Encyclopedia of Tourism and Recreation in Marine Environments
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Creating an encyclopedia like this is a very different experience from editing other types of academic books. The sheer amount of entries and the large number of authors make this work special. Of course, there have been many people who have helped in one way or another, and I must acknowledge their support.

I am very grateful for the relentlessly hard work of the Editorial Advisory Board: Erlet Cater, David Fennell, Paul Forrestell, Ross Klein, Marc L. Miller and Mark Orams. Their work in reviewing almost 900 entries was a crucial piece in this large puzzle. And, of course, this encyclopedia would not have been possible without the 170 authors who contributed to this adventure – thank you all!

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My academic work serving the field of coastal and marine tourism originated in ecotourism. During my doctorate research, I investigated the environmental values of and on-tour interpretation/education on swim-with-dolphins tours in New Zealand. Mike Hall (University of Canterbury) and James Higham (University of Otago) were instrumental in my recognition that marine tourism was a field well worth investigating and pursuing. Mike and James ‘gently pushed’ me into this field by giving me a series of lectures and seminars about coastal and marine tourism issues at the University of Otago. Watching the fascinating documentaries of Jacques Cousteau and Hans Haas as a boy, I have dreamed of becoming a marine biologist. I have always had an affinity with the sea, but I was never good at biology and chemistry – the two major prerequisites for any marine biologist. Tourism was my second choice, and it seems that the circle is closing now with me working with marine scientists, and in the area of marine tourism.

However, my academic work has been inspired by a number of friends and colleagues, and it continues to do so. These include Mark Orams (Massey University at Albany and Sir Peter Blake Trust), Marc L. Miller (University of Washington), Erlet Cater (University of Reading), Anna Carr, David Duval, Wiebke Hendry, Brent Lovelock and Eric Shelton (University of Otago), David Fennell and Ryan Plummer (Brock University), Brian Garrod (University of Wales Aberystwyth), Lars Bejder and David Newsome (Murdoch University), David Lusseau (Dalhousie University), Elizabeth Carnegie (Sheffield University), Ross Dowling (Edith Cowan University), Ross Klein
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