

Project Update: March 2017

Citizens discover

Galapagos bullhead sharks are nocturnal. They leave their preferred caves and crevices at sunset to prey on invertebrates and small fish. Moreover, bullheads prefer regions where cold water surges from the ocean floor, but these are also some of the most remote locations of the Galapagos. With the contribution of citizen scientists, such as local dive guides, fishermen, and national park rangers our research project was able to locate important shark habitats on several islands. Through our photo-identification website and workshops with the dive community and the national park, we registered unique observations, including egg cases, associated with reproductive sites. Participating citizens also re-sighted individual sharks from our database at the same location over several months. During our field research campaign we were able to collect genetic samples from over 50 individuals at six locations on four islands.

How to participate: <http://www.bullheads.org/photographing.jsp>

Enjoy our latest project video: <https://youtu.be/MSJM6cSc9qU>



Left: Presentation to the Galapagos National Park, local schools and the community. Right: Egg case of a bullhead shark discovered during research campaigns.