



WRFC 2026
SOUTH AFRICA

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

11th WORLD RECREATIONAL FISHING CONFERENCE

MPEKWENI BEACH RESORT, EASTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA
22nd-26th FEB 2026



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn



SAFER LAB



NRF
National
Research
Foundation



Dear WRFC Attendee,

It is my great privilege to welcome you to the 11th World Recreational Fisheries Conference, and to Africa for the first time in its history. Hosting WRFC 2026 in South Africa is both an honour and a responsibility, reflecting the growing importance of recreational fisheries to conservation, livelihoods and the blue economy.

At a time of rapid environmental change and increasing pressure on aquatic resources, the need to share knowledge, build partnerships and strengthen evidence-based governance has never been greater. I hope this conference will advance global understanding and leave a lasting legacy of collaboration, capacity-building and resilient fisheries for Africa and the world.

Professor Warren Potts, WRFC 11



WRFC WORKSHOPS

Workshop 1: Sunday, 22 Feb, 09:00- 17:00 (Oystercatcher A)

How to Operationalise Human Dimensions Concepts in Angler Surveys: Theory and Practical Applications
Host: Gerard Kyle, Robert Arlinghaus, Pouya Sardari

This workshop provides a rigorous introduction to measuring and analysing recreational fisher diversity using established social-psychological frameworks. Drawing on a recently published interdisciplinary methods volume, the facilitators will explore key human dimensions concepts such as specialisation, involvement, place attachment, motivation and behavioural orientation, and demonstrate how these can be consistently operationalised in angler surveys. Combining theoretical foundations with hands-on analytical exercises in R, participants will learn best practices for scale selection, latent variable construction, validation and modelling, strengthening the comparability and scientific robustness of human dimensions research in recreational fisheries.

Workshop 2: Sunday, 22 Feb, 09:00- 13:00 (Oystercatcher B)

A community of practice for recreational fisheries research in Africa
Host: Alexander Winkler and Nelly Kadagi

Africa, and many other lower-middle-income regions (LMIRs), are currently in the phase where recreational fishing participation is likely to grow most rapidly, as a result of increasing economic opportunities and a growing middle class. This makes the continent critically important for the future of the sector. Due to this rapid growth, this workshop seeks to discuss and understand issues and bright spots from researchers who are familiar with recreational fisheries in Africa or in other LMIRs globally.

Workshop 3: Wednesday, 25 Feb, 14:00- 17:00 (Oystercatcher A)

Advancing the Global Online Recreational Fisheries Management School
Host: Christian Skov and Thomas Klefoth

This workshop supports the continued development of the Global Online Recreational Fisheries Management School, an international, expert-led teaching platform built around a structured set of intended learning outcomes for undergraduate and master's students. The school comprises a growing portfolio of recorded lectures, assessments and supporting materials that educators worldwide can integrate into their curricula. With more than 40 experts already involved and 100 lectures planned, the workshop will provide an update on progress, identify remaining content gaps, and address emerging topics in the field. It will also create dedicated time for contributors to record new lectures, receive peer feedback and technical support, and collectively strengthen the quality, coherence and future accessibility of this global open educational resource.

Presentation Day 1: Monday 23 February 2026

Welcome and talks leading up to lunch time

TIME	TALK	VENUE: BEN MACALA	VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER A	VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER B
08h30	OPENING	WELCOME AND HOUSE RULES		
08h50		ADDRESS: NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND		
09h00		ADDRESS: RHODES UNIVERSITY		
09h10		ADDRESS: DFFE		
09h20	KEYNOTE	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: VALERIO SBRAGAGLIA <i>WHAT I LEARNED AT THE WRFC: AN INTEGRATIVE RESEARCH JOURNEY</i>		
10H15	SESSION 1	GLOBAL TRENDS: DATA COLLECTION, MONITORING, AND TECHNOLOGY • CHAIR: VALERIO SBRAGAGLIA	GLOBAL CHANGE: RESILIENCE, CLIMATE, POLLUTION, HABITAT RESTORATION • CHAIR: WARREN POTTS	GOVERNANCE: POLICY TO PRACTICE IN RECREATIONAL FISHERIES • CHAIR: JUDY MANN-LANG
10h15	1.1.1	Rec-Digital: Machine learning-based analysis of social media data for monitoring recreational fisheries <i>Beatriz Salvador</i>	1.2.1 Contaminant exposure of recreational fishers: Evaluating risks and benefits from catch consumption in Norway <i>Martin Wiech</i>	1.3.1 No more bombs: Embracing co-management as path to recreational fisheries conservation in Kiritimati, Republic of Kiribati <i>Andy Danylchuk</i>
10h30	1.1.2	Catch me if you can: Spatiotemporal changes in pelagic recreational fishes determined from long-term catch (MRIP) data <i>Bethany Wager</i>	1.2.2 Temperature driven increase in trophy size of warmwater species: Insight from 50-years of angler's records <i>Million Tesfaye Godana</i>	1.3.2 Embedding marine recreational fisheries in stock assessment <i>Kieran Hyder</i>
10h45	1.1.3	Employing multi-level regression and poststratification to extrapolate recreational fisheries surveys <i>Zachary Radford</i>	1.2.3 Healthy estuaries serve as a refuge for fishery species within coastal seascapes ensuring resilience against a changing climate <i>Nicola James</i>	1.3.3 From satisfaction to strategy: Turning recreational fisher experiences into management action in the NT barramundi fishery <i>David Ciaravolo</i>
11h00		TEA		
11H30	SESSION 2	GLOBAL TRENDS: DATA COLLECTION, MONITORING, AND TECHNOLOGY • CHAIR: ALEXANDER WINKLER	GLOBAL CHANGE: RESILIENCE, CLIMATE, POLLUTION, HABITAT RESTORATION CHAIR: STEVEN COOKE	GOVERNANCE: POLICY TO PRACTICE IN RECREATIONAL FISHERIES • CHAIR: NATANAH GUSA
11h30	1.1.4	Drop the bass: Non-compliance with European sea bass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>) regulations in the United Kingdom's recreational sea fishery <i>Christopher Bova</i>	1.2.4 Phenotypic variability in the aerobic scope of an exploited population of bronze bream, an important target of the recreational marine shore-based fishery <i>Nonhle Mlotshwa</i>	1.3.4 Spatial dynamics in coastal fisheries for northern albacore: Insights from the Bay of Biscay <i>Eneko Bachiller</i>
11h45	1.1.5	Evaluating bias in app-based fishing data: Insights from probability-based surveys <i>Crystal Beckmann</i>	1.2.5 Integrating ecological niche modelling and thermal performance to quantify the climate change response of <i>Diplodus capensis</i> in South Africa <i>Samkele Ngcefa</i>	1.3.5 Unveiling spatial differentiation of China's inland recreational fishing: novel insights from multi-source data <i>Guizing Chen</i>
12h00	1.1.6	Simulating non-probabilistic sampling through onsite records selection for monitoring seasonal recreational mackerel fishing in the eastern Cantabrian Sea (Bay of Biscay) <i>Eneko Bachiller</i>	1.2.6 Artificial reefs in Western Australia: A review of over a decade of habitat enhancement for resilient recreational fisheries <i>James Florisson</i>	1.3.6 Assessing the heterogeneity in management approaches voluntarily chosen by recreational angler communities in Germany under private fishing rights: an archetype approach <i>Hadjer Smati</i>
12h15	1.1.7	Developing priorities for marine recreational fisheries datacollection and inclusion in stock assessment in data-limited scenarios <i>Zachary Radford</i>	1.2.7 The first thermal tolerance assessment of juvenile white Steenbras, <i>Lithognathus lithognathus</i> <i>Tristan Banfield</i>	1.3.7 Moving towards world-class sea angling governance in England <i>Kieran Hyder</i>
12h30	1.1.8	“Data baby, data!”: Inclusion of recreational data in data-limited stock assessments <i>Johanna Marcussen</i>	1.2.8 Recreational angling selectively removes high performance physiological phenotypes from fish populations <i>Xolani Nabani</i>	1.3.8 Schooling together: What bluefin tuna can teach us about science-led, stakeholder-driven fisheries management <i>Hannah Rudd</i>
12h45	1.1.9	Examining spatiotemporal shifts in steelhead angling effort and the utility of recreational catch data for assessing abundance in British Columbia <i>Julie Charboneau</i>	1.2.9 Reducing environmental impacts of recreational fishing: examples from Germany <i>Juergen Geist</i>	1.3.9 Angling tourism and dam-affected rural communities: A case study from the Lesotho Highlands Water Project Area, southern Africa <i>James McCafferty</i>

Presentation Day 1: Monday 23 February 2026

Lunch and talks leading up to evening function

TIME	TALK	VENUE: BEN MACALA		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER A		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER B
13h00					LUNCH	
LUNCH						
14H00	SESSION 3	GLOBAL TRENDS: DATA COLLECTION, MONITORING, AND TECHNOLOGY • CHAIR: TAYLOR HUNT		GLOBAL CHANGE: RESILIENCE, CLIMATE, POLLUTION, HABITAT RESTORATION • CHAIR: ALEXANDER WINKLER		GOVERNANCE: POLICY TO PRACTICE IN RECREATIONAL FISHERIES • CHAIR: JAMES MCCAFFERTY
14h00	1.1.10	Enhancing participation in data collection: case study of the Sea Angling Diary in England and Wales <i>Kieran Hyder</i>	1.2.10	Soft plastic fishing lures as potential source of aquatic pollution <i>Marc Simon Weltersbach</i>	1.3.10	Rethinking our relationship with the fishing ground: Angler-led stewardship and resource monitoring without stocking <i>Jun-ichi Tsuboi</i>
14h15	1.1.11	Comparing probabilistic onsite and self-selecting offsite surveys to monitor marine recreational fishers <i>Zachary Radford</i>	1.2.11	Reef cover restoration of inshore reefs degraded by recreational activity and terminal tackle loss <i>Mark Dixon</i>	1.3.11	The influence of mouth state on local estuarine linefisheries in Garden Route National Parks, South Africa <i>Kyle Smith</i>
14h30	1.1.12	Spatial trophic variability and genetic connectivity of giant and bluefin kingfish across the Indo-Pacific <i>Jessica Glass</i>			1.3.12	Catching up: Integrating marine recreational fisheries into the UK's post-Brexit future <i>Hannah Rudd</i>
14h45	1.1.13	Recreational fishing data collection architecture: A roadmap to data integration <i>Catherine Bruger</i>			1.3.13	Ancient waters, living knowledge: Strengthening recreational fishing through Indigenous cultural practice and community leadership <i>Corey Walker</i>
15h00	1.1.14	British Columbia's chinook salmon reference fishery - a collaborative enhanced monitoring program <i>Martin Paish</i>			1.3.14	Global recreational fishing licenses: A comparative review toward best governance practices <i>Kirsten Hendricks</i>
15h15	1.1.15	Competitive angling data in predicting the stock status of species targeted by shore-based recreational anglers in South Africa <i>Natanah Gusha</i>			1.3.15	A roadmap for inclusion of marine recreational fisheries in advice <i>Kieran Hyder</i>
15h30				TEA		
18H30				EVENING FUNCTION: ICE BREAKER		



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn



SAFER LAB



WRFC 2026
SOUTH AFRICA

Presentation Day 2: Tuesday 24 February 2026

Welcome and talks leading up to lunch time

TIME	TALK	VENUE: BEN MACALA		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER A		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER B
09h00	OPENING	WELCOME AND HOUSE RULES KEYNOTE INTRODUCTION				
09h20	KEYNOTE	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: NELLY KADAGI				
10H15	SESSION 4	GOVERNANCE: POLICY TO PRACTICE IN RECREATIONAL FISHERIES • CHAIR: KIERAN HYDER		VOICES FROM THE WATER: INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, GENDER, COMMUNITY WELL-BEING • CHAIR: NELLY KADAGI		GLOBAL TRENDS: DATA COLLECTION, MONITORING, AND TECHNOLOGY • CHAIR: DINAH MUKHARI
10h15	2.1.1	Sampling frame challenges under a flexible licensing regime: a case study from Catalonia (NW Mediterranean Sea) <i>Marta Pujol-Baucells</i>	2.2.1	A best catch approach to transform data-poor recreational fisheries <i>Benjamin Jones</i>	2.3.1	Omakala (My fish) – experiences with the recreational fishery mobile application <i>Olin Mikko</i>
10h30	2.1.2	Modernizing the British Columbia sport fishing advisory board <i>Martin Paish</i>	2.2.2	Expanding knowledge on gender in recreational fishing <i>Samuel Blyth</i>	2.3.2	The Fishing BC app: Enhancing communication, compliance, and convenience for British Columbia's tidal water recreational fishery <i>Owen Bird</i>
10h45	2.1.3	Assessing the performance of rigid one-size-fits-all vs. locally adaptive harvest regulations in a regional freshwater recreational fishery with mobile, heterogeneous anglers <i>Robert Arlinghaus</i>	2.2.3	Nature's contribution to people – how anglers value NCPs in the Baltic Sea <i>Harry Strehlow</i>	2.3.3	Expanding the global Fishing Vessel Ocean Observation Network with recreational anglers and fishing guides in The Bahamas <i>Sepp Haukebo</i>
11h00				TEA		
11h30	SESSION 5	GOVERNANCE: POLICY TO PRACTICE IN RECREATIONAL FISHERIES • CHAIR: SAM MOTIMELE		VOICES FROM THE WATER: INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, GENDER, COMMUNITY WELL-BEING • CHAIR: SEAN TRACEY		SPECIAL SESSION - CATCH AND RELEASE AND FISH WELFARE • CHAIR: BRUCE MANN
11h30	2.1.4	What constitutes marine recreational and sports fisheries in Kenya? <i>Sarah Ater</i>	2.2.4	Assessing the knowledge, perceptions, attitudes and behaviours of deep-sea anglers off East London, South Africa <i>Hermie Spanengberg</i>	2.3.4	Pursuing the magic number: Estimating species-specific post-release mortality in marine recreational fisheries through systematic review <i>Alexander Winkler</i>
11h45	2.1.5	A practitioner's guide for marine recreational fisheries management in countries with a developing recreational fishery <i>Sepp Haukebo</i>	2.2.5	Making the most of angler knowledge in recreational fisheries management <i>Jennifer Rehage</i>	2.3.5	Catch-and-release and the Blue Economy: Using multi-species science in the Seychelles to inform actionable conservation and management <i>Andy Danylchuk</i>
12h00	2.1.6	Using participatory mapping to support resource allocation and management in Belize's data - limited recreational fishery <i>Victor Sho</i>	2.2.6	Fisher's Ecological Knowledge on spawning locations of <i>Argyrosomus japonicus</i> along the South African coastline <i>Jodie Shaw</i>	2.3.6	The blood chemistry of <i>Diplodus capensis</i> subject to a simulated recreational catch-and-release event <i>Evelyn Mashele</i>
12h15	2.1.7	Provisioning fisheries: Recognizing the fuzzy boundaries around commercial, subsistence, and recreational fisheries <i>Vivian Nguyen</i>	2.2.7	Nearly 40 years of marine recreational fishing history: Trends in the principles of responsible and sustainable angling as reflected in a French fishing magazine (1985-2023) <i>Julien Panaget</i>	2.3.7	As good as gold: Angler perceptions of the golden dorado (<i>Salminus brasiliensis</i>) recreational fishery in the Neotropics <i>Andy Danylchuk</i>
12h30	2.1.8	Promoting best practice for the governance of recreational fisheries in Lower Middle Income Countries <i>Warren Potts</i>	2.2.8	Building capacity in the rock-based fishing community through a fisher-led rescue programme <i>Mick Kearney</i>	2.3.8	Linking video footage and electronic tagging to investigate rod-and-line capture behavior in Atlantic bluefin tuna <i>Keno Ferter</i>
12h45	2.1.9	Fixing a recreational fishing regulation that doesn't work: A case study of seasonal closures for black bass during the spawning period <i>Joel Zhang</i>	2.2.9	Reconsidering how we understand sport fishing: Through the lens of human-nature reciprocity <i>Rentaro Tahira</i>		
13h00				LUNCH		

Presentation Day 2: Tuesday 24 February 2026

Lunch and talks leading up to evening function

TIME	TALK	VENUE: BEN MACALA		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER A		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER B
14H00	SESSION 6	SPECIAL SESSION - CATCH AND RELEASE AND FISH WELFARE • CHAIR: KENO FERTER		VOICES FROM THE WATER: INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, GENDER, COMMUNITY WELL-BEING • CHAIR: HANNAH RUDD		SPECIAL SESSION - INCORPORATING ANGLER HETEROGENEITY INTO ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT • CHAIR: ROBERT ARLINGHAUS
14h00	2.1.10	How long are freshwater sportfish behaviourally impaired following a catch-and-release event? <i>Luc LaRochelle</i>	2.2.10	Catching the benefits: Exploring the angling intervention Samen VISsen for elderly in Dutch nursing homes <i>Rob Ceelen</i>	2.3.9	Heterogeneity of coastal seatrout (<i>Salmo trutta</i>) anglers in the Baltic Sea explored through the recreational specialisation framework <i>Christian Skov</i>
14h15	2.1.11	Hook selectivity and post-release survival of flatfishes in the Baltic Sea recreational fishery <i>Marc Simon Weltersbach</i>	2.2.11	Measuring the causal impact of harvest restrictions on Western Baltic cod anglers' effort, stock status perception, and harvest policy preferences <i>Robert Arlinghaus</i>	2.3.10	Validation of a style of participation self-classification measure to recreational spotted seatrout anglers in Texas <i>Gerard Kyle</i>
14h30	2.1.12	Best guess, but better: a management tool for estimating postrelease mortality in data-poor marine recreational fisheries <i>Matthew Farthing</i>	2.2.12	Coastal Sharks on the Line: Insights from Recreational Anglers <i>Sally Dowd</i>	2.3.11	Profiling recreational fishers to inform recovery of a depleted stock: Insights from Tasmania's sand flathead fishery <i>Sean Tracey</i>
14h45	2.1.13	Recreational discards: How many dead discards are too many? <i>Michael Drexler</i>	2.2.13	German recreational anglers and digital media – no love affair <i>Harry Strehlow</i>	2.3.12	Engaging underrepresented fishers in the Great Lakes: A research and action agenda for provisioning fisheries <i>Vivian Nguyen</i>
15h00	2.1.14	Assessing the health and survival of a dominant species in the South African marine shore- based fishery (MSBF), the blacktail seabream, <i>Diplodus capensis</i> , to catch and release <i>Michael McKenzie</i>	2.2.14	Responsibility for a changing future – Anglers' perspectives on 10 key themes related to sustainable recreational fisheries management in Sweden <i>Samuel Blyth</i>	2.3.13	The role of methods and analysis in efficiently capturing heterogeneity among recreational sea anglers <i>Kieran Hyder</i>
15h15			2.2.15	From experience to indicators: Using Local Ecological Knowledge to strengthen recreational fisheries Management <i>Sophia Costa</i>		
15h30			2.2.16	Beyond the Catch: Identifying and Understanding the Drivers of Coastal Fisheries in Massachusetts <i>Tasha O'Hara</i>		
15h45				TEA		
18H30				EVENING FUNCTION: POSTER EVENING		



WRFC 2026
SOUTH AFRICA

Presentation Day 3: Wednesday 25 February 2026

Welcome and talks leading up to the gala

TIME	TALK	VENUE: BEN MACALA	VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER A	VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER B
09h00	OPENING	WELCOME AND HOUSE RULES KEYNOTE INTRODUCTION		
09h20	KEYNOTE	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: STEVEN COOK PESSIMISM AND OPTIMISM FOR THE FUTURE OF RECREATIONAL FISHING THROUGH THE LENS OF A SCHOLAR-PRACTITIONER AND ANGLER		
10H15	SESSION 7	SPECIAL SESSION - CATCH AND RELEASE AND FISH WELFARE • CHAIR: EDWARD BUTLER	SUSTAINABILITY: CONSERVATION STRATEGIES AND BEST PRACTICES • CHAIR: SEPP HUAKEBO	UNLOCKING THE ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF RECREATIONAL FISHERIES: VALUATION, TOURISM, AND VALUE CHAINS • CHAIR: THOMAS KLEFOTH
10h15	3.1.1	Comparison of natural and artificial maggots as bait in a coarse fishery <i>Thomas Klefoth</i>	3.2.1 Guidelines for establishing and maintaining catch and release marine recreational fisheries <i>Aaron Adams</i>	3.3.1 <i>The economics of the recreational fishery in Seychelles, a Small Island Developing State</i> <i>Tom Hecht</i>
10h30	3.1.2	Stripers on the Line: Integrating field and social science to improve post-release outcomes in the striped bass (<i>Morone saxatilis</i>) recreational fishery <i>Andy Danylchuk</i>	3.2.2 A multi-disciplinary approach to the promoting the sustainability of South African shore-based linefishery <i>Amber Childs</i>	3.3.2 Spending for Salmon and Sea Trout: Examining angler expenses, perceptions, and support for fisheries management <i>Samuel Blyth</i>
10h45	3.1.3	Assessing the impact of marine recreational fishing on mortality of released coho salmon in British Columbia, Canada <i>Quin Johnston</i>	3.2.3 Recreational fishers are key partners and not just passengers in the recovery of Australia's most iconic fish species – the mighty Murray cod <i>Taylor Hunt</i>	3.3.3 Assessing machine learning approaches in travel cost modelling for recreational fisheries <i>Wendy Edwards</i>
11h00			TEA	
11H30	SESSION 8	SPECIAL SESSION - DYNAMICS OF ANGLING VULNERABILITY: MECHANISMS, PROCESSES AND CONSEQUENCES • CHAIR: WARREN POTTS	SUSTAINABILITY: CONSERVATION STRATEGIES AND BEST PRACTICES • CHAIR: GERARD KYLE	UNLOCKING THE ECONOMIC POTENTIAL OF RECREATIONAL FISHERIES: VALUATION, TOURISM, AND VALUE CHAINS • CHAIR: CHRISTOPHER BOVA
11h30	3.1.4	Catch uncertainty as attraction force to fish recreationally <i>Robert Arlinghaus</i>	3.2.4 "Woops, I lost it": Gear loss in the Norwegian recreational lobster fishery <i>Johanna Marcussen</i>	3.3.4 Assessing the economic impact of recreational sea angling in the UK <i>Wendy Edwards</i>
11h45	3.1.5	Recruitment overfishing from angling nesting males is changing bass populations... and not in a good way <i>David Phillip</i>	3.2.5 Sustainable fly fishing: Building expertise, conservation skills, and eco-entrepreneurship in the Turks and Caicos Islands <i>Edward Butler</i>	3.3.5 A systematic review of global recreational fishery economic research based on PRISMA <i>WenHao Sha</i>
12h00	3.1.6	Impact of technological innovations on catch inequality in recreational spearfishing <i>Giulio Tarantino</i>	3.2.6 Fish for Connection (in Dutch: Vissen voor Verbinding) <i>Jan Kamman</i>	3.3.6 Economic impact of catch-and-release Atlantic bluefin tuna fishery from angler expenditure <i>Wendy Edwards</i>
12h15	2.1.7	Capture probability and effects of bait/lure types on individual learning behavior in an unexploited population of northern pike <i>Jorrit Lucas</i>	3.2.7 Himalayan Bhutan: Flyfishing's New Frontier <i>Bryant Dunn</i>	3.3.7 Not all valuations are in the same boat: Why some research on the economic contributions of recreational fisheries is not making waves <i>Christopher Bova</i>
12h30	3.1.8	Latitudinal clines in territorial aggressiveness and angling vulnerability in an amphidromous fish <i>Jun-ichi Tsuoboi</i>		
12h45	3.1.9	Warming waters and shifting behaviors: Cognitive limits and species interactions in a recreational fishery under climate stress <i>Kelsey Vaughn</i>		
13h00			LUNCH	
14h00		WORKSHOP 3: ADVANCING THE GLOBAL ONLINE RECREATIONAL FISHERIES MANAGEMENT SCHOOL		
18h00			GALA DINNER: GUEST SPEAKER Keith Clover	

Presentation Day 4: Thursday 26 February 2026

Welcome and talks leading up to lunch time

	TALK	VENUE: BEN MACALA		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER A		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER B
09h00	OPENING	WELCOME AND HOUSE RULES KEYNOTE INTRODUCTION				
09h20	KEYNOTE	KEYNOTE ADDRESS: JUDY MANN-LANG COMMUNICATING WITH RECREATIONAL ANGLERS A TACKLEBOX FOR SCIENTISTS				
10H15	SESSION 9	OUTREACH: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, YOUTH, SOCIAL MEDIA, STEWARDSHIP • CHAIR: KYLE SMITH		SUSTAINABILITY: CONSERVATION STRATEGIES AND BEST PRACTICES • CHAIR: WENDY EDWARDS		SPECIAL SESSION - DYNAMICS OF ANGLING VULNERABILITY: MECHANISMS, PROCESSES AND CONSEQUENCES • CHAIR: ROBERT ARLIGHAUS
10h15	4.1.1	Zooming in to scale up: how focusing on the importance of each fish can be a catalyst for conservation <i>Sascha Clark Danylchuk</i>	3.2.8	Assessing species substitution potential to support sand flathead stock recovery in Tasmania <i>Sean Tracey</i>	4.3.1	Assessing spatial behavior and recapture likelihood in a catch-and-release fishery targeting giant trevally <i>Andy Danylchuk</i>
10h30	4.1.2	Lending a helping hand: The role recreational fishers play in movement ecology research <i>Taryn Murray</i>	3.2.9	The jaguar of the river: Using a community centered approach for science-based conservation and management of golden dorado in the Neotropics <i>Andy Danylchuk</i>	4.3.2	Impacts of non-consumptive, catch-and-release based recreational fishing on catch rate in freshwater predators: A BACI whole-lake experiment <i>Ryo Futamura</i>
10h45	4.1.3	Global recreational fisheries management school - an introduction <i>Thomas Klefoth</i>	3.2.10	Co-producing knowledge to reduce conflicts between sharks and fishers in the sportfishing capitol of the world (Florida Keys U.S.) <i>Jose Trujillo</i>	4.3.3	Angling selectively removes high performance physiological phenotypes and alters fish boldness, activity and susceptibility to capture <i>Warren Potts</i>
11h00				TEA		
11H30	SESSION 10	OUTREACH: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, YOUTH, SOCIAL MEDIA, STEWARDSHIP • CHAIR: JUDY MANN-LANG		SPECIAL SESSION - FISH CONNECTIVITY AND MOVEMENT • CHAIR: TARYN MURRAY		REGIONAL/CASE STUDIES: LESSONS FROM LOCAL STUDIES AND CHARISMATIC SPECIES • CHAIR: MATTHEW FARTHING
11h30	4.1.4	A boundary organization facilitates a collaborative approach to recreational fisheries research, management, and education <i>Aaron Adams</i>	4.2.1	Transboundary migration dynamics of the largest Giant Trevally (<i>Caranx ignobilis</i>) aggregation on record: Implications for management <i>Ryan Daly</i>	4.3.4	When birds meet recreational fishers: understanding interactions in a Protected Coastal Area of Argentina <i>Francisco Zumpano</i>
11h45	4.1.5	Using volunteer anglers to help monitor the effectiveness of South Africa's coastal marine protected areas (MPAs) <i>Bruce Mann</i>	4.2.2	African tigerfish (<i>Hydrocynus vittatus</i>) movement in Lake Jozini: insights from a catch-mark-recapture study <i>Angelica Kaiser-Reichel</i>	4.3.5	Fish habitat associations in the marine bay region of the Knysna Estuary <i>Lutholwethu Mabaleka</i>
12h00	4.1.6	OzFish - 10 years of lessons from growing the Aussie rec fisher stewardship movement <i>Cassie Price</i>	4.2.3	Spawning migration of North Sea houting in the River Overijsselse Vecht <i>Jan Kamman</i>	4.3.6	The 50-year history of anglers' record catches of genus <i>Carassius</i> : Circumstantial evidence of competitive exclusion of native species by invasive species <i>Marek Šmejkal</i>
12h15	4.1.7	Sharing experiences to promote resilient and sustainable recreational fisheries: Socializing best release practices in British Columbia's tidal water salmon fisheries <i>Owen Bird</i>	4.2.4	Using behavioural insights from marine acoustic telemetry to inform the conservation permit (<i>Trachinotus falcatus</i>) in South Florida <i>Jessica Robichaud</i>	4.3.7	The current status based on updated population dynamics of west coast steenbras, <i>Lithognathus aureti</i> , in Namibia <i>Margit Wilhelm</i>
12h30	4.1.8	<i>Tides of Change: Anglers at the Frontline of Estuary Monitoring</i> <i>Hannah Rudd</i>	4.2.5	Understanding prey means understanding predators: Exploring the influence of temperature on mullet species <i>Dinah Mukhari</i>		
12h45	4.1.9	Angler perceptions of access to information on best practices for catch-and-release, and fishing regulations <i>Samuel Blyth</i>				
13h00				LUNCH		

Presentation Day 4: Thursday 26 February 2026

Talks leading up to evening function

TIME	TALK	VENUE: BEN MACALA		VENUE: OYSTER CATCHER B
14H00	SESSION 11	OUTREACH: PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT, YOUTH, SOCIAL MEDIA, STEWARDSHIP • CHAIR: KIERAN HYDER		REGIONAL/CASE STUDIES: LESSONS FROM LOCAL STUDIES AND CHARISMATIC SPECIES • CHAIR: WARREN POTTS
14h00	4.1.10	The ORI Cooperative Fish Tagging Project: Recreational anglers catching conservation success <i>Chantel Elston</i>	4.3.8	Investigating population dynamics of the Critically Endangered whitespotted wedgefish (<i>Rhynchosciurus djiddensis</i>) in South Africa's iSimangaliso Wetland Park <i>Niall O'Reilly</i>
14h15	4.1.11	Beyond the science: Lessons from pollack politics <i>Hannah Rudd</i>	4.3.9	The spatial-ecology of an endemic shark in the South African marine shore-based recreational fishery <i>Reagan Kieck</i>
14h30	4.1.12	Tightening the lines of communication between agencies and anglers <i>Julie Claussen</i>	4.3.10	Mapping undiscovered bonefish spawning aggregation sites in the Florida Keys <i>Ross Boucek</i>
14h45	4.1.13	Lessons about angling in primary schools: Teach children about nature and the passion of angling <i>Rob Ceelen</i>	4.3.11	Evaluation of the Japanese eel (<i>Anguilla japonica</i>) and fresh water fish habitats in Japan (Kyushu) using eDNA analysis <i>Satoshi Kameyama</i>
15h00			4.3.12	Spatial connectivity of an important marine-shore-based fishery species assessed using acoustic telemetry <i>Thomas Knight</i>
15h15			4.3.13	Recreational catch data: A citizen scientists explains why a transdisciplinary approach is essential for a resilient recreational fishery in South Africa and possibly elsewhere <i>Malcolm Grant</i>
15h30		TEA		
18H30		EVENING FUNCTION: WINE TASTING		



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn



SAFER LAB





WRFC 2026 SOUTH AFRICA

Thank you for joining us at WRFC 11



RHODES UNIVERSITY
Where leaders learn



SAFER LAB



National
Research
Foundation

