

# James R. Watson

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## Education and Academic Positions

- from 2017 **College of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, Oregon State University, USA,**  
Assistant Professor.
- from 2016 **Nordic Collective Capital, Sweden.**  
CEO and Founder
- 2014–2017 **Stockholm Resilience Centre, Stockholm University, Sweden.**  
Research Scientist / Forskare  
**and Princeton University, USA.**  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology: Visiting Research Scholar
- 2011–2013 **Princeton University, USA.**  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; Atmospheric and Ocean Sciences Program:  
Post-doctoral Research Scholar  
Mentors: Jorge Sarmiento, Charles Stock, Simon Levin
- 2006–2011 **University of California Santa Barbara, USA.**  
Ph.D., Marine Sciences
- 2003–2004 **National Oceanography Center, Southampton, UK.**  
M.Sc., Oceanography (1st class Honors)  
Advisor: Debora. M. Iglesias-Rodriguez
- 1998–2001 **University of Bristol, UK.**  
B.Sc., Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics

## Awards and Funding

- 2016 **Principal Investigator, SCOOP - Scaling-up Cooperation through Insurance web application,** Stockholm University Innovations Program (\$13,000).
- 2014–2017 **Principal Investigator, Social-Environmental Research Network (SEReNe),** Stockholm University, Princeton University, University of Oslo, Ca' Foscari University of Venice (\$150,000).
- 2012–2017 **Lead Investigator\*, NSF: Dynamics of Coupled Natural-Human Systems, Social-Ecological Adaptation and Complexity in Marine Systems, Princeton University (\$1,500,000).**  
\*I was the principal author of the proposal, and currently lead the group, but at the time of funding I was too junior to be given a Principal Investigator title.
- 2011–2013 **Nippon Foundation Post-doctoral Fellowship, The Nereus Program in Climate and Fisheries Modeling,** Princeton University (\$180,000).
- 2008–2011 **NASA PhD Fellowship, Integrating Satellite Observations into Fisheries Science: Quantifying abiotic and in-flight biotic larval from ocean color,** University of California, Santa Barbara (\$200,000).
- 2007–2009 **Luce Environmental Science to Solutions Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara, \$6000.**
- 2007 **Best use of Technology in Fisheries Science, American Fisheries Society.**

## Publications

- In review Villarino E., **Watson JR** et al. *Large-scale ocean connectivity and planktonic body size*. Nature Communications.
- **Watson JR**, Fuller EF, Castruccio F, Samhouri J. *Fishermen Follow Fine-scale Physical Ocean Features for Finance*. Nature Scientific Reports.
  - Fuller EF, Samhouri J, Stoll J, Levin SA & **Watson JR**. *Characterizing Fisheries Connectivity in Marine Social-Ecological Systems*. ICES Journal of Marine Science.
  - Klinger D, Levin SA & **Watson JR**. *The Growth of Finfish Globally in Open Ocean Aquaculture under Climate Change*. Global Change Biology.
  - Burgess MG, Drexler M, Axtell RL, Bailey RM, **Watson JR**, et al. *The role of agent-based modeling in systems-based fishery management*. Fish and Fisheries.
  - Klein ES, Barbier M & **Watson JR**. *The Dual Impact of Ecology and Management on the Social Incentives in Marine Systems*. Proceedings of the Royal Society: Open Science.
  - Pellegrini A, **Watson JR**, et al. *Poaching and Climate variability: Interacting stochastic drivers of elephant population dynamics across Africa*. Theoretical Ecology.
- 2014-2016 Jonnson B. & **Watson JR\*** *The Timescales of Global Surface-Ocean Connectivity*. Nature Communications, 2016, 7, 1-6. \*co-lead author.
- Tilman, AR & **Watson, JR** & Levin, SA. Maintaining cooperation in social-ecological systems: Effective bottom-up management often requires sub-optimal resource use. Theoretical Ecology, 2016, doi:10.1007/s12080-016-0318-8
  - Barbier M and **Watson JR\***. *The Spatial Dynamics of Predators and the Benefits and Costs of Information Sharing*, PLoS Computational Biology, 2016. \*co-lead author.
  - Kleypas JA, Thompson DM, Castruccio FS, Curchitser EN, Pinsky M, & **Watson JR**, *Larval connectivity across temperature gradients, and its potential effect on heat tolerance in coral populations*. Global Change Biology, DOI: 10.1111/gcb.13347
  - Cheung WWL., et al., and **Watson JR**. *Building confidence in projections of the responses of living marine resources to climate change*. 2015. ICES Journal of Marine Science doi:10.1093/icesjms/fsv250.
  - **Watson JR**, Stock C, Sarmiento J. *Exploring the role of movement in determining the global distribution of marine biomass using a coupled hydrodynamic – size-based ecosystem model*. Progress in Oceanography, 2014, 138, 521-532
- 2012-2013 Osterblöm H, Merrie A, Metian M, Boonstra W, Blenckner T, **Watson JR**, et al. *Modeling social-ecological scenarios in marine systems*. BioScience, 2013, 63(9):735-744.
- **Watson JR**, BE Kendall, DA Siegel, S Mitarai. *Changing seascapes, stochastic connectivity and marine metapopulation dynamics*. The American Naturalist, 2012, 180 (1) 990-112. Noted by the Faculty 1000: <http://f1000.com/717948573>.
- 2010-2011 Alberto F, Raimond P, Reed D, **Watson JR**, et al. *Isolation by oceanographic distance accounts for high proportion of genetic differentiation for *Macrocystis pyrifera* in the Santa Barbara Channel*. Molecular Ecology, 2011, 20(12), 2543-2554.
- **Watson JR**, Siegel D, Kendall B, Mitarai S, Rassweiler A, Gaines S. *Identifying critical regions in small-world marine metapopulations*. PNAS, 2011, 108(43) E907-E913.
  - **Watson JR**, Hays C, Raimondi P, Siegel D, Mitarai S, Dong C, McWilliams J, Blanchette C. *Currents connecting communities: a study of nearshore marine species in the Southern California Bight*. Ecology, 2011, 92(6), 1193-1200.

- **Watson JR**, Mitarai S, Siegel D, Caselle J, Dong C, McWilliams J. *Realized and potential larval connectivity in the Southern California Bight*. Marine Ecology Progress Series, 2010, 401, 31-48.
  - White C, Selkoe K, **Watson JR**, Siegel D, Zacherl D, Toonen R. *Ocean currents help explain population genetic structure*. Proc. R. Soc. B, 2010, 277, 1685-1694.
  - Selkoe K, **Watson JR**, et al. *Taking the chaos out of genetic patchiness: revealing ecological and oceanographic drivers of seascape genetics in Southern California kelp forests*. Molecular Ecology, 2010, 19, 3708-3726.
- 2008-2009 Mitarai S, Siegel D, **Watson JR**, et al. *Quantifying connectivity in the coastal ocean with application to the Southern California Bight*. Journal of Geophysical Research, 2009, 114, C10026, doi:10.1029/2008JC005166.
- Preprint **Watson JR**, B Favetta, C Stock. *On Modeling the Macroecology of Baleen Whale Migration*, in preprint here: <http://biorxiv.org/content/early/2014/09/28/009753>.

## Selected Presentations

- 2016 *Cooperation in coupled natural-human systems: its emergence and importance*, **The Society for Mathematical Biology** annual meeting, part of the “Modelling socio-economic aspects of resource management” symposium (invited).
- *Complex Adaptive Marine Systems*, **Oregon State University**, College of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences (invited).
  - *Understanding the Complexity and Adaptive Nature of Marine Systems*, **University of California Santa Barbara**, Interdepartmental Marine Sciences Seminar (invited).
- 2015 *The Effect of Turbulence on the Spatial Dynamics of Fish Populations*, **The Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University**, Life in a Turbulent Environment: How the dynamic ocean shapes the distribution, diversity and growth of microorganisms workshop (invited).
- *Complex Adaptive Marine Systems*, **Danish Technical University Aqua (DTU)** (invited).
  - *Understanding the Emergence of Cooperation in Coupled Natural-Human Systems*, The Centennial **Ecological Society of America** meeting, keynote talk at the Coupled Natural and Human Systems Science: The Need, Challenges and Rewards symposium (invited).
  - *The Timescales of Global Surface Ocean Connectivity*, **The American Society of Limnology and Oceanography** annual meeting.
- 2014 *Complex Adaptive Problems in Nature and Society*, **The Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University**, The David Bradford Seminars in Science, Technology and Environmental Policy (invited).
- *Complexity and Adaptation in Phytoplankton, Fish and Fishers*, **Stockholm University**, Department of Ecology, Environmental and Plant Sciences (invited).
- 2013 *Phytoplankton, Fish and Fishing; An analysis of the links between physics, ecology and human behavior in marine systems*, **Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Department of Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences (invited).
- *Analyzing the links between physics, ecology and human behavior in marine systems: three examples*, **Rutgers University**, Institute of Marine and Coastal Science (invited).
  - *Currents Connecting Communities*, **Rutgers University**, Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory (invited).

- 2012 *Flow, Fish and Fishing; An analysis of the links between physics, ecology and human behavior in marine systems*, **McGill University**, Earth and Planetary Sciences (invited).
- *Earth System Modeling and Global Marine Food-security*, **American Fisheries Society**, St. Paul, Minnesota.
  - *Changing Seascapes, Stochastic Connectivity and Marine Metapopulation Dynamics*, **Ecological Society of America**, Portland, Oregon.
  - *Quantifying the distribution and dynamics of forage fish using a size-based ecosystem model*, **PICES annual meeting**, Yeosu, Korea.
  - *Modeling the Spatial Dynamics of Baleen Whales and Forage Fish*, American Association for the Advancement of Science (**AAAS**), Vancouver, CA.
- 2008-2010 *Evidence for dispersal at the community level*, **Ocean Sciences Annual Meeting**, Portland, Oregon.
- *Currents connecting communities*, **Western Society of Naturalists**, Monterey, California.
  - *Spatial connections amongst nearshore marine species*, The California Current Ecosystem Long Term Ecological Research site meeting (**LTER**), San Diego, California (invited).
  - *Simulating the impact of El Niño on the gene flow of marine species in the Southern California Bight*, **Ocean Sciences Annual Meeting**, Orlando, Florida.
  - *Simulating the dispersal of nearshore marine species larvae*, Department of Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences, University of California Los Angeles (**UCLA**), Los Angeles, California (invited).

## Teaching and Mentorship

- Courses *Course organizer and principal teacher*: Quantitative Methods for Social-Ecological Scientists. Graduate course run at the Stockholm Resilience Centre (Spring 2015, 2017).
- *Class organizer and principle teacher*: Communicating Complexity. Workshop Graduate students on science communication at the Stockholm Resilience Centre (Fall 2014).
  - *Teaching assistant*, The Geography of the World's Oceans, Department of Geography, University of California Santa Barbara (2009).
  - *English Teacher*, The Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) program, Moritake, Akita, Japan (2001-2002).
- Mentorship **Undergraduate**: Alexander Ahn (Swarthmore Col.); Christina Healy, Bruna Favetta, Jennifer Zhao, Angela Zhou (all at Princeton Uni.)
- **Masters**: Roweena Patel, Laura Elsler (both Stockholm Uni.)
  - **Ph.D.**: Steven Johnson (Oregon State University)
  - **Post-doc**: Matthieu Barbier and Emily Klein (both Princeton Uni.); Susa Niiranen (Stockholm Uni.)

## Service

- Editor ICES Journal of Marine Science
- Journal Ecology, Molecular Ecology, Limnology and Oceanography, Conservation Letters,
- Reviewer The American Naturalist, Ecology Letters, Journal of Theoretical Biology, Marine Ecology Progress Series, Ecography, PloS ONE, The Royal Society Biology Letters.
- Proposal The UK's Natural Environment Research Council,
- Reviewer The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada,

The EUR-OCEANS Consortium.

- Conference session organization    *The Centennial Ecological Society of America* meeting, Coupled Natural and Human Systems Science: The Need, Challenges and Rewards, Baltimore, USA. Session organizer and chair (to be in August 2015).
- *The Integrated Marine Biogeochemistry and Ecosystem Research (IMBER)* annual meeting, Approaches to predicting fish from physics: strengths, weaknesses and ways forward, Bergen, Norway. Session organizer and chair (2014).
  - *American Fisheries Society* annual meeting, Climate and Fisheries: Responses of a Socio-Ecological System to Global Change, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. Session organizer and chair (2012)
  - *Ecological Society of America's* annual meeting, Population Dynamics: Modeling, Portland, Oregon USA. Session chair (2012).
  - *Ocean Sciences* annual meeting, Spatial Dynamics of Species Abundance and Interactions Across Trophic Levels, Portland, Oregon, USA. Session chair (2011).
- Workshop participation    *The Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University*, Life in a Turbulent Environment: How the dynamic ocean shapes the distribution, diversity and growth of microorganisms, Harvard, USA (invited; to be in Feb 2015).
- *The National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC)*, Managing Recreational Fisheries as Complex Adaptive Socio-Ecological Systems, SESYNC, Maryland, USA (invited; 2014).
  - *Kellogg Biological Station Summer Educational Program*, Enhancing Linkages between Mathematics and Ecology: Adaptive Dynamics, Kalamazoo, Michigan, USA (2012).
  - *The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics*, Advanced school on complexity, adaptation and emergence in marine ecosystems, Trieste, Italy (2011)