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# Protecting Sharks on Bruce the Rib, Indian Ocean

By Reese Halter / Featured Blogger Jul 13, 2015



photo courtesy of Reese Halter

Welcome aboard *Bruce the Rib* Sea Shepherd Australia's rigid inflatable boat used to protect sharks — the “doctors of the sea” — during Western Australia's brutal shark cull.

Did you know each year 100 million sharks are murdered for their fins, which are used to make soup? That means over the past 15 years, 1.5 billion sharks have been slaughtered.

Long-line fisheries are the main culprits of this shocking ecocide. There's enough long-lines (if all attached to one another) to circle the equator 522 times, or almost 13 million miles with well over 1.5 billion hooks.

According to National Geographic Traveler India and Dhritman Mukherjee, "India is one of the biggest exporters of shark fin in the world. Just how high (100 million shark fins) does it need to be before we take notice?"

Sharks keep their populations of prey fit by culling the old, weak and sick. Sharks prevent diseases from becoming epidemics.

We cannot exist without sharks in our oceans; if the sharks die, we die!

Please support Sea Shepherd Australia and The Ochre Project because they're protecting the "doctors of the sea" – sharks.

Earth Dr. Reese Halter's latest book is "Shepherding the Sea: The Race to Save our Oceans."



Earth Calling SOS - Protecting Sharks on Bruce the Rib  
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## Dr Reese Halter

Dr. Reese Halter is an eco-physiologist specializing in Earth's life support systems.