



# WHAT YOU MUSTN'T DO



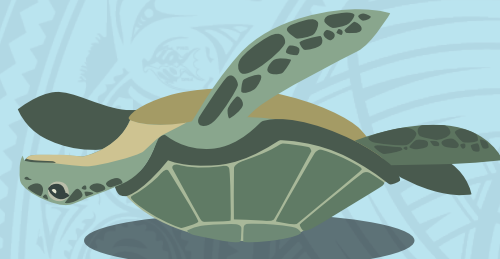
## ////// SEA TURTLES

### WRONG HANDLING

» Do not lift them by the flippers.



» Do not place the turtle upside down. Turtles can't breathe in this position.



## ////// WHALE SHARKS

### WRONG HANDLING

» Do not tow a whale shark.



» Do not pull up a whale shark.



# GOOD PRACTICES ON BOARD FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND RELEASE OF SENSITIVE INTERACTING SPECIES IN THE TUNA PURSE SEINE FISHERY



FISHING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Back Office#3  
Section 52, Lot 53/54, Kennedy Road, Gordons,  
National Capital District  
Papua New Guinea

[FIA-PNG.COM](http://FIA-PNG.COM)

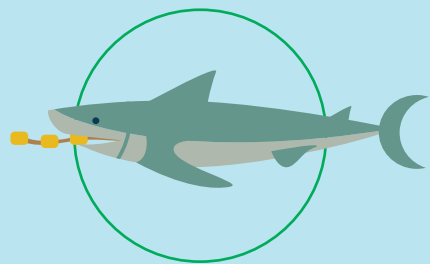
Illustrations and text based on the WCPFC Conservation Management Measures (CMM). The illustrations belong to the FIA PNG with the purpose of providing didactic tools to the crew to emphasize the importance of obeying the Code of Good Practices on Board for the management and release of bycatch.



# WHAT YOU MUST DO

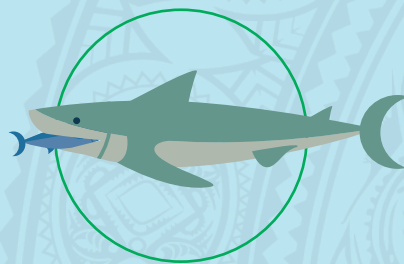
## ////// SHARKS

### ACTIONS TO REASSURE SHARKS



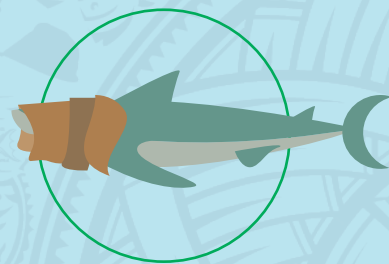
#### IF YOU NEED TO DELAY ITS RELEASE

- » Prevent the animal from being hit with hard objects nearby.
- » Place the animal in the shade and water it regularly.
- » Place a water hose in its mouth and check that the flow is not too strong.



#### HOW TO PREVENT SHARK BITES

- » A dead fish (i.e. skipjack) or a big stick placed between the jaws prevents it from biting and will allow for the shark to be handled safely.

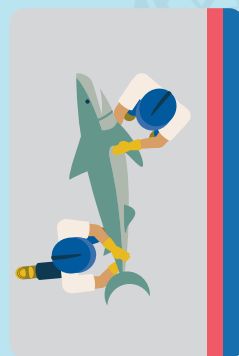


#### HOW TO CALM DOWN A VIGOROUS SHARK

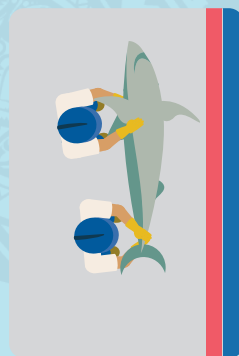
- » Cover the shark's eyes with a piece of smooth, wet and dark cloth. Never press this against the eyes.

### HANDLING TO RELEASE MEDIUM SIZED SHARKS

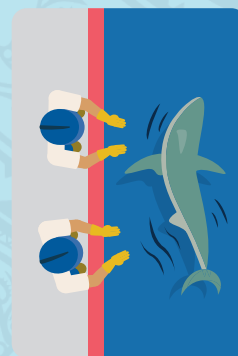
- » A medium sized shark can be handled by two people: one crew member holds the dorsal fin and the pectoral fin, keeping well away from the head, and the second crew member grabs the tail.



STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3



# WHAT YOU MUST DO

## ////// SHARKS

### HANDLING TO RELEASE SMALL SHARKS

- » Small sharks are best handled using both hands: one holding the dorsal fin and the other supporting the body.
- » Return the shark to the water headfirst, pointing its head straight down if possible. Just drop the shark, don't throw it!



### HANDLING TO RELEASE BIG SHARKS







# WHAT YOU MUST DO

## ////// SEA TURTLES

Sea turtles can be caught when entangled in the net of the FAD structure or associated with the tuna school in the bunt. Therefore:

### FIRST STEPS

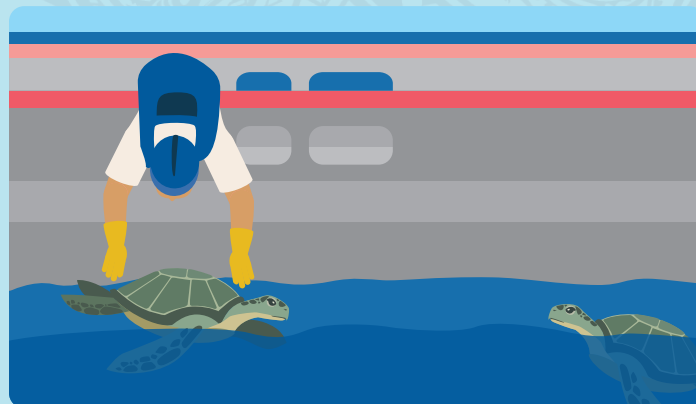
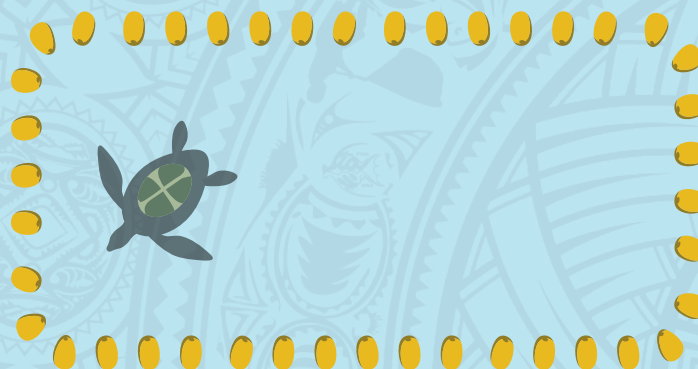
- » Scan the FAD
- » Scan the net as far ahead as possible during the net hauling to spot the sea turtles as early as possible.
- » Minimise the tension of the net (if necessary, use clippers to cut the net).
- » Separate the turtle from the rest of the catch and bycatch.

### PROTECTING AND KEEPING TURTLES ALIVE

- » Keep the skin and eyes moist by covering the turtle with a moist towel or periodically spraying it with water while it is onboard.
- » Raise the hindquarters of the turtle about 20 cm off the deck.
- » Keep the turtle in the shade.

### HANDLING TO RELEASE TURTLES

- » Hold the turtle by the side of the shell.
- » Return the turtle gently to the sea.



# WHAT YOU MUST DO

## ////// RAYS

### HANDLING TO RELEASE RAYS

#### HOW TO RELEASE A BIG SIZE RAY?

Very large animals such as stingray can be released directly from the brailer. Alternatively, they can be returned to the sea using a piece of net or a piece of plastic canvas that can be lifted by the crane. Before each set, the crew must prepare a piece of net (or a piece of canvas) on the deck to be ready to release large animals.

#### STEP 1



#### STEP 2



#### STEP 3





# WHAT YOU MUSTN'T DO

## ////// DANGERS ON DECK

The several types of sharks and rays encountered during the fishing process pose various degrees of danger to the crew. They may suffer injuries by being struck or bitten by a large shark or stung by a stingray. Obviously, differences in procedures are expected according to the size and the shape of the individuals, and solutions will be considered carefully in this manual, on a case-by-case basis.



# WHAT YOU MUSTN'T DO

## ////// SHARKS & RAYS

### WRONG HANDLING

» Don't expose any animals to physical trauma: don't throw it, whatever the distance; don't push it too harshly; and avoid squeezing fish or sharks around the belly, as this can damage internal organs etc..



» Under no circumstances should a shark be lifted by its tail or head.



» Do not carry or drag the shark by inserting your hands in its gill slits.



» Do not carry a ray by its tail: this is dangerous.

