



THE THRESHER SHARK RESEARCH & CONSERVATION PROJECT

NEWSLETTER

Thresher Shark Dissection

Pathology at San Carlos University; public forum on Malapascua Island



On 4 September, TSRCP was lucky to come across a juvenile male thresher shark (*Alopias pelagicus*) which was taken from the shallows of Liloan by children after they initially confused it for a dolphin. The specimen represents the first thresher shark caught in northern Cebu to be pathologically examined.

Donated by Mike Mendoza and facilitated by Gary Cases and Anthony Ilano, the specimen was initially examined at San Carlos University. Morphometric and condition measurements were taken and samples were collected for genetic and stable isotope analysis. These will inform the life history of the animal as well as the extent to which it may or may not be related to other thresher sharks TSRCP have looked at in the Philippines.

Following preliminary analysis, the specimen was transported to Malapascua where it served to teach shark science and protection to local students, community, industry and government during a public forum held at Logon National High School. The experience proved rewarding for TSRCP volunteers who assisted in the process, pupils, policy makers and resident dive professionals alike.



INSIDE:

New Partnerships:

TSRCP proudly announces its new partnership with Global

Underwater Explorers (GUE).



Scientific Dive Training:

New rigorous training exercises for surveying tropical marine resources on TSRCP expeditions (page 2).



School Library & Community Projects:

TSRCP research assistant raises funding to build a library as a legacy project for Malapascuan students and local residents.

High School Students Launch New TSRCP Research Vessel:

Photos on page 3.



TSRCP's Current Question: Can we create artificial cleaning stations to help service the life strategies of pelagic sharks and rays?