

## Catherine Macdonald, PhD

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### Education

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University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida  
Ph.D., Ecosystem Science and Policy  
October 2017

Amherst College, Amherst, Massachusetts  
B.A., *Summa cum laude*, *Phi Beta Kappa*  
December 2006

### Work Experience

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#### **Director, Field School Scientific Training**

*Miami, Florida – Spring 2013 to present*

[www.getintothefield.com](http://www.getintothefield.com)

Co-founder of an innovative scientific field education and research company. Field School trains students in the practical research skills critical for success in the scientific job market, and funds and produces high-quality conservation science overseen by staff with advanced degrees. Field School also strives to provide access and mentorship for historically under-represented groups in STEM fields, including women, LGBTQ+ students, and students of color.

- Responsible for cultivating and maintaining partnerships with non-profits, for-profits, government agencies, and research universities across Florida, the United States, and the Caribbean.
- Collaborate with founders, staff, and partner organizations to advance core mission and provide partners, investors, and donors with regular updates.
- Oversee and direct Field School's research program, and supervise student research projects and internships.
- Act as a lead instructor for Field School's week-long field courses, including *Shark Research Skills* and *Tropical Marine Ecology*, covering both academic topics and instruction in field techniques.

#### **Lecturer, Department of Marine Ecosystems and Society**

#### **Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami**

*Miami, Florida – Fall 2018 to present*

[www.rsmas.miami.edu](http://www.rsmas.miami.edu)

Hired as a lecturer to teach two sections of a graduate-level course in Marine Conservation Biology; offered the opportunity to teach additional courses in Marine Tourism and Conservation Outreach in 2020.

- Teach highly-reviewed interdisciplinary graduate-level courses drawing connections between marine biology, ecology, and conservation, including field training components and practical skill development.
- Advise and oversee academic research projects, including acting as committee chair for Master of Professional Science (MPS) students.
- Chair or sit on committees for 10+ Master of Professional Science students per year.
- Provide mentorship support to MPS students in the Marine Conservation Track.

## **Intern Coordinator, Shark Research and Conservation Program, University of Miami**

*Miami, FL – Winter 2011—Summer 2016*

The Shark Research and Conservation (SRC) Program at the University of Miami is a citizen science initiative that gives high school and university students the opportunity to engage in hands-on shark research.

- Proposed, designed, and administered a structured internship to train undergraduates to participate as primary field technicians for an active shark research program.
- Responsible for hiring, training, mentoring and managing interns in a highly competitive process; including managing communication and facilitating good interpersonal relationships between undergraduates, MS students, PhD students, and faculty.
- Led 70+ shark tagging expeditions, responsible for human and animal safety and onboard decision-making.
- Represented SRC to a range of media outlets, including BBC television and the Associated Press.

## **Awards/Honors**

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- Recipient of a 2019 *Save Our Seas Foundation* Keystone Grant to support research entitled “Collaborative Community-Based Monitoring and Management of Shark Populations in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines”.
- Winner of a 2019 Coaching Fellowship for women driving social change, for work on diversity and inclusion in STEM education
- Selected as a 2018-19 National Fellow of the Environmental Leadership Program (ELP)
- Featured speaker for multiple Center for Ocean Sciences Education Excellence Events (2014/15)
- “Honorable Mention” for National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (2012)
- Stand Up For Animals “Animal Hero” Award (2010)
- 2007-2008 Thomas J. Watson Fellow, a \$25,000 year-long self-directed international research fellowship. My project, entitled “Unsustainable Enmity: Sharks and Shoreline Communities,” supported my field research on shark tourism in The Bahamas, South Africa, Mozambique, Australia, and Malaysia.
- Alfred F. Havinghurst Prize in History for best undergraduate thesis (May 2007)
- Raymond Keith Bryant Prize for best undergraduate thesis (May 2007)

## **Volunteer/Service**

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- Work with low-income students through Terranaut Club, a non-profit encouraging scientific engagement for young women through experiential education.
- Featured scientist for The Gills Club, a project of the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy supporting girls with an interest in shark science. Speak regularly at Gills events and helped originate a Gills field training program for underserved students (member since 2013, featured September/October 2015).
- Invited member of the Technical Advisory Group for the WWF, Manta Trust, and Project Aware collaborative effort to create guidelines for best practices in elasmobranch (shark and ray) tourism, credited as a co-author based on level of contribution (published February 2017)
- Acted as a reviewer for ten peer-reviewed journal articles in 2019

## **Academic Publications**

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**Macdonald C. & Wester, J. (2020).** What makes a panther a panther? Genetics, human perceptions, and the complexity of species categorizations. *Nature and Culture* (Forthcoming).

- Macdonald, C.** & Carter, A. (2020). Blood in the Water: Shark feeding, Tourism, and the Law. *Environmental Law*. (Forthcoming).
- Macdonald C.** & Wester, J. (2019). Public perceptions of species hybridization and the categorization of hybrids of polar bear (*Ursus maritimus*) and grizzly bear (*Ursus arctos horribilis*). *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10871209.2019.1581859>.
- Macdonald, C.** (2017). Wildlife Policy and Conservation: An Interdisciplinary Historical Perspective (doctoral thesis). University of Miami, United States.
- Macdonald, C.,** Gallagher, A. J., Barnett, A., Brunnschweiler, J., Shiffman, D. S., & Hammerschlag, N. (2017). Conservation potential of apex predator tourism. *Biological Conservation*, 215, 132-141.
- Shiffman, D. S., **Macdonald, C.,** Ganz, H. Y., & Hammerschlag, N. (2017). Fishing practices and representations of shark conservation issues among users of a land-based shark angling online forum. *Fisheries Research*, 196, 13-26.
- Lawrence, A.J., Budziak, A., Campbell, I., Cornish, A., Ender, I., Jeffries, B., Kanstinger, P., **Macdonald, C.C.,** Marston, J., Stevens, G., Ward-Paige, C. A. (2017). *Responsible Shark & Ray Tourism: A Guide to Best Practice*. Gland, Switzerland: WWF, and Rancho Santa Margarita, USA: Project Aware, and Dorset, UK: Manta Trust.
- Hammerschlag, N., Skubel, R., Calich, H., Nelson, E.R., Shiffman, D.S., Wester, J., **Macdonald, C.C.,** Cain, S., Jennings, L., Enchaelmaier, A., Gallagher, A.J. (2016) Nocturnal and crepuscular behavior in elasmobranchs: a review of movement, habitat use, foraging, and reproduction in the dark. *Bulletin of Marine Science*, DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5343/bms.2016.1046>
- Gallagher, A.J., Vianna, G.M.S., Papastamatiou, Y.P., **Macdonald, C.C.,** Guttridge, T.L., Hammerschlag, N. (2015). Biological effects, conservation potential, and research priorities of shark diving tourism. *Biological Conservation* 184: 365-379.
- Shiffman, D.S., Gallagher, A.J., Wester, J., **Macdonald, C.C.,** Thaler, A.D., Cooke, S.J., Hammerschlag, N. (2015). [A letter of clarification from the authors of “trophy fishing for species threatened with extinction”](#). *Marine Policy* 53: 213-214.
- Shiffman, D.S., Gallagher, A.J., Wester, J., **Macdonald, C.C.,** Thaler, A.D., Cooke, S.J., Hammerschlag, N. (2014). Trophy fishing for species threatened with extinction: A way forward building on a history of conservation. *Marine Policy* 50: 318-322.