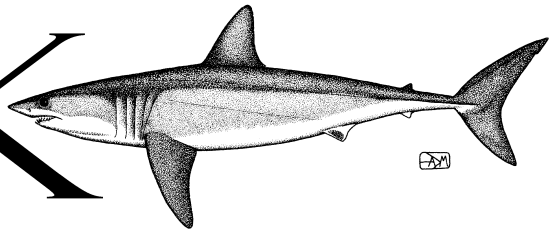


# DECLARATION, MANIFESTO FOR IMMEDIATE WORLDWIDE SHARK CONSERVATION ACTIONS



© Alessandro De Maddalena

**An initiated global correspondence toward issue recognition, situational awareness and public information regarding biological destruction of sharks and related or associated species and systems.**

**A demonstrated consensus and petition.**

# **DECLARATION, MANIFESTO FOR IMMEDIATE WORLDWIDE SHARK CONSERVATION ACTIONS**

We, the shark researchers of the world, are compelled to urge the governments of all nations to take immediate steps to conserve remaining shark populations worldwide.

There is a dire and immediate need to raise human awareness globally about the threat to shark populations and to promote their management, before it is too late.

Sharks are one of nature's most obvious indicators regarding the health of marine ecosystems; sharks and related species of rays and skates are vital fixtures within the intricate and varied food webs that cover fully most of our planet's surface.

Fossil records indicate a tenure of over 400 million years and hundreds of species at or near the top of tidal estuarine, neritic, benthic and pelagic environments.

These often maligned creatures represent this planet's original and primary jawed vertebrates and they need protections/regulations against some of the many impacts of modern humanity; commercial and recreational shark fishing, exhibit exploitations, habitat disruption, contamination and pollution continues to denude and poison the character of our planet, and those that dwell there.

Sharks have much more cause to fear humans than the other way around. Modern human fishing practices, both commercial and recreational are eradicating many species of sharks while disrupting their respective ecologies.

As a consequence of increased commercial and recreational pressures on shark populations worldwide, their numbers are now in serious global decline.

Many species, including blue sharks, oceanic whitetips, shortfin makos, piked dogfish, smooth-hounds, reef sharks and even the whale shark are heavily exploited.

It is estimated that even if all commercial fishing were to cease, many of the large sharks may not recover within 50 years, if ever. Ironically, even with shark populations plummeting in both number and former range, they are still being depicted as a hazard to humanity.

An estimated 50% of the world shark catch is believed to be taken accidentally while fishing for other species such as tuna and swordfish. This unplanned capture of marine animals is called "bycatch". Pelagic longlines, which are single-stranded fishing lines 18 to 72 kilometers long, with an average of 1500 baited hooks, as well as open ocean drift gill nets (often illegal) literally filter marine life from the seas. In some regions, the number of sharks caught by longline fishermen account for 90% of total captures. As the bony fish fisheries have been depleted, fishermen have compensated by increasing shark captures. However, sharks are often more vulnerable to overfishing than bony fish are due to their slow rate of maturity and low birth numbers.

Having evolved over the past 400 million years at or near to top of the food chain, sharks have developed into creatures with relatively few natural predators. They have thrived despite an arduous reproduction mode consisting of periodic or infrequent copulation followed by long gestation periods whereby they mature slowly and have few young. As apex predators, sharks are not equipped to withstand predation themselves and, for the above reasons, are highly vulnerable to exploitation. Exacerbating the problem is the fact many shark species segregate by size and sex, such that exploitation in a nursery area can be critically devastating.

It has been demonstrated that most commercial shark fisheries collapse within a few years due to commercial extinction of the target resource.

Humans catch sharks in order to obtain meat, cartilage, skin, oil and other products. Shark fins are used in Asian cooking to prepare shark fin soups. Recently, the demand for shark fins has increased dramatically, largely due to expanding and developing markets in the Peoples Republic of China and their competitors in Japan and Taiwan. Shark fins fetch a high price and this has led to the practice of finning sharks at sea, where the fins are sliced off while the rest of the body is discarded overboard. Often, the shark is still alive when finned and will face a slow and agonizing death as it sinks to the seafloor.

Almost all species of large and medium-sized sharks are fished for their fins. The gigantic growth industry of shark and shark fin fisheries is no longer relegated to certain Asian cultures but has expanded to markets in Europe, Africa, Central and South America and many developing nations in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Shark meat and shark byproducts are also increasingly being used as a cheap supplement for livestock and domestic animal feed. Additionally, shark cartilage is fraudulently advertised in pharmaceuticals as serving a role in cancer prevention. This marketing is based on the wrongful assumption that sharks do not suffer from cancer and ignores the mounting scientific research indicating that shark cartilage cannot either cure or prevent this disease. Some shark products, however, are traditional and viable. Shark liver is rich in vitamins and provides oil and squalene which are used as lubricants, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. Likewise, shark skin is used as a type of leather and shark corneas have been used as substitutes for human corneas. Teeth, jaws and taxidermied specimens have been used as decorations and as souvenirs.

It is unclear how many sharks are caught annually, but some conservationists estimate the number to be upwards of 100 million. A recent estimate of sharks killed in the fin trade alone stands at 73 million per year. Annual landings of cartilaginous fish reported to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations amounts to around 800,000 tons, but the actual tonnage is likely to be much higher as a result of underreporting. Industrial fishing vessels often operate in flagrant violation of fishing regulations and, in recent decades, it has been estimated that shark populations have declined by over 90%.

Humans also play a role in decreasing shark populations as a result of increased habitat destruction, resource depletion and environmental pollution. Toxic chemicals absorbed or ingested by smaller animals are passed up the food chain through consumption. Top predators, like sharks, are at the highest risk of contamination as toxins accumulate within the food chain, becoming most concentrated at the top.

Several shark species are now protected in some countries, but it is not enough. A comprehensive poly-national approach is warranted.

Conservation and management of shark fisheries needs to be based upon research in biology, ecology, distribution, abundance and exploitation of sharks, their prey and associated systems.

Despite being important parts of marine ecosystems, shark research is often neglected in favor of the more commercially viable bony fish and collaboration between agencies and academics is often wanting for cooperation.

Biological information on the life history of many shark species is necessary to better assess stock status and harvest impact. It is also necessary to better manage fisheries in which sharks constitute a significant level of bycatch. The lack of effective management and policy enforcement in many countries is leading to the extinction of many shark species. Consequently, the removal of sharks continues to upset and destabilize the ecological balance between predator and prey. The ability of marine ecosystems to support life has been severely crippled and the system is now in danger of collapse.

**Therefore, we ask governments of all Nations, for immediate:**

- **protection of all endangered shark species;**
- **total ban on shark finning in national and international waters;**
- **management of fisheries in which sharks constitute significant bycatch;**
- **management of directed shark fisheries;**
- **control of trade and utilization of shark products;**
- **investment of resources into research on sharks to better assess stock status and harvest impact.**

Signatures (139 shark researchers):

**Alex Antoniou, Ph.D., Director of Field Operations**

Shark Research Institute  
P.O. Box 40, Princeton, NJ, 08540, USA

**Randall Arauz, BSc. University of Costa Rica, President**

PRETOMA  
1203-1100, Tibás, San José, Costa Rica

**Mary V. Ashley, Ph.D., Professor**

Department of Biological Sciences, University of Illinois at Chicago  
845 W. Taylor St., M/C 066, Chicago, IL 60607, USA

**Carla Jayne Louise Atkinson, BSc (Joint Hons), MSc. Currently PhD Student**

University of Queensland, School of Biomedical Sciences  
St Lucia, Brisbane, QLD 4072 Australia

**Joan Marie Backey, Teaching Associate, Graduate Student**

California State University, Fullerton  
800 North State College Blvd, Fullerton, CA, 92831, USA

**Janine L. Baker, BSc. M. Env. St., PhD scholar**

J.L. Baker, Marine Ecologist  
Somerton Park, South Australia 5044, Australia

**Harald Bänisch, MSc Biology, Chief Biologist**

Sharkproject e.V.  
Frankfurter Straße 111b, 63067 Offenbach, Germany

**Albert Baranes, Dr., Head of the department of Ichthyology**

Interuniversity Institute for Marine Sciences  
IUI, POBox 469, 88000 Eilat, Israel

**Alexandra Barron, Bsc, Manager**

Banyan Tree Marine Lab  
Vabbinfaru, North Male Atoll, Republic of Maldives

**Joan Barrull Ventura, Biologist, Scientific Associate Laboratory of Vertebrates**

Museu de Ciències Naturals de Barcelona (Lab. Vertebrates, Edifici de Zoologia)  
Passeig Picasso s/n, Parc de la Ciutadella, 08003 Barcelona, Spain

**Alex Bartolí Villanova, Biologist, specialized in animal biology**

CRAM Foundation (Conservation and Recovery Marine Animals Foundation)  
Camí Ral, 239. C.P. 08330 Premià de Mar, Barcelona, Spain

**Claire Bartron, PhD Candidate**

Murdoch University  
South St, Murdoch, Perth, W.A., 6150, Australia

**Jamila Ben Souissi, Doctor, Professor**

Institut National Agronomique de Tunisie  
43, avenue Charles Nicolle, cité Mahrajène, 1082, Tunis, Tunisia

**Otto Bismarck Fazzano Gadig, Dr., teacher and Researcher**

UNESP - São Paulo State University  
Praça Infante Dom Henrique, s/n; Parque Bitaru, São Vicente, SP, Brazil 11330-900

**Cheryl Black, Professor of Biology**

Edison College  
Fort Myers, Florida, USA

**Ramón Bonfil, PhD, Independent Researcher and Consultant**

351 E 4th St. New York, NY 10009, USA

**Pedro Bordalo-Machado, Msc., Research Fellow**

IPIMAR

Av. de Brasília s/n, 1449-006 Lisboa, Portugal

**Jean-Luc Bouchereau, Professor, Doctor, Researcher**

Université des Antilles et de la Guyane, UFR-SEN, UMR 7138 CNRS IRD MNHN UPMC: Systématique, Adaptation, Évolution, Biologie marine (Campus de Fouillole)  
BP 592, F-97159 Pointe-à-Pitre cedex, Guadeloupe

**Mohamed Nejmeddine Bradai, Research Professor, Director of Laboratory**

National Institute of Sea Sciences and Technologies  
Box 1035 Sfax 3018 Tunisia

**Corey J. A. Bradshaw, Associate Professor, Principal Research Fellow**

Charles Darwin University

School for Environmental Research, Charles Darwin University, Darwin, Northern Territory 0909, Australia

**Michèle Bruni, Curator Assistant**

Musée océanographique de Monaco  
Avenue Saint-Martin 98000 MC Monaco

**Juerg M. Brunnschweiler, PhD, Research associate**

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology  
Raemistrasse 101, CH-8092 Zurich, Switzerland

**Alex Buttigieg, Independent Researcher, Founder**

Sharkman's World Organization  
P.O.Box 31, San Gwann, SGN 1000, Malta

**Giuseppe Cancelliere, Dott.**

Mediterranean Shark Research Group Member  
via Filippo Tristano 53, 75025 Policoro (MT), Italy

**Christian Capapé, Doctor, Professor**

Université Montpellier 2  
34 095 Montpellier cedex 5 France

**Henri Cappetta, Dr.**

Département Paléontologie, Phylogénie & Paléobiologie, UMR 5554 "Institut des Sciences de l'Evolution", Université de Montpellier II - Sciences et Techniques du Languedoc  
Cc 064, Place Eugène Bataillon, 34095 Montpellier Cedex 5, France

**Antonio Celona**

Aquastudio Research Institute  
via Trapani 6, I-98121 Messina, Italy

**Patricia Charvet de Almeida, Dr., elasmobranch researcher**

Projeto Trygon  
Rua Mundurucus, 2445 ap. 1202 - Cremacao - 66040-270 - Belem - Para - Brazil

**Jeff Childs, Marine Wildlife Scientist**

POB 111406 Anchorage, Alaska 99511-1406, USA

**Franco Cigala Fulgosi, Dott. in Sc. Geologiche, Ricercatore, Prof. Paleontologia Corso di Laurea in Sc. Naturali**

Dipartimento Scienze della Terra, Università di Parma  
V.le G.P. Usberti, 157 A, Campus Universitario, 43100 Parma, Italy

**Ralph S. Collier, President**

Shark Research Committee  
P. O. Box 3492, Chatsworth, CA 91313, USA

**Shannon Corrigan, PhD candidate**

Macquarie University

Biological Sciences Department, Macquarie University, Sydney, NSW 2109, Australia

**Marco Costantini, Dott., Marine Officer**

University of Trieste & WWF Italy

Trieste, Italy

**Dean Crawford, Visiting Assoc. Professor of English**

Vassar College

124 Raymond Avenue, Poughkeepsie, NY 12604, USA

**Gilles Cuny, Dr.**

Geological Museum

Øster Voldgade 5-7, 1350 Copenhagen K, Denmark

**Jesmond Dalli, M.Sc, Research Assistant**

Queen Mary, University of London

Mile End, London, United Kingdom

**Paul de Bruyn, Dr, Fisheries Scientist**

Durban, South Africa

**Francisco José Pinto de la Rosa, Display Curator**

Museum Aquarium " Aula del Mar "

Avenida Manuel Agustin Heredia 35, Málaga 29001, Spain

**Alessandro De Maddalena, Dott., President**

Italian Ichthyological Society

via L. Ariosto 4, I-20145 Milano, Italy

**Sergio Macedo Gomes de Mattos, Fishery Engineer, D.Sc., Head of Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy in Pernambuco State**

Special Secretariat of Aquaculture and Fisheries of the Brazilian Presidency

Av. Gen. San Martin, 1000. Bongi, Recife-PE. 50630-060, Brazil

**Ricardo de Souza Rosa, PhD, Associate Professor**

Dept. Sistemática e Ecologia, Universidade Federal da Paraíba

58059-900 Joao Pessoa PB, Brazil

**Matthew Laurence Dicken, Dr, Marine Biologist**

Bayworld Centre for Research and Education, Port Elizabeth Museum

PO BOX 13147, Humewood, 6013, Port Elizabeth, South Africa

**Valentina Di Santo, Dottoressa, Graduate Research Eco-Physiologist**

Department of Biology, University of West Florida

11000 University Parkway, Pensacola, Florida 32514, USA

**Richard Ellis, Research Associate**

American Museum of Natural History

79th Street & Central Park West, New York, NY 10024, USA

**Héctor Espinosa P., M en C., Curador**

Instituto de Biología, UNAM

CNP,Cd. Universitaria, 3er Cto Exterior S/N Mexico 04510, D.F.

**Chris Fallows, graduate diploma, Director**

Apex Shark Expeditions

14 Thibault walk, Marina da Gama, Cape Town, South Africa

**Monique Fallows, graduate diploma, Director**

Apex Shark Expeditions

14 Thibault walk, Marina da Gama, Cape Town, South Africa

**Roberto Farkas, Student**

Facoltà di Medicina Veterinaria, Università di Camerino  
Via Circonvallazione, 62024 Matelica (MC), Italy

**Edward Farrell, PhD Student in Marine Biodiversity, Ecology & Evolution**

School of Biology & Environmental Science, Science Centre West, University College Dublin  
Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland

**Dale Forbes, Msc, Biologist**

Whale Shark & Oceanic Research Center  
Utila, Islas de la Bahía, Honduras

**Andrew Fox, Bsc Environmental Sciences, Managing Director**

Fox Shark Research Foundation  
73 Ninth Ave, Joslin, Adelaide, South Australia 5070, Australia

**Steven Fox, Head Researcher**

Utila Whale Shark Research  
Utila, Bay Islands, Honduras

**Jose M<sup>a</sup> Galaz, Biology Graduate, Tuna Farming Techninal Director**

Mediterranean Aquafarm Services s.l.  
c/rio Bidasoa n°6A Playa Honda, Murcia, Spain

**Roxana Laura Garcia Liotta, Master of Environmental Management (candidate), Director**

Department of Conservation - Shark Conservation Program  
Asociacion Ñande Yby – Nuestra Tierra  
Rio de Janeiro 985, 3rd floor Office 8, C1405CCO Buenos Aires, Argentina

**Andrew B. Gill, Dr, Lecturer**

Natural Resources Department, School of Applied Sciences, Cranfield University  
Building 37, Cranfield, Bedford MK43 0AL, United Kingdom

**Onno Gross, Dr., President**

DEEPWAVE  
Hegestr. 46 d, 20251 Hamburg, Germany

**Javier Guallart Furio, Doctor of Biology, Associate professor**

Laboratorio de Biología Marina, Departamento de Zoología, Universitat de Valencia  
E-46100 Burjassot (Valencia), Spain

**Mohammed Hamdine, Dr.**

Faculté Centrale d'Alger, Institut des Sciences de la Mer et de l'Amenagement du Littoral  
Sidi Fredj, BP 54, Alger 16060, Algeria

**Neil Hammerschlag, Research Assitant & Doctoral Graduate Student**

University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine & Atmospheric Science  
4600 Rickenbacker Cswy, Miami, Florida, 33149, USA

**Stuart Hanchet, Dr, Group Manager**

National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)  
217 Akersten St, Port Nelson, New Zealand

**Gary Hannon, M.Sc. Zoology - on Shark behaviour, Treasurer Irish Elasmobranch Group**

c/o Frank Jeal, Irish Elasmobranch Group, Department of Zoology  
Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

**Hans Hass, Prof. Dr.**

Opernringhof, A-1010 Wien, Austria

**Phillip Clarence Heemstra, Dr, Curator Emeritus**

South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity  
Private Bag 1015, Grahamstown, 6140, South Africa

**Farid Hemida, Maître de Conférences, Enseignant-Chercheur**

Faculté des sciences biologiques, Université des sciences et techniques Houari Boumediene  
BP 32- 16123- Bab-Ezzouar, Alger, Algeria

**Eric R. Hoffmayer, Assistant Research Scientist**

Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, The University of Southern Mississippi  
P.O. Box 7000, Ocean Springs, MS 39566, USA

**Johannes Andries Holtzhausen, Dr., Head: Large Pelagics**

Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources  
P.O. Box 912, Swakopmund, Namibia

**Daniel Robert Huber, Ph.D., Assistant professor**

Department of Biology, University of Tampa  
401 W. Kennedy Blvd., Box U, Tampa, FL 33606, USA

**Charlie Huvneers, Dr., Research Officer - Shark Ecology**

South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI) – Aquatic Sciences  
2 Hamra Avenue, West Beach SA 5024 Australia

**Christopher Izzo, Phd Candidate**

Southern Seas Ecology Laboratory, DP418, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, The University of Adelaide  
Adelaide, South Australia, 5005 Australia

**Ryan Johnson, Phd Candidate**

Dept of Zoology and Entomology, University of Pretoria  
University of Pretoria, Pretoria, 0002, South Africa

**Raymond T. Jones, Ph.D., Professor of Pathology**

Department of Pathology, University of Maryland School of Medicine  
22 South Greene St., Baltimore, MD 21201, USA

**Laura Jordan, Doctoral Candidate**

University of California, Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, CA 90095, USA

**Iain Robert Jupp, Honours Candidate**

Charles Darwin University/ Australian Institute of Marine Science  
DARWIN NT AUSTRALIA 0909 and 23 Ellengowan Drive Brinkin NT Australia 0810 (AIMS)

**Hakan Kabasakal, MSc., Marine Biologist, Founding Member**

Ichthyological Research Society  
Mentesoglu Cad. Idil Apt., No:30/4, Umraniye TR-34764, Turkey

**Ad. J. Kalmijn, Dr., Emeritus Scientist in Sensory Biophysics**

Scripps Institution of Oceanography  
La Jolla, CA 92093, USA

**Alison Ann Kock, PhD Candidate/ researcher**

Shark Research Centre Iziko Museums of Cape Town & University of Cape Town  
P.O. Box 61, Cape Town, 8001, South Africa

**Jorge Eduardo Kotas, Dr., Environmental Analyst**

Brazilian Institute for the Environment (IBAMA), Centro de Pesquisa e Gestão de Recursos Pesqueiros do Litoral  
Sudeste e Sul (CEPSUL)/IBAMA  
Av. Ministro Victor Konder S/Nº - Fundos da Marejada, CEP 88301-280 Itajaí – SC, Brazil

**Juergen Kriwet, Dr. rer. Nat., Curator of fossil fishes**

Museum of Natural History  
Invalidenstr. 43, 10115 Berlin, Germany

**Shawn Larson, Ph.D., Curator of Animal Health and Research**

Seattle Aquarium

1483 Alaskan way, Pier 59, Seattle, WA 98101-2059, USA

**Marie Levine, Executive Director**

Shark Research Institute

70 Heather Lane, Princeton, NJ 08540, USA

**Lovrenc Lipej, associate professor, Phd in biology, senior researcher**

Marine Biology station, National institute of biology

Fornace 41, 6330 Piran, Slovenia

**Feodor Litvinov, senior scientist**

Atlantic Research Institute for Marine Fisheries and Oceanography (AtlantNIRO)

Dmitry Donskoy Str., 5, Kaliningrad, Russia

**Mario Marconi, PhD Nature Sciences, Curator**

Dept. Molecular, Cellular, Animal Biology & Natural History Museum - University of Camerino

Piazza dei Costanti 7, 62032 Camerino (MC), Italy

**Adam Marques, Doctor, Professor**

Université Montpellier 2

Place Eugène Bataillon 34095 Montpellier cedex 05 France

**Stefano Marsili, PhD Student**

Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Università di Pisa

Via S. Maria, 53 - I-56162 Pisa, Italy

**Andrew Martin, Associate Professor**

Dept of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Colorado

Boulder, CO 80309, USA

**Isabel Mate Alonso, Biologist, Scientific Associate Laboratory of Vetebrates**

Museu de Ciències Naturals de Barcelona (Lab. Vertebrats, Edifici de Zoologia)

Passeig Picasso s/n, Parc de la Ciutadella, 08003 Barcelona, Spain

**Rory McAuley, Research Scientist**

Department of Fisheries, Government of Western Australia

WA Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratory, PO Box 20, North Beach, Western Australia 6920, Australia

**Mikki McComb, PhD Student**

Florida Atlantic University

777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, Florida 33484, USA

**John E. McCosker, PhD, Chair of Aquatic Biology**

California Academy of Sciences

875 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94103-3009, USA

**Bryan P. McNeil, B.S. Marine Biology, Biologist**

Seattle Aquarium

1483 Alaskan Way, Pier 59, Seattle, WA 98101, USA

**Hamadi Mějri, Engineer, Student in doctorat**

Institut National Agronomique de Tunisie (INAT)

43 Avenue Charles Nicolle, Cité Mahrajène 1080, Tunis, Tunisia

**Aline Mezergues, Master of biology**

Mediterranean Shark Research Group Member

38 rue du Marathon, 14000 Caen, France

**Stefano R. Montanari, Undergraduate student**

James Cook University

James Cook Drive, Douglas 4811 Queensland, Australia

**Alec B.M. Moore, Professional Marine Ecologist & Independent Elasmobranch Researcher, Senior Environmental Consultant**

RSK Environment Ltd.

Spring Lodge, 172 Chester, Road, Helsby, Cheshire WA6 0AR, United Kingdom

**Gabriel Morey, Biologist**

Fisheries Department - Balearic Islands Government

C/ Foners 10, 07006 Palma de Mallorca, Spain

**Walter Nisa-Castro-Neto, Dr., Coordinator of Projeto Carcharias and Biology Course**

Universidade Luterana do Brasil - Torres

Rua Universitaria, 1900, Parque do Balonismo, Torres, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

**Brian Scott Nunez, Ph.D., Assistant Professor**

The University of Texas Marine Science Institute

750 Channel View Drive, Port Aransas Texas 78373, USA

**Luigi Piscitelli, Medico Veterinario Specializzato in Igiene e Ispezione degli Alimenti di Origine Animale, Dirigente Veterinario**

ASL Città di Milano

C.so Italia 19 20122 Milano, Italy

**Ila France Porcher, naturalist/shark ethologist, Independent Researcher**

B.P. 4206, Papeete, Tahiti, French Polynesia

**Matthew D. Potenski, Graduate Research Associate**

The Guy Harvey Research Institute, Nova Southeastern University Oceanographic Center

8000 N Ocean Dr. Dania Beach, FL 33004, USA

**David C. Powell, Director of Husbandry (retired)**

Monterey Bay Aquarium

886 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940, USA

**Antonella Preti, Dr., Fisheries Biologist**

Mediterranean Shark Research Group Member

San Diego, CA, USA

**Peter Nick Psomadakis, Dr., Phd student in Marine Biology & Ecology**

Università Politecnica delle Marche c/o ICRAM di Roma

Via Brece Bianche, 60131 Ancona, Italy

**Robert Østlie Ramos, Cand. Mag., Ph.D. candidate**

School of Environmental and Life Sciences, University of Newcastle

Brush Road, Ourimbah NSW 2258, Australia

**John E. Randall, Dr., Senior Ichthyologist**

Bishop Museum

1525 Bernice St., Honolulu, HI 06917-2704, USA

**Mohammad Sharif Ranjbar, PhD. Student, Marine Biologist**

Khoramshar University of marine Science and Technology

Khoramshar, Iran

**Frank Reckel, Dr.**

Mediterranean Shark Research Group Member

Josephsburgstr. 90b, 81673 Munich, Germany

**Gillian Renshaw, Associate Professor**

Griffith University

PMB50 Gold Coast Mail Centre, Queensland 9726, Australia

**Christian Reynaud, PhD, professor**

Université Montpellier 2

Place Eugène Bataillon, 34095 MONTPELLIER Cedex 5, France

**Danilo Rezzolla, dottore in Scienze della Produzione Animale (Veterinaria), Responsabile Scientifico**

MinItalia Aquarium

via Vittorio Veneto, 52 Capriate (MI), Italy

**Maria Constanza Ribot Carballal, Master in Science, Student**

CICIMAR

Av. Politecnico Nacional s/n, Colonia Playa Palo de Santa Rita, La Paz, Baja California Sur, Mexico

**Getulio Rincon, Doctor, Researcher Post-Doctor**

Universidade Estadual Paulista-UNESP

UNESP Av 24A, 1515, Instituto de Biociências, Depto de Ecologia, Rio Claro-SP. CEP 13506-900, Brazil

**Rachel Robbins, Dr, Chief Scientist**

Fox Shark Research Foundation

73 Ninth Ave, Joslin, Adelaide, South Australia 5070, Australia

**Vera Schluessel, PhD research student**

The University of Queensland

Brisbane 4072, Queensland, Australia

**Michael Christoph Scholl, Bsc, Project Leader, Founder and Trustee**

White Shark Trust & University of Cape Town

P.O. Box 1258, Gansbaai 7220, Western Cape, South Africa

**Ahmed M. Shawky, Environmental Researcher (Ranger)**

Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency (EEAA)

84721 Marsa Alam, Red Sea Protectorates, Egypt

**Christina J. Slager, Curator**

Husbandry Division, Monterey Bay Aquarium

886 Cannery Row, Monterey, CA 93940, USA

**Ben Speers-Roesch, M.Sc., Ph.D. candidate**

Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia

6270 University Blvd., Vancouver BC, Canada V6T 1Z4

**Joanna Stead, PhD Candidate**

Queensland Shark & Ray Research Group, Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology, University of Queensland

St Lucia, 4072, QLD, Australia

**Charlott Stenberg, Master of Science, Marine biologist**

Swedish Board of Fisheries

Box 423, SE-401 26 Gothenburg, Sweden

**Tiziano Storai, Coordinatore progetto Sardinian Large Elasmobranch Database**

DNAqua – Laboratorio di Ricerche sulla vita marina.

Via San Carlo Borromeo 1, 09100 Cagliari (CA), Italy

**Alejandro Tagliafico Guzmán, Licenciado en Biología Marina, Investigador Contratado**

Departamento de Evaluación de Recursos Pesqueros, Instituto Nacional de Investigaciones Agrícolas (INIA)

La Asunción, Sector Salamanca, Isla de Margarita, Estado Nueva Esparta, INIA, Venezuela

**Ron Taylor, Independent Researcher**

Ron Taylor Film Productions Pty. Ltd.

Fairlight, New South Wales, 2094, Australia

**Valerie Taylor, Independent Researcher**  
Ron Taylor Film Productions Pty. Ltd.  
Fairlight, New South Wales, 2094, Australia

**Jason R. Treberg, PhD, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Postdoctoral Fellow**  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
St. John's, NL, Canada

**Dr Susan Turner, Dr, Member Australian UNESCO Commission Science Network, Hon. Research Fellow**  
Geology & Palaeontology, Queensland Museum and Monash University School of Geosciences  
122 Gerler Rd, Hendra Q 4011, Australia

**John Tyminski, Senior Biologist**  
Center for Shark Research, Mote Marine Laboratory  
1600 Ken Thompson Parkway, Sarasota, FL 34236, USA

**Sean R. Van Sommeran, Executive Director/CEO**  
The Pelagic Shark Research Foundation  
Santa Cruz, California, USA

**Adriana Vella, Ph.D., Senior Lecturer and Researcher**  
Conservation Biology Research Group, University of Malta  
Msida, MSD 06, Malta

**Noel Vella, B.Sc (Hons), Researcher**  
Conservation Biology Group, Dept. of Biology, University of Malta  
University of Malta, Malta

**Frank Velte, Dipl.-Biologe**  
Zoologisches Institut, Johann-Wolfgang Goethe Universität  
Frankfurt/ M, Germany

**Darryl Lane Whitehead, Dr., Scientific Researcher**  
School of Integrative Biology, The University of Queensland  
Brisbane, QLD 4072, Australia

**John R. Williams, Professor of Chemistry**  
Department of Chemistry, Temple University  
13th and Norris Sts, Philadelphia, PA 19122-2585, USA

**Bruce Wright, Executive Director**  
Conservation Science Institute  
California, USA

**Barbara Wueringer, PhD Candidate**  
Marine Neurobiology Laboratory, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Queensland  
St Lucia Qld 4072, Australia

**Nicolas Ziani, Manager in aquatic productions and fisheries project, Président**  
AILERONS (Association Ichtyologique pour L'Etude, la Recherche et l'Observation dans la Nature des Sélaciens)  
6 rue des Avant-Monts, 34 080 Montpellier, France

**Heike Zidowitz, Dipl.-Biol., board member German Elasmobranch Society**  
Biocentre Grindel & Zoological Museum, University of Hamburg  
Martin-Luther-King-Platz 3, 20146 Hamburg, Germany

**Marco Zuffa, Independent Researcher**  
Mediterranean Shark Research Group Member  
via Prunaro 1, I-40064 Ozzano dell'Emilia (Bologna), Italy

Front cover photograph:

Shortfin mako sharks (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) at the Milano fish market, Italy (photograph by Alessandro De Maddalena).

Text © 2007 by Alessandro De Maddalena, Sean Van Sommeran and Wolfgang Leander.

Manifesto logo and front cover photograph © 2007 by Alessandro De Maddalena.