



# ***CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES FOR SHARKS AND RAYS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: INSIGHTS FROM THE LIFE ELIFE PROJECT***

Coordinating  
beneficiary



Associated beneficiaries



# What's the conservation context?

## scientific reports

Scientific Reports | (2021) 11:15397 | <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-94632-4>

Check for updates

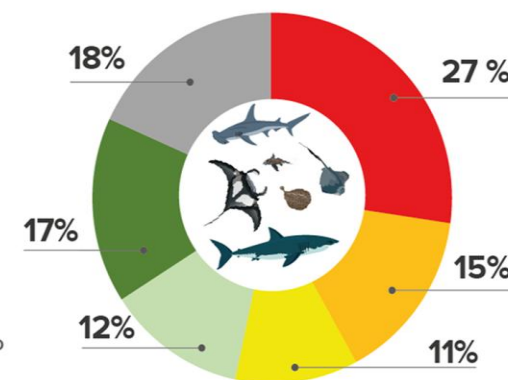
**OPEN** Tracking the rising extinction risk of sharks and rays in the Northeast Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea

## Summary of the Red List status of Chondrichthyan in the Mediterranean Sea.

IUCN Red List Category	Number of Species
Extinct (EX)	0
Regionally Extinct (RE)	0
Critically Endangered (CR)	20
Endangered (EN)	11
Vulnerable (VU)	8
Near Threatened (NT)	9
Least Concern (LC)	12
Data Deficient (DD)	13
Total number of species assessed	73

\* This table does not include the four vagrant or Lessepsian migrant species that have been considered Not Applicable (NA) for the Mediterranean region

- DD CARENTE DI DATI
- NA NON APPLICABILE
- LC MINOR PREOCCUPAZIONE
- NT QUASI MINACCIATA
- VU VULNERABILE
- EN IN PERICOLO
- CR IN PERICOLO CRITICO
- EW ESTINTA NELLA REGIONE



## RESEARCH

### RESEARCH ARTICLE SUMMARY

#### MARINE CONSERVATION

### Ecological erosion and expanding extinction risk of sharks and rays

Nicholas K. Dulvy<sup>1\*</sup>, Nathan Pacoureau<sup>2</sup>, Jay H. Matsushiba, Helen F. Yan, Wade J. VanderWright, Cassandra L. Rigby, Brittany Finucci, C. Samantha Sherman, Rima W. Jabado, John K. Carlson, Riley A. Pollom, Patricia Charvet, Caroline M. Pollock, Craig Hilton-Taylor, Colin A. Simpfendorfer

Dulvy *et al.*, *Science* **386**, 1111 (2024) 6 December 2024

## RESEARCH

### CONSERVATION

### Global shark fishing mortality still rising despite widespread regulatory change

Boris Worm<sup>1\*</sup>, Sara Orofino<sup>2,3,4</sup>, Echelle S. Burns<sup>2,3,4</sup>, Nidhi G. D'Costa<sup>1</sup>, Leonardo Manir Feitosa<sup>4</sup>, Maria L. D. Palomares<sup>5</sup>, Laurence Schiller<sup>6</sup>, Darcy Bradley<sup>2,3,4,7</sup>

Worm *et al.*, *Science* **383**, 225–230 (2024) 12 January 2024

Received: 1 February 2017 Revised: 7 April 2017 Accepted: 17 April 2017

DOI: 10.1002/aqc.2789

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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### A century of fishery data documenting the collapse of smooth-hounds (*Mustelus* spp.) in the Mediterranean Sea

Francesco Colloca<sup>1,2</sup> | Marco Enea<sup>1,3</sup> | Sergio Ragonese<sup>1</sup> | Manfredi Di Lorenzo<sup>1</sup>

Marine Policy 105 (2019) 1–9

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Marine Policy

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/marpol](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/marpol)



Official catch data underrepresent shark and ray taxa caught in Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries

Madeline S. Cashion<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Nicolas Bailly<sup>a</sup>, Daniel Pauly<sup>a</sup>

## Contributed Paper

### Loss of Large Predatory Sharks from the Mediterranean Sea

FRANCESCO FERRETTI,<sup>\*,†</sup> RANSOM A. MYERS,<sup>\*,§</sup> FABRIZIO SERENA,<sup>†</sup> AND HEIKE K. LOTZE<sup>\*</sup>

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<sup>†</sup>ARPAT (Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione Ambientale della Toscana), Via Marradi 114, 57100 Livorno, Italy

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# Who?

*Elasmobranchs Low-Impact Fishing Experience*  
*LIFE18 NAT/IT/000846*

- **EU countries:** IT, CY, GR
- **Start:** 04/10/2019 - **End:** 31/12/2025
- **Total amount:** 3.360.445 €      **% EC Co-funding:** 60
- **Coordinating Beneficiary:** *Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn (SZN)*

## **Associated Beneficiaries:**

- <i>CNR-IRBIM</i>	Public research body
- <i>UNIPD</i>	Public university
- <i>MER</i>	Private marine research body
- <i>C. MED.</i>	Private fishery research body of fisher association
- <i>Legambiente</i>	Non governative environmental organization
- <i>AMPIP</i>	Marine protected area
- <i>AMPIT</i>	Marine protected area
- <i>Costa Edutainment</i>	Private company for marine edutainment
- <i>AlgoWatt</i>	Private company for environmental monitoring software

- **Main patronages:** IT & CY Ministries of Environment, IT General Direction of Fishery, MEDAC

# What goals?

The project LIFE ELIFE aims:

- improving the conservation of endangered elasmobranch species in the Mediterranean Sea
- promoting best conservation practices
- encouraging innovative management in the context of the EU professional fishing activities



The major objectives are:

- ✓ **reduction of the by-catch of many threatened elasmobranchs**
- ✓ **reduction of the mortality of threatened elasmobranchs during the professional fishing activities**



# How?



- ✓ *By-catch Reduction Devices*
- ✓ *Fishers' engagement and citizens' awareness*
- ✓ *MPAs involvement*
- ✓ *Developing of Med conservation initiatives*





# The ground floor: engage fishers



# The first floor: mending nets

- ✓ 2,51 millions km<sup>2</sup>
- ✓ 3 continents
- ✓ 23 countries
- ✓ several cultural groups
- ✓ high geopolitical diversity





# The second floor: enforce the baseline

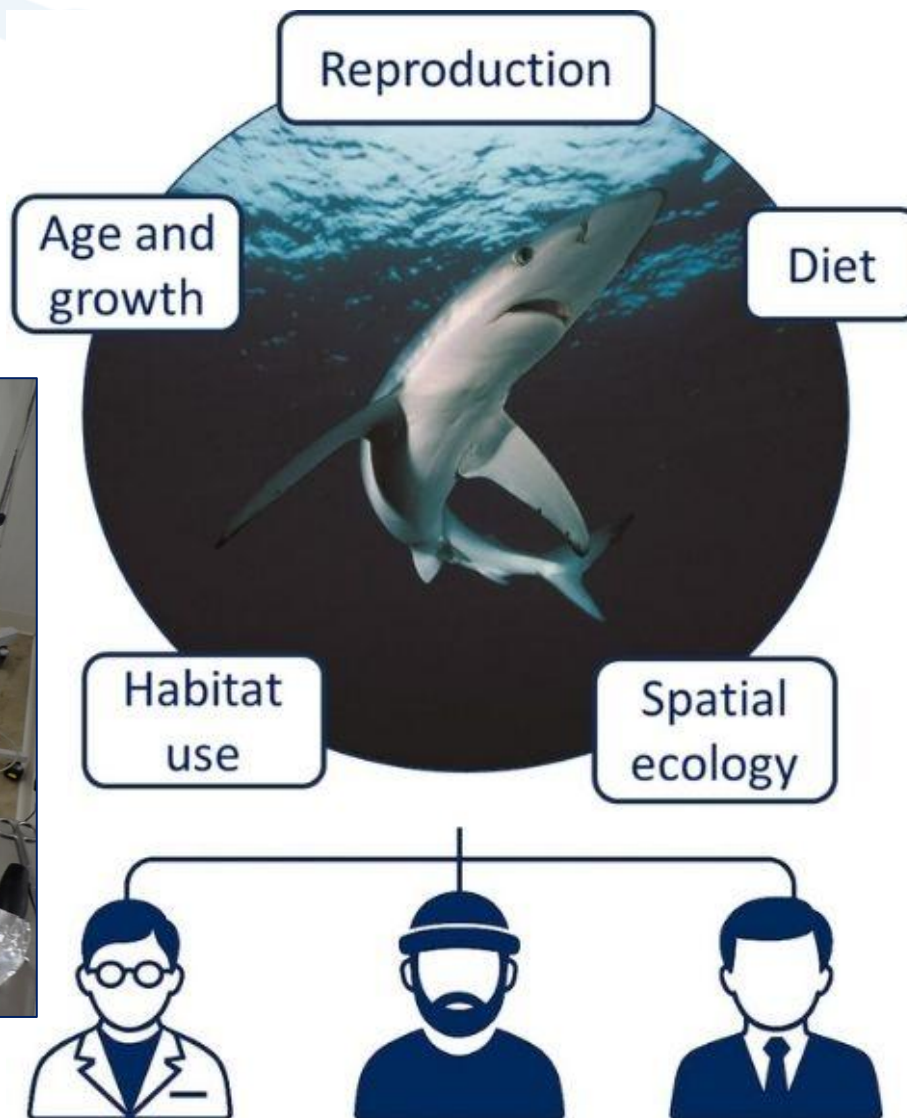


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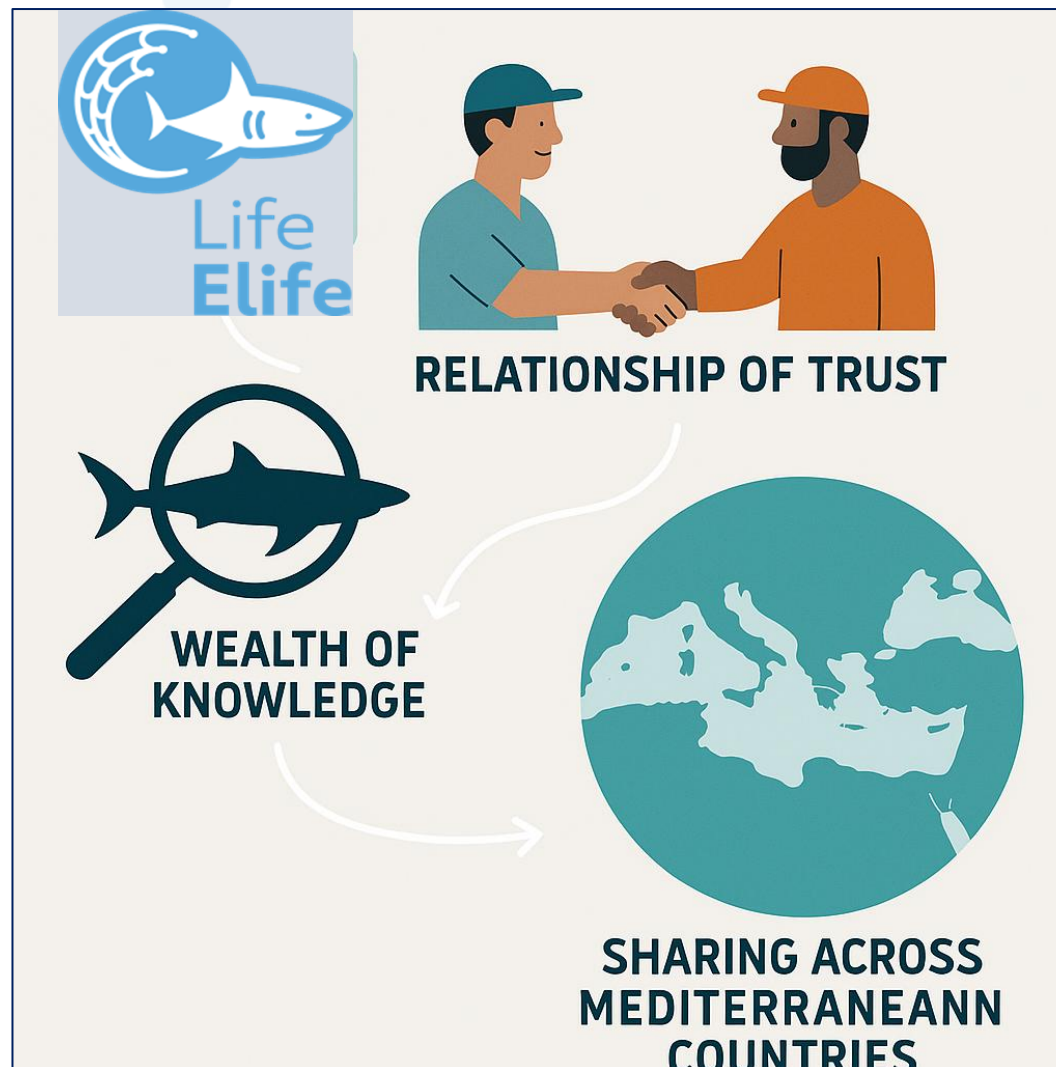
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# The third floor: strengthen basic knowledge



# The LIFE ELIFE “bricks” for building shark and ray conservation in the Med







Our efforts for elasmobranch conservation

*...thanks for staying awake.*



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