

Jacinto Cunha

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EDUCATION

Postgraduate Degree in Remote Sensing 2019
University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

Masters in Ecology, Environment and Territory 2011
University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

Bachelor in Biology 2009
University of Porto, Porto, Portugal

EXPERIENCE

Research Technician Dec 2023 – Present
CIIMAR/DBQ-FCUP, Porto, Portugal
Project: MAR2PROTECT: Preventing groundwater contamination related to global and climate change through a holistic approach on managed aquifer recharge.

PhD candidate Oct 2019 – Present
CIIMAR/UTAD/USC, Porto, Portugal

Research Technician Jan 2019 – Sep 2019
CIIMAR, Porto, Portugal
Project: MarRISK – Climate Change Coastal Adaptations: knowing the risks and resilience growing.

Research Technician Sep 2016 – Oct 2018
CIIMAR, Porto, Portugal
Project: MarINFO - Integrated Platform for Marine Data Acquisition and Analysis. Reference: MARINFO/BI/2016-030

Instructor Sep 2015 – Aug 2016
CIIMAR, Porto, Portugal
Project: CIENTAMOSTRA - Scientific Certification for Conducting Sampling Campaigns. Reference: 31-04-01-FEP0237

Research technician Sept 2012 – Aug 2015
CIIMAR, Porto, Portugal
Project: ECO-IAS: Ecosystem-Level Impacts of an Invasive Alien Species. Reference: PTDC/AAC-AMB/116685/2010

Research technician Jul 2012 – Aug 2012
CIBIO/InBIO, Porto, Portugal
Project: Baixo Sabor Hydroelectric Dam Biological Resources Monitoring Program

Internship Nov 2008 – Jul 2009
CIBIO/InBIO, Porto, Portugal
Project: Environmental impact of the spill of hydrochloric acid in the river Febros

RESEARCH VISITS

EqualSea Lab – CRETUS

Sep 2022 – Feb 2023

Department of Applied Economics, University of Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Compostela, Spain

PROJECT COLLABORATION

- 6 2024 – Present: SHIFT-MARES: Shifts in Portuguese Marine Ecosystem Services under Climate Change Scenarios: Impacts on Coastal Tourism. <https://www.ciimar.up.pt/pt-pt/projects/shift-mares/>
- 5 2023 – Present: CAPTA: Neutralidad climática: papel del Carbono Azul en la costa de Portugal y Galicia <https://capta-project.eu/>
- 4 2022 – 2024: Blueforeesting: Climate resilient marine forests for a sustainable future <https://blueforeesting.com/>
- 3 2017 – 2018: OMARE: Observatório Marinho de Esposende
- 2 2016 – 2018: MyTAG: Integrating natural and artificial tags to reconstruct fish migrations and ontogenetic niche shifts. Funded by FCT. Reference: PTDC/MAR-EST/2098/2014.
- 1 2016 – 2018: INNOVMAR: Innovation and Sustainability in the Management and Exploitation of Marine Resources; Line ECOSERVICES - Assessing the environmental quality, vulnerability and risks for the sustainable management of NW coast natural resources and ecosystem services. Reference: NORTE-01-0145-FEDER-000035.

AWARDS & GRANTS

- 1 Ph.D. Grant (PD/BD/150359/2019). Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology

PUBLICATIONS

MSc Thesis

- 1 “Prospects for the integration of riparian habitats ecological monitoring in the implementation of two EU Directives – Habitat and Water Framework Directives”. Under the supervision of Professor João Honrado and Cristiana Costa Vieira, PhD.

International peer-reviewed journals

- 11 Freitas, V., Almeida, C.M.R., Rodrigues, S.M., Pereira, R., Gorito, A.M., Cunha, J., Silva, D.M., van Heerden, A., Ramos, S., 2025. Physicochemical dataset from Lima and Douro estuaries (Northwest Portugal). Data in Brief 111317. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dib.2025.111317>
- 10 Cunha, J., Cabecinha, E., Villasante, S., Gonçalves, J.A., Balbi, S., Elliott, M., Ramos, S., 2024. Quantifying the role of saltmarsh as a vulnerable carbon sink: A case study from Northern Portugal. Science of The Total Environment 171443. doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2024.171443
- 9 Freitas, V., Santos, D., Silva, D.M., Cunha, J., Rodrigues, S.M., Neves, V., Rocha, E., Martinho, F., Ramos, S., 2024. Spatial and temporal patterns of gonadal maturation and spawning in European flounder *Platichthys flesus* at its southern continental edge. Fisheries Research 269, 106864. doi.org/10.1016/j.fishres.2023.106864

- 8 Cunha, J., Cabecinha, E., Villasante, S., Balbi, S., Elliott, M., Ramos, S., 2023. Defining hotspots and coldspots of regulating and maintenance ecosystem services is key to effective marine management – An assessment of a coastal-open sea gradient, Portugal. *Ocean & Coastal Management* 245, 106876. doi.org/10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2023.106876
- 7 MF Meyer, JA Gonçalves, JFR Cunha, SCCS Ramos, AMF Bio, 2023. Application of a Multispectral UAS to Assess the Cover and Biomass of the Invasive Dune Species *Carpobrotus edulis*. *Remote Sensing* 15 (9), 2411. doi.org/10.3390/rs15092411
- 6 SM Rodrigues, L Sousa, D Silva, J Cunha, V Freitas, CMR Almeida, Ramos, S. 2022. Bioavailability and Ingestion of Microplastics by Fish Larvae in the Douro Estuary, Portugal. *Biology and Life Sciences Forum* 13 (1), 54. doi.org/10.3390/blsf2022013054
- 5 - Rodrigues, S.M., Silva, D., Cunha, J., Pereira, R., Freitas, V., Ramos, S., 2022. Environmental influences, particularly river flow alteration, on larval fish assemblages in the Douro Estuary, Portugal. *Regional Studies in Marine Science* 56, 102617. doi.org/10.1016/j.rsma.2022.102617
- 4 Cunha, J., Cardona, F.S., Bio, A., Ramos, S., 2021. Importance of protection service against erosion and storm events provided by coastal ecosystems under climate change scenarios. *Front. Mar. Sci.* doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2021.726145
- 3 Piñeiro-Corbeira, C.; Barreiro, R.; Franco, J.N.; Cremades, J.; Cunha, J.; Arenas, F. 2019. Unexpected nutrient influence on the thermal ecophysiology of seaweeds that recently followed opposite abundance shifts. *Marine Environmental Research*, 104747. doi.org/10.1016/j.marenvres.2019.06.009
- 2 S.M. Rodrigues, C. Marisa R. Almeida, D. Silva, J. Cunha, C. Antunes, V. Freitas, S. Ramos, 2018. Microplastic contamination in an urban estuary: Abundance and distribution of microplastics and fish larvae in the Douro estuary. *Science of The Total Environment* doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2018.12.273
- 1 Cunha J., Elliott M, Ramos S., 2017. Linking modelling and empirical data to assess recreation services provided by coastal habitats: The case of NW Portugal. *Ocean & Coastal Management.* doi.org/10.1016/j.ocecoaman.2017.12.022

Conference papers

- 5 Vázquez M, Piedracoba S, Allen-Perkins S, Ayensa G, Barreiro R, Barrientos S, Bio A, Bode A, Calvo S, de Castro M, Conde P, Costa AA, Costoya X, Cunha J, Des M, Dubert J, Fontela M, García L, Garrido S, Gesteira MG, Gómez I, Castro CG, González G, Gonçalves JA, Meyer M, Montero P, Olabarria C, Padín T, Ramos S, Rodríguez S, Ruiz M, Sousa A, Taboada J, Vázquez E, Velo A, Viana I, Torres S. Proyecto CAPTA: Neutralidad climática: papel del Carbono Azul en la costa de Portugal y Galicia. VI Congreso transfronterizo sobre cambio climático y litoral, 23-24 October 2024 <https://www.uhinak.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Uhinak-2024-Libro-de-abstracts-1.pdf>
- 4 Rodrigues SM, Sousa L, Silva D, Cunha J, Freitas V, Almeida CMR, Ramos S. Bioavailability and Ingestion of Microplastics by Fish Larvae in the Douro Estuary . *Biology and Life Sciences Forum.* 2022; 13(1):54. doi.org/10.3390/blsf2022013054
- 3 Cunha J, Cardona F, Bio A, Ramos, S, 2022. Importance of Protection Service Against Erosion and Storm Events Provided by Coastal Ecosystems Under Climate Change Scenarios. 16th International Conference Littoral22 – Adapt our coast for a sustainable future. Costa da Caparica, Portugal. 12 - 16 September 2022
- 2 Meyer MFM, Gonçalves JA, Cunha J, Ramos S, Bio A, 2022. Assessing invasive dune vegetation through multispectral imagery: a Northern-Portuguese case study on *Carpobrotus edulis*. 16th International Conference Littoral22 – Adapt our coast for a sustainable future. Costa da Caparica, Portugal. 12 - 16 September 2022
- 1 Ramos S, Cunha J, Bio A, Amorim E and Elliott M, 2018. Natural protection of the coast: mapping coastal protection service provided by nearshore marine habitats. *Front. Mar.*

COMMUNICATIONS

Oral communications

- 14 Vázquez M, Piedracoba S, Allen-Perkins S, Ayensa G, Barreiro R, Barrientos S, Bio A, Bode A, Calvo S, de Castro M, Conde P, Costa AA, Costoya X, Cunha J, Des M, Dubert J, Fontela M, García L, Garrido S, Gesteira MG, Gómez I, Castro CG, González G, Gonçalves JA, Meyer M, Montero P, Olabarria C, Padín T, Ramos S, Rodríguez S, Ruiz M, Sousa A, Taboada J, Vázquez E, Velo A, Viana I, Torres S. Proyecto CAPTA: Neutralidad climática: papel del Carbono Azul en la costa de Portugal y Galicia. VI Congresso transfronterizo sobre cambio climático y litoral, 23-24 October 2024
- 13 Cunha, J., Cabecinha, E., Villasante, S., Gonçalves, J.A., Balbi, S., Elliott, M., Ramos, S., 2024. Quantifying the role of saltmarsh as a vulnerable carbon sink: A case study from Northern Portugal. Blue Think Conference, CIIMAR, Matosinhos, Portugal.
- 12 Meyer MFM, Gonçalves JA, Cunha J, Ramos S, Bio A, 2023. Herb stratum biomass estimation through ultra-high resolution UAS remote sensing. The LifeWatch ERIC Biodiversity & Ecosystem eScience Conference, Seville, Spain, 22–24 May 2023.
- 11 Cunha J., Cabecinha E., Villasante S, Balbi S, Elliott M, Ramos S, 2022. Assessment of key areas of Regulation and Maintenance Ecosystem Services supply along a coastal – sea gradient. 4th Ecosystem Service Partnership Europe Conference. 10-14 October 2022. Heraklion, Greece
- 10 Meyer MFM, Gonçalves JA, Cunha J, Ramos S, Bio A, 2022. Assessing invasive dune vegetation through multispectral imagery: a Northern-Portuguese case study on *Carpobrotus edulis*. 16th International Conference Littoral22 – Adapt our coast for a sustainable future. Costa da Caparica, Portugal. 12 - 16 September 2022
- 9 Cunha J., Cabecinha E., Villasante S, Balbi S, Elliott M, Ramos S, 2022. Assessment of key areas of Regulation and Maintenance Ecosystem Services supply along a coastal – sea gradient. ECSA 59. Using the best scientific knowledge for the sustainable management of estuaries and coastal seas. 5-8 September 2022 | Kursaal, San Sebastian, Spain.
- 8 Cunha J., Villasante S., Cabecinha E. Ramos, S. “Assessing Regulation and Maintenance Ecosystem Services along a coast-sea gradient in NW of Portugal”. EliteSci, UTAD, November 26, 2021.
- 7 Rodrigues SM, Silva D, Cunha J, Freitas V, Almeida CMR, Elliot M, Ramos S, 2021. Influence of natural and anthropogenic factors on larval fish assemblages in the Douro estuary (NW Portugal). ECSA 58 - EMECS 13 Estuaries and coastal seas in the Anthropocene - Structure, functions, services and management. Hull, UK. 6-9 September 2021.
- 6 Cunha, J., Villasante, S., Cabecinha, E., Ramos, S. “Assessing Regulation and Maintenance Ecosystem Services capacity along a coast-sea gradient in NW of Portugal”. ESP Europe conference At: Tartu, Estonia, June 7-10 2021
- 5 S. Ramos, J. Cunha, C. Pita, M. Elliott. The Ecosystem Services approach to support local management of coastal areas: A case study of NW Portugal. ECSA 57: Changing estuaries, coasts and shelf systems - Diverse threats and opportunities. Perth, WA, Australia. September 2018.
- 4 Ramos, S., Festas, J., Mucha, AP, Cunha, J. Empowering local fishermen communities to actively participate in scientific sampling surveys- a synergy between science and fisheries. ECSA56 - Coastal systems in transition: From a 'natural' to an 'anthropogenically modified' state. Bremen, Germany. September 2016.

- 3 Pedro Morais, Cátia Luís, Jacinto Cunha, Iolanda Rocha, Ester Dias, José Carlos Antunes, Ronaldo Sousa. "Top-down regulation of estuarine phytoplankton by an invasive bivalve". Conference Trends in Biodiversity and Evolution 2015 – Global Biodiversity Change: From Genes to Ecosystems, CIBIO-INBIO, Vairão, Portugal. June 2015.
- 2 Pedro Morais, Cátia Luís, Jacinto Cunha, Iolanda Rocha, Ester Dias, José Carlos Antunes, Ronaldo Sousa. Can *Corbicula fluminea* (Bivalvia: Corbiculidae) exert a significant top-down regulation on estuarine phytoplankton? NEOBIOTA, Antalya, Turkey. November 2014
- 1 Nuno Apresentação, Iolanda Rocha, Jacinto Cunha, Maria Monteiro, Joana Séneca, Pedro Morais, Ronaldo Sousa, Catarina Magalhães. "Effects of the invasive clam *Corbicula fluminea* in the nitrogen cycle processes and communities". VII Simpósio Ibérico do Rio Minho. Vila Nova de Cerveira, Portugal. November 2014.

Poster communications

- 16 Cunha, J., Cabecinha, E., Villasante, S., Gonçalves, J.A., Balbi, S., Elliott, M., Ramos, S., 2024. The Role of Northern Portugal Saltmarshes as Carbon Reservoirs and their Vulnerability to Sea Level Rise. Encontro Ciência 2024. 03-05 July, Porto .
- 15 Cunha J, Cabecinha E, Villasante S, Balbi S, Elliott M, Ramos S. 2023. Connecting Regulation and Maintenance Ecosystem Services to the Ecological Infrastructure within a coastal-marine continuum. Ciência 2023, 5-7 July, University of Aveiro. Portugal
- 14 Meyer, M. Gonçalves, JA., Cunha, J., Ramos, S., Bio, A. 2023. Plant cover and biomass estimation based on multispectral imagery: an invasive species case study. Ciência 2023, 5-7 July, University of Aveiro. Portugal
- 13 Cunha J, Cardona F, Bio A, Ramos, S, 2022. Importance of Protection Service Against Erosion and Storm Events Provided by Coastal Ecosystems Under Climate Change Scenarios. Blue Think Conference, CIIMAR, Matosinhos, Portugal. 27 September 2022.
- 12 Cunha J, Cardona F, Bio A, Ramos, S, 2022. Importance of Protection Service Against Erosion and Storm Events Provided by Coastal Ecosystems Under Climate Change Scenarios. 16th International Conference Littoral22 – Adapt our coast for a sustainable future. Costa da Caparica, Portugal. 12 - 16 September 2022
- 11 Cunha, J., Villasante, S., Cabecinha, E., Ramos, S., 2019. Ecosystem services approach to assess multiple impacts of human activities on coastal and estuarine habitats. World Ecosystem Services Conference I Ecosystem Services Partnership At: Hannover, Germany, October 21-25th 2019
- 10 Ramos, S., Cunha, J., Bio, A., Amorim, A., Elliot, M. Natural protection of the coast: mapping coastal protection service provided by nearshore marine habitats. CoastGIS 2018. "Spatial Planning and Climate Change". Ísafjörður, Iceland, 27-29 September 2018
- 9 D. Silva, D. Santos, J. Cunha, S. Rodrigues, V. Neves, E. Rocha, V. Freitas, M. Ferreira, S. Ramos. How environmental drivers influence the maturation of an estuarine nursery-dependent species: European flounder. ECSA 57: Changing estuaries, coasts and shelf systems - Diverse threats and opportunities. Perth, WA, Australia, September 2018.
- 8 D. Silva, D., J. Cunha, S. Rodrigues, V. Neves, E. Rocha, V. Freitas, M. Ferreira and S. Ramos. 2018. Combining different bioindices to determine the spawning season in European flounder. SIBIC 2018. Faro, Portugal. June 2018.
- 7 Rodrigues, S., Almeida, C.M.R., Silva, D., Cunha, J., Freitas, V., Ramos, S.. Microplastics contamination in an urban estuary: interactions between microplastics and ichthyoplankton in the Douro estuary. 11º Congreso Ibérico y 8º Iberoamericano de Contaminación y Toxicología Ambiental 2018.

- 6 Sandra Ramos, Jacinto Cunha, Ana Bio, Eva Amorim, Michael Elliott. Natural protection of the coast: mapping coastal protection service provided by nearshore marine habitats. IMMR 2018 – International Meeting on Marine Research, July 2018.
- 5 Ramos, S., Cunha, J., Mucha, AP, Coimbra J., Elliott, M. Linking modelling and empirical data to assess recreational ecosystem services provided by coastal habitats: The case of NW Portugal. ECSA56 - Coastal systems in transition: From a 'natural' to an 'anthropogenically-modified' state. Bremen, Germany, September 2016.
- 4 Apresentação N, Rocha I, Cunha J, Monteiro M, Séneca J, Morais P, Sousa R, Magalhães C. Effect of the invasive species *Corbicula fluminea* on key N- biogeochemical pathways. Ecsa54 – coastal systems under change: tuning assessment and management tools. May 2014 Sesimbra, Portugal.
- 3 Cunha J, Vieira C, Gonçalves J, Formigo N, Honrado J. “Perspectives on efficiency in monitoring networks for riparian habitats in the context of two EU Directives”. XVI Congresso da sociedade ibérica de limnologia, Guimarães, July 2012.
- 2 Cunha J. “Monitoring ichthyofauna of the River Febras after a serious pollution accident: Preliminary Results” - Biologia na parede, July 2009, Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade do Porto.
- 1 Costa MJ, Cunha J, Fernandes J, Vieira N, Valente A. 2009. “Fish and roads: an inevitable collision?” IENE seminar transport infrastructure of the 21st century: connecting people and wildlife, Évora, Portugal, April 2009.

DISSEMINATION

- 2 CIIMAR Open Day 2023
- 1 Workshop “Serviços dos Ecossistemas: O Papel das Dunas na Proteção Costeira”. Organizadores: Sandra Ramos (CIIMAR), Belén Martín (CETMAR), Rosa Fernández (CETMAR), Laura García (CETMAR), Ana Bio (CIIMAR, Jacinto Cunha (CIIMAR). Matosinhos, Portugal 21/01/2019

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2 Experience in working with construction work, aluminum locksmith, plumbing and catering services. Work done during the study breaks or between primary jobs.
- 1 Surveillance of Vila Meã County Swimming Pool, within the project University Youth Volunteering.

OTHER INFORMATION

- 6 2022 – Social network Analysis, University of Santiago de Compostela. Three-day course lectured by Dr. Lorien Jasny from the University of Exeter
- 5 2018-2019 - Monitoring Committee Member of the Master in Remote Sensing of Faculty of Sciences of University of Porto
- 4 2015 – Pedagogic Competence Certificate - CCP Number: F634828/2015.

- 3 2011 – Organizing Committee Member of Milonga: "La Niña - milonga porteña", held at the Palacete dos Pinto Leite on October 31, 2011, covered by the initiative "Sair da Gaveta" of the Porto City Hall.
- 2 2010 – Scientific Illustration course – CIIMAR – 40 hours course lectured by MSc Fernando Correia.
- 1 Drivers licence B

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- 3 Member of the Ecosystem Services Partnership
- 2 Member of the Estuarine & Coastal Sciences Association (membership number: 3042)
- 1 Member of Open-Source Geospatial Foundation - Portuguese Local Chapter