

DSV Seminars

2017

Master Degree in *Global Change Ecology*

Tuesday, 16 May 2017 10:00

Room 1C, Building H3 Via Valerio n° 12/2

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Host: Antonio Terlizzi

Parasites and diseases in the management and conservation of marine environment

Despite the recognition that virtually all free-living metazoans are home to parasitic organisms, our knowledge about the biology and ecology of parasitic forms is still limited, particularly in the marine realm. Greater efforts have been made for the study of parasites and diseases in marine aquaculture, where infectious agents are responsible for heavy economic losses, affecting the farmed stocks and representing an obstacle to the selection of new candidates for aquaculture.

However, if consequences of parasitism are possibly easier to assess with respect to the farming industry, the same is not true for wild stocks. Infectious agents potentially represent a limiting factor for the conservation of endangered species, they can affect the marketability of fishery products or, in the case of zoonotic agents, may pose a threat to human health.

Here I present a series of case studies focused on topics that requires special attention in the framework of a correct management and effective conservation of wild marine stocks, involving a viral agent, a protozoan and a metazoan parasite infecting different species of marine vertebrates and invertebrates.

