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Ocean Science in the Corona Virus Pandemic: Opportunities and Challenges

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Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has obliged Governments all around the world to implement confinement and social

Ke d: Ocean Science; COVID-19; pollution; plastics

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As the COVID-19 pandemic spreads around the globe, we must reexamine the values that direct our individual and group actions likewise as how we behave publicly. We must lead with humanism and science in the face of the crisis [2]. e exponential rise in the consumption of drinking water a er the COVID-19 epidemic could be a signi cant contributor to plastic contamination. Despite the problems, the COVID-19 pandemic measures of isolation and social isolation are having some positive e ects on the environment (at least temporarily), like a discount in atmospheric polluting gases (CO2, SO2, NO2, etc.) [3]. While Le Quéré et al. (2020) have reported 17 per cent less daily CO2 emissions likewise to decreases in other gases, Rosenbloom and Marked (2020) have noted a big decline in pollution and greenhouse emission emissions. cf. Ju et al (2021). Whilst there has been an improvement in environmental conditions, perceptions of individuals who are impacted day by day in places where the economy depends on tourism or shing activities aren't well-known [4]. Additionally, we want to own a scienti c baseline of information and data which will be combined with public perceptions to articulate correct tourism, coastal shing and pollution management plan post the COVID-19 e work reported here seeks to supply information and priorities supported by environmental qualitative information that's supported by satellite quantitative data at three main Ecuadorian beaches in Salinas, Manta, and Galapagos. We expect this can be a novel opportunity globally to form a scienti c baseline at a time of reduced environmental impact, as beaches and near-shore waters have taken on temporary features of Protected Marine Areas [5].

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At the time of full imprisonment and strict restrictions (12th March to 12th September 2020), standard environmental survey techniques weren't attainable because of restricted access, lack of employees, and bottom (if any) laboratory facilities in Ecuador [6, 7]. erefore, online surveys victimization web-based applications were done out. Recently, Torrentira (2020) has validated the utilization of such online interviews beneath pandemic conditions, and each Abir et al. (2020) and author

et al. (2021) have with success used the online methodology for surveys beneath imprisonment restrictions [8].

e data obtained area unit from the visual observation of beaches and nearshore aquatic life. the primary survey was a cross-sectional kind (see Setia, 2016) that according to opinions and sightings throughout might (from 15th) 2020 [9]. Now national imprisonment restrictions duty-bound folks to be received most of the time, beaches were absolutely closed, no travel between cities was allowed, police, and military guarded the streets and COVID-19 cases, and deaths were increasing apace [10, 11]. e surveys were done out over a time window of 76 h, employing a kind change from a Google guide (Google Forms: Free online Surveys for Private Use). e surveys were targeted to own con dence and interval levels of 95 and 5.16% severally, following the approach of Taherdoost (2017) as an example [12].

Both surveys used Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and WhatsApp to contact a variety of people living within the named cities getting ready to or before the beaches and water's edge, and WHO conjointly had links to coast activities as well as business and educational analysis, also as traditional voters.

To support the qualitative surveys, quantitative information and knowledge from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration satellite instruments Terra (EOS AM-1) and AquasAment74o

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