



Carefully managed sharks and rays can support sustainable fisheries. These provide:

- income and food security for coastal communities,
- valuable products for export, and
- highly profitable ecotourism operations

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Ecotourism operations may be more valuable (\$/animal) than fisheries.

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Marine ecotourism

- 100 locations worldwide
- 400 shark ecotourism operations
- 590,000 shark watchers
- > \$314 million per annum
- Support 10,000 direct jobs
- Bahamas: shark tourism > \$10 million
- Palau: shark tourism \$2.7 million
- Moorea, French Polynesia \$5 million
- Fiji: > \$42 million (one site \$5 million)




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If trends continue, in 20 years' time:
>1,000,000 shark watchers,
\$ 780 million in tourism revenue

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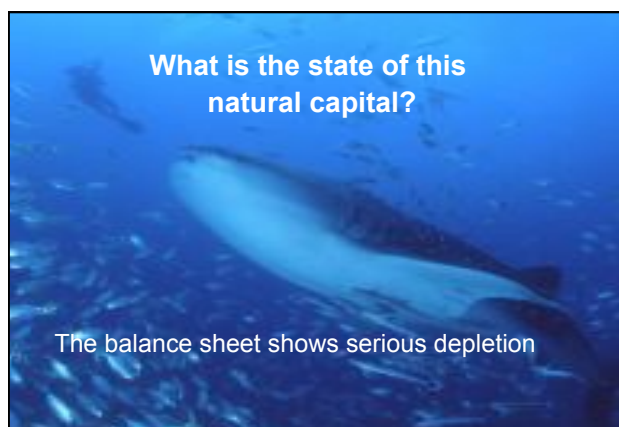
Shark and ray populations provide important indicators of ecosystem health

They are iconic flagships for sustainable environments.

They provide important elements of **natural capital** – the vital goods and services upon which we all depend.

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What is the state of this natural capital?

The balance sheet shows serious depletion

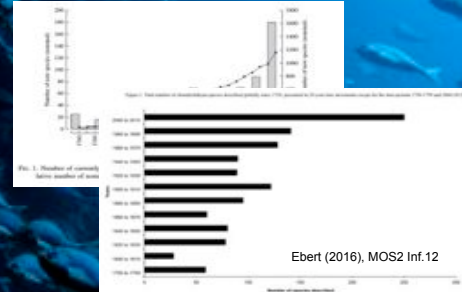
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The status of migratory sharks & rays

- Thirteen Red List workshops;
- Intensive correspondence;
- 302 experts from 64 countries;
- 1,041 species assessed using IUCN Red List Criteria and Categories.
- Shark Specialist Group regional reports;
- Summary paper in *eLIFE* (Dulvy *et al.* 2014, MOS2 Inf.7)



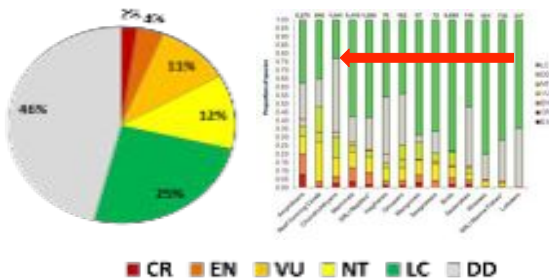
Chondrichthyan fish biodiversity



Ebert (2016), MOS2 Inf.12

Global Red List Results

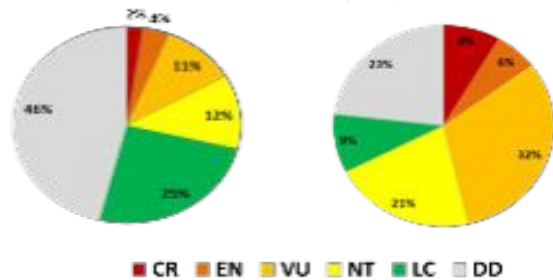
All species (sharks, skates, rays, chimaeras)



Global Red List Results

All species (<1,000)

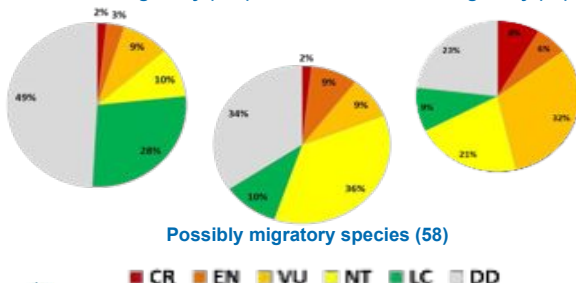
Migratory species (95)



Global Red List Results

Non-migratory (940)

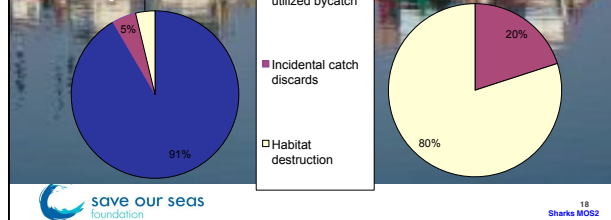
Migratory (95)

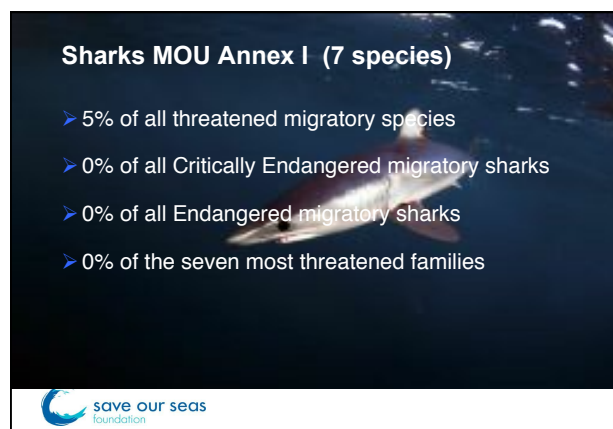
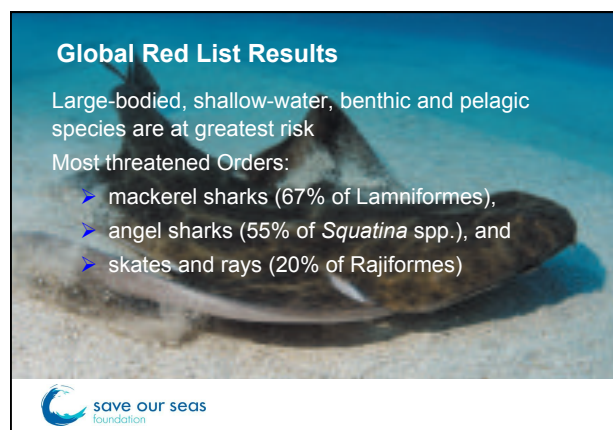
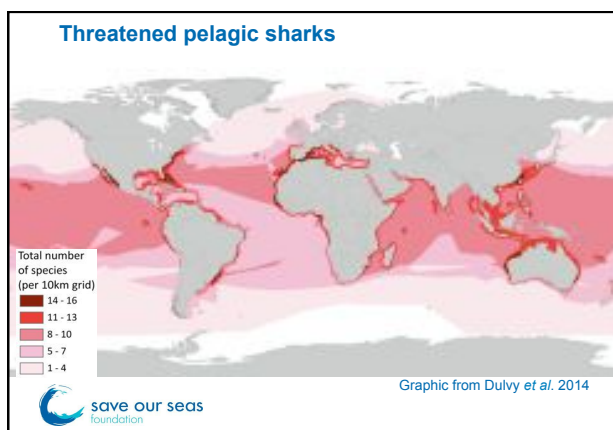
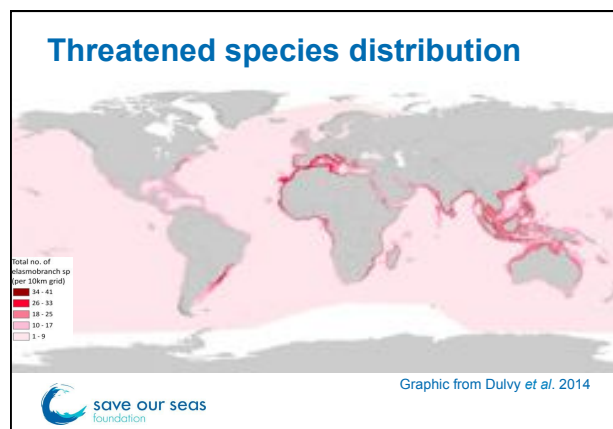
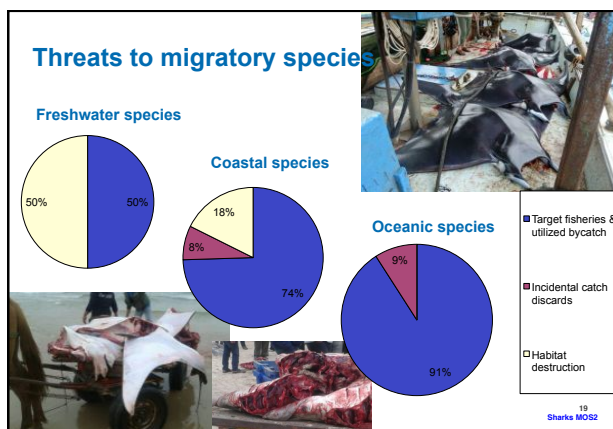


Threats to migratory species

Primary threats

Secondary threats





CMS Appendices (29 species)

- 45% of all threatened migratory species
- 63% of all Critically Endangered migratory sharks and rays
- 50% of all Endangered migratory species
- 40% of all Vulnerable migratory species
- Two of the seven most threatened families (sawfish, thresher sharks)



CMS Sharks MOU & Social Capital

The MOU is not legally binding, but hugely important in generating **social capital**

Signatories, wildlife and fisheries managers, NGO partners and observers meet through CMS to work together and achieve common aims

Trust and cooperation is built between delegates collaborating for a common good – rebuilding natural capital for the benefit of all.



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Broader conservation strategies

Parties' implementation of listings in CMS and CITES Appendices have an important role

Regional fisheries bodies (management and advisory) are key partners

More could be achieved through Regional Seas Programmes

These and other needs will be addressed in the Global ten-year Strategy being launched today



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Acknowledgements

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Thank you