

SHARK FINNING IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

MANUEL ALVAREZ
GLOBAL STUDIES CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY MARITIME ACADEMY SEA

Abstract

The purpose of this thesis is address the issue of shark finning and the players involved in the South China Sea. The demand for shark fins is encouraging distributors to overfish sharks, which is making it difficult for certain species to remain at a sustainable level. Case studies from nations that have implemented regulations against shark finning, will be used to propose solutions. Actions taken by non-governmental organizations will also be examined to create additional proposals.

Cultural Belief

- Cultural norms behind the consumption of the fins is a strong motive
- People choose to eat shark fins for it is said to have medicinal effects.
- Live longer, slow ageing process, strength, etc.



Shark Finning

The disposal of a shark carcass at sea after the fins have been removed.

- Depleting over 70 million sharks annually
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- Certain shark species expected to be extinct by 2050
- Unreported captures raises the actual count

Enforcement

United States

- Shark Finning Prohibition Act, Shark Conservation Act

European Union

- (EC) No.1185/2003

Costa Rica

- Smoke and Mirrors Bill

New Zealand

- NPOA- Sharks 2013

Non-Governmental Organization

- Sea Shepard