Qualifying Seminar

The impact of dams on migratory fishes and decapods: global and local perspectives

Date: 16/6/2023 (Friday)

Time: 3:00 pm

Venue: 6N-11 & Zoom



About the speaker:

Jeffery Chan Cheuk Fung is a PhD student in Prof. David Dudgeon's lab. His research interests lie at the intersection of education and research, with a focus on uncovering the overlooked freshwater biodiversity of Hong Kong and formulating strategies for its conservation.



Abstract:

Marine-freshwater migrants—also known as diadromous species—account for less than 1% of all known fishes but have important implications for ecosystems, cultures, and economies. Decapods, such as shrimps and crabs, also include some diadromous species but they have been less studied than fishes. This unique migratory behaviour exposes them to threats from both freshwater and marine ecosystems, including overexploitation and habitat destruction. However, the primary threat to these species is dams, which directly impede their migrations. Despite seemingly extensive research on dam impacts, there is a global lack of synthesis on current trends, statuses, and knowledge gaps, particularly in China and much of Asia. In this seminar, I will present preliminary findings from a global review on the impacts of dams on diadromous species. I then tackle these issues on a local scale and present results from a baseline study of the diversity, distribution, and impact of dams on diadromous species in Hong Kong.