

SARAH J. FOSTER, PhD

Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA
s.foster@oceans.ubc.ca / +1 (604) 827 5139

www.oceans.ubc.ca/sarah-foster
www.projectseahorse.org
www.iucn-seahorse.org

WORK EXPERIENCE

2020-present **Program Leader, Project Seahorse**
full-time **Research Associate, Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries (formerly Fisheries Centre)**
2017-2019 *contractual* *The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada*

2010-2016 *full-time*
Project Seahorse is an award-winning team that has made measurable gains in marine conservation around the world. My research and conservation work focus on advancing sustainability of fisheries and international trade in threatened marine species by supporting effective international and national policy development and implementation. This includes, but is not limited to: improving our understanding of threatened species distributions and life histories through primary research and community science, and using this information to lead and support management and conservation efforts worldwide – but with a particular focus on Asia; improving implementation of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) for seahorses and other marine species; reducing the impact of unsustainable fishing practices with a particular focus on non-selective gears such as trawl-nets.

Projects: range from scientific research (field and desk based) through to national and multilateral policy initiatives. In this role I have collaborated with a diversity of communities – for example, small-scale fishers, industrial fishers, traditional medicine traders, and fisheries and oceans agencies in over ten countries (mostly global south). Extensive field research experience underwater, at fishing ports and onboard commercial fishing trawlers (for weeks at a time).

Outputs: primary scientific papers, toolkits for sustainable fisheries and trade, capacity building workshops, participation in multinational meetings, policy briefs, editorials, online and social media.

Managerial roles: play a lead role in strategic planning and fundraising efforts – especially grant writing; responsible for management of all Project Seahorse funds (tracking, reporting); supervise research assistants, students (masters, PhD) and post-docs.

2017-2019 **National Manager, SeaChoice**
contractual *David Suzuki Foundation, Vancouver, Canada*

Manager of national seafood sustainability project that is a collaboration among three leading Canadian ENGO's: the David Suzuki Foundation, the Living Oceans Society and

the Ecology Action Centre. I was responsible for: technical oversight and ensuring robust and timely execution of all SeaChoice projects; strategic planning; fund raising and donor relations; maintaining active, functional internal and external working relationships; and coordinating external communications.

Programmatic roles: direct development of our project to improve retailer commitments to sustainable seafood procurement across Canada (SeafoodProgress.org); oversight, support and quality control for all other SeaChoice projects – including proactive engagement with eco-label initiatives, efforts to support sustainable seafood choices through accurate labelling and traceability from harvest to plate, and fisheries and aquaculture reform efforts for priority species.

Management roles: annual strategic planning; work plan development and tracking across eight team members; troubleshooting personnel and programmatic challenges with leadership; budget tracking and reporting; invoices/expense processing; donor relations; lead on funding proposals and reporting; meeting facilitation.

Communications roles: ensuring effective external communications of the SeaChoice program, including drafting press releases and news pieces, managing press inquiries, maintaining the website and oversight of social media.

2018
contractual

Coordinating author for study to assess the impact of international trade on the conservation status of the Banggai cardinalfish

Contracted by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Species Survival Commission (IUCN SSC), on behalf of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) Secretariat

Coordinated three researchers to compile a study to assess the impact of international trade on the conservation status of *Pterapogon kauderni*, including recommendations for suitable conservation and management; presented the study and its recommendations at the 30th meeting of the CITES Animals Committee (July 2018) and supported the Animals Committee to make recommendations to the 18th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

2001-2004
full-time

Research Biologist and Network Coordinator, Project Seahorse

Department of Biology, McGill University, Montreal, Canada
and Fisheries Centre, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Wrote primary scientific papers; collated and analyzed information on seahorse and pipefish life history and habitat; assisted with international policy initiatives – including acting as technical organizer for CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) workshop in Cebu, Philippines; coordinated and supported an international network of syngnathid researchers; responded to requests for biological information on syngnathids; organized volunteers for research in Philippines and Portugal.

2001 (fall)

Survey Biologist for Project Seahorse Foundation for Marine Conservation, Inc., Bohol, Philippines (volunteer)

Conducted underwater visual surveys (on SCUBA) of fish and benthic communities to monitor the effectiveness of marine protected areas (MPAs) at restoring fish populations and habitats; worked under direction of Filipino biologists and social workers; engaged with fishing communities implementing the MPAs.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE

Parental leave: 2010-2011; 2014-2015

EDUCATION

2004-2009 **PhD (Resource Management and Environmental Studies) – Fisheries Centre, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., Canada**

Thesis topic – Impacts of tropical shrimp trawling on small fishes). Field work involved spending weeks at sea on-board commercial trawlers in the Gulf of California, Mexico. Research led to four published primary papers. Apart from my own PhD research, I remained an active contributor to Project Seahorse, an international marine conservation team, including assisting with implementation of international trade regulations for seahorses.

1998-2001 MSc (Biology) – Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S., Canada.

1995-1998 BSc (1st Class Honours) – Dalhousie University, Halifax, N.S., Canada.

ACADEMIC SUPERVISORY ROLES (DIRECT):

MSc students, UBC:

Adam Hicks (2020-2023) – Thesis title: “The e-commerce trade of seahorses”

Clayton Manning (2015-2017) – Thesis title: “How is a family of sedentary marine fishes shaped by its habitats, prey, and predators?”

Allison Stocks (2013-2016) – Thesis title: “Diversification and depletion in Vietnamese seahorse fisheries”.

Julia Lawson (2012-2015) – Thesis title: “Rare seahorses have big implications for small fishes in bycatch”.

PhD students, UBC:

Marta Flotats (2022-present) – Seahorse fisheries and trade in Peru

Joana De Capitani (2022-present) – Ecological impacts of bottom trawling

Post-docs, UBC:

Dr. Tse-lynn Loh (2013-2014) – Using citizen science to advance management and conservation of seahorses in Southeast Asia.

Research assistants, UBC:

Syd Ascione (2022-present), Research Assistant

Le Nghiem (2022-2023), Wildlife Trade Researcher

Regina Bestbier (supervised 2012-2014, but continue to provide ongoing support)

Stefan Wiswedel (2012-2014)

PROGRAM FUNDS

- 2022 Unrestricted funding donation. Sidekick Foundation (\$62,500 USD)
- 2022 Unrestricted funding donation. Leiden Conservation Foundation (\$62,500 USD)
- 2018-2020 Leading the sea change for seafood sustainability in Canada. Global Seafood Markets: Proposal for 2018-2020. David and Lucille Packard Foundation, USA (\$700,000 USD; coordinating author).

RESEARCH FUNDS

Principal Investigator (PI) / Co-PI (with supervisor as named PI):

- 2020 Supporting CITES implementation for seahorses. The Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, Switzerland (\$142,000 USD)
- 2020 First assessment of seahorse fisheries/trade in Cambodia. Synchronicity Earth (£3,365)
- 2019 Seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.) on CITES: a road map to success. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, USA (\$306,695 USD)
- 2018 Supporting the CITES Secretariat and Parties to address the global illegal trade in seahorses. Forestry Bureau, COA, Taiwan (\$5,000 CAD)
- 2017 Right from the start: Guiding the Philippines as it works towards implementing CITES for Vulnerable seahorses, Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong (\$264,151 HKD)
- 2016 Advancing and enhancing CITES' implementation of Appendix II listings for sharks and other marine fishes, Paul G Allen Family Foundation, US (\$163,000 USD)
- 2016 Right from the start: Guiding the Philippines as it implements CITES for Vulnerable seahorses, Save our Species, UK (\$24,988 USD)
- 2016 Helping Vietnam's CITES Authorities manage the country's seahorse exports for conservation, Peoples Trust for Endangered Species, UK (£9,977 GBP)
- 2013 CITES: Saving Thailand's Threatened Seahorses, Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong (\$197,287 HKD)
- 2013 Creating momentum for sustainable seahorse populations, Conservation and Research Foundation, USA (\$5,000 CAD)
- 2012 Making CITES work for seahorses: Supporting Thailand as it implements CITES recommendations, Peoples Trust for Endangered Species, UK (£25,000 GBP)
- 2010 Supporting CITES Parties to meet their obligations under the Convention for Appendix II listed marine fishes of commercial importance, Forestry Bureau, COA, Taiwan (\$5,000 CAD)
- 2007 The EJLB Foundation, Environmental Research Programme Grant, Montreal, Canada (\$15,000 CAD)

Co-author/major contributor (but not named investigator):

- 2012 Building in-country capacity to undertake non-detriment findings with regards to *Hippocampus* species in Indonesia, Thailand and Viet Nam, CITES Secretariat, Switzerland (\$61,000 USD)
- 2012 iSeahorse: Empowering Filipino citizens to take action for seahorses and the seas, Whitley Fund for Nature, UK (£60,000 GBP)
- 2012 Making CITES work for seahorses: supporting Thailand as it implements CITES regulations, Riverbanks Conservation Support Fund, USA (\$5,000 USD)
- 2010 Recovery of coral-reef habitats in community-managed reserves, Ocean Park Conservation Foundation Hong Kong (\$15,500 CAD)
- 2010 Supporting the Second International Marine Conservation Congress, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (\$39,650 CAD)

AWARDS (PhD only)

- 2009 Best poster (of 150 entrants) at Student Conference on Conservation Science, Cambridge, U.K., March 23-27, 2009 (Topic: Is bycatch a big problem for small fishes?)
- 2007-2008 James Robert Thompson Fellowship, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Only one awarded each year. (\$5,000 CAD for one year)
- 2007-2008 University Graduate Fellowship, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. (\$13,000 CAD for one year)
- 2006-2007 Doctoral Research Award, International Development Research Council of Canada, Vancouver, Canada. One of only 40 awarded nationally each year. (\$20,000 CAD for field research)
- 2006-2007 Les Lavkulich Scholarship, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Only one awarded each year. (\$4,500 CAD for one year)
- 2006-2007 IODE War Memorial Scholarship, Vancouver, Canada. One of only five given nationally each year. (\$15,000 CAD for one year)
- 2004-2006 Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) PGSD Graduate Student Scholarship, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada (\$21,000 CAD per year, for two years)
- 2004 Graduate Entrance Scholarship, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. One of only three awarded within my programme each year (\$4,000 CAD for one year)

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed primary papers:

- Foster, S.J.**, Justason, T., Magera, A.M. & A.C.J. Vincent (2022). CITES makes a measurable difference to the trade in live marine fishes: The pioneering case of seahorses. *Biological Conservation*, 272, 109653.
- Foster, S.J.** and Vincent, A.C.J. (2021). Holding governments accountable for their commitments: CITES Review of Significant Trade for a very high-volume taxon. *Global Ecology and Conservation* 27:e01572.
- Aylesworth, L., **Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2020). Realities of offering advice to governments on CITES. *Conservation Biology*. 34(3): 644-653.
- Stocks, A.P., **Foster, S.J.**, Bat, N.K., Nguyen, M.H. & A.C.J. Vincent (2019). Local knowledge of target and incidental seahorse fisheries in Southern Vietnam. *Human Ecology*. 47(3):397–4081.
- Foster, S.J.**, Kuo, T-C., Wan, A.K.Y & A.C.J. Vincent (2019). Global seahorse trade defies export bans under CITES action and national legislation. *Marine Policy*. 103: 33-41.
- Manning, C.G., **Foster, S.J.**, Harasti, D. & A.C.J. Vincent (2019). A review of the diets and feeding behaviours of a family of biologically diverse marine fishes (Family Syngnathidae). *Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries*. 29(5): 197–221.
- Kuo, T-C., Laksanawimol, P., Aylesworth, L., **Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2018). Changes in the trade of bycatch species corresponding to CITES regulations: the case of dried seahorse trade in Thailand. *Biodiversity and Conservation*. 27(13): 3447–3468.
- Manning, C.G., **Foster, S.J.**, Harasti, D. & A.C.J. Vincent (2018). A holistic investigation of the ecological correlates of abundance and body size for the Endangered White's seahorse *Hippocampus whitei*. *Journal of Fish Biology*. 93(4): 649-663.
- Stocks, A.P., **Foster, S.J.**, Nguyen, B.K. & A.C.J. Vincent (2017). Catch as catch can: Targeted and indiscriminate small-scale fishing of seahorses in Vietnam. *Fisheries Research*. 196: 27-33.
- Lawson, J.M., **Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2017). Low bycatch rates add up to big numbers for a genus of small fishes. *Fisheries*. 42(1): 19-33.
- Lourie, S.L., Pollom, R.A. and **S.J. Foster** (2016). A Global Annotated Checklist of the Seahorses *Hippocampus Rafinesque 1810* (Actinopterygii: Syngnathiformes): Taxonomy and Biogeography with Recommendations for Further Research. *Zootaxa*. 4146(1): 001–066.

- Foster, S.J.**, Wiswedel, S. & A.C.J. Vincent (2016). Opportunities and challenges for analysis of wildlife trade using CITES data – seahorses as a case study. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*. 26: 154–172.
- Yip M.Y., Lim A.C.O., Chong V.C., Lawson J.M. & **S.J. Foster** (2015). Food and feeding habits of the seahorses *Hippocampus spinosissimus* and *Hippocampus trimaculatus* (Malaysia). *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of the United Kingdom*. 95(5): 1033–1040.
- Lawson, J.M., **Foster, S.J.**, Lim, A.C.O., Chong, V.C. & A.C.J. Vincent (2014). Novel life history for threatened seahorses provides insights into fishing impacts. *Journal of Fish Biology*. 86(1): 1-15.
- Foster, S.J.** & A. Arreguin-Sánchez (2014). Using distribution patterns of small fishes to assess small fish by-catch in tropical shrimp trawl fisheries. *Animal Conservation*. 17(3): 217-224.
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2012). Advice in spite of great uncertainty: assessing and addressing bycatch of small fishes with limited data using *Stellifer illecebrosus* as a case study. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Research*. 22(5): 639–651.
- Vincent, A.C.J., **Foster S.J.** & H.J. Koldewey (2011). Conservation and management of seahorses and other Syngnathidae. *Journal of Fish Biology*. 78(6): 1681-1724.
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2010). Using life-history information to assess potential effects of shrimp trawling on small fishes. *Journal of Fish Biology*. 76(10): 2434-2454.
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2010). Tropical shrimp trawl fisheries: Fishers' knowledge of and attitudes about a doomed fishery. *Marine Policy*. 34: 437-446.
- Ban, N.C.B, Blight, L.K., **Foster, S.J.**, Morgan, S. K. & K. O'Donnell (2008). Pragmatism before prescription for managing global fisheries. *Frontiers in Ecology* 6(10): 521.
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2005). Sustainability of the international trade in seahorses with a single minimum size limit. *Conservation Biology* 19: 1044-1050.
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2004). The life history and ecology of seahorses, *Hippocampus* spp.: implications for conservation and management. *Journal of Fish Biology* 65: 1-61.

Not-refereed primary papers

- Vincent, A.C.J. & **S.J. Foster** (2017) Setting precedent in export regulations for marine fishes with seahorses. *Fisheries*. 42(1): 40-43.

Research reports

- Foster, S.J.** (ed) (2023). Implementation of CITES Appendix II listing for seahorses in the context of export bans and suspensions. *Fisheries Centre Research Report* 31(3). 306 pp.
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2023). Implementing trade controls for seahorses in Asia – challenges and opportunities. In **Foster, S.J.** (ed) (2023). Implementation of CITES Appendix II listing for seahorses in the context of export bans and suspensions. *Fisheries Centre Research Report* 31(3). p. 10-67.
- Vaidyanathan, T., **Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2022) A practical approach to meeting national obligations for sustainable trade under CITES. *IOF Working Papers 2022 (05)*. Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries, University of British Columbia. 28 pp.
- Vincent, A.C.J., **Foster, S.J.**, Fowler, S.L., Lieberman, S. & Y. Sadovy de Mitcheson (2022). Implementing CITES Appendix II listings for marine fishes: a novel framework and a constructive analysis. *Fisheries Centre Research Report*, 30(3), 189 pp.
- Foster, S.J.**, Justason, T., Magera, A.M. & A.C.J. Vincent (2021). Changes in the international trade in live seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.) after their listing on CITES Appendix II. *Fisheries Centre Research Reports* 29(4), 115 pp.
- Stanton, L.M., **Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2021). Identifying national conservation status, legislation and priorities for syngnathid fishes globally. *Fisheries Centre Research Reports* 29(2): 43 pp.
- Kelly Roebuck, **Sarah Foster**, Liane Veitch & Scott Wallace. 2020. Certification, verification or fabrication? An investigation of seafood environmental claims in Canadian retailers. *SeaChoice*, Vancouver, Canada. 47 pp.

- Christina Callegari, Scott Wallace, **Sarah Foster** & Liane Arness. 2020. Fish List wish list: A case for updating the Canadian government's guidance for common names on seafood. SeaChoice, Vancouver, Canada. 39 pp.
- Foster, S.J.** Expert assessment of seahorse trade reporting. In Pavitt, A., Malsch, K., King, E., Chevalier, A., Kachelriess, D., Vannuccini, S. & K. Friedman (2021). CITES and the sea: Trade in commercially exploited CITES-listed marine species. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper No. 666. Rome, FAO. 100 pp.
- Ndobe, S., Yasir, I., Moore, A.M., Biondo, M.V. & **S.J. Foster** (2018). Study to assess the impact of international trade on the conservation status of *Pterapogon kauderni* (Banggai cardinalfish). Conducted by the authors on behalf of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Submitted as an Information Document for the 30th Meeting of the CITES Animal's Committee. AC30 Inf. 16. 64 pp.
- Foster, S.J.**, Aylesworth, L., Do, H.H., Bat, N.K. & A.C.J. Vincent (2017). Seahorse exploitation and trade in Viet Nam. Fisheries Centre Research Reports 25(2): 50pp.
- Foster, S.J.** (2016). Seahorse (*Hippocampus* spp.) and the CITES Review of Significant Trade. Fisheries Centre Research Reports 24(4): 48pp.
- Foster, S.J.** & C. Apale (2016). Exploitation, trade, conservation and management of seahorses in the Philippines. Final report. Project Seahorse and the Zoological Society of London.
- Apale, C. & **S.J. Foster** (2016). The life history and ecology of seahorses in the Philippines. Final report. The Zoological Society of London and Project Seahorse. 40 pp.
- Evanson, M., **Foster, S.J.**, Wiswedel, S. & A.C.J. Vincent (2011). Tracking the international trade of seahorses (*Hippocampus* species) – the importance of CITES. Fisheries Centre Research Reports 19(2). 104 pp.
- Vincent, A.C.J., Giles, B.G., Czembor, C. & **S.J. Foster** (eds) (2011). Trade in Seahorses and Other Syngnathids in Countries Outside Asia (1998-2001). Fisheries Centre Research Reports 19(1): 181pp.

Refereed conference proceedings

- Foster S.J.**, Koldewey, H.J. & A.C.J. Vincent (2008). Making non-detriment findings for seahorses, *Hippocampus* spp. Case study for International Expert Workshop on CITES Non-Detriment Findings. Cancun, Mexico, November 17-22, 2008.

Technical & Policy manuals/documents

- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2023). Easier advice for making seahorse non-detriment findings. Project Seahorse, Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries, The University of British Columbia. June 2023. 18 pp.
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2023). Implementing CITES for Seahorses - Asia Region Workshop. Working document submitted by the Philippines and the United States of America to the 32nd meeting of the CITES Animals Committee. CITES AC32 Doc 38.2. 19 pp.
- Maldives, Monaco, Nigeria, Peru, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Togo, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America (2022). Next steps toward successful implementation of Appendix II listing of seahorses. Working document for the 19th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. CoP19 Doc 69.2. 5 pp. (prepared by **S.J. Foster** & A.C.J. Vincent).
- Foster, S.J.**, S. Ascione, F. Stantaniello & T. Phelps Bondaroff (2022). Tracking seahorse (*Hippocampus* spp.) illegal wildlife trade through seizures reported online. Information Document for the 19th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties, submitted by the United States. CoP19 Inf. 96. 29 pp.
- Vincent, A.C.J., **Foster, S.J.**, Fowler, S. Lieberman & Y.J. Sadovy de Mitcheson (2022). Implementing CITES Appendix II listings for marine fishes: a novel framework and a constructive analysis. Information Document for the 19th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties, submitted by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. CoP19 Inf. 90. 15 pp.
- Foster, S.J.**, Justason, T., Magera, A.M. & A.C.J. Vincent (2022). Changes in the international trade in live seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.) after their listing on CITES Appendix II. Working document submitted by the CITES Secretariat to the 74th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee. Annex 1 of SC74 Doc. 70.1 72 pp.

- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2022). Implementation of CITES Appendix II listing for seahorses in the context of export bans and suspensions. Working document submitted by the CITES Secretariat to the 74th meeting of the CITES Standing Committee. Annex 2 of SC74 Doc. 70.1 72 pp.
- Maldives, Monaco, Sri Lanka and the United States of America (2019). Seahorses on CITES – A roadmap to success. Working document for the 18th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. CoP18 Doc 72. 15 pp. (prepared by **S.J. Foster** & A.C.J. Vincent).
- IUCN (2018). Seahorse exploitation and trade in Viet Nam. Information Document for the 70th Meeting of the CITES Standing Committee. SC70 Inf. 29. 3 pp. (prepared by **S.J. Foster**)
- IUCN (2017). A global taxonomic revision of the seahorses *Hippocampus* spp. Information Document for the 29th Meeting of the CITES Animals Committee. Inf. 22. 5 pp. (prepared by **S.J. Foster**)
- IUCN (2016). Implementing Appendix II listings for marine fishes – important considerations when making non-detriment findings. Information Document for the 17th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. CoP17 Inf. 52. 10 pp. (prepared by **S.J. Foster** & A.C.J. Vincent)
- IUCN (2016). Assisting Parties to meet their commitments: CITES Review of Significant Trade for seahorses (*Hippocampus* spp.), a taxon traded in high volumes. Information Document for the 17th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. CoP17 Inf. 53. 10 pp. (prepared by **S.J. Foster** & A.C.J. Vincent).
- IUCN and FAO (2016). Simple is good: moving toward pragmatic and effective monitoring to support CITES implementation for marine fishes and invertebrates on Appendix II. Information Document for the 17th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. CoP17 Inf. 65. 7 pp. (prepared by L. Ayelsworth, **S.J. Foster**, K. Friedman & A.C.J. Vincent).
- IUCN (2016). Implementation of CITES Appendix II listings for marine fishes. Information Document for the 17th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. CoP17 Inf. 65. 5 pp. (prepared by A.C.J. Vincent, **S.J. Foster**, S. Lieberman, Y. Sadovy & S. Fowler).
- Foster, S.J.** and Vincent, A.C.J. (2016). Making Non-Detriment Findings for seahorses – a framework, Version 4.0. Project Seahorse, Fisheries Centre, The University of British Columbia. 65 pp.
- Mundy-Taylor, V., Crook, V., **Foster, S.**, Fowler, S., Sant, G. & J. Rice (2014). CITES Non-detriment Findings: Guidance for Shark Species. A Framework to assist authorities in making Non-detriment Findings (NDFs) for species listed in CITES Appendix II. Report prepared for the Germany Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (Bundesamt für Naturschutz, BfN).
- Wiswedel, S., Loh, T.-L. & **S.J. Foster** (2013). Common Large Seahorses of Southeast Asia. The John G. Shedd Aquarium/Project Seahorse. <http://bit.ly/1oE56ig>
- Foster, S.J.**, Loh, T.-L. & C. Knapp (2014). iSeahorse Trends Toolkit: Surveying Wild Seahorse Landings in Support of Conservation. 25 pp. The John G. Shedd Aquarium/Project Seahorse. <http://bit.ly/1orQbTY>
- Loh, T.-L., Knapp, C. & **S.J. Foster** (2014). iSeahorse Trends Toolkit: Finding and Surveying Wild Seahorse Populations in Support of Conservation. 39 pp. The John G. Shedd Aquarium/Project Seahorse. <http://bit.ly/1JRnvPZ>
- Lourie, S.A., **Foster, S.J.**, Cooper, E.W.T. & A.C.J. Vincent (2004). A guide to the identification of seahorses. Project Seahorse and TRAFFIC North America, Washington D.C.: University of British Columbia and World Wildlife Fund. 114 pp. ISBN 0-89164-169-6

Workshops/Capacity Building/Scientific Fora

- Implementing CITES for Seahorses - Asia Region Workshop (2023). Capacity building workshop. March 14-17, Cebu, Philippines. **Lead organizer, facilitator, speaker.**
- Meaningful MPAs are key to ending bottom trawling... and ending bottom trawling is key to meaningful MPAs (2023). Contributed symposium at the 5th International Protected Area Congress (IMPAC5). February 6, Vancouver, Canada. **Co-organizer, speaker.**
- Assessing implementation of CITES Appendix II listings for marine fishes (2022). Side-event at the 19th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. November 18, Geneva, Switzerland. **Co-organizer, speaker.**

Seahorses on CITES – Next steps towards successful implementation (2022). Side-event at the 19th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. November 21, Geneva, Switzerland. **Lead organizer, facilitator, speaker.**

Seahorses on CITES – a roadmap to success (2019). Side-event at the 18th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. August 17, Geneva, Switzerland. **Lead organizer, facilitator, speaker.**

Report on the meeting to feedback the results of seahorse fisheries and trade research carried out May-July 2019 (2019). July 31, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, Quezon City, Philippines. **Co-organizer, speaker.**

Implementing CITES for seahorses in Viet Nam – A consultative meeting (2017). April 5, Hai Phong, Viet Nam. **Lead organizer, facilitator, speaker.**

Implementation of Marine Fish Listings on CITES Appendix II (2016). Side-event at the 17th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. September 25, Johannesburg, South Africa. **Co-organizer, speaker.**

Making bad better: Advancements in trawl fisheries research and mitigation (2016). Contributed symposium at the 4th International Marine Conservation Congress. August 2016, St John's, Canada. **Co-organizer, speaker.**

Seeking synergies among CITES Appendix II listed marine species to make the Convention maximally effective – an international expert “Think Tank” (2016). May 17-19, Seattle, Washington. **Co-organizer, speaker.**

Consultation forum in support of the Philippines eventual implementation of CITES for seahorses and other aquatic species (2016). March 1-3, Cebu, Philippines. **Lead organizer, facilitator, speaker.**

iSeahorse training. 1^o SIMBRAFAUNA and 1^o Workshop Syngnathidae Brasil (2015). November, Porto de Galinas, Brazil. **Co-organizer, facilitator, speaker.**

Building in-country capacity to undertake Non-Detriment Findings with regard to *Hippocampus* species in Thailand (2013). June 10-12, Bangsaen, Thailand. **Lead organizer, facilitator, speaker.**

Building in-country capacity to undertake Non-Detriment Findings with regard to *Hippocampus* species in Vietnam (2013). May 29-31, Nha Trang, Vietnam. **Lead organizer, facilitator, speaker.**

How scientists can help CITES advance marine conservation (2011). Contributed symposium at the 2nd International Marine Conservation Congress. May, Victoria, Canada. **Co-organizer, speaker.**

PRESENTATIONS (last eight years, in addition to those listed above)

Foster, S.J. & A.C.J. Vincent (2021). Turning national commitments into conservation action for seahorses. BLISS Zoology Seminar, The University of British Columbia. February 26, Vancouver, Canada [oral presentation]

Foster, S.J. & A.C.J. Vincent (2019). Implementing CITES for seahorses – *Hippocampus* spp. Shark Conservation Fund Workshop. December 10, Vancouver, Canada [invited speaker]

Foster, S.J. & L. Veitch (2019). SeaChoice – from partner to watchdog. Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries Seminar Series, The University of British Columbia. February 15, Vancouver, Canada [invited speaker]

Foster, S.J., Veitch, L. & B. Wareham (2019). Seafood Progress – tracking retailer performance against their sustainable seafood commitments. SeaWeb Seafood Summit. June 19, Barcelona, Spain [oral presentation]

Foster, S.J. (2018). Turning national commitments into conservation action for seahorses. Simon Fraser University “Les Ecologistes” Seminar Series. January 18, Vancouver, Canada [invited speaker]

Foster, S.J. (2017). Turning national commitments into conservation action for seahorses. Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries Seminar Series, The University of British Columbia. September 22, Vancouver, Canada [invited speaker]

Foster, S.J. (2017). Turning national commitments into conservation action for seahorses. SyngBIO 2017. May 18, Tampa, USA [invited keynote speaker]

Foster, S.J. & A.C.J. Vincent (2016). Implementing CITES for seahorses. 17th Meeting of the CITES Conference of the Parties. September 25, Johannesburg, South Africa [oral presentation]

- Vincent, A.C.J. & **S.J. Foster** (2016). Addressing annihilation trawling and associated environmental and human rights abuses. 4th International Marine Conservation Congress. August, St John's, Canada [oral presentation]
- Lawson, J.M., **Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2016). Small bycatch rates of an unusual small fish taxon add up to big numbers. 4th International Marine Conservation Congress. August, St John's, Canada [oral presentation]
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2016). Project Seahorse: Generating knowledge, taking action and fostering collaboration. March, Shangri-La Mactan Resort and Spa, Mactan, Philippines [invited speaker]
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2015). Seahorses and the 'onion world': from fish to fisheries to global policy...and you. 1^o SIMBRAFAUNA and 1^o Workshop Syngnathidae Brasil. November, Porto de Galinas, Brazil [invited plenary speaker]
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2015). Seahorses and the 'onion world': from fish to fisheries to global policy...and you. October, Xiamen University, Xiamen, China [invited speaker]
- Foster, S.J.** & A.C.J. Vincent (2015). Project Seahorse: Generating knowledge, taking action and fostering collaboration. October, 3rd Institute of Oceanography, Xiamen, China [invited speaker]

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT (select)

- 2023 Member of two CITES non-detriment finding (NDF) expert working groups: generic NDFs and aquatic species (<https://cites.org/sites/default/files/notifications/E-Notif-2023-095.pdf>)
- 2022-present Steering Group member for the Transform Bottom Trawling Coalition (<https://transformbottomtrawling.org>)
- 2022-present Research Associate and Post-Doc representative for the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Ensure that researcher interests are considered in all decision making; attend faculty meetings.
- 2013-present Focal Point for Global Trade, IUCN SSC Seahorses, Pipefishes and Seadragon Specialist Group (www.iucn-seahorse.org)
- 2012-2014 Steering Committee, The 3rd International Marine Conservation Congress (Scotland, August 2014)
- 2012-2014 Research Associate and Post-Doc representative for the Fisheries Centre, The University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Ensure that researcher interests are considered in all decision making; attend faculty meetings.
- 2012-2013 Board member, Leaky Heaven Circus, Vancouver, Canada. A theatre company dedicated to producing innovative and inclusive works and practices, and to offering opportunities for exchange across communities.
- 2009-2012 Board member, Marine Section – Society for Conservation Biology. Includes helping to organize International Marine Conservation Congress (fundraising and program committees – 3 year term).
- 2001-present Volunteer contributor for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Compile, update and review Red List assessments for Syngnathids as service to the Red List Authority for Syngnathids.

OTHER

- Languages English (native), Spanish (basic comprehension), French (basic comprehension)
- Certifications Valid driver's licence; PADI Rescue SCUBA diver