



# SHARK ADVOCATES INTERNATIONAL



## 2014 Year in Review



A project of  
THE OCEAN FOUNDATION

***Thanks to the generous support of our funders, sponsors, partners, and volunteers, it's been another great year for Shark Advocates International. In 2014, SAI President, Sonja Fordham:***

- **Welcomed** success in the form of:
  - Unprecedented listing of 21 shark & ray species under the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
  - Implementation of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) 2013 shark & ray listings
  - Greater awareness of the plight of sawfish through IUCN Strategy, CMS, scientific papers & media attention
  - Growing support for proposals to improve shark finning bans at Regional Fishery Management Organizations
  - Tougher Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) rules to prevent finning of spiny dogfish
  - Improved management of Atlantic skate fisheries through lower quotas & new rules for reporting to species
  
- **Presented** shark & ray conservation information at the:
  - Sharks International conference
  - IUCN Manta & Devil Ray symposium
  - American Elasmobranch Society meeting
  - IUCN DC Red List 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary event
  
- **Collaborated** closely with:
  - Shark Trust
  - Humane Society International
  - Defenders of Wildlife
  - International Fund for Animal Welfare
  - Project AWARE
  - IUCN Shark Specialist Group
  - Wildlife Conservation Society
  - World Wildlife Fund
  
- **Filed comments & group position statements** on:
  - Atlantic fishing restrictions for skates & sharks
  - Marine Stewardship Council shark finning policy
  - Shark & skate actions by NAFO & IATTC
  - Western Australian shark cull policy
  - New Zealand shark finning ban
  
- **Testified** about:
  - Atlantic state dogfish finning rules
  - Atlantic federal skate fishing restrictions
  - Atlantic federal shark fisheries management
  - Atlantic dusky shark recovery
  - US stance on international shark/skate limits
  
- **Co-authored and/or led launch of:**
  - Results of the IUCN Global Red List assessment
  - IUCN Global Strategy for Sawfish Conservation
  - Journal article on worldwide status of sawfishes
  
- **Participated** in workshops on:
  - IUCN Red List status of Pacific & EU species
  - Atlantic smoothhound population status
  - US sawfish recovery under the ESA
  
- **Informed** policy positions of leading US shark & EU science societies
- **Contributed** stories for Southern Fried Science blog & Save Our Seas Foundation magazine
- **Advised** many graduate students & conservation organizations
- **Gained** nearly 5000 followers on Twitter, and
- **Appeared** in multiple media outlets including National Public Radio, Huffington Post, BBC, Vice, Sun Sentinel, Christian Science Monitor, International Business Times, and Independent Online.

***Happy New Year and thank you for your support!***

