



Sharks under Human Care: Challenges and Opportunities

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

Aquatic ecosystems and their biodiversity are facing unprecedented threats from emerging stressors. With their care facilities, veterinary and breeding expertise, and public communication reach, public aquariums are uniquely placed to help understand and protect biodiversity. Sharks, in particular, are among the most threatened groups of vertebrates in the world. Preserving shark populations is of the utmost importance, since, as top predators, sharks play an important role in maintaining other fish communities and their decline will impact fish populations, fisheries, and the ocean's overall health. The expertise held at aquariums around the world has the potential to improve conservation chances for many shark species and contribute to enhanced knowledge of in situ and ex situ populations.

This Special Issue focuses on the work developed with or for shark populations kept under human care and its potential to contribute to conservation efforts in situ, increasing our pool of knowledge on these species, or hamper the husbandry and welfare of populations kept under human care.

