

Alessandro Cau, PhD

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University of Cagliari
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CURRENT POSITION

2021 – present **Assistant Professor of Ecology (RTDb)**, University of Cagliari, Italy

EDUCATION

2015 **PhD in Marine Ecology** (*Doctor Europaeus*)
University of Cagliari (Cagliari, Italy)
Thesis title: "Deep water coral forests from the island of Sardinia"
Supervisors: Prof. Rita Cannas (UniCa), Dr. Katell Guizien and Dr. Lorenzo Bramanti (Université Pierre and Marie Curie, CNRS)
Final grade: Excellent

2011 **Master's Degree (MSc) in Marine Biology**
University of Cagliari (Cagliari, Italy)
Thesis title: "Il depth-size trend nel batiale del Mediterraneo centro occidentale"

CURRENT RESEARCH PROJECTS & SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

2018–2021 Assistant Professor of Ecology (RTDa), University of Cagliari, Italy

2021 FAO Regional Research Program on Red Coral (Role: FAO Consultant)

2020 FAO Regional Research Program on Red Coral (Role: FAO Consultant)

2019 Project: Litter and Microplastic distribution in the Marine Environment (Role: PI)

2019 Project: Fishing for Litter and Abandoned Gears in Sardinia (FLAGS; Role: PI)

2017/2018 XXXII Italian Expedition to Antarctica (Progetto BEDROSE;2016/A3.02)

2016/2017 XXXI Italian Expedition to Antarctica (Progetto CEFA; 2013/AZ1.06)

2015–2018 Post-Doc researcher c/o Dip. di Architettura, Design e urbanistica, University of Sassari (Italy).

2014 Visiting PhD student c/o Laboratoire d'Ecogéochimie des Environnements Benthiques, CNRS/UPMS, Banyuls sur mer (France)

2011 Visiting MD student c/o 'Levin Lab' Scripps Institution of Oceanography, La Jolla, California, (USA)

ADVISING

PhD

2021– Bruna Giordano (Supervisor)

2020– Cladia Dessì (Supervisor)

2019– Pankaj A. Gorule (Co-Supervisor)

MSc

2021–present Franco Pasolini

2021–presen Giulia d'Ascanio

2021–present Michela Congiu

TEACHING ACTIVITY

2021- Course 'Applied Ecology' for the Degree in 'Biology' c/o University of Cagliari, Italy

2018-2020 Course 'Ecology' for the Degree in 'Biology' c/o University of Cagliari, Italy

PUBLICATIONS OVERVIEW

n. articles*	75
n. citations*	1044
H index*	20

*last update: 2 November, 2021

SELECTED PEER REVIEWED ARTICLES

2022

Cau Alessandro, Franceschini Simone, Moccia Davide, Gorule Pankaj A., Agus Blondine, Bellodi Andrea, Cannas Rita, Carugati Laura, Cuccu Danila, Dessì Claudia, Marongiu Maria Francesca, Melis Riccardo, Mulas Antonello, Porceddu Riccardo, Porcu Cristina, Russo Tommaso, Follesa Maria C. (2022). Scattered accumulation hotspots of macro-litter on the seafloor: Insights for mitigation actions. **ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**.

2021

Cau Alessandro, Ennas Claudia, Moccia Davide, Mangoni Olga, Bolinesi Francesco, Saggiomo Maria, Granata Antonia, Guglielmo Letterio, Swadling Kerrie M, Pusceddu Antonio. Particulate organic matter release below melting sea ice (Terra Nova Bay, Ross Sea, Antarctica): Possible relationships with zooplankton. **JOURNAL OF MARINE SYSTEMS**.

2020

Cau Alessandro, Avio Carlo Giacomo, Dessi Claudia, Moccia Davide, Regoli Francesco, Pusceddu Antonio, Cannas Rita, Follesa Maria Cristina (2020). Benthic crustacean digestion can modulate environmental fate of microplastic in the deep sea. **ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**.

2019

Cau Alessandro, Avio Carlo Giacomo, Dessi Claudia, Follesa Maria Cristina, Moccia Davide, Regoli Francesco, Pusceddu Antonio. Microplastic in the crustaceans *Nephrops norvegicus* and *Aristeus antennatus*: flagship species for deep-sea environments? **ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**.

Cau Alessandro, Bellodi Andrea, Cannas Rita, Fois Maurizio, Guidetti Paolo, Moccia Davide, Porcu Cristina, Pusceddu, Antonio, Follesa Maria Cristina (2019). European spiny lobster recovery from overfishing enhanced through active restocking in Fully Protected Areas. **SCIENTIFIC REPORTS**.

Cau Alessandro, Bellodi Andrea, Moccia Davide, Mulas Antonello, Porcu Cristina, Pusceddu Antonio, Follesa Maria Cristina (2019). Shelf-life and labels: a cheap dating tool for seafloor macro litter? Insights from MEDITS surveys in Sardinian sea. **MARINE POLLUTION BULLETIN**.

2018

Cau Alessandro, Bellodi Andrea, Moccia Davide, Mulas Antonello, Pesci Paola, Cannas Rita, Pusceddu Antonio, Follesa Maria Cristina (2018). Dumping to the abyss: single-use marine litter invading bathyal plains of the Sardinian margin (Tyrrhenian sea). **MARINE POLLUTION BULLETIN**.

2017

Cau Alessandro, Follesa Maria Cristina, Moccia Davide, Bellodi Andrea, Mulas Antonello, Bo Marzia, Canese Simonepietro, Angiolillo Michela, Cannas Rita (2017). *Leiopathes glaberrima* millennial forest from SW Sardinia as nursery ground for the small spotted catshark *Scyliorhinus canicula*. **AQUATIC CONSERVATION: MARINE AND FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS**.

Cau Alessandro, Moccia Davide, Follesa Maria Cristina, Alvito Andrea, Bo Marzia, Angiolillo Michela, Canese Simonepietro, Cuccu Danila, Cannas Rita (2017). Coral forests diversity in the lower shelf of the south Sardinian continental margin. **DEEP SEA RESEARCH PART I: OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH PAPER**.

Cau Alessandro, Alvito Andrea, Moccia Davide, Canese Simonepietro, Pusceddu Antonio, Cannas Rita, Angiolillo Michela, Follesa Maria Cristina (2017). Submarine canyons along the upper Sardinian slope (Central Western Mediterranean) as repositories for derelict fishing gears. **MARINE POLLUTION BULLETIN**.

2016

Cau Alessandro, Bramanti Lorenzo, Angiolillo Michela, Bo Marzia, Canese Simonepietro, Cannas Rita, Follesa Maria Cristina, Guizien Katell (2016). Habitat constraints and self-thinning shape Mediterranean red coral deep population structure: implications for conservation practice. **SCIENTIFIC REPORTS**.

SERVICE

REFEREE ACTIVITIES

Environmental Science and Technology Letters; Proceedings of the Royal Society part B; Frontiers in Marine Science; Environmental Pollution; Science of the Total Environment; Environmental Research Letters; Marine Ecology Progress Series; Marine Pollution Bulletin; Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology; Advances in Oceanography and Limnology; Cahiers de Biologie Marine; Marine Biodiversity; Environmental Reviews;