

The Field Guide to
Unnatural Plastic Creatures
(Kingdom Synthetica)
In the
James River Watershed

By Karen Aneiro
Graduate Student, MA Photography
Falmouth University, United Kingdom



Scientific name: *Odocoileus rainbowy snort*

"What will survive
of us is love",
wrote Philip Larkin.

Wrong.

What will survive
of us is plastic'

~Robert Macfarlane



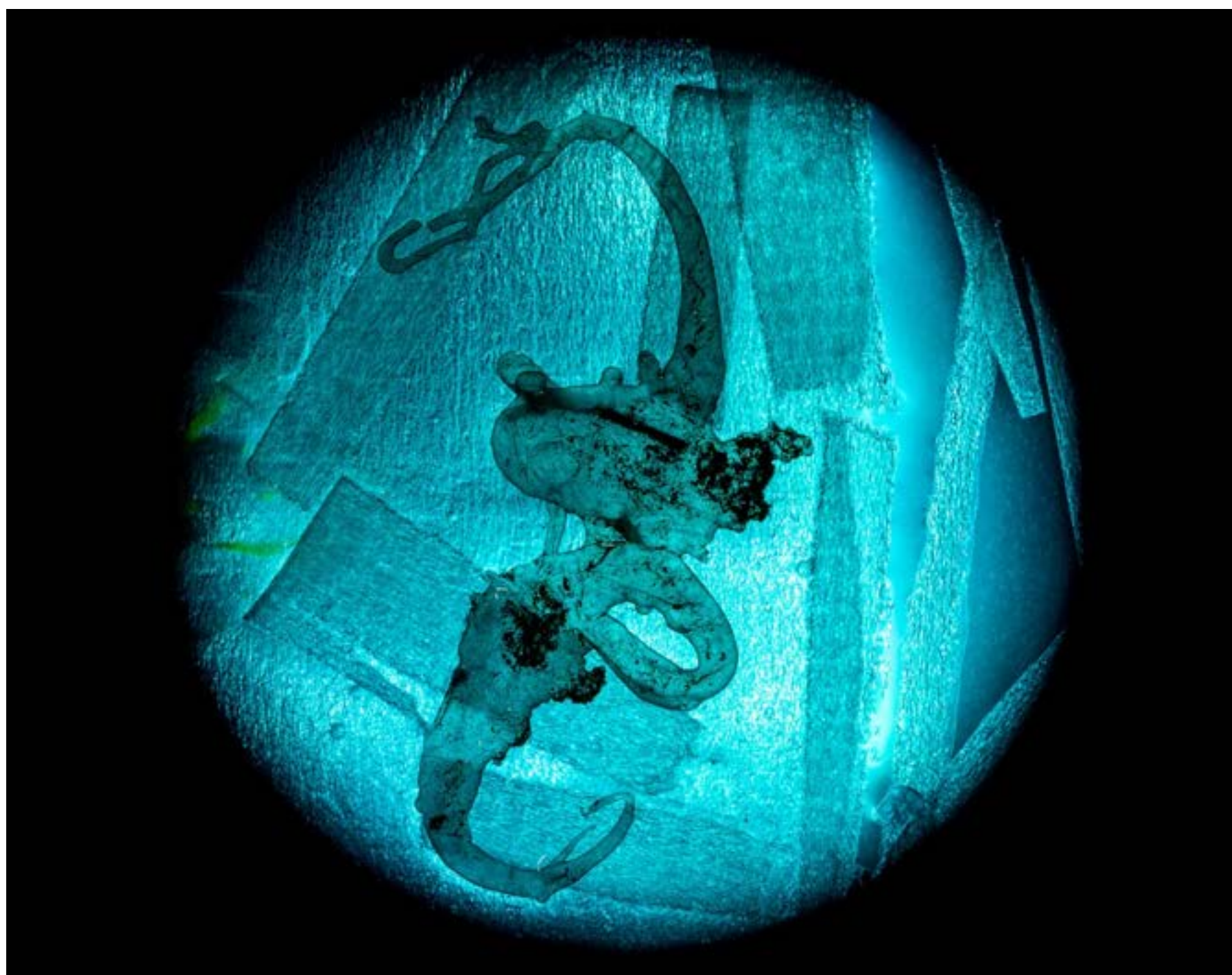


- Collaborating with Dr. Rob Hale, Professor of Marine Science VIMS William & Mary
- The James River as chosen subject due to the river's 248-mile journey from the Blue Ridge Mountains to the Chesapeake Bay
- Creating a book
- Bringing education from scientific research to non-scientists
- Invites people into the plastic pollution discussion in a nonthreatening way

Macro Photography

Plastics and microplastics
Photographed in water that
was backlit with colored lights

Plastic seems to mimic
Biological creatures



Plastic trash bag
collected from
The banks of the James River
mimics a real copepod.



PHOTOGRAPHER: MAREKMIŚ FROM WIKIMEDIA COMMONS,
THE FREE MEDIA REPOSITOR



Scientific name: *Acartia crudosa*



Scientific name: *Makaira speedy* bluetangle



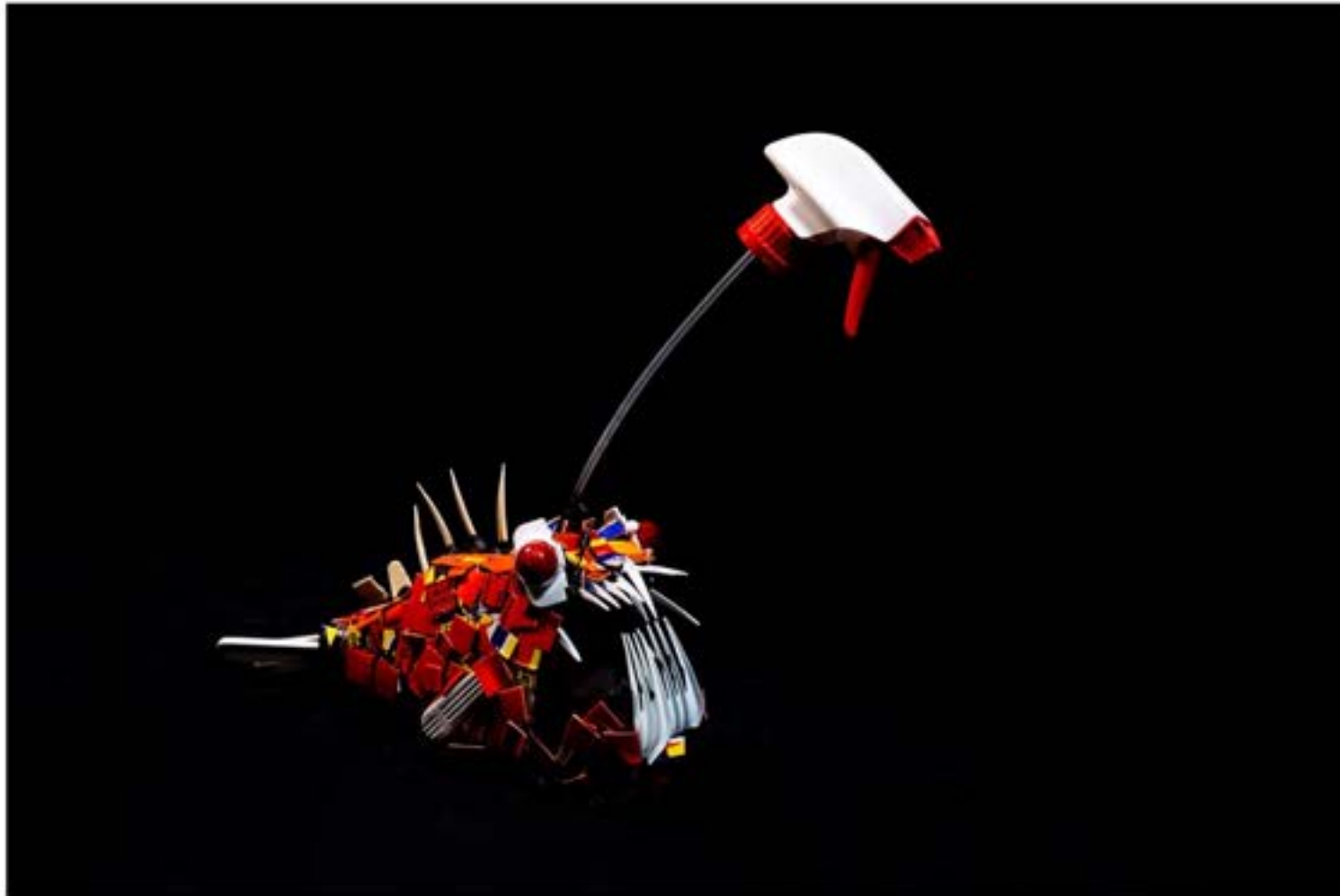


Scientific name: *Ardea herodias*



Hampton Sewage Treatment Plant

Scientific name: *Anas sludgepuppy platyrhynchos*



Scientific name: Lophiiformes forkteeth

Representing

Deep

Ocean

Plastic

Pollution

Field Guide Glossary



Unnatural great blue heron plastic creature
Lifespan: 10,000 years (In the wild)
Unnatural range: Anywhere there is plastic pollution
Scientific name: Ardea herodias razorbeak
Clutch size: 2-3, or 1 with a Holga Camera (Female, Adult)
Conservation status: Great Concern (Population rapidly increasing)
Wingspan: 5.5-6 feet



Unnatural mallard duck plastic creature
Lifespan: 10,000 years (In the wild)
Unnatural range: Anywhere there is plastic pollution
Scientific name: Anas platyrhynchos
Clutch size: 8 - 13 (Female, Adult)
Conservation status: Great Concern (Population rapidly increasing)
Length: 20 - 26 in. (Adult)



Unnatural horned owl plastic creature
Lifespan: 10,000 years (In the wild)
Unnatural range: Anywhere there is plastic pollution
Scientific Name: Bubo gloweye hoot
Clutch size: 2-3, usually born with glowing eyes (Female, Adult)
Conservation status: Great Concern (Population rapidly increasing)
Wingspan: 4.6 feet



Unnatural beaver plastic creature
Lifespan: 10,000 years (In the wild)
Unnatural range: Anywhere there is plastic pollution and cell phone reception
Scientific Name: Castor phoneous amuck
Litter size: Several depending on newly released cell phone sales
Conservation: Great Concern (Population rapidly increas

Field Guide Glossary



Unnatural anglerfish plastic creature
Lifespan: 10,000 years (In the wild)
Unnatural range: Anywhere there is plastic pollution
Scientific name: Lophiformes forktooth
Conservation status: Great Concern (Population rapidly increasing)



Unnatural terrapin plastic creature
Lifespan: 10,000 years (In the wild)
Unnatural range: Anywhere there is plastic pollution, especially watery garbage gyres.
Scientific name: Malaclemys polymer trasherturtle
Conservation status: Great Concern (Population rapidly increasing)



Unnatural white tail spotted deer plastic creature
Lifespan: 10,000 years (In the wild)
Unnatural range: Anywhere there is plastic pollution
Scientific name: Odocoileus rainbow snort
Conservation status: Great Concern (Population rapidly increasing)



Unnatural Portuguese Man O' War plastic creature
Lifespan: 10,000 years (In the wild)
Unnatural range: Pretty much everywhere, especially around around balloon releases
Scientific name: Physalia balloons stingbeast
Conservation status: Great Concern (Population rapidly increasing)



Scientific Name: Bubo gloweye hoot

Every piece of one-time use plastic that is reused, keeps it out of the landfills and the environment.



Scientific Name: Castor pleneous amuck