



# MELISSA CRISTINA MÁRQUEZ

SHARK BEHAVIOURAL ECOLOGIST,  
FREELANCE WRITER, SCIENCE  
COMMUNICATOR, TV PRESENTER

Research interests include: behavior and ecology of Chondrichthyans, biotelemetry, science communication, marine education and outreach/ecotourism, and marine conservation laws/policies.

## EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS, MARINE ECOLOGY &  
CONSERVATION  
NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA | 2011 - 2015

MSC, MARINE BIOLOGY  
VICTORIA UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON | 2015 - 2016

PHD, ENVIRONMENT & AGRICULTURE  
CURTIN UNIVERSITY | 2019 - PRESENT

## SKILLS

- Proficient with Word, Excel, and Powerpoint.
- Knowledgeable in R Programming and ArcGIS.
- Knowledgeable in basic video/photo editing.
- Proficient in sein netting, long-lining, and rod and reel fishing.
- Proficient in shark work up's in the field (fin clips, blood samples, tagging, etc).
- Proven team member/leader in long rigorous field work trips.

## CONTACT

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## EXPERIENCE

### FREELANCE WILDLIFE WRITER

FORBES SCIENCE | 2018 - PRESENT

- Disseminate the most recent Chondrichthyan research in language all can understand via 5-7 posts for Forbes Science a month.

### FOUNDER

THE FINS UNITED INITIATIVE | 2013 - PRESENT

- Presentations on marine science and shark, skate, ray and chimaera conservation; free-lance community and academic professional ([www.finsunited.co.nz](http://www.finsunited.co.nz)).

### EDUCATION ASSISTANT & SOCIAL MEDIA CONSULTANT

ISLAND BAY AQUARIUM | 2017

- Created and implemented interpretive education/outreach programming and materials that emphasised the biological diversity of the Taputeranga Marine Reserve. Content management duties included administrating the creation and publishing of relevant, original, high-quality content while creating a regular publishing schedule.

### SHARK BIOLOGY INTERN

FLORIDA STATE COASTAL AND MARINE LABORATORY |  
2014

- Participated in population survey; gill netting, rod and reel fishing, preparing bait, inputting data, shark handling, tagging and workups.



### SHARK BIOLOGY INTERN

OCEANS RESEARCH | 2013

- Ran research vessels, manual acoustic tracking, recorded/entered behavioral data, tagged and took genetic sampling of white sharks, and assisted in managing and running the aquarium and research facility.

### SHARK BIOLOGY INTERN

BIMINI BIOLOGICAL FIELD STATION | 2012

- Participated in field surveys of sharks as well as sein netting, long-lining, rod and reel fishing, acoustic telemetry, driving the boats, preparing bait, inputting data, shark handling/transport, and shark tagging and workups.

## PUBLICATIONS

### WHO LIVES, WHO DIES, WHO TELLS THEIR STORY: PERCEPTION OF SHARKS WORLDWIDE

IN REVIEW - FRONTIERS | 2019

### CONFIRMATION OF HOLOCEPHALAN BIRTHING GROUNDS IN NEW ZEALAND

IN REVIEW | 2019



AS SEEN IN...



smore

Forbes



The New York Times



The Washington Post

## TWITTER TAKE OVERS

- I Am SciComm (2016)
- SciBlogHub (2017)
- Sciparty (2017)
- Real Scientists (2017)
- Bio Tweeps (2017)

#womeninSTEM (41,785 impressions)

#BillMeetScienceTwitter (1.2 billion impressions)

## TV PRESENTER & PODCAST HOST

### SHARK WEEK

CUBA'S SECRET SHARK LAIR | 2018

### SHARK WEEK

"GUADALUPE KILL ZONE" | 2019

### PODCAST HOST

CONCIENCIA AZUL EL PODCAST | 2018- PRESENT

- Spanish-speaking podcast that interviews marine scientists, conservationists, grad students, photographers about their world & the unique Latinx struggles.



## PRESENTATIONS

### LAS REDES: NADANDO ENTRE TIBURONES

CIENCIAS EN REDES, SPAIN | 2019

### ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT SHARKS

UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA | 2019

### WHAT SHARKS HAVE TAUGHT ME ABOUT DIVERSITY IN STEM & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

WONDER WOMEN IN STEM SUMMIT | 2018

### LAS CONVERSACIONES EN LA CIENCIA: SCIENCE IS MORE DIVERSE THAN WHAT WE PORTRAY IT TO BE

AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY CONFERENCE, USA | 2018

### OCEANS: IMCC5 PLENARY TALK

IMCC5 CONFERENCE, MALAYSIA | 2018

### SHARKS, MYTHOLOGY, AND HOW IT SWAYS CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

IMCC5 CONFERENCE, MALAYSIA | 2018

### DO IT FOR THE 'GRAM: HOW SCIENTISTS CAN UTILIZE THE BEST OF INSTAGRAM

IMCC5 CONFERENCE, MALAYSIA | 2018

### PODCAST FOR THE OCEAN:

IMCC5 CONFERENCE, MALAYSIA | 2018

### THE WONDER OF SHARKS OF THE DEEP

IDEAS FESTIVAL, NEW ZEALAND | 2018

### THE FINTASTIC WORLD OF SHARKS: AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY SCIENCE FESTIVAL, AUSTRALIA | 2017

### THE FINTASTIC WORLD OF SHARKS: NEW ZEALAND

LOWER HUTT STEM WEEK, NEW ZEALAND | 2017

### SHARKS AND FEMALE SCIENTISTS: MORE ALIKE THAN YOU THINK

LOWER HUTT STEM WEEK, NEW ZEALAND | 2017

### COME FIND ME: DEFINING HABITATS AND HABITAT USE FOR CHONDRICHTHYANS

ASFB-OCS JOINT CONFERENCE, AUSTRALIA | 2016

### HABITAT USE IN CHONDRICHTHYANS

NZMSS JOINT CONFERENCE, NEW ZEALAND | 2016

### SOCIAL MEDIA PORTRAYAL OF SHARKS, PUBLIC PERCEPTION, AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THEIR CONSERVATION

FSBI ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM, ENGLAND | 2015

