

R. J. David Wells, Ph.D.

Professor
Chancellor EDGES Fellow
Texas A&M University at Galveston
Department of Marine Biology
1001 Texas Clipper Rd.
OCSB Bldg. 3029, office 262
Galveston, TX 77553
wellsr@tamug.edu
(409) 740-4989

Education:

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
Ph.D. Oceanography and Coastal Sciences (2007)
Minor in Experimental Statistics

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
M.S. Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences (2002)

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY
B.S. Biology (1998)
Minor in Chemistry

Experience:

PROFESSOR (2023 – present)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (2017 – 2023)
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR (2012 – 2017)
Texas A&M University at Galveston, Department of Marine Biology, Galveston, TX
Texas A&M University, Department of Ecology & Conservation Biology, College Station, TX

FISHERIES RESEARCH BIOLOGIST
Southwest Fisheries Science Center, NOAA/NMFS, La Jolla, CA (2010-2012)

TEXAS INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY POST-DOCTORAL FELLOW
Texas A&M University at Galveston, Galveston, TX (2007 – 2010)

Publications:

**93 Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles (direct supervision: * graduate student;
**undergraduate student; ° post-doc; underline only indicates student from another
supervisor):**

93. Steffen C, Stephens S, Dance MA, Lippi DL, Jensen CC, **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR (2023) Estuarine-coastal connectivity and partial migration of Southern Flounder in the Gulf of Mexico. *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 294, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecss.2023.108545>
92. Gough B, Prouse A, Dance MA, **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR (2023) Regional variation in the trophic ecology of wahoo (*Acanthocybium solandri*) in the western Atlantic Ocean. *Fishes*, 8, 519, <https://doi.org/10.3390/fishes8100519>
91. Spear LN*, Kohin S, Mohan JA°, **Wells RJD** (2023) Insights into vertebral band pair deposition rate in the juvenile common thresher shark (*Alopias vulpinus*) in the northeastern Pacific Ocean. *Journal of Fish Biology*, 1-9. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jfb.15538>
90. Binstock A, Richards TM°, Gibson-Banks K, Drymon JM, **Wells RJD**, Mohan JA (2023)

- Assessing ecological connectivity of blacktip sharks (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) in the Gulf of Mexico using stable isotope analysis of multiple tissues. *Fisheries Research* 268, 106849; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.fishres.2023.106849>
89. Dominguez-Sanchez PS*, Sirovic A, Fonseca-Ponce IA, Zavala-Jimenez AA, Rubin RD, Kumli KR, Ketchum J, Galvan-Magana F, **Wells RJD**, Stewart JD (2023) Occupancy of acoustically tagged oceanic manta rays, *Mobula birostris*, in Bahia de Banderas, Mexico. *Marine Biology* 170:128, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00227-023-04278-1>
 88. Rooker JR, Sluis MZ, Kitchens LL, Dance MA, Falterman B, Lee JM, Liu H, Miller N, Murua H, Rooker AM, Saillant E, Walter J, **Wells RJD** (2023) Nursery origin of yellowfin tuna in the Western Atlantic Ocean: significance of Caribbean Sea and trans-Atlantic migrants. *Scientific Reports* 13:16277. doi://10.1038/s41598-023-43163-1
 87. Banks KG, Streich MK, Drymon JM, Scyphers SB, Mohan JA, **Wells RJD**, Binstock AL, Richards TM*, White CF, Whitney NM, Stunz GW (2023) Talk is cheap: direct evidence of conservation-based changes in angler behavior. *Conservation Science and Practice*
 86. Frazier BS, Vinyard EA, Fields AT, Driggers WB, Grubbs RD, Adams DH, Drymon JM, Gardiner JM, Hendon JM, Hoffmayer E, Heuter RE, **Wells RJD**, Wiley TR, Portnoy DS (2023) Age, growth and maturity of Bonnethead *Sphyrna tiburo* in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. *Environmental Biology of Fishes*, <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10641-023-01439-5>
 85. Garner SB, Sluis MZ, **Wells RJD**, Boswell KM, Cowan JR (2023) Resource partitioning of sympatric Lutjanids in the northern Gulf of Mexico using stable isotope analysis. *Fishes*, 8, 244. <https://doi.org/10.3390/fishes8050244>
 84. Gutierrez EM**, Plumlee JD*, Bolser DG, Erisman BE, **Wells RJD** (2023) Regional variation in feeding patterns of sheepshead (*Archosargus probatocephalus*) in the northwest Gulf of Mexico. *Fishes*, 8, 188. <https://doi.org/10.3390/fishes8040188>
 83. Richards TM*, Sutton TT, Woodstock MS, Judkins H, **Wells RJD** (2023) Body size, depth of occurrence, and local oceanography shape trophic structure in a diverse deep-pelagic micronekton assemblage. *Progress in Oceanography*, 213, 102998
 82. Binstock AL, Richards TM*, **Wells RJD**, Drymon JM, Gibson-Banks K, Streich MK, Stunz GW, White CF, Whitney NM, Mohan JA (2023) Variable post-release mortality in common shark species captured in Texas shore-based recreational fisheries. *PLoS ONE* 18(2): e0281441
 81. Mohan JA*, Curiel AR, Herzka SZ, **Wells RJD**, Miller NR, Sosa-Nishizaki O, Garcia-Rodriguez E (2023). Inferring habitat use of the Pacific White Shark using vertebral chemistry. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 9:1082219. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2022.1082219
 80. Quigg A, **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR, Hill RL, Kitchens LL, Dance MA, Moulton DL, Sanchez PJ, Ferreira BP (2023) Food web connectivity in a mangrove-seagrass-patch reef (MSP) seascape: lessons from a tropical back-reef in Puerto Rico. *Fishes*, 8, 44. <https://doi.org/10.3390/fishes8010044>
 79. LaFreniere BR, Sosa-Nishizaki O, Herzka SZ, Snodgrass O, Dewar H, Miller N, **Wells RJD**, Mohan JA (2023) Vertebral chemistry distinguishes nursery habitats of juvenile shortfin mako in the eastern North Pacific Ocean. *Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science* 15:e10234
 78. Mohan JA*, Dewar H, Snodgrass O, Miller NR, Tanaka Y, Ohshimo S, Rooker JR, Francis M, **Wells RJD** (2022) Otolith geochemistry reflects life histories of Pacific bluefin tuna. *PLoS ONE* 17(10):e0275899. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0275899>
 77. Branham CC, Frazier BS, Strange JB, Galloway AS, Adams DH, Drymon JM, Grubbs RD, Portnoy DS, **Wells RJD**, Sancho G (2022) Diet of the bonnethead (*Sphyrna tiburo*) along

- the northern Gulf of Mexico and southeastern Atlantic coast of the United States. *Animal Biodiversity and Conservation*, 45.2: 257-267. <https://doi.org/10.32800/abc.2022.45.0257>
76. Anderson T**, Meese EN*, Drymon JM, Stunz GW, Falterman B, Menjivar E**, **Wells RJD** (2022) Diel vertical habitat use observations of a scalloped hammerhead and a bigeye thresher in the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Fishes* 7, 148. <https://doi.org/10.3390/fishes7040148>
 75. Andrzejaczek S et al.° (2022) Diving into the vertical dimension of elasmobranch movement ecology. *Science Advances* 8, eabo1754
 74. Sutton TS, Milligan RJ, Boswell KM, Cook AB, Cornic M, Daly K, Frank T, Frasier K, Hahn D, Hernandez F, Hildebrand J, Hu C, Johnston M, Joye SB, Judkins H, Moore JA, Murawski SA, Pruzinsky NN, Quinlan JA, Remsen A, Robinson K, Romero I, Rooker J, Vecchione M, **Wells RJD** (2022) The open-ocean Gulf of Mexico after *Deepwater Horizon*: Synthesis of a decade of research. *Frontiers in Marine Science* doi:10.3389/fmars.2022.753391
 73. **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR, Addis P, Arrizabalaga H, Baptista M, Bearzi G, Fraile I, Lacoue-Labarthe T, Meese EN*, Megalofonou P, Rosa R, Sobrino I, Sykes AV, Villanueva R (2021) Regional patterns of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ for the European common cuttlefish (*Sepia officinalis*) throughout the Northeast Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. *Royal Society Open Science* 8: 210345. <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.210345>
 72. Livernois MC*, Mohan JA°, TinHan TC*, Richards TM*, Falterman BJ, Miller NR, **Wells RJD** (2021) Ontogenetic patterns of elemental tracers in the vertebrae cartilage of coastal and oceanic sharks. *Frontiers in Marine Science* doi:10.2289/fmars.2021.704134
 71. TinHan TC*, **Wells RJD** (2021) Spatial and ontogenetic patterns in the trophic ecology of juvenile bull sharks (*Carcharhinus leucas*) in the northwest Gulf of Mexico. *Frontiers in Marine Science* doi:10.3389/fmars.2021.664316
 70. Rooker JR, **Wells RJD**, Block B, Liu H, Baumann H, Zapp M, Chiang WC, Miller NR, Ohshimo S, Mohan JA°, Dance MA, Shiao JC (2021) Natal origin and age-specific egress of Pacific bluefin tuna from coastal nurseries revealed with geochemical markers. *Scientific Reports* 11, 14216. doi://10.1038/s41598-021-93298-2
 69. Plumlee JD*, Hala DN, Rooker JR, Shipley JB, **Wells RJD** (2021) Trophic ecology of fishes associated with artificial reefs assessed using multiple biomarkers. *Hydrobiologia* 848:4347-4362. doi:10.1007/s10750-021-04647-1
 68. Livernois MC*, Fujiwara M, Fisher M, **Wells RJD** (2021) Seasonal patterns of habitat suitability and spatiotemporal overlap within an assemblage of estuarine predators and prey. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 668:39-55, doi: 10.3354/meps13700
 67. Dance MA, Rooker JR, Kline RJ, Quigg A, Stunz GR, **Wells RJD**, Lara K, Lee J, Suarez B (2021) Importance of low-relief nursery habitat for reef fishes. *Ecosphere* 12(6):e03542. doi:10.1002/ecs2.3542
 66. **Wells RJD**, Quesnell VA*, Humphreys RL Jr, Dewar H, Rooker JR, Alvarado Bremer J, Snodgrass OE (2021) Nursery origin and population connectivity of swordfish *Xiphias gladius* in the North Pacific Ocean. *Journal of Fish Biology* 99:354-363. doi: 10.1111/jfb.14723
 65. Cook AB, Bernard AM, Boswell KM, Bracken-Grissom H, D'Elia M, deRada S, Easson CG, English D, Eytan RI, Frank T, Hu C, Johnston MW, Judkins H, Lembke C, Lopez JV, Milligan RJ, Moore JA, Penta B, Pruzinsky NM, Quinlan JA, Richards TM*, Romero IC, Shivji MS, Vecchione M, Weber MD, **Wells RJD**, Sutton TT (2020) A multidisciplinary approach to investigate deep-pelagic ecosystem dynamics in the Gulf of Mexico following Deepwater Horizon. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 7:548880. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2020.548880
 64. Alewijnse SR*, **Wells RJD** (2020) Diet of the blacktip shark (*Carcharhinus limbatus*) in the

northwestern Gulf of Mexico. *Gulf and Caribbean Research* 31:SC25-SC-30

63. Richards TM*, Sutton TT, **Wells RJD** (2020) Trophic structure and sources of variation influencing the stable isotope signatures of meso- and bathypelagic micronekton fishes. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 7:507992. doi:10.3389/fmars.2020.507992
62. Rooker JR, **Wells RJD**, Addis P, Arrizabalaga H, Baptista M, Bearzi G, Dance MA, Fraile I, Lacoue-Labarthe T, Lee JM, Megalofonou P, Rosa R, Sobrino I, Sykes A, Villanueva R (2020) Natural geochemical markers reveal environmental history and population connectivity of common cuttlefish in the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea. *Journal of the Royal Society Interface* 17: 20200309. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsif.2020.0309>
61. Ajemian MJ, Drymon JM, Hammerschlag N, **Wells RJD**, Street G, Falterman B, McKinney JA, Driggers WB, Hoffmayer ER, Fischer C, Stunz GW (2020) Movement patterns and habitat use of tiger sharks (*Galeocerdo cuvier*) across ontogeny in the Gulf of Mexico. *PLoS ONE* 15(7): e0234868. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0234868>
60. TinHan TC*, O'Leary S, Portnoy D, Rooker JR, Gelpi C, **Wells RJD** (2020) Natural tags identify nursery origin of a coastal elasmobranch (*Carcharhinus leucas*). *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 57:1222-1232. doi:10.1111/1365-2664.13627
59. Mohan JA°, Jones E, Hendon J, Falterman B, Boswell KM, Hoffmayer E, **Wells RJD** (2020) Capture stress and post-release mortality of blacktip sharks in recreational charter fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico. *Conservation Physiology*, doi:10.1093/conphys/coaa041
58. Plumlee JD*, Dance KM*, Dance MA, Rooker JR, TinHan TC*, Shipley JB, **Wells RJD** (2020) Fish assemblages associated with artificial reefs assessed using multiple gear types in the northwest Gulf of Mexico. *Bulletin of Marine Science*, doi:10.5343/bms.2019.0091
57. **Wells RJD**, Mohan JA°, Dewar H, Rooker JR, Tanaka Y, Snodgrass O, Kohin S, Miller NR, Ohshimo S (2020) Natal origin of Pacific bluefin tuna from the California Current Large Marine Ecosystem. *Biology Letters* 16:20190878. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rsbl.2019.0878>
56. Boswell KM, D'Elia M, Johnston MW, Mohan JA°, Warren JD, **Wells RJD**, Sutton TT (2020) Oceanographic structure and light levels drive patterns of scattering layers in a low-latitude oceanic system. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 7:51. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2020.00051
55. Matich P, Nowicki RJ, Davis J, Mohan JA°, Plumlee JD*, Strickland BA, TinHan TC*, **Wells RJD**, Fisher M (2020) Does proximity to freshwater refuge affect the size structure of an estuarine predator (*Carcharhinus leucas*) in the north-west Gulf of Mexico? *Marine and Freshwater Research* 71: 1-16, <https://doi.org/10.1071/MF19346>
54. Fujiwara M, Martinez-Andrade F, **Wells RJD**, Fisher M, Pawluk M, Livernois MC* (2019) Climate-related factors cause changes in the diversity of fish and invertebrates in subtropical coast of the Gulf of Mexico. *Communications Biology* 2, 403 doi:10.1038/s42003-019-0650-9
53. Rooker JR, Dance MA, **Wells RJD**, Ajemian MJ, Block BA, Castleton MR, Drymon JM, Falterman BJ, Franks JS, Hendon JM, Hoffmayer ER, Kraus RT, McKinney JA, Secor DH, Stunz GW, Walter JF (2019) Population connectivity of pelagic megafauna in the Cuba-Mexico-United States triangle. *Scientific Reports* 9:1663
52. Richards TM*, Gipson EE**, Cook A, Sutton TT, **Wells RJD** (2019) Trophic ecology of meso- and bathypelagic predatory fishes in the Gulf of Mexico. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 76: 662-672.
51. **Wells RJD**, TinHan TC*, Dance MA, Drymon JM, Falterman B, Ajemian MJ, Stunz GW, Mohan JA°, Hoffmayer ER, Driggers WB, McKinney JA (2018) Movement, behavior and habitat use of a marine apex predator, the Scalloped Hammerhead. *Frontiers in Marine Science* 5:321. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2018.00321

50. Mohan JA^o, Miller NR, Herzka SZ, Sosa-Nishizaki O, Kohin S, Dewar H, Kinney M, Snodgrass O, **Wells RJD** (2018). Elements of time and place: manganese and barium in shark vertebrae reflect age and upwelling histories. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* 285: 20181760. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2018.1760>
49. Dance KM^{*}, Rooker JR, Shipley JB, Dance MA, **Wells RJD** (2018) Feeding ecology of fishes associated with artificial reefs in the northwest Gulf of Mexico. *PLoS ONE* 13(10): e0203873. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0203873>
48. Milligan et al.^{*} (2018) The application of novel research technologies by the Deep Pelagic Nekton Dynamics of the Gulf of Mexico (DEEPEND) consortium. *Marine Technology Society Journal* 52(6)
47. Rooker JR, Dance MA, **Wells RJD**, Quigg A, Hill RL, Appeldoorn RS, Ferreira BP, Boswell KM, Sanchez PJ, Moulton DL, Kitchens LL, Aschenbrenner A (2018) Seascape connectivity and the influence of predation risk on the movement of fishes inhabiting a back-reef ecosystem. *Ecosphere* 9(4):e02200.10.1002/ecs2.2200
46. TinHan TC^{*}, Mohan JA^o, Dumesnil M, DeAngelis BM, **Wells RJD** (2018) Linking habitat use and trophic ecology of spotted seatrout (*Cynoscion nebulosus*) on a restored oyster reef in a subtropical estuary. *Estuaries and Coasts*; doi.org/10.1007/s12237-018-0391-x
45. Plumlee JD^{*}, Dance KM^{*}, Matich P, Mohan JA^o, Richards TM^{*}, TinHan TC^{*}, Fisher MR, **Wells RJD** (2018) Community structure of elasmobranchs in estuaries along the northwest Gulf of Mexico. *Estuarine, Coastal, and Shelf Science* 204: 103-113
44. Bird C et al.^{*} (2018) A global perspective on the trophic geography of sharks. *Nature Ecology & Evolution* 2: 299-305
43. Drymon JM, **Wells RJD** (2017) Double tagging clarifies post-release fate of great hammerheads (*Sphyrna mokarran*). *Animal Biotelemetry* 5:28
42. Mohan JA^o, Tinhan TC^{*}, Miller NR, **Wells RJD** (2017) Effects of sample cleaning and storage on the elemental composition of shark vertebrae. *Rapid Communications in Mass Spectrometry* 31: 2073-2080
41. Matich P, Mohan JA^o, Plumlee JD^{*}, Tinhan TC^{*}, **Wells RJD**, Fisher M (2017) Factors shaping the co-occurrence of two juvenile shark species along the Texas Gulf Coast. *Marine Biology* 164: 141. doi:10.1007/s00227-017-3173-2
40. **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR, Quigg A, Wissel B (2017) Influence of mesoscale oceanographic features on pelagic food webs in the Gulf of Mexico. *Marine Biology* 164: 92. doi:10.1007/s00227-017-3122-0
39. Mohan JA^o, Sutton TT, Cook AB, Boswell KM, **Wells RJD** (2017) Influence of oceanographic conditions on abundance and distribution of post-larval and juvenile carangid fishes in the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Fisheries Oceanography* 26: 526-541
38. Churnside JH, **Wells RJD**, Boswell KM, Quinlan JA, Marchbanks RD, McCarty BJ, Sutton TT (2017) Surveying the distribution and abundance of flyingfishes and other epipelagics in the northern Gulf of Mexico using airborne lidar. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 93: 591-609
37. **Wells RJD**, Spear N^{*}, Kohin S (2017) Age validation of the blue shark (*Prionace glauca*) in the eastern Pacific Ocean. *Marine and Freshwater Research* 68: 1130-1136
36. Kinney MJ, **Wells RJD**, Kohin S (2016) Oxytetracycline age validation of an adult shortfin mako after six years at liberty. *Journal of Fish Biology* 89: 1828-1833
35. Harrington T^{*}, Plumlee JD^{*}, Drymon JM, **Wells RJD** (2016) Diets of Atlantic Sharpnose shark (*Rhizoprionodon terraenovae*) and Bonnethead (*Sphyrna tiburo*) in the northern Gulf

- of Mexico. *Gulf and Caribbean Research* 27: 42-51
34. Fraile I, Arrizabalaga H, Santiago J, Goni N, Arregi I, Madinabeitia S, **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR (2016) Otolith chemistry as an indicator of movements of albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) in the North Atlantic Ocean. *Marine and Freshwater Research* 67: 1002-1013
 33. Plumlee JD**, **Wells RJD** (2016) Feeding ecology of three coastal shark species in the northwest Gulf of Mexico. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 550: 163-174
 32. Xu Y, Teo SLH, Piner KR, Chen KS, **Wells RJD** (2016) Using an approximate length-conditional approach to estimate von Bertalanffy growth parameters of North Pacific albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*). *Fisheries Research* 180: 138-146
 31. Rooker JR, **Wells RJD**, Itano D, Thorrold S, Lee J (2016) Natal origin and population connectivity of bigeye and yellowfin tuna in the Pacific Ocean. *Fisheries Oceanography* 25: 277-291
 30. Churnside JH, Marchbanks RD, Donaghay PL, Sullivan JM, Graham WM, **Wells RJD** (2016) Hollow aggregations of moon jellyfish (*Aurelia spp.*). *Journal of Plankton Research* 38: 122-130
 29. **Wells RJD**, Kinney MJ, Kohin S, Dewar H, Rooker JR, Snodgrass OE (2015) Natural tracers reveal population structure of albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) in the eastern North Pacific Ocean. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 72: 2118-2127
 28. Lyons K, Preti A, Madigan DJ, **Wells RJD**, Blasius ME, Snodgrass OE, Kacev D, Harris JD, Dewar H, Kohin S, MacKenzie K, Lowe CG (2015) Insights into the life history and ecology of a large shortfin mako shark (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) captured in southern California. *Journal of Fish Biology* 87: 200-211
 27. Baumann H, **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR, Saijin Z, Baumann ZA, Madigan DJ, Dewar H, Snodgrass OE, Fisher NS (2015) Combining otolith microstructure and trace elemental analyses to infer the arrival of juvenile Pacific bluefin tuna in the California Current Ecosystem. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 72: 2128-2138
 26. Hoolihan JP, **Wells RJD**, Luo J, Falterman B, Prince ED, Rooker JR (2014) Vertical and horizontal movements of yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) in the Gulf of Mexico. *Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science* 6: 211-222
 25. Timm LL, Carter JE**, Frey J, Prappas J, **Wells RJD** (2014) Birth of common shovelnose rays (*Glaucostegus typus*) under captive conditions. *Zoo Biology* 33: 357-359
 24. Renck CL*, **Wells RJD**, Dewar H, Talley DM (2014) Regional growth patterns of juvenile albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*) in the eastern North Pacific. *California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations Reports* 55: 135-143
 23. Rooker JR, Kitchens LL, Dance MA, **Wells RJD**, Falterman B, Cornic M (2013) Spatial, temporal, and habitat-related variation in abundance of pelagic fishes in the Gulf of Mexico: potential implications of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. *PLoS ONE* 8(10): e76080. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0076080
 22. **Wells RJD**, Kohin S, Teo SLH, Snodgrass OE, Uosaki K (2013). Age and growth of North Pacific albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*): implications for stock assessment. *Fisheries Research* 147: 55-62
 21. **Wells RJD**, Smith SE, Kohin S, Freund E, Spear N*, Ramon DA (2013) Age validation of juvenile shortfin mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) tagged and marked with oxytetracycline off southern California. *Fishery Bulletin* 111: 147-160

20. Sluis-Zapp M, Boswell KM, Chumchal MM, **Wells RJD**, Soulen BL, Cowan JH Jr (2013) Regional variation in mercury and stable isotopes of red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) in the northern Gulf of Mexico, USA. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* 32: 434-441
19. Grabowski TB, Boswell KM, McAdam BJ, **Wells RJD**, Marteinsdottir G (2012) Characterization of Atlantic cod spawning habitat and behavior in Icelandic coastal waters. *PLoS ONE* 7(12): e51321. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0051321
18. **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR, Itano D (2012) Nursery origin of yellowfin tuna in the Hawaiian Islands. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 461: 187-196
17. Rooker JR, Simms JR, **Wells RJD**, Holt SA, Holt GJ, Graves JE, Furey NB (2012) Distribution and habitat associations of billfish and swordfish larvae across mesoscale features in the Gulf of Mexico. *PLoS ONE* 7(4): e34180. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0034180
16. Preti A, Soykan CU, Dewar H, **Wells RJD**, Spear N, Kohin S (2012) Comparative feeding ecology of shortfin mako, blue and common thresher sharks in the California Current. *Environmental Biology of Fishes* 95: 127-146
15. Kraus RT, **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR (2011) Horizontal movements of Atlantic blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) in the Gulf of Mexico. *Marine Biology* 158: 699-713
14. **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR, Prince ED (2010) Regional variation in the otolith chemistry of blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) and white marlin (*Tetrapturus albidus*) from the western North Atlantic Ocean. *Fisheries Research* 106: 430-435
13. **Wells RJD**, Steneck RS, Palma AT (2010) Three-dimensional resource partitioning between American lobster (*Homarus americanus*) and rock crab (*Cancer irroratus*) in a subtidal kelp forest. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology* 384: 1-6
12. Boswell KM, **Wells RJD**, Cowan JH Jr., Wilson CA (2010) Biomass, density, and size distributions of fishes associated with a large-scale artificial reef complex in the Gulf of Mexico. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 86: 879-889
11. **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR (2009) Feeding ecology of pelagic fish larvae and juveniles in slope waters of the Gulf of Mexico. *Journal of Fish Biology* 75: 1719-1732
10. **Wells RJD**, Harper JO, Rooker JR, Landry AM Jr., Dellapenna TM (2009) Fish assemblage structure on a drowned barrier island in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. *Hydrobiologia* 625: 207-221
9. **Wells RJD**, Cowan JH Jr., Patterson WF, Walters CJ (2008) Effect of trawling on juvenile red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) habitat selection and life history parameters. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 65: 2399-2411
8. **Wells RJD**, Cowan JH Jr., Fry B (2008) Feeding ecology of red snapper *Lutjanus campechanus* in the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 361: 213-225
7. **Wells RJD**, Chumchal MM, Cowan JH Jr. (2008) Effect of trawling and habitat on mercury concentration in juvenile red snapper from the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 137: 1839-1850
6. **Wells RJD**, Cowan JH Jr., Patterson WF (2008) Habitat use and the effect of shrimp trawling on fish and invertebrate communities over the northern Gulf of Mexico continental shelf. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 65: 1610-1619
5. Manríquez KC, Pardo LM, **Wells RJD**, Palma AT (2008) Crypsis in *Paraxanthus barbiger* (Decapoda: Brachyura): mechanisms against visual predators. *Journal of Crustacean Biology* 28: 473-479

4. **Wells RJD**, Boswell KM, Cowan JH Jr., Patterson WF (2008) Size selectivity of sampling gears targeting red snapper in the northern Gulf of Mexico. *Fisheries Research* 89: 294-299
3. **Wells RJD**, Cowan JH Jr. (2007) Video estimates of red snapper and associated fish assemblages on sand, shell, and natural reef habitats in the north-central Gulf of Mexico. Pages 39-57 *In* W. F. Patterson, III, J. H. Cowan, Jr., G. R. Fitzhugh, and D. L. Nieland, editors. *Red Snapper Ecology and Fisheries in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico*. American Fisheries Society, Symposium 60, Bethesda, Maryland.
2. **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR (2004) Distribution, age, and growth of young-of-the-year greater amberjack (*Seriola dumerili*) associated with pelagic *Sargassum*. *Fishery Bulletin* 102: 545-554
1. **Wells RJD**, Rooker JR (2004) Spatial and temporal patterns of habitat use by fishes associated with *Sargassum* mats in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico. *Bulletin of Marine Science* 74: 81-99

Book Chapters:

Wells RJD, Drymon JM, Trueman CN, Papastamatiou YP, Mourier J, Meekan M, eds. (2023) Movement and connectivity of large pelagic sharks. Lausanne: Frontiers Media SA. doi: 10.3389/978-2-8325-1178-7

Shimose T, **Wells RJD** (2015) Feeding Ecology of Bluefin Tunas. Pages 78-97 *In* T. Kitagawa, S. Kumura, editors. *Biology and Ecology of Bluefin Tuna*. CRC Press, Taylor and Francis Group.