

James A. Nikitine

Marine Conservation & Communications, BA, MSc

SUMMARY

Interdisciplinary marine environment project management professional with expertise in marine science, marine conservation and marine policy. Originally from Geneva, I have a background of 7+ years in digital communications, project management, consultancy services, video production, NGOs, marine conservation tourism. I studied in the UK (Exeter, Edinburgh), Paris, and spent 3 years in the South Pacific. I am member of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) and an active contributor to its “Young Professionals” Marine Task Force. I am a member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management (CIEEM) and associated to the Global Ocean Trust.

SPECIALTIES

Marine Conservation & Advocacy

- Social science researcher with a focus on large MPAs & management effectiveness
- Active campaigner, conference and event attendance, volunteering at beach cleans
- Scuba diving trainer (PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor with specialties)
- Member of the IUCN WCPA young professionals marine task force
- Member of blue economy think-tank Global Ocean Trust
- Over 2,000 followers on twitter @jamesnikitine

Digital Project Management

- Digital project management for international social media marketing campaigns
- Video production, film writing and directing, crew management
- Graphic design, web design, project supervision and deadlines
- Event & conference management in the climate change, environment sectors
- Journalism & blogging, with an emphasis on nature conservation and sustainability
- Stakeholder engagement, strategic corporate communications

Oceanographic Expeditions

- Marine science expertise, marine ecology, marine biology, oceanography
- Pro scuba-diver (2B - Institute for Professional Scuba-Diving, Marseille, France)
- Underwater videography (Sony RX100 IV, Nauticam housing, 2x Fantasea lights)
- Documentary production & direction, international media partnerships

QUALIFICATIONS

MSc Marine Systems and Policies (Merit)

The University of Edinburgh, UK, August 2016

- Thesis: “Establishing large, remote no-take marine reserves: an evaluation of the Pitcairn Islands Marine Reserve”
- Maldives field trip: Magoodhoo Island, University of Milano-Bicocca research station. Interdisciplinary 12-day expedition doing underwater surveys (using the IUCN bleaching protocol), atoll geomorphology and social science methods.

Postgraduate Certificate, Film Studies

The University of Exeter, UK, June 2010

First year of MA programme on film history and theory

Professional filmmaking, Director programme

EICAR–The International Film and Television School, Paris, June 2008

One year programme covering all aspects of film production and distribution

BA World Film and European Cinemas

The University of Exeter, UK, June 2007

Three year programme on film history, theory and film practice

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Director and Co-Founder, *Mania Productions*

Geneva, Switzerland, January 2018-present

Strategic communications and film production. Communicating the necessary balance between nature conservation, science and livelihoods in a changing climate.

Temporary Marine Officer; *International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)* Gland, Switzerland, December 2016 – December 2017

Produced by the Global Marine and Polar Programme of IUCN and the French Environment Fund (FFEM), responsible for writing and directing a documentary on the future of high seas governance shot during the 26-day South West Indian Ocean ‘Walters Shoal’ expedition. Scuba-diving / videography in international waters.

Marine Conservation & Communications ; *Independent*

Global, August 2016 - present

Working globally to increase marine conservation efforts through advocacy, social media and video projects. Project management, social media marketing, video production, graphic design, event management and coverage at the global level for clients in the private sector, UN agencies or NGOs. Expertise in climate change, environment and nature conservation issues with specialization in marine science.

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Digital project manager; *Green.TV*

Oxford, UK, October 2013 - November 2015

Managing the strategic distribution of videos through a multi-channel network dedicated to the environment, sustainability and clean tech. Journalism, video production, stakeholder engagement and account managing Geneva-based clients.

Communications manager; *Initiatives for Land, Lives, Peace*

Geneva, Switzerland, September 2013 - July 2015

Website design, management, social media marketing, 'Caux Dialogue on Land & Security' conference coverage and reporting, intern supervision. Stakeholder engagement in the climate, land restoration, humanitarian and peace-building sectors.

Communications officer; *CAUX-Initiatives of Change Foundation*

Geneva, Switzerland, February 2013 - October 2013

Social media marketing, website management using Drupal, conference coverage.

PUBLICATIONS

J. Nikitine, M. Wilson, T.P Dawson (2017, in prep) Developing a framework for the efficient design, implementation and management of large marine reserves

RELEVANT TRAINING

French National Institute for Professional Scuba-Diving (INPP), class 2B (50m)
DCI-NAVFCO, military diving training facility, Saint-Mandrier, France, April 2017

PADI Open Water Scuba Instructor (specialties: Deep, Nitrox, marine resource management, dry suit, emergency O2 provider, Project AWARE and coral reef conservation. *Thresher Shark Divers, Malapascua, Philippines, February 2015*

PADI Divemaster

Dive Savai'i, Samoa, September 2011

LANGUAGE SKILLS

- French: native speaker
- English: fluent written and spoken (dual citizenship France / Great Britain)
(108 points at TOEFL IBT, March 2015)

GENERAL SKILLS

Research skills

- Data collection, database management, literature review
- Aquatic wildlife sampling, species identification, marine field work
- Analysis, reporting and evaluation

Writing / Speaking skills

- Academic texts, technical reports, policy briefs
- Scriptwriting for video production
- Commercial proposals for digital projects

Professional skills

- Competent team or individual player
- Excellent time management, understanding of deadlines
- Overall administrative tasks, invoicing, delivering & reporting
- LinkedIn contact database (over 1,600 connections worldwide)

Technical knowledge

- Climate change and impacts on the ocean
- International Law of the Sea provisions, specific focus on 'High Seas' negotiations
- Large marine protected areas, no-take marine reserves (work of Pew, Big Ocean)

IT

- Both PC and Mac literate, owner of a Macbook Pro
- Adobe Creative Suite, Lightroom, InDesign, Premiere Pro
- Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Powerpoint) and Mac (Pages, Keynote, Numbers)

Other info

- Interest in SIDS, field trips: Cook Islands, Samoa, Fiji, Philippines, Maldives
- Lived in France, New Zealand, Australia, Switzerland and the UK
- First Aid Certificate: *PSEI en équipe* (France) updated April 2017 (yearly training)

REFERENCES

- **Dan Laffoley**, Marine Vice Chair, IUCN WCPA danlaffoley@btinternet.com
- **Aurélie Spadone**, Marine Programme Officer, IUCN aurelie.spadone@iucn.org
- **Meriwether Wilson**, Programme Director, MSc Marine Systems and Policies, University of Edinburgh meriwether.wilson@ed.ac.uk