



SHARKS INTERNATIONAL

JOÃO PESSOA 2018

June 3-8, 2018

Abstract Book

Sharks International
Conference

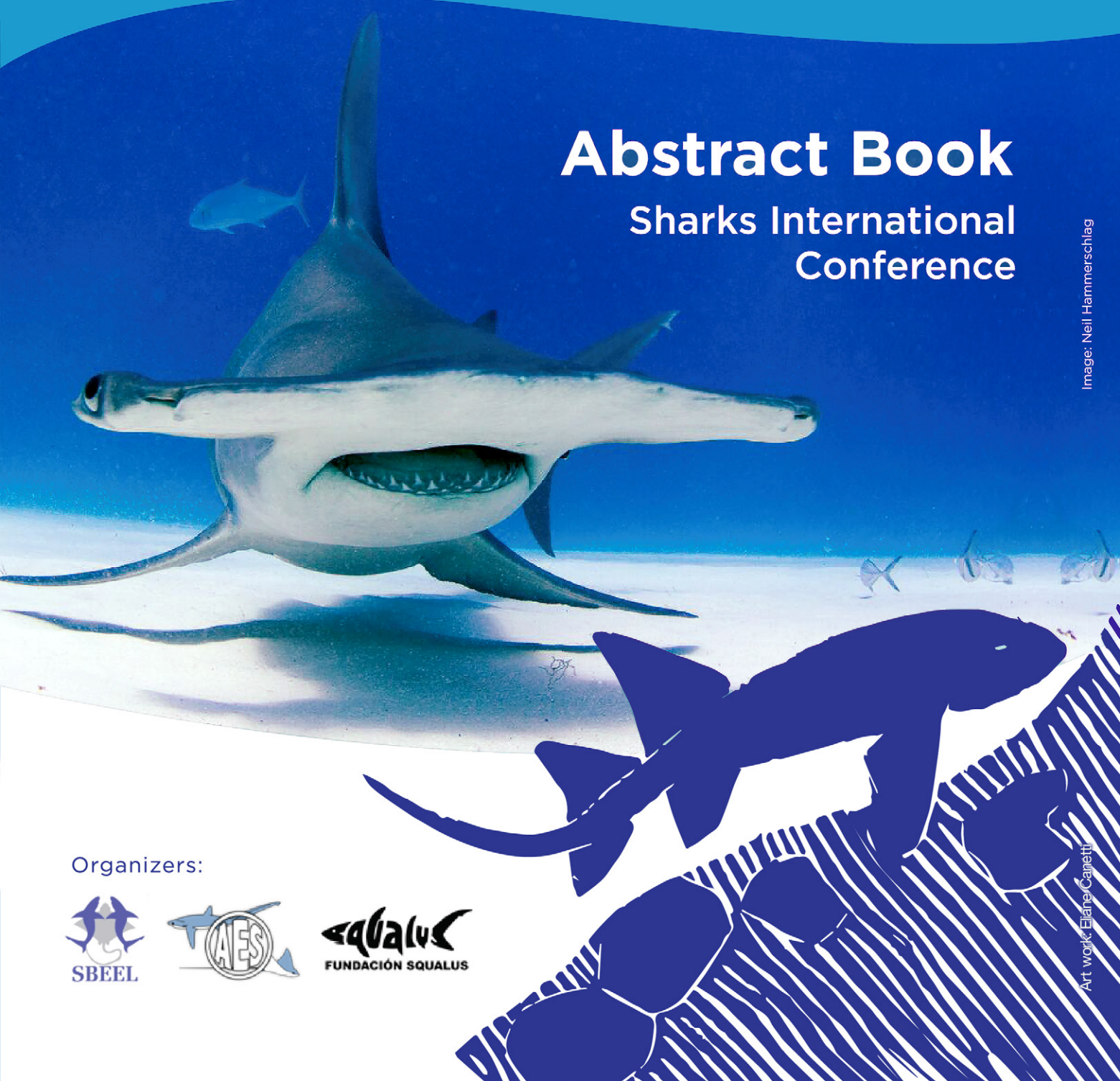


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Editora UFPB
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**Abstracts for the 2018
Sharks International Conference**

SBEEL - Sociedade Brasileira para o Estudo de Elasmobrânquios

AES - American Elasmobranch Society

Squalus - Fundación colombiana para la investigación y conservación de tiburones y rayas

João Pessoa, Brazil

3-8 June 2018

Sharks International Conference 2018

34th Annual Meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society

X Reunião da Sociedade Brasileira para o Estudo de Elasmobrânquios

VI Encuentro Colombiano sobre Condrictios

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Local ecological knowledge about rays among fishermen, residents and tourists from Armação beach, Florianópolis-SC, Brazil

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Although rays are important elements between top predators and basal levels on food webs, they receive less attention than sharks in researches and management initiatives. It could be due to several factors, but also because there are few data about this taxon. When traditional scientific information is incomplete, local ecological knowledge (LEK) of communities could be relevant information available to researchers and stakeholders. However, because of the personal characteristics, the LEK could be different among different actors in society. Thus, the objective of the study was to evaluate the LEK on occurrence, distribution, reproduction and feeding of ray species among local residents, fishermen and tourists at Armação beach in Florianópolis. The hypothesis was that the local residents and fishermen have greater LEK about the rays than tourists, and fishermen must know more about the rays than the residents. Individual interviews were conducted with 25 fishermen, 43 local residents and 42 tour-

ists. Most fishermen eat rays meat (96%), followed by local residents (77%) and tourists (31%), with a significant difference among groups. The mean value of LEK level of the fishermen was significantly higher than that of the others two groups and the LEK level of the local residents was higher than the tourists. The explanatory variables “Gender” (Male / Female) and “Group” were the ones that most explained the model. Moreover, the responses of the fishermen were more diverse, complete and in agreement with the scientific literature. The group of tourists is more unaware of the presence of rays in shallow areas and not so far from human population as they believed. Once the success of rays’ conservation depends on the ability of researchers and educators to communicate their ecological functional role and to promote a change in attitudes, here we show that difference on LEK could evidence the need for different management strategies and awareness.

Keywords: conservation, elasmobranch, public awareness, management, marine ecology.