



**University of  
Zurich**<sup>UZH</sup>

Department of Evolutionary Biology  
and Environmental Studies

## **Animal Behavior: Verhaltensbiologisches Seminar**

### *Conservation of the spinner dolphin in the Egyptian Red Sea*

**Speaker:** **Dr. Maddalena Fumagalli**  
University of Otago (Dunedin, NZ), Tethys Research Institute  
(Milano, Italy)

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, 2018-09-19  
16:15 to 18:15

**Place:** Y25-G-11/UZH Irchel  
Winterthurerstr. 190; 8057 Zürich

**Access:** only intern

**Host:** Prof. Barbara König

#### **Abstract:**

The spinner dolphin displays a particular pattern of activities, with foraging being exclusively nocturnal, and rest and sleep confined to the daylight hours. In the Red Sea, resting schools regularly occur in the shallow lagoons of several coastal reefs. The rapid, and largely unregulated, growth of commercial dolphin watching and swim-with activities at these resting areas raised concerns over the potential detrimental effects of the industry on the wild populations targeted. This study investigated the short-term behavioural responses of dolphins at three resting areas with different tourist management strategies. Together with a first assessment of populations' site fidelity and connectivity, these data helped define priorities for conservation and formulate management recommendations.

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