



## The Big News



### Professor Krom reaches 150 publications!

His 150th publication is cited below, and brings Prof. Krom's H factor to 67! The H factor is a metric that measures the productivity and citation impact of the scientist. Congratulations!

Jin-Yu Terence Yang.; Ting-Chang Hsu; Ehui Tan; Kitack Lee; **Michael D. Krom**; Sijing Kang; Minhan Dai; Silver Sung-Yun Hsiao; Xiuli Yan; Wenbin Zou; Li Tian (in press) Sedimentary processes dominate nitrous oxide production and emission in the hypoxic zone off the Changjiang River estuary: Science of the Total Environment



Prof. Muki Shpigel and Dr Leigh Livne travelled to Rome, Italy for the 2nd Management Committee Conference of the COST Action 20106. [They also published their personal Action website!](#)

Click the link to read about upcoming grants and conferences (this year it's in Cadiz, Spain!).

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- Publications

# ECS 2022

EUROPEAN CETACEAN SOCIETY CONFERENCE  
APRIL 5-7, VIRTUAL CONFERENCE



Last week, the Apex Predators Lab from MKMRS, led by Dr. Aviad Scheinin, hosted the annual European Cetacean Society (ECS) Conference. The conference's theme was: "Marine mammal research and conservation effort - Are we on the right path?"

Although the conference was originally planned for the sunny coast of Ashdod, Covid restrictions eventually forced the conference to turn fully virtual. This was the first virtual ECS conference and it was highly applauded for its excellent execution!

Across 3 days, 250 participants from 36 different countries joined in to listen to presentations and exchange information on all the latest science in the marine mammal field! The conference was also graced by three excellent keynote speakers: Dr Mia Elasar from Israel who presented "Marine mammals' conservation in the Eastern Mediterranean - Are we on the right path?", Prof. h. c. Dr Ursula Siebert from Germany who presented "The need to use research knowledge of marine mammals on an international level to achieve protection", and Prof. Peter T. Madsen from Denmark who presented "Marine mammal conservation physiology: do we model the right things at the desk and measure the right things at sea?"

Overall, a very successful conference that was much anticipated by all ECS members - a special mention to the coordinating team that managed to overcome the challenges of COVID and transcend international boundaries!



# WELCOME

## MURIEL BURG

Muriel is joining the MKMRS team after Omri Yakobovitch sailed on to a new opportunity. Her position will be Administrator for MKMRS, and we are excited to welcome her - her hobbies already are a natural fit! In her off time, she is busy with SUP, watching TV series, sewing, reading, renovations, carpentry, and volunteering at Magen David Adom (the Israeli Red Cross organisation).



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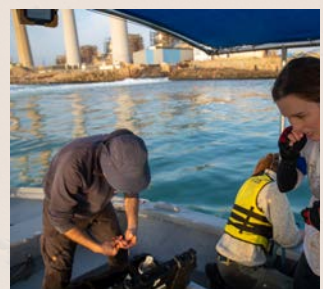
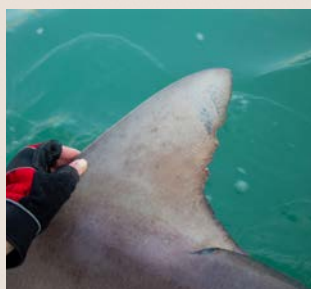
## SHIRAN GOZALI

Shiran is joining Professor Michael Krom's lab at MKMRS, being trained as a lab technician. She is a big lover of the Mediterranean Sea and loves to practice recreational sports like kitesurfing, sailing, swimming and camping at the beach. She completed both her bachelor's and master's degrees in marine sciences at the Ruppin Academic Centre. During her MSc, she studied fresh groundwater seepage at the Rosh-Hanikra cave site, under the supervision of Dr Mustafa Asfur and Dr Jack Silverman.



## NEW PROJECT: MONITORING THE OROT RABIN POWER SHIFT FROM COAL TO GAS

MKMRS has been tasked with monitoring the construction of a new outfall pipe for the brine discharge created by the Orot Rabin power plant. The brine is currently ejected in the existing channel of a coal thermal plant - this is going to be replaced by a gas co-generation plant. In the future, the brine must be ejected 2 km offshore through an outfall tunnel. The outfall tunnel is 2030 m long. The tunnel route is rectilinear from the launching shaft to the exit point and will be created in descending track gradient. MKMRS is planning to monitor this work via acoustic recordings and visually through repeated drone surveys. We have undertaken this work for the Israel Nature and Parks Authority throughout the duration of the construction. From this data, we hope to characterise how the disturbance will affect the biota of this area.

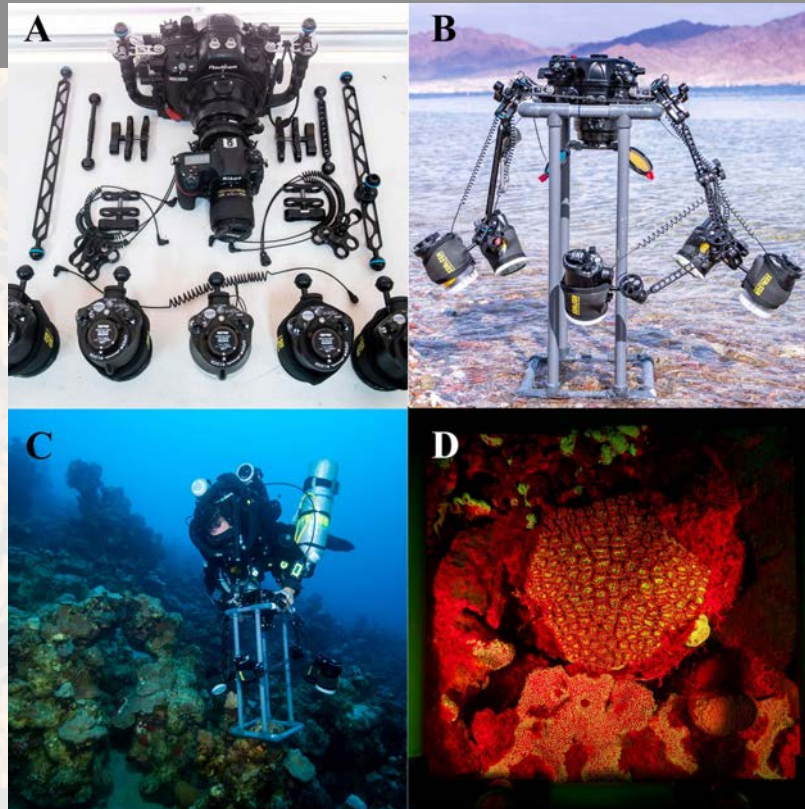


# MSC HAGAI NATIV

MKMRS MEDIA MANAGER

DEFENDS HIS THESIS ENTITLED:

Developing a rapid fluorescence imaging tool for *in situ* estimation of coral reef health in diverse environments



In this study, Hagai optimized a fluorescent camera system which significantly reduced system complexity and time to complete the underwater survey. He used a single infrared-converted camera instead of the bulkier, dual-camera system. This switch makes the surveys faster, and the system is easier to handle and more flexible. He used this system to survey coral recruits under 2 cm in diameter in the northern Red Sea and Bermuda. He used a 25x25 cm quadrant across shallow and mesophotic reefs during the survey. The single-camera system represents a valuable, non-invasive and rapid underwater tool to investigate *in situ* coral reproductive ecology. It opens up the divers' capability to a broader range of depths and habitats. This improved technique significantly increases the speed and accuracy of coral recruit count. Ultimately, the development of this technique allows us to obtain a deeper understanding of coral recruitment patterns, which is critical for developing suitable reef conservation and management strategies.

# PUBLICATIONS

SINCE NOV 2021

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# CONTINUED...

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