

monitoring the shark population. The entire tiger shark population is classified as near threatened by the IUCN. The sand tiger sharks are vulnerable. This species still counts as endangered, and it is important to watch where you throw your trash on the beach. It could end up in the ocean, where tiger sharks could eat it. Sharks are not picky eaters. They will take pretty much anything. They typically eat things like fish, mollusks, sometimes seabirds, sea turtles, and dead animals, and trash could hurt them really badly. Humans sometimes also hurt tiger sharks for sport. Another reason they are endangered is that they are also used as a source of leather, and fur oil. Tiger sharks are one the way to being endangered, and I've don't help them, they soon will be.

Tiger sharks are beautiful predators of the ocean, and they are part of the shark family Carcharhinidae. Their scientific name is *Pantereus tigris*. They get their name from the tiger-like markings on their back when they are young. They are also fierce hunters just like their name states. Tiger sharks usually can grow up to around 10 feet, which is the height of three average grown men. Like tigers, they also can be very heavy, some weighing up to 1,000 pounds. That is way more than three grown men's weight.

They usually live around warm and tropical water. They like to hang around the central Pacific islands. Even though the water can sometimes be cold up north, they are like hanging around Cape Cod, which is colder than where I live. They like rocky and warm weather, so you can usually spot some in Southern Florida. They are like to scare people really bad by staying in shallow water, maybe 10 to 40 feet deep. Tiger sharks are definitely not scared of anything at all. Even though they were in super shallow water, they are scared of people probably more than people are scared of them. Tiger sharks just want to be left alone.

Tiger sharks are near endangered, and I think that it is a big problem. If we are going to let these beautiful and unique animals just go extinct, our world is going to give us a big part of our shark population, which helps fish and other small marine animals to thrive. Tiger sharks, despite the man-eating reputation, still are a beautiful part of our natural world.