

Dipani Sutaria, PhD

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Professional interests: Ecology; Social-Ecological systems and resilience; marine mammal and elasmobranch biology; human-animal interactions

Education

PhD 2004-2009. Earth and Environmental Sciences, James Cook University, Townsville, Australia

MSc 2000-2003. Biology and Marine Biology, University of Massachusetts, USA

Teaching experience

- 2016 External Advisor in the 8th Studio class ‘Designing an aquarium in the city’ at the Faculty of Architecture, Centre for Environmental Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad
- July to December 2016: 2 credit course ‘Bringing Ecology back to Environment Planning’ for UG and PG students at the Centre for Environment Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad University
- 2011 Behavioral ecology in marine mammals and birds – summer course for credits from Texas A& M, Galveston, School of Marine Biology, in Kaikoura New Zealand December 2011.
- 2011 Marine Science - one semester, 15 credit course for undergraduates under the FERAL-BCA Study Abroad Program based in Pondicherry, India
- 2010 Guest lecturer-Marine and Aquatic mammals, Wildlife Conservation & Biology MSc - NCBS Bangalore
- 2000-2001 Anatomy and Physiology University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
- 2001-2002 Organisms Biology at University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

Research projects

- **2015-2018 Principle investigator and Advisor:** Exploratory survey for the Arabian Sea humpback whale off the west coast of India. The International Whaling Commission UK
- **2014-2017 Principle investigator and Advisor:** Understanding shark fisheries and stakeholder role in shark conservation on the northwest coast of India. Save Our Seas Foundation, Switzerland
- **2016-17 Advisor:** Understanding Cetacean presence in the Andaman and Nicobar seas. PI: Mahi Mankeswar. Inlaks Foundation.
- **2015-2016 Advisor:** Exploratory surveys for marine mammal distribution and diversity in the Lakshadweep archipelago, India. PI: Divya Panicker. Rufford Foundation
- **2014-2016 Senior Researcher and Advisor:** Assessing the status of cetaceans along the Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra, India. GOI-UNDP-GEF.
- **2013-2014 Principle investigator:** A rapid assessment of cetacean diversity and occupancy along the southeast coast of India - Informing an Environmental Impact Assessment of a Coal Power Plant and its captive port. The Marine Mammal Commission, USA
- **2013-2014 Team member and Advisor:** Survey of sea grass and dugong feeding grounds in Palk Bay, Southeast coast of India. OMCAR Foundation. The

- National Geographic Conservation Trust and CMS, Abu Dhabi.
- **2012-2014 Advisor:** Developing with dolphins: ecological and anthropogenic factors affecting estuary use and behaviour of humpback dolphins in the southwest coast of India. PI: Divya Panicker. Rufford Foundation
 - **2004-2010 Principle investigator** Understanding species conservation in a complex socio-ecological landscape - Irrawaddy dolphins in Chilika lagoon, India. WCS-NY; OPCF HK; JCU Australia

Publications

Journal Articles

1. Barnes, A., Sutaria, D., Harry, A., and Jabado, R (In Review): Size, sex, male maturity, and length – weight relationships of four commercially important sharks landed in Porbandar, Gujarat, India.
2. Jog, K., Sule. M., Bopardikar, I., Patankar, V and Sutaria, D. (In Review) Living with Dolphins: Local ecological knowledge and perceptions of small cetaceans along the Sindhudurg coastline, Maharashtra, India.
3. Sutaria, D., Sule, M., Jog, I., Bopardikar, I., Jamalabad, A., and Panicker, D. (2017). Baleen whale records from India. Primary paper SC/67A/CMP/03. International Whaling Commission, Slovenia
4. Sutaria, D., Bopardikar, I., and Sule, M. (2017). Irrawaddy dolphins , *Orcaella brevirostris* from India. Primary paper SC/67A/SM/08. International Whaling Commission. Slovenia
5. Sule, M., Bopardikar,, I., Jog, K., Jamalabad, A., Panicker, D., Tregenza, N., and Sutaria, D. (2017). A review of Finless porpoise records from India with a special focus on the population in Sindhudurg, Maharashtra. Primary paper SC/67A/SM/09. International Whaling Commission. Slovenia
6. Panicker, D, Harris, A and **Sutaria D** (In Press): Indian Ocean humpback dolphin (*Sousa plumbea*) estuary use patterns in Kochi harbour, India
7. **Sutaria, D.** & Parikh, A. & Barnes, A. & Jabado, R.W. (2015). First Record Of The Sandbar Shark, *Carcharhinus Plumbeus*, (Chondrichthyes: Carcharhiniformes: Carcharhinidae) From Indian Waters. *Marine Biodiversity Records*, 8: E126 Doi: 10.1017/S1755267215001025
8. **Sutaria. D** (2014). Of Chilika, dolphins and people. *Current Conservation*. (8.2): 10-17
9. Mendez, M., Jefferson J. T., Sergios-Orestis, K., Krutzen, MParra, G. J., Collins, T., Minton, G., Baldwin, R., Berggren, P., Sarnbald A., Amir, A. O., Peddermors, V., Karszmarski, L., Guissamulo, A., Smith, B., **Sutaria, D.**, Amato, G., and Rosenbaum, H. (2014) Integrating multiple lines of evidence to better understand the evolutionary divergence of humpback dolphins along their entire distribution range: a new dolphin species in Australian waters?' *Molecular Ecology*. Doi: 10.1111/mec.12535
10. Van Bresse. M., Minton. G., **Sutaria. D.**, Kelkar. N., Peter C., Zulkarnaen. M., Mansur. R., Porter. L., Rodriguez Vargas. L., and Rajamani. L. (2014). Cutaneous fibropapillomas in Irrawaddy dolphins: an emerging disease in vulnerable populations. *Diseases of Aquatic Organisms* (107): 181–189
11. **Sutaria D** & Marsh H (2011) Abundance estimates of Irrawaddy dolphins in Chilika Lagoon, India, using photo-identification based mark-recapture methods. *Marine Mammal Science* 27(4): E338-E348.
12. Kelkar N, Krishnaswamy J, Choudhary S, & **Sutaria D** (2010) Coexistence of Fisheries with River Dolphin Conservation. *Conservation Biology* 24(4): 1130-1140.
13. Ilangakoon AD, **Sutaria D**, Hines E, & Raghavan R (2008) Community

- interviews on the status of the dugong (*Dugong dugon*) in the Gulf of Mannar (India and Sri Lanka). *Marine Mammal Science* 24(3): 704-710.
14. Van Waerebeek, K., A. N. Baker, F. Felix, J. Gedamke, M. Iniguez, G. P. Sanino, E. Secchi, **D. Sutaria**, A. Van Helden, and Y. Wang. (2008). Vessel collisions with small cetaceans worldwide and with large whales in the southern hemisphere, an initial assessment. *Latin American Journal of Aquatic Mammals* 6.
 15. **Sutaria, D.**, and Jefferson, T. A. (2004). Records of Indo-Pacific Humpback Dolphin (*Sousa chinensis* Osbeck, 1765) along the coast of India and Sri Lanka - An Overview. *Aquatic Mammals Special Issue* 30(1) 125-136
 16. Bivash Pandav, K. Banugopan, **Dipani Sutaria** and B.C. Choudhary (2000): Fidelity of male Olive Ridley Sea Turtles to a breeding ground. *Marine Turtle Newsletter* 87: 9-10

Book Chapters

1. **Sutaria, D.**, Panicker, D., Jog, K., Sule, M., Muralidharan, R., and Bopardikar, I (2015). Humpback Dolphins (Genus *Sousa*) in India: An Overview of Status and Conservation Issues. In '*Conservation status of Humpback Dolphins (Sousa spp.)*'. T.A.Jefferson and B.E.Curry (Ed.) Advances in Marine Biology Series. Vol. 72. Elsevier/Academic Press.
2. **Sutaria, D.**, Arthur, R., & Satashivam, K. (2014). Marine mammals in subcontinental waters. In *Mammals of South Asia*: Johnsingh, A. J. T. & Manjrekar, N. (Ed.). New Delhi: Permanent Black.
3. Ellen M. Hines, Kanjana Adulyanukosol, Sombat Poochaviranon, Phay Somany, Leng Sam Ath, Nick Cox, Keith Symington, Tint Tun, Anouk Ilangakoon, Hans H. de Iongh, Lemnuel V. Aragones, Shaoyong Lu, Xia Jiang, Xin Jing, Elrika D'souza, Vardhan Patankar, **Dipani Sutaria**, Bharat Jethva, Parimal Solanki (2013). Dugongs in Asia. In *Sirenian conservation: Issues and strategies in developing countries*. Ellen Hines. John Reynolds, Lemnuel Aragones, Antonio A. Mignucci-Giannoni, Miriam Marmontel. (Ed.) Florida: University of Florida Press.

Thesis

1. **Sutaria, D.** (2009) Understanding species conservation in complex socio-ecological systems: case of Irrawaddy dolphins in Chilika Lagoon, India. PhD thesis. James Cook University, Townsville, Australia
2. **Sutaria, D.** (2003). A comparative study of coastal cetacean populations in the Gulf of Kachchh and along the coast of Goa, India. MSc Thesis. University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, USA
3. **Sutaria, D.** (1998). A Study of Population Fluctuations in the Flying Fox, *Pteropus giganteus* in Vadodara, an Urban Area'. MSc Thesis. M.S University, Baroda, India

Reports

1. In Prep: 'Understanding shark fisheries (diversity, distribution and life history) and stakeholder role in shark conservation on the northwest coast (Gujarat and Maharashtra) of India'
2. Sutaria, D., Sule, M., Jog, K., Bopardikar, I., and Patankar, V. (2016) Summary and Recommendations - National workshop on cetacean research and monitoring. Submitted to the State Forest Department, Mangrove Cell, Mumbai. UNDP-GoI-GEF. New Delhi.
3. Sanjeev, S., Jamalabad, A., Mitra, P., D'cruz, G., Rao, M., Sutaria, D (2016) Promoting Sustainable Marine Tourism in Goa. WWF New Delhi