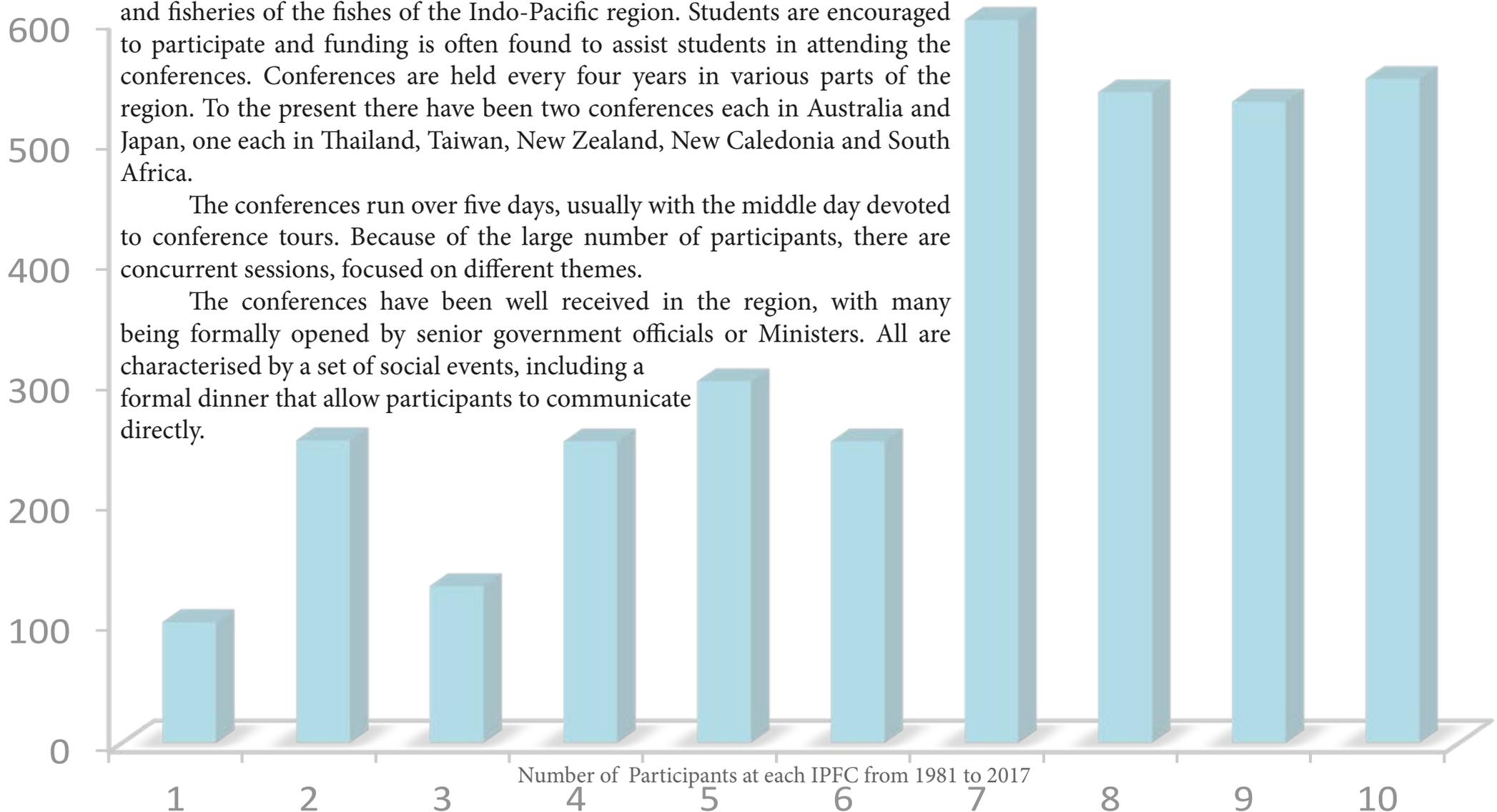
THE INDO-PACIFIC FISH CONFERENCES
FROM 1981 TO 2017

GENERAL SUMMARY OF CONFERENCES

The Indo-Pacific Fish Conference began as a small conference organised as an international conference without affiliation to any society or organisation. Initially the meetings were small with around 100-300 participants, but have grown to over 500 from IPFC 7 onward. The conferences are characterised by major themes and symposia covering all aspects systematics, biology, ecology and fisheries of the fishes of the Indo-Pacific region. Students are encouraged to participate and funding is often found to assist students in attending the conferences. Conferences are held every four years in various parts of the region. To the present there have been two conferences each in Australia and Japan, one each in Thailand, Taiwan, New Zealand, New Caledonia and South Africa.

The conferences run over five days, usually with the middle day devoted to conference tours. Because of the large number of participants, there are concurrent sessions, focused on different themes.

The conferences have been well received in the region, with many being formally opened by senior government officials or Ministers. All are characterised by a set of social events, including a formal dinner that allow participants to communicate directly.





7-11 September 1981



100 participants
11 countries
53 scientific papers
3 posters

IPFC 1 - SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA (1981) JOHN PAXTON & DOUG HOESE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM



The Conference was attended by 100 delegates from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, China, Djibouti, England, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, Thailand and the United States. Fifty-three talks and three posters were presented during the week, with field excursions on the middle day. The delegates came from a variety of Museums, Universities, and other educational and research organizations. The conference, entitled *International Conference on the Systematics and Evolution of Indo-Pacific Fishes*, focused primarily on systematics and evolution of fishes of the region. The talks covered taxonomy and intrarelationships of 29 families of fishes, interrelationships in four major groups of fishes. In addition, talks were presented on freshwater fishes of the region, fossil fishes, larval fishes, biogeography, regional systematic studies, distribution, marine reserves and conservation of fishes of the Great Barrier Reef.

The conference was funded by registrations and the Australian Museum Trust, with support from other government organisations.



IPFC 2 - TOKYO, JAPAN (1985) TERUYA UYENO NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE



TOKYO JULY 28 – AUGUST 8, 1985

The Second Conference was hosted by the Ichthyological Society of Japan. The talks were presented at the eight symposia - (1) Systematics and evolution of the gobioid fishes, (2) Systematics and evolution of cyclostomes, (3) Systematics and evolution of elasmobranchs, (4) Systematics and evolution of larval fishes, (5) Ecology and evolution of large pelagic fishes, (6) Reproductive ecology of coral fishes, (7) Zoogeography of fishes, (8) Chromosomes of fishes.

His Imperial Highness Crown Prince Akihito served as Honorary President of the Conference and presented a talk. Conference Proceedings were published in 1986 as a book *Indo-Pacific Fish Biology*. Financial support was provided by government and private organisations contributing to a highly successful conference.



251 participants
26 countries
182 scientific papers
11 posters



27 Nov-1 Dec 1989



130 participants
18 countries
76 scientific papers
7 posters

IPFC 3 - WELLINGTON, NEW ZEALAND (1989) PETER CASTLE VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON & NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NEW ZEALAND



The Third conference was hosted by the Te Papa (National Museum of New Zealand) and Victoria University of Wellington. The conference talks were presented at the four symposia -- (1) Biogeography of Indo-Pacific Fishes, (2) Chondrichthyan Fishes, (3) Blennoid Fishes, (4) Deep Sea Fishes and three general sessions on general biology and systematics. The papers focused heavily on the fishes of Australia and New Zealand.

The conference was opened by the Vice Chancellor of the University and the past president of the Royal Society of New Zealand. Support was provided by the then National Museum of New Zealand and Victoria University of Wellington contributing to a highly successful conference. Attendees remember the long climb up the stairs to the accommodation after dining in the city.





IPFC 4 - BANGKOK, THAILAND (1993) SUPAP MONKOLPRASIT KASETSART UNIVERSITY



The Fourth Conference was hosted by Kasetsart University in Bangkok. The talks were presented at the eight symposia - (1) Reproductive Biology and Genetics of Fishes, (2) Systematics, Behavior and Evolution of Gobies, (3), Systematics, Biology and Zoogeography of Freshwater Fishes, (4) Systematics, Biology and Evolution of Chondrichthyans, (5) Elasmobranch Conservation, (6) Systematics, Behavior, and Biology of Coral Reef. Estuarine and Mangrove Fishes, (7) Ecology, Behavior: and Evolution of Larval Fishes, (8) Systematics, Evolution, and Zoogeography of Deep Sea Fishes. Two general sessions were also included.

The conference was opened by the Prime Minister of Thailand. Conference Proceedings were published in 1994 by the Faculty of Fisheries of Kasetsart University. Financial support was provided by government and private organisations contributing to a highly successful conference.



250 participants
30 countries
146 scientific papers
16 posters

5th Indo - Pacific
Fish Conference

3-8 November 1997



300 participants
33 countries
200 scientific papers
50 posters

IPFC 5 - NOUMEA, NEW CALEDONIA (1997)
BERNARD SERET
INSTITUT DE RECHERCHE POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT



The Fifth Conference was hosted by the Institut de Recherche pour le Développement, with the help of the Société Française d'Ichtyologie. Talks were presented in 12 symposia - (1) *Fresh and brackish water fishes*, (2) *Coastal fishes of reefs, lagoons, and mangroves*, (3) *Pelagic fishes*, (4) *Deepsea fishes*, (5) *Chondrichthyan fishes*, (7) *Endangered species, consequences of species introduction*, (9) *Phylogeography, genetic and chromosomal differentiation*. (10) *Resource assessment*, (11) *Fish farming, aquarium fish issues*, (12) *Reproduction, growth, physiology*, (13) *Population and community ecology*, (14) *Fish larvae* and 8 workshops - (1) *Parasitology and Ichthyology*, (2) *Databases on Indo-Pacific Fishes*, (3) *Future of ichthyological research in the tropical Indo-Pacific*, (4) *Fish collection management*, (5) *Fish poisoning: What do we know?*, (6) *Advances in fish behavior studies in the Indo-Pacific*, (7) *From field to laboratory: Elasmobranchs as contemporary biological models*, (8) *Relations between man and fish in South Pacific cultures* and two Plenary talks.

The conference was opened by Mr François Jarrige, Director of the ORSTOM Centre, Noumea, Mr. Dominique Bur, French Government Delegate of New Caledonia and other officials. Marie-Louise Bauchot served as President of the Scientific Committee. Conference Proceedings were published in 1999 Société Française d'Ichtyologie. Financial support was provided by government and private organisations contributing to a highly successful conference.





IPFC 6 - DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA(2001) LYNNATH BECKLEY OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH INSTITUTE



Dr Marjorie Courtenay-Latimer, special guest on the opening day of the 6th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference, reminiscing about her role in the 1938 discovery of the first coelacanth known to science.

Left to right: Dr Courtenay-Latimer, Dr Paul Skelton (Director: JLB Smith Institute), Dr Lynnath Beckley (Chairperson: 6th IPFC) and Dr Jack Randall (invited plenary speaker).

(Photo: Rudy van der Elst)

The Sixth Conference in Durban was hosted by the Oceanographic Research Institute, in collaboration with the Natal Sharks Board, the JLB Smith Institute and the South African Museum. The talks and posters were presented in four plenary sessions and eight symposia. The symposia were: (1) Coastal and Reef Fishes (2) Reproductive Mechanisms, (3) Estuarine Fishes, (4) Systematics, (5) Deep Sea Fishes, (6) Chondrichthyans, (7) Larval Fishes, and (8) Marine Protected Areas. Dr Marjorie Courtenay-Latimer, who discovered the coelacanth *Latimeria* was an honoured guest at the conference. Conference proceedings were published in 2002 in the journal *Marine and Freshwater Research*. The conference was funded by delegate registrations with some SCOR and FRD scholarships to enable students from Indian Ocean rim countries to attend. As this was the first time many delegates had visited Africa, a mid-week excursion to a game park was extremely popular! Social functions were well attended with special Coelacanth beer lubricating the poster session and the African-themed banquet complete with enthusiastic Zulu dancing lasting long into the night! Post-conference tours included diving on the Sodwana Bay coral reefs, Hluhluwe and Umfolozi game reserve safaris and an escorted trip to the JLB Smith Institute in Grahamstown.



20-25 May 2001



250 participants
34 countries
213 scientific papers
51 posters



16-20 May 2005



600 participants
38 countries
248 scientific papers
209 posters

First Bleeker Awards
introduced and presented

IPFC 7 - TAIPEI, TAIWAN (2005) KWANG-TSAO SHAO ACADEMIA SINICA



The Seventh Conference was organised by Research Center for Biodiversity, Academia Sinica and the Ichthyological Society of Taiwan. Talks were presented in 28 symposia: (1) Molecular phylogeny of marine fishes, (2) Molecular phylogeny of reef fishes, (3), Molecular phylogeny of freshwater fishes, (4) Systematics & biogeography of Chondrichthyes, (5) Reproductive mechanisms in fishes: Chondrichthyes, (6) Fishery biology of sharks, (7) Behavior and monitoring of reef fishes, (8) Community ecology and biogeography of reef fishes, (9) Conservation of reef fishes, (10) Marine protected areas, (11) Biodiversity of coastal



fishes, (12) Deep-sea fishes, (13) Dispersal and retention of larval fish, (14), Taxonomy and ecology of larval fish, (15) Systematics and ecology of freshwater fishes, (16) Conservation of freshwater fishes, (17) Gobies, (18) Systematics & distribution of benthic fishes, (19) Systematics & ecology of pelagic fishes, (20) Morphology, (21) Fish databases, (22) Ecological versatility of fishes, (23) Reproductive biology of Osteichthyes, (24) Fishery biology and ecology, (25) Eel biology, ecology and conservation, (26) Aquarium fishes, (27) Fish physiological ecology, (28) Fish acoustics and 4 Keynote speaker sessions. Proceedings were published in 2007 in the *Raffles Bulletin of Zoology*.

The conference was opened by the President of the Ichthyological Society of Taiwan. Financial support was provided by several institutions and agencies of Taiwan contributing to highly successful and the largest conference up to 2005.



B. Eschemeyer receiving his Bleeker Award from N. Loneragan

The 8th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference was combined with the 2009 Conference of the Australian Society for Fish Biology and held in Fremantle, Western Australia from 31 May to 5 June 2009. Despite the global financial crisis affecting some international registrations, 540 scientists (including 163 students) were attracted by the Biogeography and Biodiversity theme. The conference papers were organised into six concurrent sessions with 22 symposia within four main themes: Biogeography & Phylogeography, Biodiversity & Community Ecology, Population Biology & Ecology, and Conservation, Sustainability & Management. There were ten plenary presentations covering a wide range of interesting topics and the winners of the IPFC Bleeker Awards, Peter Sale and Bill Eschemeyer, gave excellent acceptance presentations. A vibrant poster session was well attended and a lively conference dinner held at the Fremantle Sailing Club overlooking the Indian Ocean concluded the conference.

The conference was sponsored by participant registrations, the Western Australian Department of Fisheries, several local universities and a host of other institutions and fishing companies.



540 participants
36 countries
429 scientific papers
53 posters



IPFC 9 - OKINAWA, JAPAN (2013)

KEIICHI MATSUURA

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE



24-28 June 2013



532 participants
36 countries
328 scientific papers
134 posters

Largest number
of oral presentations
in the history of the
Indo-Pacific Fish Conferences

The 9th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference was held in Okinawa, Japan under the auspices of the Organizing Committee of IPFC9, the Ichthyological Society of Japan and the Okinawa Churashima Foundation. As for previous conferences, the main topics of included systematics, evolution, zoogeography and phylogeography, biodiversity, ecology, behavior, and conservation. The Conference included 8 symposia: Chondrichthyes, Environmental Extremes, Fish Communities, Genes to Genomes, Ontogeny and Systematics, Percomorpha, Top Predatory Fish, Behavioral Ecology and Oceanic Islands. In addition Individual sessions focused on Climate Change, Coral Reef Fishes, Deep-sea Fishes, Distribution, Fishery Biology, Gobies, Life History, Molecular Phylogeny, Morphology, Population Ecology, Reproductive biology, Taxonomy, Zoogeography.

The conference was partly funded by a number of government, private organizations and private persons.





IPFC 10 - TAHITI, FRENCH POLYNESIA (2017)

DAVID LECCHINI

CENTRE DE RECHERCHES INSULAIRES ET OBSERVATOIRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT



The 10th Conference was organised by the CRIOBE and hosted by the Cultural Center of Papeete, Tahiti. The talks and posters were presented across nine thematic: A)Origin, Evolution, Taxonomy and Bio/Phylogeography of Indo-Pacific Fishes; B)Fisheries and Aquaculture in Indo-Pacific; C)Recent advances in the study of coral reef fishes; D)Biology, Ecology, Ethology and Conservation of Sharks, Rays and Top-predators; E)Freshwater, Diadromous, Cryptobenthic, Mesophotic and Deep-Sea Fishes, an essential knowledge to better manage the global biodiversity in the Indo-Pacific; F)Fish facing local and global threats and potential solutions; G)Long Term Monitoring in Indo-Pacific Fishes; H)The future of fish and human interactions; I)Women in Marine Sciences in the Indo-Pacific & General session about systematic, taxonomy, biology and ecology of fish. Conference Proceedings will be published by Cybium.

The President of French Polynesia and the High-Commissioner attended the Welcome party. John Paxton and Douglas Hoese, Senior Fellows at the Australian Museum in Sydney, participated in the conference and together presented the 2017 Bleeker Awards. Financial support for the IPFC10 was provided by the Territory, the French Government and several private organisations. Sponsorships from the Pacific Funds, the French Ministry of Environment, Energy and the Sea, the Australian Society of Fish Biology (ASFB), the Oceania Chondrichthyan Society (OCS), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the French Society for Ichthyology (SFI) and a partnership with the French Polynesian Youth Institute enabled 100 Pacific Island researchers and students to attend.

Thanks to private funding, 360 children from intermediate and senior secondary schools attended several lectures and workshops organised by the IPFC10 team, related to the environment and on how to protect it. Public lectures at the Cultural Centre of Papeete were presented to a large audience from around Tahiti on a variety of topics including marine acoustics, Marine Protected Areas and electric vehicles.

2-6 October 2017



551 participants
35 countries
371 scientific papers
19 Flash-talks
40 posters

PUBLICATIONS

For some of the conferences, official proceedings were produced: IPFC 2 (Tokyo) – (Uyeno et al., 1986), IPFC 4 (Bangkok) – (Monkolprasit, 1994), IPFC 5 (Noumea) – (Seret and Sire, 1999), IPFC 6 (Durban) – (Grant, 2002), IPFC 7 (Taipei) – (Heok Hui and Jan, 2007) and IPFC 10 (Papeete) – (Lecchini et al, 2017). For IPFC9 (Okinawa) no proceedings were published, but four invited review papers covering progress on taxonomy, systematics, and evolution of fishes over the years of the IPFC series were published in 2015 in a special issue of the Journal Ichthyological Research 62(1) titled *Ichthyology and Indo-Pacific Fish Conferences from the 1980s to the 2010s*.

PROCEEDINGS

Lecchini, D., Galzin, R., Harmelin-Vivien, M. & Sire, J-Y. (eds) 2017. Proceedings of the 10th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference, Tahiti, French Polynesia, 2-6 October 2017. Cybium.

Grant, A. (ed.) 2002. Proceedings of the 6th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference. Marine and Freshwater Research, 53: 99-613.

Heok Hui, T., and Jan, R. Q (eds) 2007. Proceedings of the 7th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference. The Raffles Bulletin of Zoology, Supplement 14: 1-279.

Monkolprasit, M (ed) 1994. Proceedings, Fourth Indo-Pacific Fish Conference, Bangkok, Thailand, 28 November-4 December 1993: Systematics and Evolution of Indo-Pacific Fishes. Faculty of Fisheries, Kasetsart University, Bangkok. 502 pp.

Séret, B., and Sire, J.-Y. (eds) 1999. Proceedings of the 5th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference (Nouméa, New Caledonia, 3-8 November 1997). Société Française d'Ichthyologie & Institut de Recherche pour le Développement. Nouméa, New Caledonia. 888 pp.

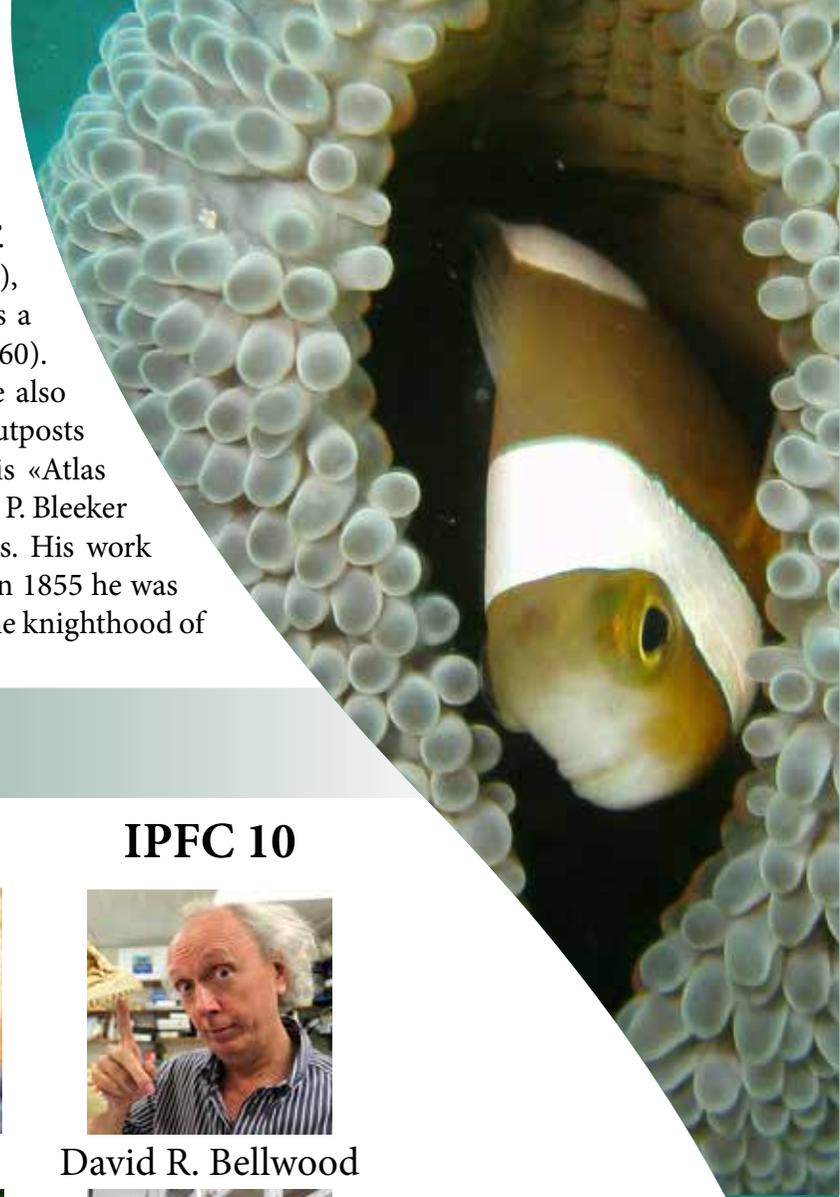
Uyeno, T., Arai, R., Taniuchi, T., and Matsuura, K. (eds) 1986. Indo Pacific Fish Biology: Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Indo Pacific Fishes. Ichthyological Society of Japan, Tokyo. 985 pp. ISBN 984-930813-930812-930813.

Ichthyology and Indo-Pacific Fish Conferences from the 1980s to the 2010s. Special Issue of *Ichthyological Research* 62, 113pp.

THE BLEEKER AWARD

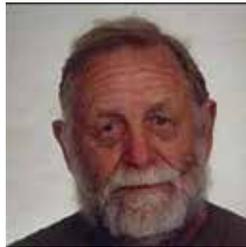
Since 2005, each Indo-Pacific Fish Conference (IPFC) has had the privilege of presenting the Bleeker Award, an award that honours two ichthyologists for “their outstanding body of published work in Indo-Pacific ichthyology, mainly in systematics and ecology”. The award honours the memory of Pieter Bleeker (1819-1878), the late father of Indo-Pacific Ichthyology. He made his career as a naturalist and military physician in the Dutch East Indies (1842-1860).

He acquired many of his specimens from local fishermen, but he also built up an extended network of contacts who would send him specimens from various government outposts throughout the islands. During his time in Indonesia, he collected well over 12,000 specimens. His «Atlas Ichthyologique des Indes Orientales Néerlandaises» was published between 1862 and his death in 1878. P. Bleeker published more than 500 papers on ichthyology, describing 511 new genera and 1,925 new species. His work was recognised by two doctorates *honoris causa* (Leyden University-1846; Utrecht University-1849). In 1855 he was elected member of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences. In January 1864 he received the knighthood of the «Légion d'honneur» of the French empire.



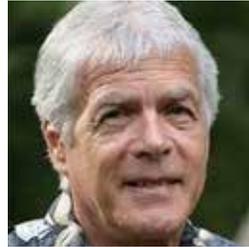
PREVIOUS AWARDEES

IPFC 7



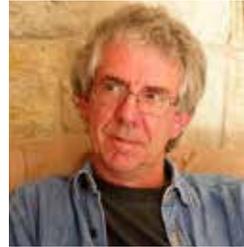
J. Howard Choat

IPFC 8



Peter F. Sale

IPFC 9



Jeffrey M. Leis

IPFC 10

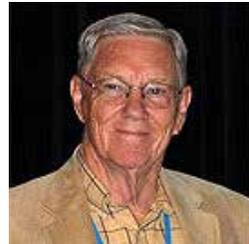


David R. Bellwood

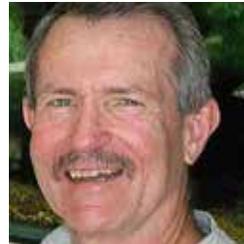
Ecology



John E. Randall



William N. Eschmeyer



Gerald R. Allen



Keiichi Matsuura

Systematics

MEMORIES



IPFC1 - St Albans Commons, Field Trip



IPFC4 - Bangkok: J. Randall, S. Monkprasit, H. Randall and D. Greenfield



IPFC8 - Fremantle: S. Kullander & H. Bleher



IPFC7 - Taipei: J. Randall receiving his Bleeker Award from K. Carpenter



IPFC3 - Wellington: J. Leis, T. Saruwatari, two unknowns, R. Winterbottom and W. Holleman



IPFC6 - Durban: D. Latimer and H. Bleher



IPFC9 - Okinawa: J. Leis, H. Ishihara and D. Hoese



IPFC9 - Okinawa: G. Bernardi, B. Bowen and R. Robertson



IPFC8 - Fremantle: J. Koehn, K. Pollock, C. Todd and M. Lintermans



IPFC3 - Wellington: D. Bellwood, J. Randall, J. Ackley, V. Springer, K. Clements and H. Choat (on the floor)



IPFC5 - Noumea: J. Leis and M. Harmelin-Vivien



IPFC9 - Okinawa: R. Arnold, M. Bernal, W. Ludt, M. Alfaro, P. Chakrabarty, K. Laumann and L. Tournabene



IPFC9 - Okinawa: J. Leis
Bleeker award presentation



IPFC6 - Durban: S. Klanten, with Zulu dancers



IPFC6 - Durban: J. Randall & H. Bleher



IPFC5 - Noumea: M Harmielen-Vivien, J. & H. Randall and D. Greenfield



IPFC6 - Durban: back row (l-r) P. Lobel, S. Klanten, P. Lobel's wife, J. Eagle, G. Jones, Mia (now G.Jones's wife); front row (l-r): R. Robertson, E. Grandcourt, K. Clements, R. Pears and D. Thomson



IPFC9 - Okinawa: H. Bart, D. Bellwood, N. Rios and behind the pole J. Paxton



IPFC7 - Taipei: P. Miller, D. Johnson, H. Larson, D. Hoese, R. Winterbottom and I. Chen



IPFC7 - Taipei: J. Leis, J. & H. Randall



IPFC9 - Okinawa: J. Paxton, G. Allen and P. Last



IPFC4 - Bangkok: M. Goren, R. Winterbottom and E. Anderson



IPFC8 - Fremantle: B. Eschmeyer, H. Bleher and G. Allen at lunch



IPFC1 - St Albans Commons, Field Trip



IPFC7 - Taipei: H. Choat receiving his Bleeker Award from K. Clements



IPFC6 - Durban: J. Paxton, B. Hulley, L. Beckley, R. van der Elst, K. Matsuura ; J. Randall, B. Seret, S. Monkalpravit and H. Paxton



IPFC2 - Tokyo: P. Miller, D. Hoese and R. Birdsong



IPFC9 - Okinawa: T. Roberts, T. Pietsch and P. Chakrabarty at the Okinawa Aquarium



IPFC6 - Durban: Elaine Heemstra during the posters presentation



IPFC6 - Durban: L. Hutchings, P. Neira, L. Beckley, J. Leis, B. Hutchings and R. Reihl; B. Bruce, T. Miskiewicz, D. Gaughan, S. Harris and T. Trnski.



IPFC9 - Okinawa: M. Srinivasan and J. Leis before the gala dinner



IPFC7 - Taipei: D. Hoese, Z. Jaafar and H. Larson



IPFC7 - Taipei: T. Donaldson at the wet Market



IPFC8 - Fremantle: S. Kullander



IPFC6 - Durban: K. Cole and Y. Sadovy drinking Coelacanth beer



IPFC8 - Fremantle: P. Chakrabarty collecting blind cave fish in a cave in Exmouth



IPFC6 - Durban: E. Grandcourt at the African banquet with Zulu dancing



IPFC5 - Noumea: R. Winterbottom and M. Gomon



IPFC9 - Okinawa: C. Simpfendorfer and A. Orlov, co-chairmen of the session on top predators



IPFC3 - Wellington: F. Talbot and J. Leis



IPFC9 - Okinawa: W. Ludt outside of the Tsukiji market in Tokyo



IPFC4 - Bangkok: B. Anderson, J. Leis, D. Johnson and Y. Iwatzuki



IPFC6 - Durban: R. Schmidt and G. Jones at the banquet



IPFC8 - Fremantle: H. Kang, J. Kim and H. Joon Kwun



IPFC5 - Noumea: J. Leis dancing at the banquet



IPFC8 - Fremantle: ASFB team - G. Jackson, D. Morgan, D. Gaughan and J. Koehn



IPFC6 - Durban: N. James (youngest student) giving birthday present to J. Randall (oldest person)



IPFC4 - Bangkok: Y. Iwatzuki, C. Baldwin, J. Leis, R. Winterbottom and N. Merrett



IPFC9 - Okinawa: E. Anderson and A. Orlov at the banquet



IPFC9 - Okinawa : organizing committee and work force



IPFC8 - Fremantle: F. Kullander and J. Nelson



IPFC7 - Taipei: K. Clements giving the introduction talk of H. Choat's Bleeker Award



IPFC6 - Durban: T. Hickey and M. McCormick in one of the safari jeeps at Tala Park

FRENCH POLYNESIA IN THE RESEARCH LANDSCAPE

BY SERGE PLANES,
DIRECTOR OF THE CRIOBE



The French Overseas territories are home to incredibly rich and diverse ecosystems, including tropical and equatorial forests, coral reefs and mangroves. These territories are Hotspots of biodiversity, show strong ecological, climatic and anthropic gradients, and are thus an exceptional observatory to understand and predict the impact of global changes on biodiversity and tropical ecosystems.

According to their level of exploitation, an ecosystem's ability to recover depends upon the severity of the impact and the ecosystem's capacity for resilience and resistance to the disturbance. The islands of French Polynesia are small and remote, and they are extremely vulnerable to increasing temperatures, sea level rise, habitat degradation and erosion. Coral reefs within this region are at risk of disappearing quickly, with an estimated 25% of reefs in French Polynesia already lost over the past two decades and of those that remain, 50% are under critical threat.

To secure a future for coral reefs, and to sustain the services they provide to millions of people around the world, we need to act now. Today's research must work to further our knowledge of coral reef ecosystems and at the same time, this research must reveal the mechanisms and processes that underpin the ability of populations and biological communities to persist through time.

The CRIOBE (Centre for Island Research and Environmental Observatory, USR3278 PSL-EPHE-CNRS-UPVD) is a globally recognised centre for coral reef research, based in Perpignan, France and Moorea, French Polynesia. Since its inception in 1971, researchers at the CRIOBE have studied the evolution of coral reef fish within the context of demographic and climate changes. To support this effort, the CRIOBE has developed a state of the art research program spanning many disciplines from genetics to social science to further our understanding of coral reef fish in French Polynesia and around the world. The CRIOBE first hosted an international conference in 1985 – the International Coral Reef Symposium, in Tahiti. Today, we are proud to host another important coral reef conference here in Tahiti – the 10th Indo-Pacific Fish Conference (2017).

The goals of the IPFC10 are perfectly aligned those of the CRIOBE, as together we hope to advance the science and management of fish in the Indo-Pacific in cooperation with all those in government, industry, communities and beyond who depend on these important resources for their survival.



IPFC 10 - THE LOGO

Te Mara, the humphead wrasse (*Cheilinus undulatus*)

Taniera, a tattoo artist from Moorea island, designed the 10th IPFC logo, inspired by Thomas Vignaud pictures. In the logo, the Marquesan cross can be seen on the side, the waves on the cheek, the islands on the fins, and the wind and water symbols on the tail. Man-kind is represented on the forehead, illustrated as being one with the fish.

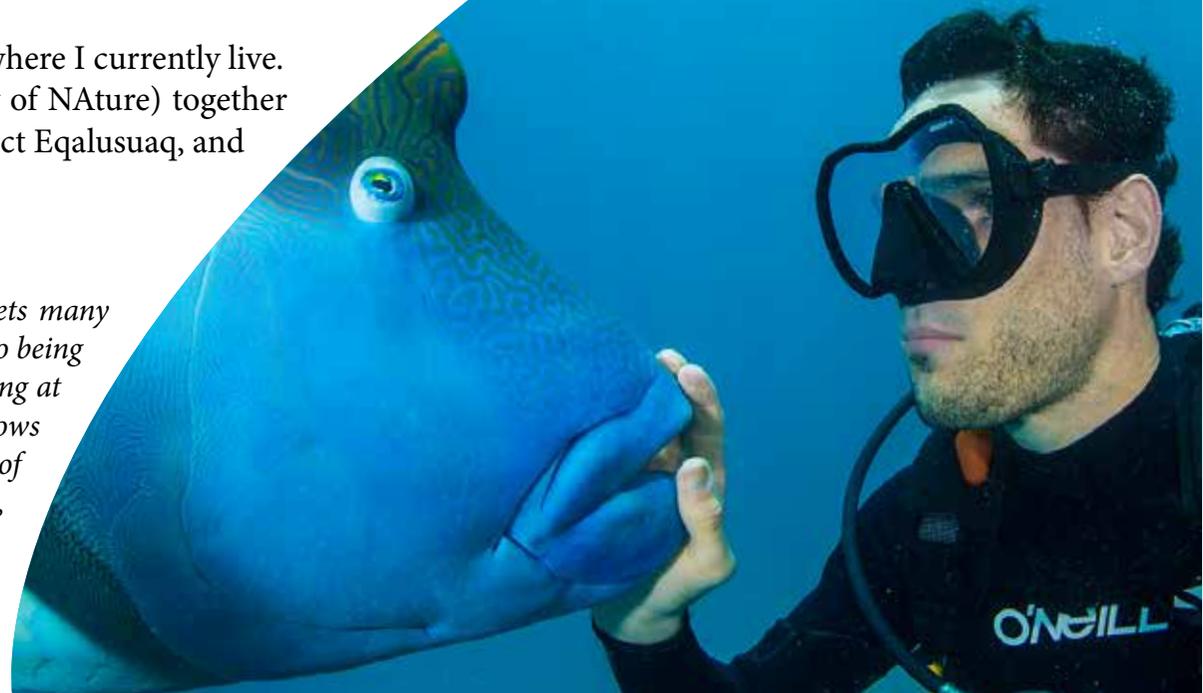


THOMAS VIGNAUD, AUTHOR OF THE PICTURE OF THE 10TH IPFC

My love for the Underwater life probably started during the years I spent living on a sailboat as a kid. I was snorkeling most of the day, and when I had to get out it was to keep looking at fish from the boat, fishing. This is also the time (I was 8) when I met my first sharks in the water. At that age you haven't been brainwashed by the media and sci-fi movies and can have a natural reaction when meeting a shark, which is « Wow ! What a beautiful and graceful creature ». I ended up doing a Ph.D. on Sharks, training as a commercial diver as well as dive instructor, freedive instructor and other specialty such as rebreather, and spent a lot of time taking underwater photography around the world.

After my Ph.D., I started The Awakening Shark Dive in Fiji where I currently live. I also created SEDNA (Services and Expeditions for the Discovery of Nature) together with Paul Tixier, Kevin Peyrusse and Hugo Braconnier for the project Eequalusuaq, and the projects to come!

This humphead wrasse is a resident at a diving site where he meets many people every day. After years of visits from divers, the fish became addicted to being tickled. A hand wave is enough to make it swim close to you for a scratching at the corner of its lips - maybe it thinks we are cleaner fish? This behaviour allows unusual interactions, and many divers can happily take close-up pictures of the animal - like here with a selfie! If these smart fishes were more protected, those interactions would happen more frequently, but are unfortunately too rare now: they have the curse of being delicious...





IPFC 10
2017 TAHITI

PHOTOS

Memories

Lynnath Beckley, David Bellwood, Prosanta Chakrabarty, Kendall Clements, Wouter Holleman, Zeehan Jaafar, Gary Jackson, Selma Klanten, Hyuck Joon Kwun, Jeff Leis, Keiichi Matsuura, Hiroyuki Motomura, Alexei Orlov, Australian Museum

Illustrations

Maggy Nugues, Lauric Thiault, Nathalie Tolou, Thomas Vignaud, Jason Vii, CRIOBE





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AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM
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