
Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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From fish to forests, conflicts to coffee: humans affected by species on the move

A new international study led by scientists from IMAS and the [University of Queensland Centre for Marine Socioecology](#) has highlighted how humans are being affected by climate-driven changes in the distribution of land, marine and freshwater species around the world.

Global ecological changes pose a wide range of emerging challenges for humans, from health risks to economic threats, and from conflict over fisheries resources to impacts on the supply of coffee.

Published in the prestigious journal *Science* and led by IMAS Associate Professor Gretta Pecl, the study by a large international team of scientists warns that communities and economies from the tropics to the poles are being affected as species are already responding to climate change.

Human survival depends on other life on earth so the redistribution of the planet's living organisms is a substantial challenge for people worldwide," Associate Professor Pecl said.

As their local environment changes, many plants and animals are responding by moving to higher altitudes, greater depths in the oceans, or towards the poles.

