

Curriculum vitae

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Freshwater Ichthyologist
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Academic qualifications

2013 MSc (Marine Science), the University of the South Pacific.

Thesis: “Seasonality, habitats and microhabitats of fish in wadeable streams of Nakorotubu, Ra, Fiji Islands.”

2009 BSc (Marine Science), the University of the South Pacific

Employment history

April, 2014 – present	Freshwater Ichthyologist, Institute of Applied Sciences, USP.
September 2013 – March 2014	Consultant, Institute of Applied Sciences, USP.
2010 – 2013	Graduate Assistant, Institute of Applied Sciences, USP.
2009	Part-time marker, USP.
2008	Research Assistant (Aquaculture), School of Marine Studies

Technical Expertise

Freshwater sampling and specimen collection: use of fyke nets, gillnets, cast nets, beach seine and electro-fisher across a wide range of riverine and deltaic habitats.

Water quality parameter monitoring: use of handheld probes to measure turbidity, dissolved oxygen, salinity, conductivity and pH.

Taxonomy and identification: specialist in freshwater ichthyofauna of Fiji and neighbouring Melanesian countries.

Specimen preservation and curation: additions to and maintenance of the USP marine collection including data basing.

Statistical analysis: fully conversant with ecological statistical analysis including a range of mainstream and specialist software packages.

Report writing: I have fluent English and excellent report writing skills, with the ability to adapt styles to target both general and specialist audiences as the need arises.

Teamwork and Leadership: my participation in the projects outlined below highlights my ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team both in and out of the field. On several of these projects I was team

leader for the freshwater and brackish water vertebrate team, responsible for overseeing the work of 2-5 people.

Projects Undertaken in the capacity of freshwater ecologist

Project Work: Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs)

- 2015 Archaeological survey and community consultation in Naitasiri and Namosi province. Namosi Joint Venture.
- 2015 Environmental Emergency (Water, Fish and Sediments monitoring – Suva to Kinoya sewer line collapse) Department of Environment.
- 2015 Environment and Social Impact Assessment for the Fiji: Enhancing Resilience of Rural Communities to Flood and Drought-Related Climate Change and Disaster Risks in the Ba Catchment Area of Fiji Project. United Nations Development Programme.
- 2014 Aquatic Health Survey, Mt. Kasi Gold mine, Vanua Levu (Newcrest Explorations Fiji Ltd)
- 2014 EIA for the Waisoi exploration project, including montane and coastal sites (Namosi Joint Venture). Freshwater and mangrove fish data, sediment and benthic fauna collection.
- 2013 EIA for the Dreketi Bauxite Mine in Dreketi, Vanua Levu (Xinfa Bauxite Mining Company).
- 2013 EIA for the Waisoi exploration project, including montane and coastal sites (Namosi Joint Venture).
- 2012 EIA for the Tuvatu Gold Mine in Sabeto, Nadi (Lion One Metals Ltd).
- 2012 EIA for the Nabu Magnetite Mine in Nadroga (Oaks Mine Ltd).
- 2011 Freshwater fish resource component (focusing on tilapia) for the EIA for the Waisoi exploration project (Namosi Joint Venture).
- 2011 EIA for the Waisoi exploration project (Namosi Joint Venture), including tissue collection for heavy metal analysis.

Project Work: Multi-taxa Biodiversity Surveys

- 2013 SPC-GIZ REDD+ project site in Vunivia pilot site, Vanua Levu. (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation).
- 2013 Global Environmental Facility & FAO (GEF PAS) proposed protected area sites, Mt. Delaikoro, Vanua Levu.
- 2013 SPC-GIZ REDD+ Emalu pilot site (phase 2), Navosa Province.
- 2012 SPC-GIZ REDD+ Emalu pilot site (phase 1) Navosa Province.
- 2012 IUCN Oceania MESCAL Project in the Rewa Delta (Mangrove Ecosystems for Climate Change and Livelihood).
- 2010 Conservation International Rapid Assessment Program in Nakauvadra, Ra Province, Fiji.
- 2010 Conservation International Rapid Assessment Program in Mont Panie, New Caledonia.
- 2009 Conservation International Rapid Assessment Program in Nakorotubu Range , Fiji.

Other qualifications

2013	First Aid - CPR refresher (Red Cross)	2011	Open Driver's license (Class 2)
2012	Basic First Aid (Red Cross).	2008	PADI Open Water Diver

Software capabilities

General:	Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint
Statistical packages:	SPSS, R, CANOCO, PRIMER
GIS:	ArcGIS

Languages

Fluent in both English and Fijian.

Technical reports

Copeland, L and Bulimali, S., 2014. Riverine fishes of the REDD+ pilot site in Vunivia, Dogotuki in the province of Macuata Vanua Levu. Submitted to Institute of Applied Sciences, University of the South Pacific.

Copeland, L. 2013 Ichthyofauna in the proposed Dreketi Bauxite mine locality.

Copeland, L. and Mailautoka, K., 2013. Freshwater Fishes. A rapid biodiversity assessment of the Delaikoro Range, Vanua Levu. Submitted to Institute of Applied Sciences, University of the South Pacific.

Copeland, L. 2013. Freshwater fishes of the Navosa Highlands. A preliminary study of the upper headwaters of the Sigatoka River in the Mataqali Emalu Catchment Area. Submitted to Institute of Applied Sciences, University of the South Pacific.

Copeland, L., Nainoca, F., Meo, S., and Ratuniata R.,(2012) Fishes and crustaceans of the Tailevu and Rewa delta, Fiji: mangrove faunal biodiversity and fisheries resource. Submitted to Institute of Applied Sciences, University of the South Pacific.

Jenkins, A., Mailautoka, K., and **Copeland, L.** (2012). Freshwater fishes in the proposed Namosi Mine vicinity: faunal connectivity and values. Submitted to Institute of Applied Sciences, University of the South Pacific.

Brodie, G. and **Copeland, L.** (2010). Terrestrial land snails and slugs of Nakorotubu, Fiji. In: Morrison, C. and Nawadra, S. (eds.). A rapid biodiversity assessment of the Nakorotubu Highlands, Fiji. RAP Bulletin of Biological Assessment. Conservation International, Arlington, VA, USA.

Conference presentations

Copeland, L., Jenkins, A. and Boseto, D (2013) "Freshwater fishes of the PABITRA Landscape Transect in Fiji: fragility & resilience in an island context" 12th Pacific Science Inter-Congress (PSI), July 8th-12th, 2013.

Copeland, L. (2011). “Factors Affecting Fish Assemblages in Wade-able Streams of Nakorotubu”.
Proceedings of the Second Fiji Conservation Science Forum 2011 September 14-16th, Suva, Fiji.

Referees

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