

Data describing basslet aggression from experiments conducted in 2014 in the Bahamas.

Website: <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/735240>

Data Type: Other Field Results

Version: 1

Version Date: 2018-05-07

Project

» [Mechanisms and Consequences of Fish Biodiversity Loss on Atlantic Coral Reefs Caused by Invasive Pacific Lionfish](#) (BiodiversityLossEffects_lionfish)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
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Abstract

Data describing basslet aggression from experiments conducted in 2014 in the Bahamas.

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Coverage

Spatial Extent: Lat:24 Lon:-76

Temporal Extent: 2014-08 - 2014-08

Dataset Description

Data describing basslet aggression from experiments conducted in 2014. Location: Cape Eleuthera Institute, Eleuthera, The Bahamas.

Methods & Sampling

For methodology, see papers in the Related Publications section below.

Data Processing Description

For methodology, see papers in the Related Publications section below.

BCO-DMO Processing Notes:

- Added location coordinates
- Reformatted column names to comply with BCO-DMO standards
- Replaced species codes with full common names according to species key
- Replaced blank cells with nd

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Data Files

File
comp_aggression.csv (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 30.64 KB) MD5:d322f45dc806e186920a4c0db32a032f
Primary data file for dataset ID 735240

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Related Publications

Kindinger, T. (2016). Symmetrical effects of interspecific competition on congeneric coral-reef fishes. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, 555, 1–11. doi:[10.3354/meps11836](https://doi.org/10.3354/meps11836)
Methods
,
Results

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Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
Date	Date of observation	unitless
Site	Name of study site (reef)	unitless
lat	Latitude	decimal degrees
lon	Longitude	decimal degrees
Ledge_ID	Ledge identification number	unitless
Time_Day	Time of day in which observation occurred: Dawn Midday and Dusk	unitless
Rel_Position	Relative ledge position (0 = front of ledge; 1 = back of ledge) where aggressive interaction occurred	unitless
Agg_Species	Basslet species that was the aggressor	unitless
Agg_Size	Total body length of aggressor	centimeters
Recip_Species	Basslet species that was the recipient of aggression	unitless
Recip_Size	Total body length of recipient	centimeters

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Project Information

Mechanisms and Consequences of Fish Biodiversity Loss on Atlantic Coral Reefs Caused by Invasive Pacific Lionfish (BiodiversityLossEffects_lionfish)

Website: <http://hixon.science.oregonstate.edu/content/highlight-lionfish-invasion>

Coverage: Three Bahamian sites: 24.8318, -076.3299; 23.8562, -076.2250; 23.7727, -076.1071; Caribbean Netherlands: 12.1599, -068.2820

The Pacific red lionfish (*Pterois volitans*), a popular aquarium fish, was introduced to the Atlantic Ocean in the vicinity of Florida in the late 20th century. Voraciously consuming small native coral-reef fishes, including the juveniles of fisheries and ecologically important species, the invader has undergone a population explosion that now ranges from the U.S. southeastern seaboard to the Gulf of Mexico and across the greater Caribbean region. The PI's past research determined that invasive lionfish (1) have escaped their natural enemies in the Pacific (lionfish are much less abundant in their native range); (2) are not yet controlled by Atlantic predators, competitors, or parasites; (3) have strong negative effects on populations of native Atlantic fishes; and (4) locally reduce the diversity (number of species) of native fishes. The lionfish invasion has been recognized as one of the major conservation threats worldwide.

The Bahamas support the highest abundances of invasive lionfish globally. This system thus provides an unprecedented opportunity to understand the direct and indirect effects of a major invader on a diverse community, as well as the underlying causative mechanisms. The PI will focus on five related questions: (1) How does long-term predation by lionfish alter the structure of native reef-fish communities? (2) How does lionfish predation destabilize native prey population dynamics, possibly causing local extinctions? (3) Is there a lionfish-herbivore-seaweed trophic cascade on invaded reefs? (4) How do lionfish modify cleaning mutualisms on invaded reefs? (5) Are lionfish reaching densities where natural population limits are evident?

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Funding

Funding Source	Award
NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)	OCE-1233027

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