

Project Update: December 2020

I participated in an online regional workshop on 3rd September 2020 on "Analysis and management of the marine and coastal zone in south-central Chile". Representatives from local fishing communities, local government, The Nature Conservancy and the Universidad Austral de Chile were present. Early discussions took place on the feasibility of a joint management and monitoring plan for the region focusing on biodiversity and sustainability of marine resources.

Delivery of a partial report to The Nature Conservancy on the 25th September 2020, which will be used to update the marine component of the new conservation plan for the region. The report included field photos and scientific analyses of marine assemblages.

I presented online at the 34th annual Australasian Society of Phycology and Aquatic Botany (ASPAB) conference on the 23rd November 2020. Title: Predator-prey dynamics in *Lessonia trabeculata* kelp forests of south-central Chile.

I am currently waiting notification of a scientific paper submitted to the Latin American Journal of Aquatic Research on the 15th December 2020. Title: Prey selection in *Lessonia trabeculata* kelp forests of south-central Chile.

We are building up our field equipment (see photo below) which will be utilised in the coming months. We are very excited to be diving in summer, especially with our new dive gear.



Scuba diver, Eliseo Fica



New dive equipment



Above: Crab, *Taliepus dentatus*. Below: Seastar, *Patiria obesa*.

