





Saving the Butanding

05:00 PM





Saving the Butanding

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Activities during the 2019 Butanding Festival









Donsol Youth Environmental Education Project (DYEEP)

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WWF

Is a mobile teaching exhibit use in conducting environmental lectures for elementary schools in Donsol, Sorsogon.

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ANO BA ANG BUTANDING?

Rhincodon typus





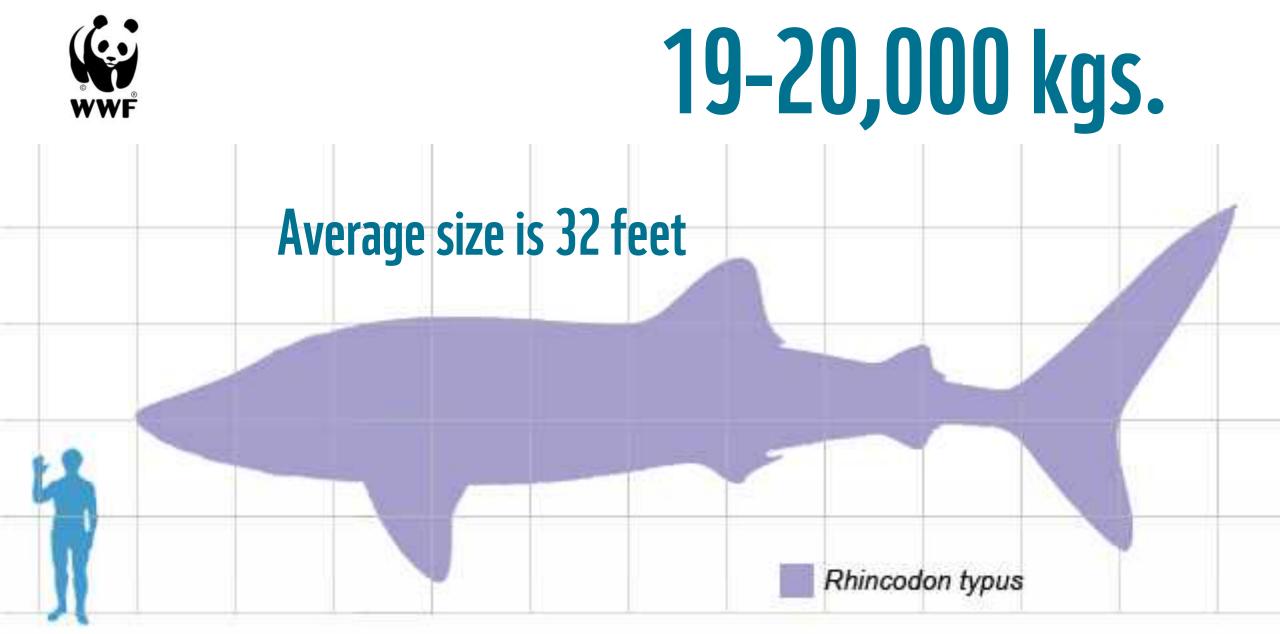
Whale?

or Shark?



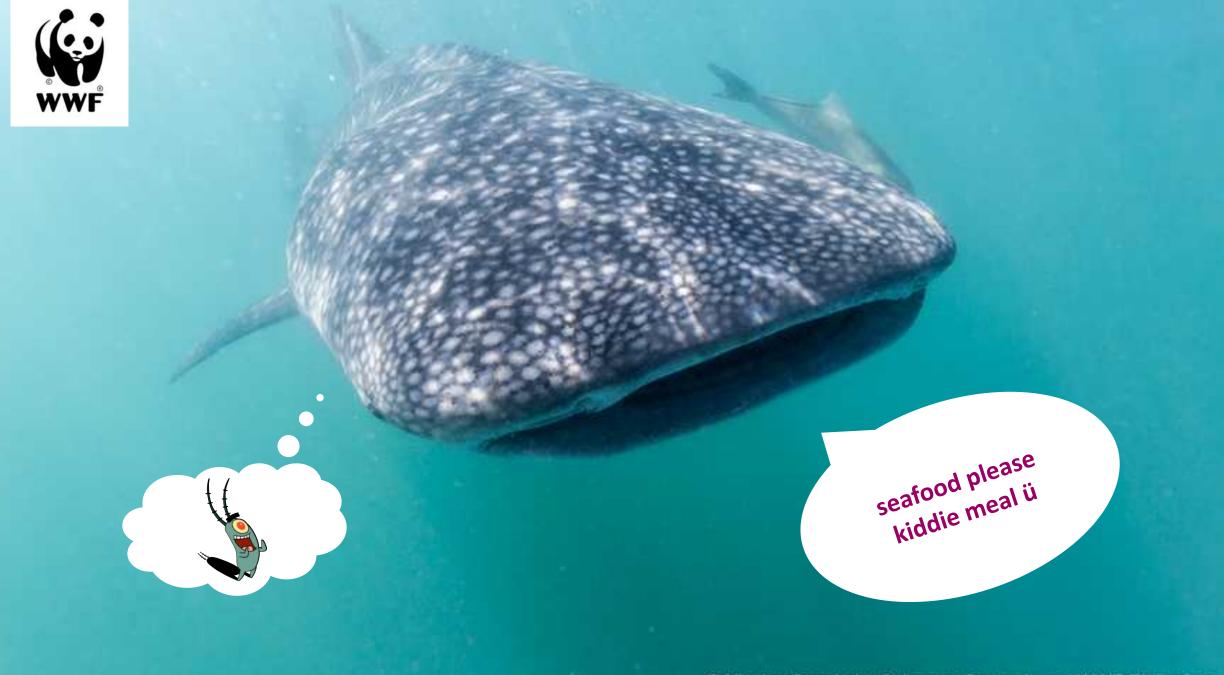
Shark!

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✓ Adult whale sharks can grow to over 66 feet.

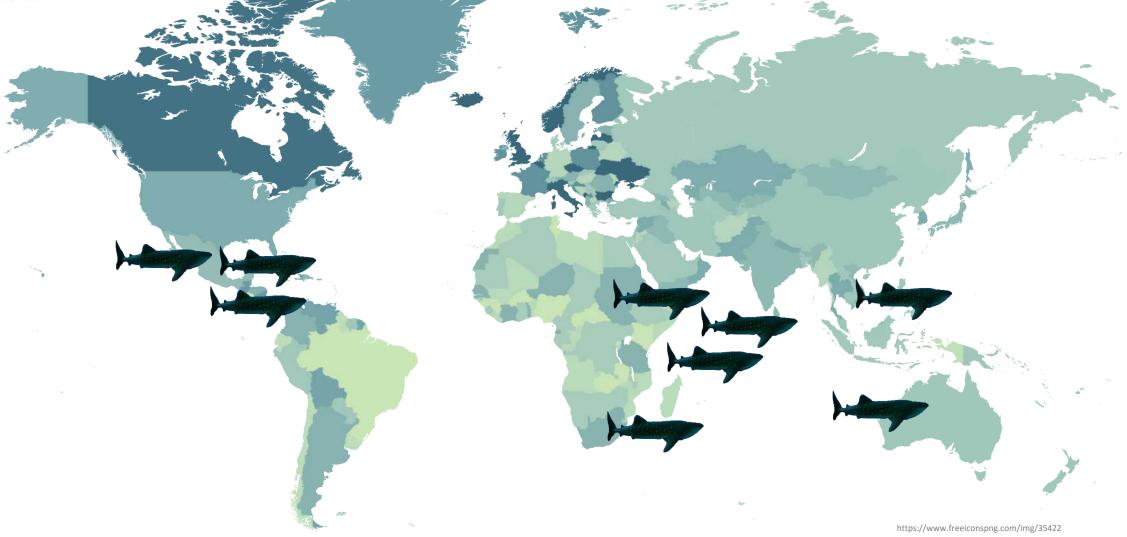
https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/3c/Whaleshark_scale.jpg



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Whale sharks movement and distribution





whale shark sightings in Donsol in 2019

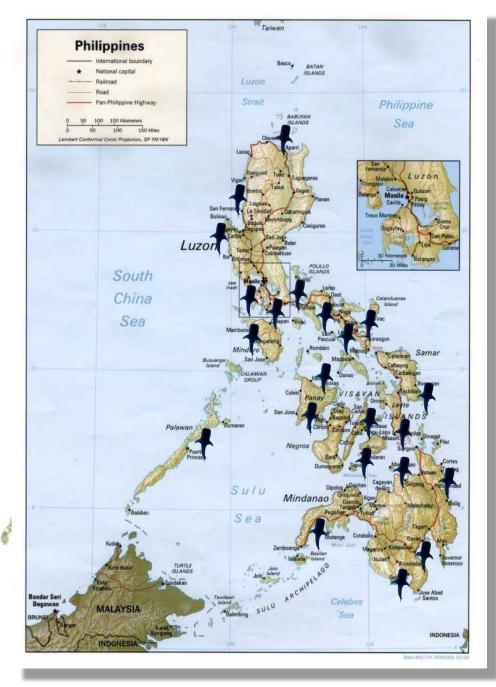
152

(3rd highest since 2007)



Total Philippine Whale Shark- 1,779 individuals

Philippines has Second Largest Known Population of Whale Sharks https://www.forbes.com/sites/melissacristinamarquez/2019/03/08/philippines-hassecond-largest-known-population-of-whale-sharks/#3b34152da2c9



whale shark sightings



152

whale shark sightings in Donsol in 2019

92 new individuals



Whale shark movement in Donsol based on satellite tagging.





Whale Shark Interaction Guidelines

No flash photography

No jetski, scuba gear, and underwater propulsion

Five minutes interaction time limit

Maximum of six guests per boat

Keep distance of 3 meters from whale shark's body and 4 meters its tail

Don't block the whale shark path



DON'T! TOUCH! ME!

I can also feed myself. Pwe.

C Nicolas Cegalerba & Joanna Szwemberg / WWF-Philippines



Do

Take Many Pictures!

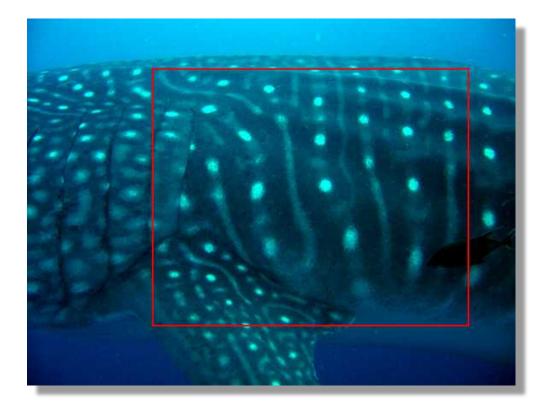






Not all whale sharks are made equal!

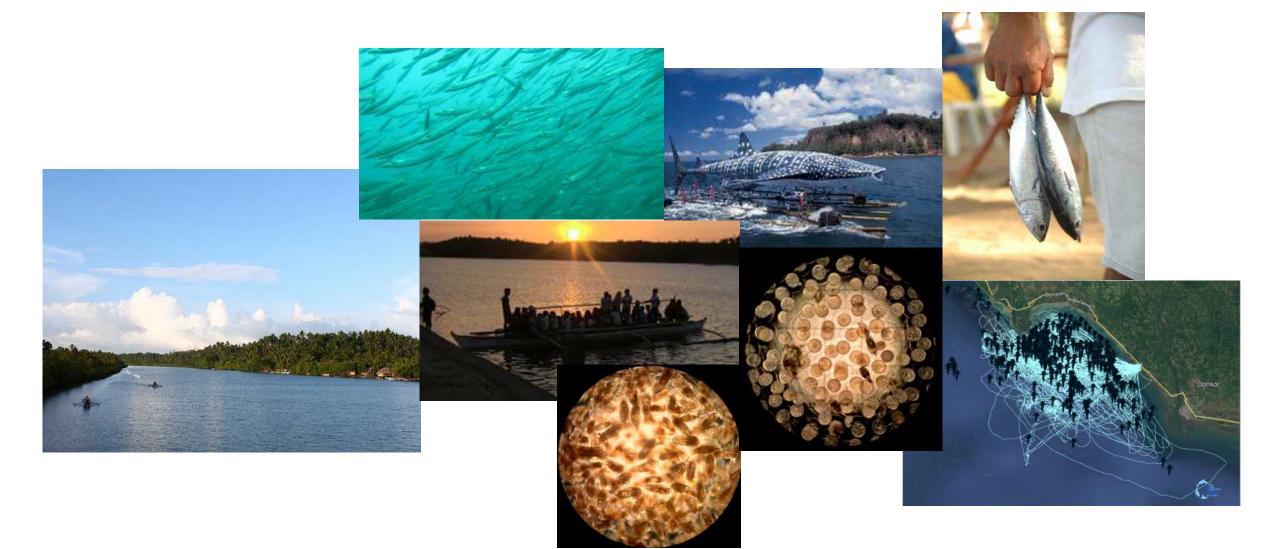
Each whale shark has a different spot pattern







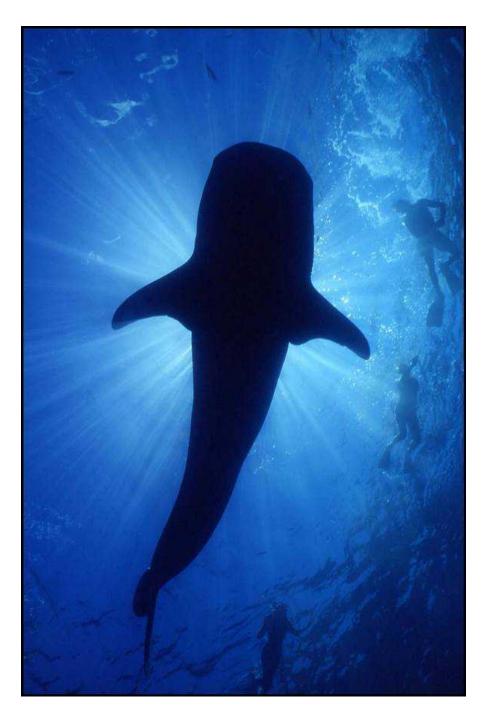
Donsol: Home of the whale sharks





Donsol Whale Shark Characteristics

 ✓ Most are males
✓ Juveniles (<8m length)
✓ Spend an average 50 days in Donsol each season
✓ 3-90 new individuals can be seen yearly (recruitment)





Donsol Whale Shark Conservation Program

was born in 1998 to help protect the butanding from what was then the municipality's threat on whale shark hunting



Butanding Interaction Officers (BIOs)

CANGING INTERACTION OFFICE

WWF

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Whale sharks are important indicators for healthy and productive fisheries

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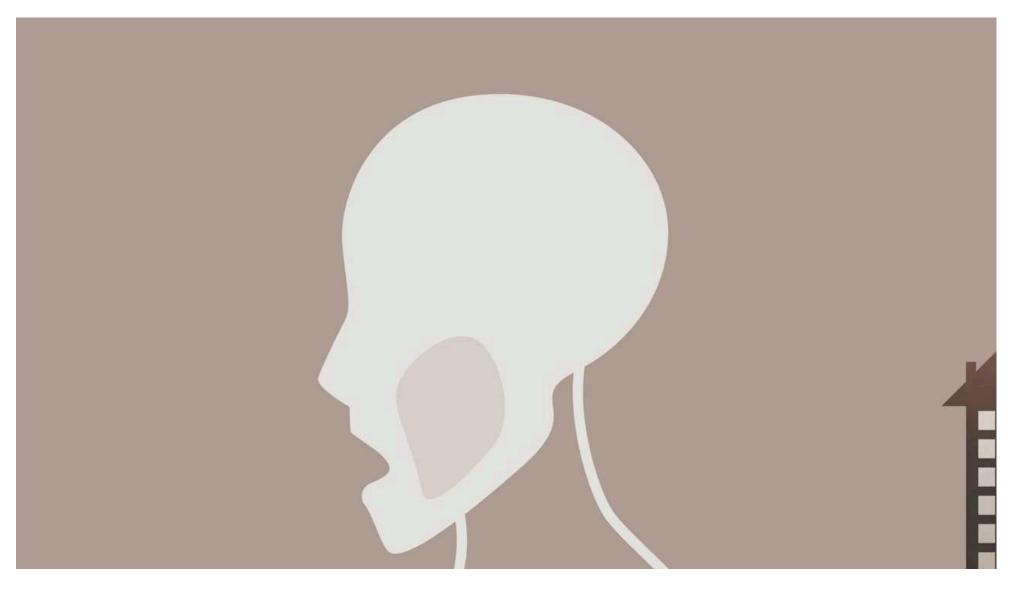
1,111 registered fishing households

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PLASTICS!







In 2018, a beaked whale was found dead with 88 lbs. of plastic in its stomach



The Philippines ranks as the 3rd largest contributor to ocean plastic in the world with an emission of 512,000 tons



Thank you . . .

