

to spend less time in the water. They grow and live in large, wide, shallow, fast-flowing rivers. They are aggressive predators known as "man-eaters", and although rare, this is due to incidents of fatal attacks on humans. They eat just about anything and are nicknamed the garbage disposal of the sea.

There are many reasons as to why Tiger sharks are important to the world. With no sharks, there would be a disruption in the food web and the ecosystem balance. They prevent the spread of disease, strengthen the gene pool, reduce the pressure on a single habitat and territorial economy from marine tourism. For example, without Tiger sharks to control sea turtle populations, they would over grow the seagrass that helps absorb carbon dioxide.

Tiger sharks have no natural predators, but they are under threat from human activity. They are being killed for their fins, whitefish, liver oil, and cartilage from fishing nets. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN Red List), Tiger sharks are listed as "near threatened" species. In the last 50 years, the population has decreased by 50%, and in some locations like the Arabian Sea significant declines by 90%. The tiger shark's population is unable to bounce back, due to sexual maturity based on size not age. They are slow growing, late to mature, and are killed before they can produce offspring. If they manage to reproduce, they have long gestation periods of 10 to 18 months, and only breed once every 3 years.

We will display a few of the inhumane acts that are done to sharks as a whole. Fishing is a process in which sharks are killed for their fins. They are captured, their fins cut off, and often thrown back into the ocean to die. Shark fin soup is a delicacy often served at celebrations in certain countries. With overfishing happening all over the oceans, sharks are often caught in nets along with other fish and used for food. The world needs to come together and make changes before it is too late and we lose all shark species.