

Thank you for your interest in shark conservation, a high priority at NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. All along our coasts, we're conducting research on sharks and implementing regulations to prevent overfishing. The United States prohibits shark finning. Internationally, we helped develop the Food and Agriculture Organization's International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks. Here's how you can help: Learn about sharks at www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sharks. You can also view some of the *Sherman's Lagoon* shark drawings at www.nmfs.noaa.gov/education/shermanstreasures.

Know and obey shark harvest regulations. For example, all people fishing in U.S. waters are prohibited from keeping 20 species of sharks, including white, whale, basking, and the very rare megamouth.

Learn the areas designated as essential habitat for sharks, and avoid fishing there.

If you're an angler, support catch-and-release practices.

Learn which shark species are overfished, and make sure any shark meat you buy in markets or consume in restaurants does not come from overfished species.

Thanks for your help!



Eric C. Schwaab, Director
National Marine Fisheries Service

