



# Angel Shark Project



# The Angel Shark Project

The Angel Shark Project set up in 2014 helps to gather vital information on the remaining angelshark population, with the aim to secure a future for this Critically Endangered species.

These amazing predators spend much of their time camouflaged in sand ready to ambush unsuspecting fish that swim within reach. The Canary Islands is the only place left in Europe where angelsharks can still be regularly sighted. Once widespread throughout Europe's seas, decades of unsustainable fishing have led to their dramatic decline in the rest of their former range. Angelsharks are now one of the most endangered fish in Europe and are listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List.



## Our Partners

The Angel Shark Project is a collaborative effort by the below stakeholders to better protect the species in the Canary Islands.

### About ZSL

The Zoological Society of London (ZSL) is a world leader in wildlife conservation, science and education. As a charity we have active conservation projects in over 50 countries together with our two Zoos, ZSL London Zoo and ZSL Whipsnade Zoo.

### About ULPGC

The University of Las Palmas Gran Canaria (ULPGC) is one of the leading Spanish universities, a leader in the use of new technologies and research related to marine and maritime areas, it is comprised of 153 research groups covering all fields of knowledge.

### About ZFMK

The Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig (ZFMK) is one of the largest natural history research museums in Germany. The museum has earned its reputation as a leader in the documentation, research, and interpretation of biodiversity.



# What does the Angel Shark Project do?

## 1. Gather sightings of angelsharks

We use this information to identify important angelshark habitats in the Canary Islands.

If you see an angelshark when swimming, diving or fishing, please let us know via [angelsharkproject.com](http://angelsharkproject.com)

## 2. Train fishing charter boats in what to do when an angelshark is accidentally caught

so that it is returned to the water in the best condition to survive. Look out for our logo on fishing boats using the best practice guide to catch and release to help conserve angelsharks.

## 3. Study angelshark movement

We use ID tags and take genetic samples to better understand angelshark ecology in the Canary Islands. This information is very important to inform conservation strategies for the species.

If you see an angelshark when swimming, diving or fishing, please let us know via [angelsharkproject.com](http://angelsharkproject.com)



## 4. Study angelshark nursery areas

where angelshark pups are born using a number of monitoring techniques. These are the most important areas to protect to conserve angelsharks.

## 5. Develop an angelshark conservation action plan

with key stakeholders across the Canary Islands, to work together to secure the future of angelsharks in the region.

## 6. Work with local and national governments

to drive legislative change so that angelsharks are better protected throughout their natural range.



# Find out more

Follow us on Twitter @angelshark2014

Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/angelsharkproject

You can find out more about the project at angelsharkproject.com and ZSL's work at zsl.org

## How can you help?

- Report an angelshark sighting at angelsharkproject.com
- Tell your friends about the importance of the Canary Islands as a habitat to conserve the angelshark.
- Donate to the Angel Shark Project via zsl.org to help us continue our work.
- Share our Facebook posts and tweets to help raise awareness of our work.



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