# WHAT ARE SHARKS AND RAYS?

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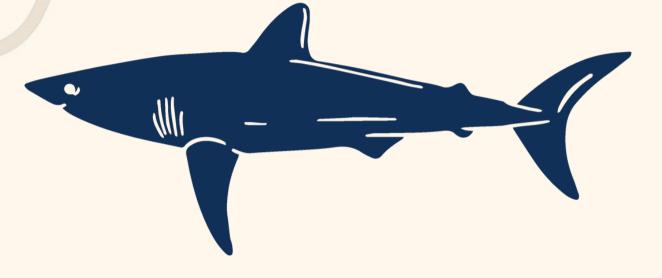
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MARINE WILDLIFE WATCH OF THE PHILIPPINES

#### NUMBER OF SPECIES GLOBALLY

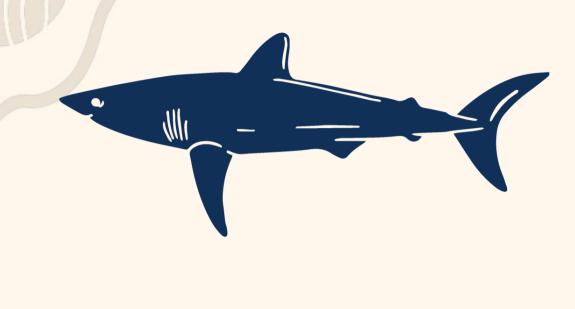


# **SHARKS 500+**



### RAYS 500+

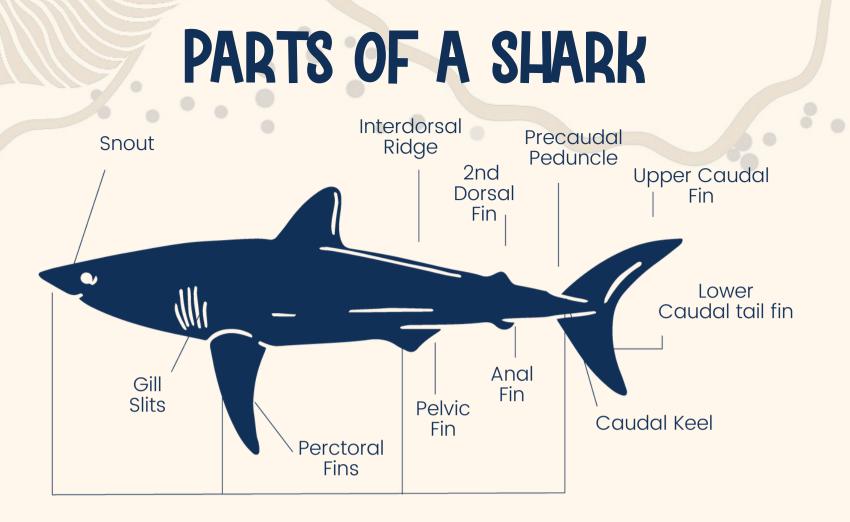
#### SHARKS



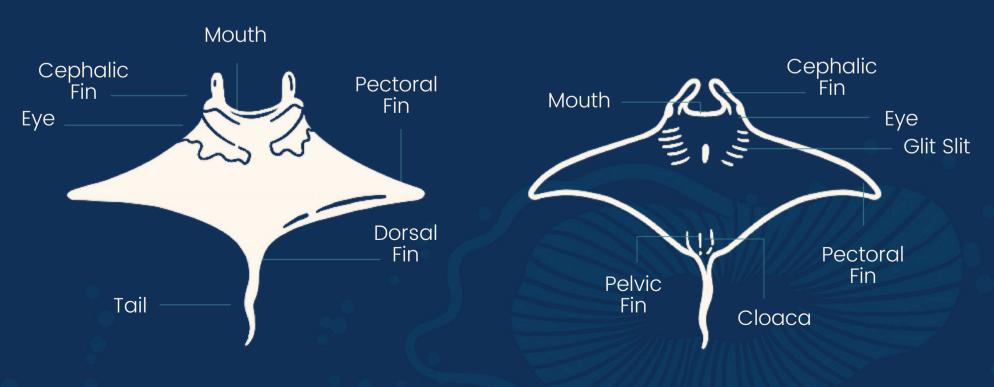
- Also called true sharks
- Mainly cylindrical in shape
- 5-7 external gill openings
- Pectoral fins are found behind gill openings



- Also called flat sharks or batoids
- Mostly flat in shape
- 5-6 ventrally-located external gill openings
- Pectoral fins are wing-like and attached to the head in front of the gill openings



#### PARTS OF A MANTA RAY



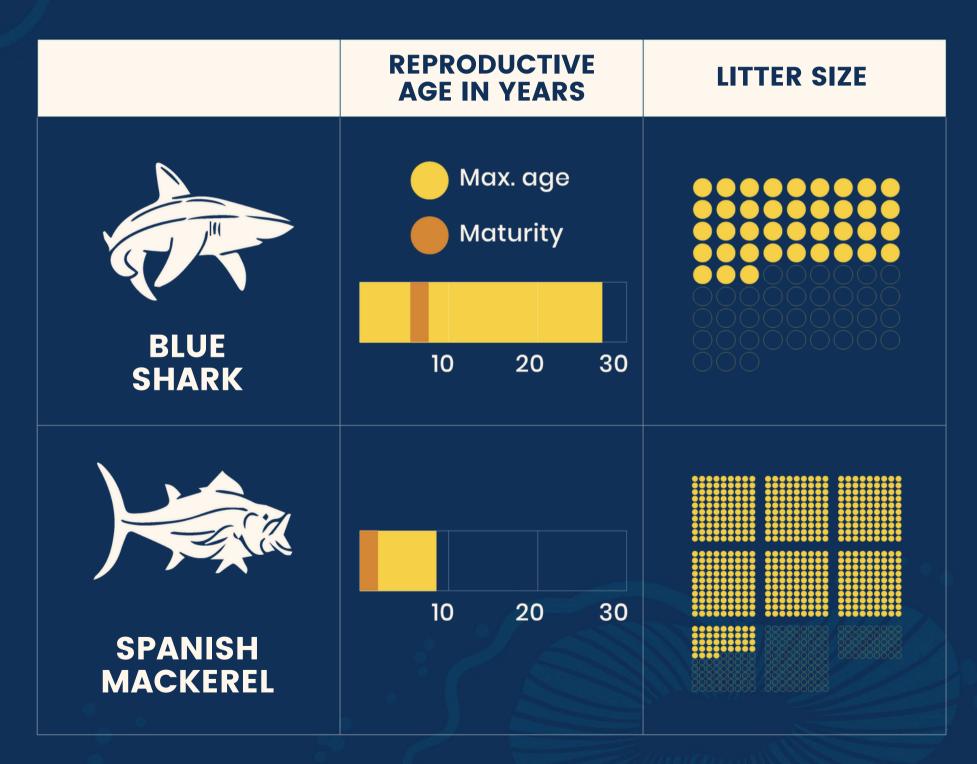
## SHARKS AND RAYS



Did you know that compared to most bony fishes, sharks and rays generally have low reproductive potential?

They are long-lived, age slowly, mature late, and produce very few offspring at a time.

#### REPRODUCTION COMPARISON A SHARK VS. A BONY FISH



#### REPRODUCTION COMPARISON A SHARK VS. A BONY FISH

	CAPACITY TO REPRODUCE	GESTATION LENGTH
<b>BLUE</b> SHARK	EVERY 2 YEARS	9–12 MONTHS
SPANISH   MACKEREL	MULTIPLE TIMES PER YEAR	25 HOURS

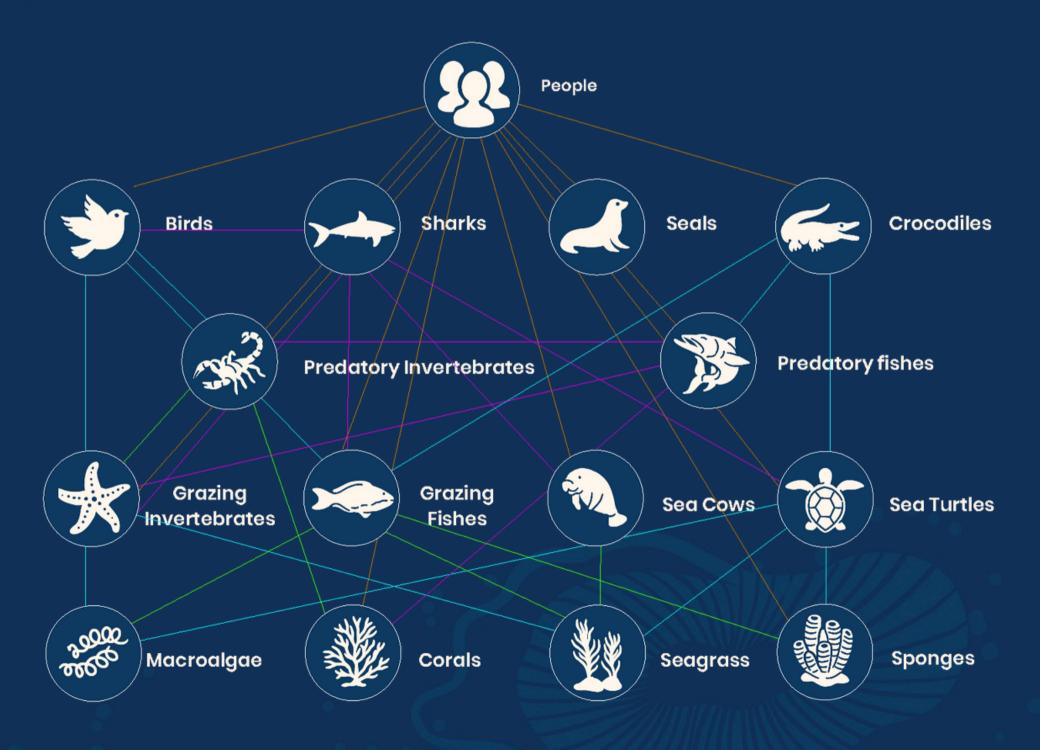
#### WHY ARE SHARKS AND RAYS IMPORTANT FOR ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION?



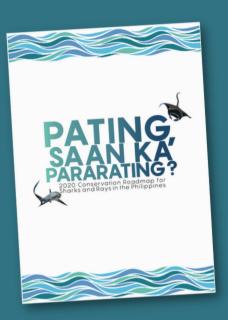
Removal of sharks and rays, especially those that are higher in the food chain, reduce preying pressures on other organisms, causing ecosystem imbalances.

This would, in turn, negatively affect coastal communities and business that rely on healthy oceans.

#### THE ROLE OF SHARKS IN THE ECOSYSTEM



#### SHARK AND RAY CONSERVATION



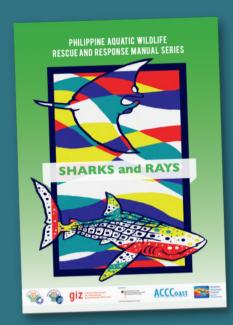
Pating, Saan ka Pararating?, the 2020 Conservation Roadmap for Sharks and Rays in the Philippines

Is intended to tackle complex issues and serve as a guide to align efforts toward a common vision of conserving sharks and rays in the country.



#### Philippine Protected Sharks Poster

This poster shows sharks that are fully protected in Philippine waters, which means that the catching, selling, or trading of these species are prohibited.



Aquatic Marine Wildlife Rescue and Response Manual on Sharks and Rays

Helps communities and field officers to respond to various incidents, like a shark stranded or byctach, and collect information to help release them back to sea.

Download these resources at http://mwwphilippines.org/