

CHIA-LING FONG 馮加伶

Dec 2025

🏠 No.1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Road, Taipei City, 10617, Taiwan
 National Taiwan University, Institute of Oceanography,
 Dr. Huei-Ting (Tina) Lin's lab

✉ chialingfong@gmail.com ☎ +886-952-254-663

🆔 [0000-0003-1862-9993](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1862-9993)

Academia Background

Ph. D. Biodiversity 2019 - 2025
Academia Sinica & National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan.
 Thesis title: Population ecology and conservation of green turtles within foraging grounds in Taiwan

MSc in Marine Biology 2006 - 2009
National Taiwan Ocean University, Keelung, Taiwan
 Thesis title: Plasma biochemistry of wild and captive sea turtles in Taiwan.

BA in Aquaculture 2002 - 2006
National Taiwan Ocean University, Keelung, Taiwan

Current Research Interest

Sea Turtle Ecology, Coral Reef Ecology, Citizen Science, Marine Conservation

Professional Experience

Postdoctoral Researcher 2025 Nov ~
 National Taiwan University, Institute of Oceanography,
 with Dr. Huei-Ting (Tina) Lin
 Marine Environmental Research Multi Aquatic Indexes Lab (Mermaid's Lab)

Research Assistant 2016 – 2019
 Dr. Yoko Nozawa at Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

Research Assistant 2013 – 2016
 Dr. Sen-Lin Tang at Biodiversity Research Center, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

Part-time Research Assistant 2010 – 2012
 Dr. I-Jiunn Cheng at National Taiwan Ocean University, Taiwan

Skills**Project Management and Leadership**

- President of Association of TurtleSpot Taiwan, official NGO/NPO.
- Co-founder of TurtleSpot Taiwan, a citizen science project that uses social media to collect sea turtle sightings and exchange information on sea turtles. Official website: <https://turtlespottw.org/>

Research communication skills

- Licensed environmental education lecturer
- ca. of 20 public talks per year: invited speakers for TED talk, DRT show (the largest gathering event of divers and marine conservationists), schools, government training courses and private organizations
- Published popular science articles on the websites of National Geographic (Taiwan) and Taiwan Environmental Information Center (the largest environmental-related website in Taiwan)

Professional and technical skills

- Scientific Research and Analytical Writing
- Field ecology skill for nesting and foraging sea turtle studies
- Certificated Rescue SCUBA diver (+550 dives), Reef Check specialty, and underwater photography
- Basic laboratory techniques in molecular biology
- Clinical chemistry and hematology in veterinary medicine
- Histology and basic techniques in biological electron microscopy
- Basic R
- Fluent in Mandarin Chinese and English

Publications

Journal and Review papers

Fong, C.-L., Li, T.-H., Hoh, D. Z., Su, H., Chen, P.-Y., Tsai, C.-C., Nozawa, Y., & Chan, B. K. K. (in press). Long-term wild recovery and resilience of green turtles *Chelonia mydas* to various anthropogenic injuries. *Endangered Species Research*. <https://doi.org/10.3354/esr01472>

Mattos, F. M. G., Mulla, A. J., Fong, C.-L., Lee, C.-H., Nozawa, Y., & Lin, T.-H. (2025). Environmental and acoustic drivers of fish recruitment along degraded coral reefs. *Marine Environmental Research*, 211, 107461. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.marenvres.2025.107461>

Fong, CL., Hoh, D.Z., Su, H. et al. (2025) Crowdsourcing conservation: unveiling Taiwan's sea turtle foraging grounds, emerging threats, and residency with broad societal engagement. *BMC Ecol Evo* 25, 27. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12862-025-02354-2>

Aziz J. Mulla, Vianney Denis, Che-Hung Lin, Chia-Ling Fong, Jia-Ho Shiu, Yoko Nozawa (2024) Natural coral recovery despite negative population growth. *Ecology*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/ecy.4368>

Mulla, A. J., V. Denis, C.-H. Lin, C.-L. Fong, J.-H. Shiu and Y. Nozawa (2024) Natural Recovery of a Coral Population After a Severe Typhoon in Taiwan. *Bull Ecol Soc Am* 105(4):e02172. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bes2.2172>

Ng CKY, Ishihara T, Hamabata T, Nishizawa H, Liu M, Song J-h, Li TH, Fong C-L, Moon DY and Kim IH (2024) Overview of the population genetics and connectivity of sea turtles in the East Asia Region and their conservation implications. *Front. Mar. Sci.* 11:1325849. doi: 10.3389/fmars.2024.1325849

Felipe M. G. Mattos, Niklas Dreyer, Chia-Ling Fong, Yung-Hui Victoria Wen, Dharmesh Jain, Mattia De Vivo, Yu-Sin Huang, John Karichu Mwhiki, Tzi-Yuan Wang, Ming-Jay Ho et al. (2023) Potential PCR amplification bias in identifying complex ecological patterns: Higher species compositional homogeneity revealed in smaller-size coral reef zooplankton by metatranscriptomics. *Marine Ecology Resources*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1755-0998.13911>

Hoh DZ, Fong C-L, Su H, Chen P, Tsai C-C, Tseng KWH, Liu MJY (2022) A dataset of sea turtle occurrences around the Taiwan coast. *Biodiversity Data Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.3897/BDJ.10.e90196>

De Vivo, M., Lee, H. H., Huang, Y. S., Dreyer, N., Fong, C. L., de Mattos, F. M. G., Jain, D., Wen, Y. H. V., Mwhaki, J. K., Wang, T. Y., Machida, R. J., Wang, J., Chan, B. K. K., & Tsai, I. J. (2022, June 15). Utilisation of Oxford Nanopore sequencing to generate six complete gastropod mitochondrial genomes as part of a biodiversity curriculum. *Scientific Reports*, 12(1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-022-14121-0>

Shiu, J. H., Lin, C. H., Mulla, A. J., Dang, V. D. H., Fong, C. L., & Nozawa, Y. (2022). Bacterial Communities in Coral Offspring Vary Between in situ and ex situ Spawning Environments. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 9. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2022.796514>

Dang, V. D. H., Cheung, P. Y., Fong, C. L., Mulla, A. J., Shiu, J. H., Lin, C. H., & Nozawa, Y. (2020). Sea Urchins Play an Increasingly Important Role for Coral Resilience Across Reefs in Taiwan. *Frontiers in Marine Science*, 7. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2020.581945>

Dang, V. D. H., Fong, C. L., Shiu, J. H., & Nozawa, Y. (2020). Grazing effects of sea urchin *Diadema savignyi* on algal abundance and coral recruitment processes. *Scientific Reports*, 10 (1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-77494-0>

Shiu, J. H., Yu, S. P., Fong, C. L., Ding, J. Y., Tan, C. J., Fan, T. Y., Lu, C. Y., & Tang, S. L. (2020). Shifting in the Dominant Bacterial Group Endozoicomonas Is Independent of the Dissociation with Coral Symbiont Algae. *Frontiers in Microbiology*, 11. <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2020.01791>

Tsung-Hsien Li, Chia-Ling Fong, Chao-chin Chang, I-Jiunn Cheng (2012) Hematology and plasma chemistry profile of a stranded green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) from diseased to rehabilitated status in Taiwan. *Platax* 9: 67-75.

Chia-Ling Fong, Ho-chang Chen, I-Jiunn Cheng (2010) Blood profiles from wild populations of green sea turtles in Taiwan. *Journal of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Health*, 2(2): 8-10.

I-Jiunn Cheng, Cheng-Ting Huang, Po-Yen Hung, Bo-Zong Ke, Chao-Wei Kuo, Chia-Ling Fong (2009) A ten year monitoring of the nesting ecology of the green turtle, *Chelonia mydas*, on Lanyu Island, Taiwan. *Zoological Studies*, 48(1): 83-94

Open Data

Hoh D, Fong C (2022). Sea turtle sightings in Taiwan | 台灣海龜目擊紀錄. Version 1.8. TurtleSpot Taiwan 海龜點點名. Occurrence dataset <https://doi.org/10.15468/43z4mj>

Selected Presentations (*presenting author)

***Chia-Ling Fong**, Huai Su, Chia-Chen Tsai, Shih Liu, Daphne Z. Hoh, Kelly W. H. Tseng, Melissa Liu, Felipe M. G. Mattos, Ju-Hsiung Wu, Aziz J Mulla, Nozawa Yoko, Benny K. K. Chan. Detecting residency and habitat fidelity of green turtles in Taiwan. 42nd International Sea Turtle Symposium, Pattaya, Thailand, Mar 2024. [Oral presentation]

***Chia-Ling Fong**, Daphne Z. Hoh, Huai Su, Peng-yu Chen, Hao-Chih Huang, Chia-Chen Tsai and Yoko Nozawa. Citizen scientists reveal the distribution, abundance, and main threats to the foraging sea turtles in Taiwan. 40th International Sea Turtle Symposium, Perth, Australia, Online, Mar 2022. [Oral presentation]

***Chia-Ling Fong**, Huai Su, Peng-yu Chen, Marco Chang and Daphne Z. Hoh. TurtleSpot Taiwan: citizen science for an open sea turtle database. 4th Asia-Pacific Coral Reef symposium, Cebu, Philippines, June 2018. [Oral presentation]

***Chia-Ling Fong**, Jiaho Shiu, Yoko Nozawa, Takuma Mezaki, Hironobu Fukami. The Coral Book Project: a user-friendly guide to coral taxonomic in Southeast Asia. 4th Asia-Pacific Coral Reef symposium, Cebu, Philippines, June 2018. [Poster presentation]

***Chia-Ling Fong**, Shan-Hua Yang and Sen-Lin Tang. A studying proposal: The influence of plastic nanoparticles to *Aiptasia pulchella*. 3rd Asia-Pacific Coral Reef symposium, Kenting, Taiwan, June 2014. [Poster presentation]

***Chia-Ling Fong** and I-Jiunn Cheng. Plasma biochemistry values of free-ranging and captive green turtles in Taiwan. 30th International Sea Turtle symposium, Goa, India, April 2010. [Oral presentation]

Honors & Awards

TSMC Eco Plus Biodiversity Research Elite Scholarship-
Honorable Mention Award 2025

40th International Sea Turtle Symposium,
Archie Carr Student award of Conservation oral presentation 2022

TIGP Biodiversity Annual Retreat **2nd award of oral presentation** 2022

TIGP Biodiversity Annual Retreat **1st award of poster presentation** 2020

29th Congress of Animal Behavior and Ecology (Taiwan)
1st award of oral presentation 2018

Taiwan Government Scholarship for Short-term Oversea Study 2010

20th Congress of Animal Behavior and Ecology (Taiwan)
1st award of oral presentation 2009

Internships & Training

USGS, Wildlife Health Center, Honolulu Field Station (Hawaii, USA)
Dr. Thierry M. Work, DVM 2014
Continued work on the project "Developing biomarker-based tools for diagnosis the health condition of sea turtles" with RNA samples and designed the primers for TNF-alpha (tumor related gene) Oct-Nov

National Museum of Marine Biology & Aquarium (Ping-tung, Taiwan) 2012
Dr. Cheng-Hao Tang Jul-Sep
Received training in molecular biology techniques
Continued work on the project "Developing biomarker-based tools for diagnosis the health condition of sea turtles" and identified the possible related genes by cloning

USGS, Wildlife Health Center, Honolulu Field Station (Hawaii, USA) 2011
Dr. Thierry M. Work, DVM Nov-Dec
Received training on sea turtle necropsy
Initiated the research project "Developing biomarker-based tools for diagnosis the health condition of sea turtles" and conducted preliminary experiments

Department of Veterinary Medicine, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology (Ping-tung, Taiwan) 2008
Dr. Suen-Chiuan Lin, DVM Jan-Feb
Received intensive training on clinical chemistry and hematology in veterinary medicine, especially on reptiles and avian species 2007
Jan-Feb

Penghu Marine Biology Research Center (Penghu, Taiwan)
Dr. Chung Kang Hsu 2006
Received training in sea turtles rescue and habilitation Jun-Jul