

Shawn Dsouza

PROFILE

I'm passionate about research in ecology with a particular interest in predator – prey interactions. I believe in the value of high quality fundamental research, especially when communicated effectively to policy makers and local stakeholders.

CONTACT

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ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Languages: English, Hindi,
Marathi, Konkani.

Software: Linux, R, Python,
GIS.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Ph.D. Student

February 2021 - Present

Center for Ecological Sciences, IISc.

Thesis: Fishes *do* fear the reaper: Anthropogenic fear in coral reefs.

Research Affiliate

May 2022 - Present

Dakshin Foundation

I manage the elasmobranch monitoring program in Malvan, Maharashtra and other landing centers along the Indian coastline. I also consult on various ongoing projects concerning marine systems and fisheries.

Research Assistant

June 2017 – February 2021

Dakshin Foundation

I studied the effects of fisheries on sea snake species' interactions using a combination of stable isotope analysis and fisheries dependent methods. I also managed the bycatch projects at the organization as well as outreach and communication activities for the same.

EDUCATION

M.Sc. Biodiversity

2017

M.E.S. Abasaheb Garware College, Pune.

Savitribai Phule Pune University

CGPA: 8.65/10

B.Sc. Zoology

2015

S.I.E.S. College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sion, Mumbai.
Mumbai University
CGPA: 6.17/7

PUBLICATIONS

Peer – reviewed publications

Dsouza, S., & Padhye, A. (2022). A cross taxonomic comparison of bird and butterfly communities of Tamhini Wildlife Sanctuary across two decades. *Current Science*, *in press*.

Dsouza, S., Rao, C., Manoharakrishnan, M., & Shanker, K. (2021). Resource use and the impacts of fisheries on two sympatric sea snake species on the west coast of India. *Marine Biology*, 168(9), 1-11.

Dsouza, S., & Rao, C. (2021). Demographics and reproductive biology of *Hydrophis schistosus* may make it more resilient to bycatch effects than other sea snakes. *Regional Studies in Marine Science*, 47, 101948.

Rao, C., **Dsouza, S.**, Gupta, T., Manoharakrishnan, M., & Lobo, A. S. (2021). Fisheries induced shift in sea snake community assemblages along the Konkan coast, India. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*, 31(9), 2402-2411.

Jojan, A., **Dsouza, S.**, Mukerjee, P., Rao, C., & Shanker, K. (2018). Critiquing narrow critiques of convention on biological diversity. *Economic & Political Weekly*, 53(44), 17.

Conference presentations and posters

“Fishing for sea snakes” – Student talk at SCCS Cambridge 2019.

Can butterflies improve conservation?" - Student poster at SCCS Bangalore 2017.

Popular Articles

Dsouza, S. 2020. Locked Down in a Fishing Town. The Bastion.

Dsouza, S. 2019. Scaly Business - A Day in the life of a sea snake ecologist. Current Conservation. 13.2.

Creasey, M. and **Dsouza, S.** 2019. Sailing into an uncertain future. Current Conservation. 13.3.

INVITED TALKS

" Sea snakes: Ecology and Threats" - Talk at Centre for Ecology and Conservation, University of Exeter (2019)

GRANTS, AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2022

Prime Minister's Research Fellowship

Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

2021

GATE Fellowship

Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

2018

Mangrove Foundation of Maharashtra

Small Grant – Rs. 4,70,000 (approx.)

Rufford Foundation

Small Grant – Rs. 4,65,000 (approx.; converted from GBP)

World Wildlife Fund – India

Small Grant – Rs. 80,000