



Biology Seminar

Speaker: **Amy Van Cise, Ph.D.**

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The role of sociality in cetacean ecology, evolution, and conservation



Sociality - the suite of socially learned behaviors specific to a group of animals – is increasingly recognized as an integral strategy to the evolutionary ecology of many non-human animals. This is especially true in marine environments, where there are few barriers to dispersal, and top predators must find other ways to segregate and identify their niche space. In this hour I will share four examples of recent and ongoing research projects that incorporate the lens of sociality into our understanding of the evolutionary ecology of cetaceans. From evolutionary trajectories to population health to management implications, understanding the effects of sociality can provide important insights relevant to both the ecology and conservation of these top marine predators.

Seminar Speaker Host: Anna Nisi

