

# Marah Justine Hardt, PhD

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## EDUCATION

- 2007                    **Scripps Institution of Oceanography** (San Diego, CA) PhD, Marine Biology.
- 2000                    **Harvard University** (Cambridge, MA) B.A. History of Science. Magna cum laude.

## RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

**Director of Research, Future of Fish 2014-Present.** Oversee and execute all research projects involving qualitative and quantitative research in support of Future of Fish initiatives (currently focused on full-chain traceability of seafood supply chains). Includes management of proposal writing, funder relations, sub-contractors, and coordination with other teams across the Future of Fish organization.

### **Founder, OceanInk: Research, Writing and Creative Consulting 2008-Present**

Founded consulting company dedicated to “Turning science into stories that make a difference.” Expertise in interdisciplinary scientific research, data analysis and synthesis, and scientific communication. Areas of focus include sustainable seafood, climate change impacts on marine life, and coral reef health.

- 2016                    **Author:** *SEX IN THE SEA: our intimate connection with sex-changing fish, romantic lobsters, kinky squid, and other salty erotica of the deep* (St. Martin’s Press). Popular science book exploring the link between the sexual strategies of marine life and sustainable management of ocean resources. [sexinthesea.org](http://sexinthesea.org)
- 2012-2013            **Senior Researcher.** *Future of Fish Oyster Opportunity Project (NFWF)*. Engaged over 20 experts in oyster fisheries and reef restoration in interviews and workshop participation; reviewed major policy barriers across states; synthesized data from interviews, published reports and grey literature; discerned insights and areas of opportunity for launching potential new businesses.
- 2011                    **Project Manager.** *The Flow of Fish*. Assembled team to conduct interviews with over 100 recreational fishermen. Designed and piloted a new survey protocol to increase participation. Managed data collection, analysis, follow-up, and report writing.
- Consultant.** *Seafood Security—Secure or at Greater Risk?* Identified and interviewed more than 30 seafood sustainability experts for project comparing global with Japanese perspectives on the state of world fisheries. Project by Pacific Communicators, Inc. Japan.
- Researcher and Writer.** Lead research and writer for chapter on U.S. fisheries subsidies for *The Big Handout* by Thomas Kostigen (Rodale Press; New York, NY).
- 2010                    **Project Manager, Pelekane Bay Watershed.** Oversaw interdisciplinary team of scientists to establish baseline health of a coral reef. Designed study, organized logistics, aligned survey protocols and assisted with analysis and report writing. Funded by The Kohala Center, 2010.

2008-2009            **Stakeholder Engagement Strategist and Researcher, *the Future of Fish*.** Conducted field interviews and assisted workshop facilitation with fishers and major seafood distributors; cultivated relationships with select experts to engage in long-term project affiliations; analyzed complex qualitative datasets to distill insights and patterns regarding the barriers to and solutions for creating a more sustainable seafood supply chain.

**Research Fellow, Blue Ocean Institute: Climate Change Program 2007-2009**

Designed and launched a new climate change program consisting of three divisions: scientific research, communication, and strategic partnerships. Identified novel niche (ocean acidification impacts on non-calcifiers) for organization engagement and re-designed the Friendship Collaborative, a project to bring people of faith and science together to discuss shared responsibility to care for the planet. Published extensively in popular and academic platforms and established partnership with Islands First to promote awareness of sea level rise for small island states.

**Doctoral Research, Scripps Inst. of Oceanography: Impact of fishing on coral reef ecosystems 2001-2007.**

Graduate research on the effects of overfishing on Caribbean coral reef ecosystems (see Publications). This research uniquely combined historical, archaeological and ecological data and analyses to expand understanding of the impact of fishing on coral reef ecosystems from first human contact to modern day.

**SELECT PUBLICATIONS (Please note publications prior to 2007 were under MJH Newman)**

- 2010-2016            Blogs: [www.sexinthesea.org](http://www.sexinthesea.org); [www.oceanlorax.wordpress.org](http://www.oceanlorax.wordpress.org);
- 2016                    Cinner, JE et al. 20126 Bright spots among the world's coral reefs. **Nature**. doi:10.1038/nature18607
- 2013                    Edwards, C. et al., 2014. Global assessment of the status of coral reef herbivorous fishes: evidence for fishing effects. **Proceedings of the Royal Soc. B**. DOI: 10.1098/rspb.2013.1835
- 2012                    Johnson, AE, et al. 2012. Trends, current understanding and future research priorities for artisanal coral reef fisheries research. **Fish and Fisheries**.
- 2011                    Lotze, H. et al. "How do we know about the past?" *In* Jackson, J., Alexander, K. and Sala, E. (eds) **Shifting Baselines**. Island Press.
- Mora et. al. 2011. Global human footprint on the linkage between biodiversity and ecosystem functioning in reef fishes. **PLoS Biology** 9(4).
- 2010                    McClenachan, L., M. Hardt, J. Jackson, and R. Cooke. 2010. Mounting evidence for historical overfishing and long-term degradation of Caribbean marine ecosystems. **The Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology**. 5(10): 165-169.
- Safina, C. and Hardt, MJ. "The Relationship between science and policy" *In* Christensen, V. and Maclean, J. (eds.) **Perspectives on Ecosystem-Based Management of World Fisheries**. Cambridge University Press.
- Hardt, MJ. and Safina, C., 2010. "Ocean Acidification on the Inside," **Scientific American**. August.
2009.                    Safina, C. and Hardt, MJ. 2009. "The role of the Natural Sciences in Sparking an Environmental Ethic" *In* Kellert, SR and Speth, JG (eds.) **The Coming Transformation: Values to Sustain Human**

*and Natural Communities.* (Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, New Haven).

Hardt, M.J. and Landoli, E. 2009. "A Chance to Turn the Tide," **Scuba Diving Magazine**, June.

2008. Hardt, M. J. 2008. "Lessons from the past: the collapse of Jamaican coral reefs." **Fish and Fisheries** 10: 143-158.

Safina, C. and Hardt, M.J. 2008. "Depleted Oceans" Letter to the Editor, **New York Times**, December 17, 2008.

Safina, C. and M.J. Hardt, 2008, "Carbon's Burden on the World's Oceans". **Yale Environment Online**. <http://e360.yale.edu/content/feature.msp?id=1996>.

Hardt, M. J. and Safina, C. 2008. "Covering Ocean Acidification: Chemistry and Considerations." **Yale Forum on Climate and the Media**. [http://www.yaleclimatemediaforum.org/features/0608\\_ocean\\_acidification.htm](http://www.yaleclimatemediaforum.org/features/0608_ocean_acidification.htm).

2006. Newman, MJH, Paredes, GA, Sala, E, and Jackson, JBC. "Structure of Caribbean coral reef communities across a large gradient of fish biomass." **Ecology Letters**. 9:1216-1227.

McClenachan, LM, Jackson, JBC. and Newman, MJH. "Conservation Implications of historic sea turtle nesting beach loss." **Frontiers in Ecology and Environment**. 4(6): 290-296.

#### **SELECT TEACHING, PUBLIC SPEAKING, AND OUTREACH**

2016 **Invited Speaker, Sex in the Sea.** Aquarium of the Pacific public lecture series, Feb 9.

**Invited Speaker,** Emerging Technology for Reef Science and Conservation, *International Coral Reef Symposium*: June 23.

**Invited Speaker, The Secret Sex Lives of Sharks.** Shark Con, Tampa Florida, July 7-9.

2015 **Invited Speaker, Life of a Coral Reef Biologist,** World Science Festival, May.

2011 **Co-organizer, Can Innovative Entrepreneurship Save Seafood and the Seas?** Symposia for International Marine Conservation Congress, Victoria, BC. May 14-18.

2010 **Lecturer, English 225: Writing for Science and Technology.** Created undergraduate online course teaching science and technology writing. University of Hawai'i, Hilo.

**Invited Speaker: American Association for the Advancement of Science**  
*Limits to Sustainability for Coral Reef Fisheries.*

#### **MEDIA**

2016 **Public Radio International** "Living on Earth" radio interview  
**Canadian Broadcasting Corporation** "Quirks and Quarks" radio interview  
**KCRW (Los Angeles NPR), "Press Play",** radio interview  
**NHPR (New Hampshire NPR), "Word of Mouth",** radio interview

2012 **Hawaii Business Magazine.** Featured in "Wai: Freshwater from the mountains to your drinking glass." February.

- 2008                    **Energy Times.** Interview for “Acidic Oceans.” July/August.  
**Discover.** Interview for “The World’s Largest Dump: The Great pacific Garbage Patch.” July.
- 2006                    **The New York Times.** Interviewed for research in “A Comeback Story Proves a Cautionary Tale.” <http://www.nytimes.com/2006/08/08/science/08observ.html>

**SELECT GRANTS, SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS**

- 2011                    Small Business Association Minority Business Champion, Hawai’i County.
- 2009                    Disney World Wildlife Fund; Creation Care Fund