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Seascape ecology of temperate fishes

THE CENTER FOR SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM SOLUTIONS PRESENTS:

Dr Matt Rees, Australian Institute of Marine Science

Date: Thursday 20th September

Time: 16:00 – 17:00

Venue: Building 20 Theatre 3 (20.3)

Refreshments will be provided



ABSTRACT

Head to your local beach or estuary and it is clear that coastal ecosystems are complex mosaics composed of a variety of habitat patches. Seascape ecology, which applies the concepts of terrestrial landscape ecology to the marine environment, offers an approach to understand how these spatial patterns influence ecological processes and species distributions. Historically, seascape ecology has been hindered by difficulties in acquiring habitat data over relevant spatial scales. Recent improvements in remote sensing technologies, however, now provide the opportunity to explore seascape related questions. Here, I will present research from my PhD on how patterns in coastal seascapes shape temperate fish communities. I will also discuss how seascape ecology can be used to improve the design and assessment of marine protected areas.



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BIOGRAPHY

Matt Rees is a postdoctoral fellow at the Australian Institute of Marine Science in Perth working on Global FinPrint; a project assessing the status of shark and ray populations on a global scale. He has a broad interest in marine spatial ecology and the use of non-destructive techniques, such as baited underwater video systems to survey marine fauna. Matt grew up down the road from Wollongong, completing his undergraduate degree, then PhD at the University of Wollongong in 2017.

