

Marine Ecology Research Projects in San Cristóbal, Galápagos

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Research Projects

- My research with the Bruno Lab and the Galápagos Science Center this summer encompassed a variety of different marine ecology projects
- The investigation of the feeding preferences and nurseries of juvenile Blacktip and Scalloped Hammerhead sharks
- The effect of temperature on metabolism and predation between whelks and barnacles
- The effect of varying nutrient concentrations and predator exclusion mechanisms on algae growth and predation



Why This Research Matters

- Rising global temperatures, increasing ocean acidity, and adverse human activities have put great stress on the marine communities of the Galápagos and the world
- Understanding these changes is crucial to protecting marine communities
- Discovering Blacktip and Hammerhead shark nurseries helps the Ecuadorian government help protect these vital sharks, so that the marine communities of the Galápagos can stay healthy
- Studying how temperature affects metabolism, predation, and growth sheds some understanding on how rising ocean temperatures will change animal behavior

