

Ester Carreras-Colom, PhD

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CURRENT POSITION

2022 – present **Post-Doc researcher (Margarita Salas Postdoctoral Fellowship)** c/o Department Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Cagliari

BIO SKETCH

Born in Figueres (Spain), Ester received both her BSc and PhD from the Autonomous University of Barcelona and her MSc from the Universitat de Barcelona (UB).

During her BSc, she did a curricular traineeship in the Consorci de l'Estany that provided her with skills in managing natural protected areas. Later, she joined the SEAAq research group at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) for eight months where she focused on the study of the parasitological fauna of deep-sea fish species and their use as indicators of their host fish populations' ecology and health status.

In the framework of her master's degree, she continued the study of parasites through her thesis on parasites of invasive fish species. At the same time, she assisted academic staff in teaching activities through a university fellowship. After graduating, she participated in an internship at the Centre d'Estudis Avançats de Blanes (CSIC-CEAC) studying the role of helophytes on nutrient retention from wastewater treatment plant effluents.

Afterwards, she joined the training programme for academic staff (FPU) as a PhD student at the UAB, back in the SEAAq group. Her thesis focused on the impact of plastic pollution in the marine ecosystems of the NW Mediterranean Sea, focusing on ecologically and commercially key crustacean and fish species in the framework of the PLASMAR and SOMPESCA research projects. During this period, she strengthens her knowledge of indicators of health status, including morphometric analysis, biochemical determinations and histological assessments.

She has been devoted to science communication throughout her early scientist career, participating in numerous scientific conferences and teaching at the university, with over 180 hours of teaching in practical courses.

Nowadays, Ester is a post-doc researcher funded by the Autonomous University of Barcelona and currently based in Sardinia, working at the Laboratory of Marine Ecology and Biology (LABEM), University of Cagliari. Her research focuses on studying marine benthic communities, particularly crustacean decapods, their health status, and plastic pollution's potential impact on them.

EDUCATION

2021 **PhD in Aquaculture** (*Doctor Europaeus*)
Autonomous University of Barcelona (Cerdanyola del Vallès, Spain)
Thesis title: Unravelling the (micro)plastic threat: the case study of plastic ingestion in *Aristeus antennatus* and *Nephrops norvegicus* from the NW Mediterranean Sea and its potential impact on health condition
Supervisors: Dr Maite Carrassón (UAB), Dr Joan E. Cartes (ICM-CSIC)

- 2016 **Master's Degree (MSc) in Ecology, Environmental Management and Restoration**
University of Barcelona (Barcelona, Spain)
Thesis title: "Parasite fauna of introduced fish species *Lepomis gibbosus* and *Micropterus salmoides* from Lake Banyoles (NE Spain)"
- 2015 **Bachelor's Degree (BSc) in Environmental Biology**
Autonomous University of Barcelona (Cerdanyola del Vallès, Spain)
Thesis title: "Fish parasites as indicators of fishing impact in two submarine canyons from the NW Mediterranean Sea"
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RESEARCH PROJECTS AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2022 Postdoctoral Research Fellow c/o University of Cagliari (Italy)
- 2020 Visiting PhD student c/o Institute of Marine Sciences (ICM-CSIC), Barcelona (Spain)
- 2019-2022 Project: Microplastics in marine ecosystems of the NW Mediterranean Sea: presence, sources and potential impact (PLASMAR, Role: Research Assistant)
- 2019 Visiting PhD student c/o School of Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Glasgow (Scotland)
- 2018-2021 Project Evaluation of the health status of marine organisms of fishing interest in Catalonia (SOMPESCA, Role: Research Assistant)
- 2018 Project: Identification of the causes for the slimming in monkfish in certain locations in the Catalan coast (Role: Research Assistant)
- 2017-2021 Training programme for Academic Staff (FPU, Spanish Government) c/o Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain)
- 2016 JAE Intro internship c/o Centre for Advanced Studies of Blanes (CSIC-CEAB, Spain)
- 2015 Internship (Collaboration Grant, Spanish Government) c/o SEAAq research group, Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain)
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TEACHING ACTIVITY

- 2017-2020 'Aquaculture and Ichthyopathology' for the BSc in 'Veterinary Medicine' (UAB, Spain)
- 2017-2020 'Applied Protistology' for the BSc in Microbiology (UAB, Spain)
- 2017-2019 'Parasitology' for the BSc in Microbiology and BSc in Environmental Biology (UAB, Spain)
- 2017 'Zoology' for the BSc in Environmental Science (UAB, Spain)
- 2017 'Marine Biology' for the BSc in Environmental Biology (UAB, Spain)
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PUBLICATIONS OVERVIEW*

n. articles	5
n. citations	58
H index	3

* last update: 20 April, 2022

PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

Carreras-Colom, E., Constenla, M., Dallarés, S., Carrassón, M. (2022) Natural variability and potential use of melanomacrophage centres as indicators of pollution in fish species from the NW Mediterranean Sea. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 176, 113441.

Carreras-Colom, E., Cartes, J.E., Constenla, M., Welden, N., Soler-Membrives, A., Carrassón, M. (2022) An affordable method for monitoring plastic fibre ingestion in *Nephrops norvegicus* (Linnaeus, 1758) and implementation on wide temporal and geographical scale comparisons. *Science of the Total Environment*, 810, 152264

Carreras-Colom, E., Constenla, M., Soler-Membrives, A., Cartes, J. E., Baeza, M., Carrassón, M. (2020) A closer look at anthropogenic fiber ingestion in *Aristeus antennatus* in the NW Mediterranean Sea: Differences among years and locations and impact on health condition. *Environmental Pollution*, 263, 114567.

Gacia, E., Bernal, S., Nikolakopoulou, M., Carreras, E., Morgado, L., Ribot, M., Isnard, M., Sorolla, A., Sabater, F., Martí, E. (2019) The role of helophyte species on nitrogen and phosphorus retention from wastewater treatment plant effluents. *Journal of Environmental Management*, 252, 109585

Carreras-Colom, E., Constenla, M., Soler-Membrives, A., Cartes, J. E., Baeza, M., Padrós, F., Carrassón, M. (2018) Spatial occurrence and effects of microplastic ingestion on the deep-water shrimp *Aristeus antennatus*. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 133, 44-52