

1

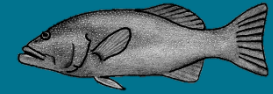
Predators exert strong effects on their prey by consuming them or by inducing behavioural changes due to fear of predation. These behavioural changes are ecologically important but difficult to witness in the wild.

The hemisphere of fear

We used life-sized models of reef taxa to examine rarely observed predator-prey interactions in coral reefs.



Threatening



Non-threatening



Shape control

2 Prey species took longer to consume bait at greater distances from shelter on both horizontal and vertical axes. The presence of the shark model magnified this effect.



3

Predation risk for reef fish increases away from the shelter of the reef and at a greater rate on the vertical axis than the horizontal axis, forming a 'hemisphere of fear'