

Galapagos Shark Diving Makes a Splash with Over \$62,000 Contribution to Shark Conservation

Galapagos Shark Diving's \$17,400 Donation Fuels Pioneering Marine Research and Conservation Efforts in the Galapagos

GALAPAGOS ISLANDS, ECUADOR, February 7, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- [Galapagos Shark Diving](#), the trailblazer in eco-conscious diving, is making waves with a remarkable update on their dedication to marine conservation. In 2023, the passionate community of divers from 26 countries united to contribute over \$17,400 to the [Galapagos Whale Shark Project](#) (GWSP), propelling our total donations beyond the \$62,000 mark. This achievement underscores our relentless commitment to preserving the marine wonders of the Galapagos.



A sea turtle entangled in a fishing net underwater, highlighting the impact of marine debris on ocean life.

Since our inaugural dive in 2019, Galapagos Shark Diving has not just explored the depths; we've spearheaded a movement. With a fraction of every diver's fee dedicated to GWSP, we've surpassed \$62,000 in total contributions, showcasing our unwavering commitment to marine conservation and the critical research conducted by GWSP.

This year's generous donation is a lifeline for the GWSP research team, providing essential resources such as satellite tags, blood kits, and boat time. These tools empower the team to track whale shark migrations, unravel the mysteries of their diving behavior, and continue groundbreaking ultrasound work to unlock the secrets of the reproductive cycle of female adult whale sharks—an area of research still largely unexplored.

Jonathan R. Green, the Project Founder & Director of GWSP, shares, "My first whale shark sighting was in 1990 at the Arch of Darwin. The more I began to learn about this species, the

more I realized that we know virtually nothing about the natural history of the species, not only locally and regionally but also worldwide. Our goal is to answer basic questions that are part of the mystery that surrounds this species."

Beyond being financial contributors, our divers are stewards of the ocean, gaining priceless insights into marine conservation and applying this knowledge globally. Over 80% of our profits are channeled into GWSP, supporting both shark research and broader conservation initiatives in the region.



Divers diving with enormous adult whale shark

Galapagos Shark Diving doesn't just dive; we educate. By disseminating data from satellite tags, we advocate for increased marine protected areas, championing the protection of whale sharks and other marine species.

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The old saying “out of sight, out of mind” is perhaps why the human race has not focused upon, nor truly understood, the importance of the oceans in the existence and survival of life on Earth.”

*Jonathan R Green, Galapagos
Whale Shark Project*

Our gratitude extends to every diver who joined us this year. Your participation is the driving force behind the success of these conservation efforts. Together, we are not just divers; we are guardians of the ocean, making a positive impact on ocean preservation.

About Galapagos Whale Shark Project (GWSP)

Unlocking the Mysteries of the Ocean's Gentle Giants

Jonathan R. Green, the Project Founder & Director, reflects, "The more I began to learn about this species, the more I realized that we know virtually nothing about the natural history of the species, not only locally and regionally but also worldwide."

GWSP's Pioneering Approach

The Galapagos Whale Shark Project (GWSP), initiated in 2011, is committed to unraveling the natural history of the whale shark—a species of profound importance for ocean health. From satellite tracking to ultrasounds, blood samples, and tissue samples, GWSP's multidisciplinary

approach aims to understand the life history strategies of these majestic creatures, addressing the urgent need for their protection.

Protecting the Giants of the Sea

While the primary goal is the protection of whale sharks, the ripple effect created by GWSP's study extends to countless other species in the same habitat, creating a massive "umbrella" effect for marine conservation. From rare shark-pupping grounds to determining pregnancy and birthing locations, GWSP's discoveries lay the groundwork for future conservation legislation and practices.



Watching a school of hammerhead sharks passing by in Darwin's Arch, Galapagos

Insights from the Deep

GWSP's shift to active data collection has revealed captivating insights into whale shark behavior, migration patterns, and connectivity between key locations in the Eastern Pacific—an invaluable contribution to marine conservation.

About Galapagos Shark Diving

Blazing Trails in Eco-Conscious Diving

Galapagos Shark Diving isn't just an adventure; it's a commitment to a sustainable ocean future. With exhilarating diving experiences and a significant portion of profits dedicated to marine conservation, we are pioneers in merging adventure with a profound cause.

Our Mission

Galapagos Shark Diving is on a mission to conserve the marine ecosystems of the Galapagos and Cocos Island through research, education, and accessibility. We empower divers of all backgrounds to become advocates for marine conservation, raising awareness about endangered marine wildlife such as whale sharks.

[Join Galapagos Shark Diving](#) and support marine conservation yourself.

For media inquiries, please contact:

Jenny Waack
Galapagos Shark Diving
+593 99 966 7219
info@galapagossharkdiving.com

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