

White Shark

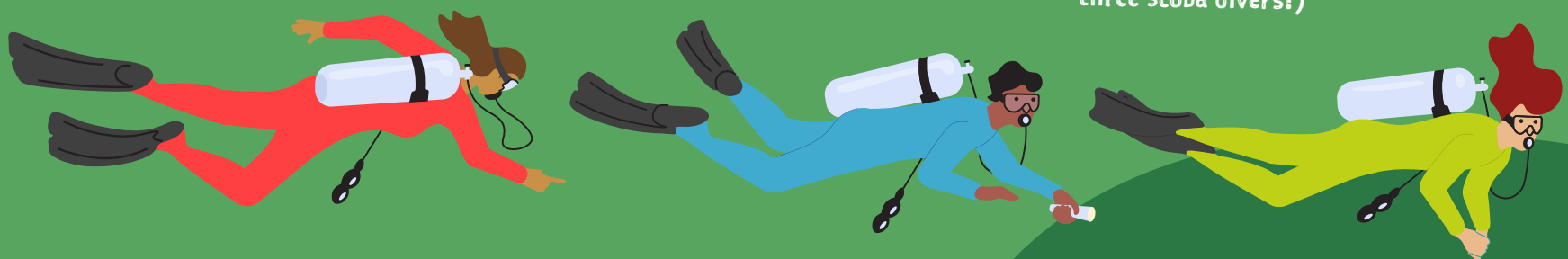
Stout body with a conical snout

Grey-brown backs and bright white undersides

Can weigh up to 2,000 kilograms

Adults can reach over 5 metres in length

(That's about as long as three scuba divers!)



QUICK FACTS

- Listed as Endangered under the *Species at Risk Act*.
- Situations where White Sharks injure humans are rare, often mistaking them for seals.
- Migrate thousands of kilometers between coastal waters and the deep, open ocean.
- Live up to 70 years.
- Only give birth every 2-3 years to between 2 and 10 pups at a time. This is low compared to other marine animals.

HABITAT

The habitat needs of White Shark within Canadian waters are largely unknown. White Sharks are highly mobile, and individuals in Atlantic Canada are likely seasonal migrants. The rocky and tidal coastlines throughout Atlantic Canada and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence create ideal environments for some of the White Shark's favourite prey.

DIET

White Sharks are a top predator that feed on seals or prey on the weak and the sick. This helps to control the size of marine animal populations. Losing White Sharks could negatively impact marine ecosystems world-wide. Some of their favourite prey includes:

- Marine mammals (seals, porpoises, scavenging of dead whales)
- Seabirds
- Fish



THREATS

- Accidental capture
- Underwater noise
- Marine pollution
- Climate change



REPORTING

For information on how to report White Shark sightings, please visit: dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/sharks/info/sightings-eng.html



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