

## New Issue: July 2021

By Emma Muench, 6th July 2021

Our [July issue](#) shines a spotlight on marine and coastal conservation, with an accompanying [Briefly](#) section on the latest news in this field. The journal cover features the pygmy seahorse, one of the many species of Syngnathiformes discussed in our lead article by [Pollom et al.](#) on the global extinction risk for seahorses, pipefishes and their near relatives. In the [Editorial](#), Bill Adams & Kent Redford explore the use of genetic technologies for conservation. The issue also contains a host of Conservation News items and book reviews!

Find out more about this issue's content, including our Editor's picks, below:

### Marine and coastal conservation

- Global extinction risk for seahorses, pipefishes and their near relatives (Syngnathiformes) - [Pollom et al.](#)
- Towards ecological and social impact through collaborative governance of a seascape of marine protected areas in Honduras - [Steadman](#) (see [blog post](#))
- New insights on the conservation status of the Endangered coastal endemic plant *Astragalus berytheus* (Fabaceae) in Lebanon - [Abdel Samad et al.](#) (see [blog post](#))
- New monitoring confirms regular breeding of the Mediterranean monk seal in Northern Cyprus - [Beton et al.](#) (see [blog post](#))
- Re-establishment of the Mediterranean monk seal *Monachus monachus* in Cyprus: priorities for conservation - [Nicolaou et al.](#)
- The historical and contemporary status of the sea otter *Enhydra lutris* population on Urup Island, southern Kuril Islands - [Popov & Scopin](#)
- Surrogate rearing a keystone species to enhance population and ecosystem restoration - [Mayer et al.](#) (see [blog post](#))
- Can ecotourism change community attitudes towards conservation? - [Ziegler et al.](#)
- A case study of the coconut crab *Birgus latro* on Zanzibar highlights global threats and conservation solutions - [Caro et al.](#)
- Preparing for translocations of a Critically Endangered petrel through targeted monitoring of nest survival and breeding biology - [Fischer et al.](#)



#### Behind the cover

The first global assessment of extinction risk for the syngnathiform fishes, the seahorses, pipefishes and seadragons (family Syngnathidae), trumpetfishes (Aulostomidae), shrimpfishes (Centriscidae), cornetfishes (Fistulariidae) and ghost pipefishes (Solenostomidae), shows that at least 6% are threatened, most of them seahorses. Nearly one-third of syngnathiformes are Data Deficient and could potentially be threatened, including the pygmy seahorse *Hippocampus bargibanti* (pictured). The main threats to syngnathids are overexploitation, primarily by non-selective fisheries, and/or habitat loss and degradation. Conservation action for syngnathids, including constraining fisheries, particularly non-selective extraction, and habitat protection and rehabilitation, would benefit many other aquatic species. For further details, see [here](#). (Photograph © Timsimages/Shutterstock)

#### Editorial

##### [Fix that genome?](#) *W.M. Adams & K.H. Redford*

‘Genetic technologies may prove a wonderful tool for conservation if their use comes to be accepted by the public and if a way to regulate them is resolved... But without doubt they come with a lot of baggage. They share the burden of public unease about genetic engineering in general. But more immediately for conservation, they challenge many of the ideas on which scientists and managers depend in making their case for the importance of nature: that it stands apart from the human-fashioned world.’



Mayer et al.'s research confirms that surrogate-reared pups survive at a rate comparable to that of their wild kin. Surrogate mom "Toola" raised otter 327 at Monterey Bay Aquarium. Read the full [blog post](#).

#### Other contents

- Fragmented evidence for the contribution of ex situ management to species conservation indicates the need for better reporting - [Gant et al.](#)
- Understanding the dynamics of lion attacks on humans and livestock in southern Maasailand, Kenya - [Western et al.](#)
- Evaluation of human attitudes and factors conducive to promoting human-lion coexistence in the Greater Gir landscape, India - [Meena et al.](#) (see [blog post](#))
- First insights into rodent trapping in Oku village, northwest Cameroon, based on interviews with local hunters - [Missoup et al.](#)
- Home range and habitat selection of captive-bred and rehabilitated cape vultures *Gyps coprotheres* in southern Africa - [Jobson et al.](#) (see [blog post](#))
- Effects of integrated conservation-development projects on unauthorized resource use in Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda: a mixed-methods spatio-temporal approach - [Bernhard et al.](#) (see [blog post](#))
- National parks influence habitat use of lowland tapirs in adjacent private lands in the Southern Yungas of Argentina - [Rivera et al.](#) (see [blog post](#))
- Conserving the Critically Endangered tree *Vatica cauliflora*: population and conservation status assessment - [Robiansyah et al.](#)

#### Editor's picks

- Towards ecological and social impact through collaborative governance of a seascape of

marine protected areas in Honduras - [Steadman](#)

- Preparing for translocations of a Critically Endangered petrel through targeted monitoring of nest survival and breeding biology - [Fischer et al.](#)
- Fragmented evidence for the contribution of ex situ management to species conservation indicates the need for better reporting - [Gant et al.](#)
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Male Mediterranean monk seal observed in 2013. Photo: Hüseyin Yorgancı. Read the full [blog post](#).

## Conservation news

- Pigeon and dove specialist group launched - [Wood & Cerbini](#)
- Lost and found: rediscovery of the extinct tentacle butterfly ray *Gymnura tentaculata* in Iranian waters - [Rezaie-Atagholipour et al.](#)
- An additional threat to the recently rediscovered Nubian flapshell turtle in South Sudan - [Luiselli et al.](#)
- Call for holistic, interdisciplinary and multilateral management of human-wildlife conflict and coexistence - [Zimmermann & Stevens et al.](#)
- Conserving *Dialium travancoricum*, a Critically Endangered endemic tree - [Dhyani et al.](#)
- New guidelines allow companies to plan and monitor biodiversity performance at the corporate level - [Stephenson & Carbone](#)
- Increasing knowledge of the world's trees - [Rivers et al.](#)
- 500th Critically Endangered Jamaican rock iguana released into the wild - [Pasachnik & Grant](#)
- Conservation Leadership Programme 2021 Team Awards announced - [Tointon](#)
- Establishment of community-led fish conservation zones in Meghalaya and Manipur, India -

*Pinto et al.*

- New records of the forest musk deer *Moschus berezovskii* in Viet Nam revealed by camera traps - *Van Tran et al.*
- Preliminary survey of the southernmost Tapanuli orangutan population - *Prasetyo et al.*
- Primate Specialist Group ARRC Task Force - *Campbell*
- Center for Species Survival Brazil - *Rocha et al.*

#### Book reviews

- *A Journey in Landscape Restoration: Carrifan Wildwood and Beyond*
- *Around the World in 80 Plants*
- *Hats—A Very UNnatural History*



#### Emma Muench

Emma joined the Oryx team in 2018, having previously completed a BSc in Geography at the University of Sussex and an MSc in Conservation Science at Imperial College London. She has a keen interest in marine conservation and has experience working on sea turtle, coral reef, and tropical fish monitoring projects. Her previous research includes an ethological study on the impact of human enrichment on the welfare of captive giant Pacific octopus, and an investigation into the barriers to increased conservation involvement in European zoos.