

## Editorial – Chondrichthyan Special Issue

Volume 58, Issue 1 introduces some exciting developments at *Marine and Freshwater Research*. While the journal is now being published 12 times a year, there will also be special sections, more opinion-type pieces and, as the current issue exemplifies, interesting Special Issues.

The current issue is a collection of papers on chondrichthyan biology, ecology and fisheries from some of the leading researchers in the field. Three ‘Lead Essays’, one each by Terry Walker, Enric Cortés and Peter Last, preface the research papers with broad overviews of the state of chondrichthyan research and the needs of the future. Commissioned by the journal, they are thought provoking and insightful refereed opinion pieces that demand attention. Terry Walker makes a broad overview of chondrichthyan research, Enric Cortés looks at the use and abuse of demographic modelling and Peter Last highlights the importance of taxonomy and systematics – an area of endeavour that underpins all other forms of biological research.

The 12 research papers in this issue represent research undertaken in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans on a diverse collection of chondrichthyan species and on a wide variety of research topics. Ecology, age and growth, reproduction and physiology are some of the topics of the papers, highlighting the depth and richness of research in this area. It is evident that the body of work herein exemplifies the importance of research in ensuring the sustainable future of this important group.

Dr Dugald McGlashan  
Managing Editor, *Marine & Freshwater Research*  
**CSIRO PUBLISHING**  
PO Box 1139  
Collingwood 3066 Australia  
Fax: +61 (0)3 9662 7611  
Email: [dugald.mcglashan@csiro.au](mailto:dugald.mcglashan@csiro.au)  
[www.publish.csiro.au/journals/mfr](http://www.publish.csiro.au/journals/mfr)