Sharks are an extremely important part of the marine ecosystem. They are perhaps the most recognizable shapes in the water, and they serve to maintain the delicate balance of the marine environment. Sharks inspire fear and awe. They are revered and worshiped by some, persecuted and hunted by others. But most importantly, sharks are misunderstood. The Hawai‘i Sharks Teachers Conference is being developed by the Hawai‘i Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) in conjunction with UH’s Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology (HIMB). The goal is to present current shark information to Hawai‘i’s teachers for curriculum enrichment. Participants will receive presentation summaries to take back to the classroom, and other materials produced by DAR’s Education Program. There will also be an opportunity to tour Coconut Island and learn about current research underway at HIMB. Some of Hawai‘i’s leading shark experts will be on hand to present their research on the biology of sharks and their relatives, including feeding and digestion, movements and tracking, reproduction, and shark education projects with local schools. There will also be presentations on the shark’s importance in Hawaiian culture, interactions with humans, and an introduction to the new Hawai‘i Sharks web site.

Tentative Agenda:

Saturday, April 24

Morning
8 am
Meet at Windward Mall parking lot by Macy’s and Zippy’s to take shuttle to Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Take Boat to Coconut Island

9 am
Welcome and Introductions
9:30
Biology of Sharks, Dr. Tim Tricas, Associate Professor of Zoology, University of Hawai‘i Manoa, Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology
10:00
Diversity of Sharks and their Relatives, Dr. Dean Grubbs, Assistant Researcher, Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology

Break

10:45
Shark Courtship and Mating Behavior, Nick Whitney, Grad Student, Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology

11:15
Lunch and Tour of Island

Afternoon

12:45
Nursery Use in Scalloped Hammerheads, Kanesa Duncan, Grad Student, Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology
1:30
Diversity of Sharks and their Relatives, Dr. Dean Grubbs, Assistant Researcher, Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology
2:00
Shark Research with Students, Kanesa Duncan, Grad Student, Hawai‘i Institute of Marine Biology
2:30
Close Encounters: Sharks and People; Intro to hawaiisharks.org, Randy Honebrink, Educ. Coordinator, Hawai‘i Div. of Aquatic Resources

Return to Windward Mall
Sunday, April 25

Morning
8 am
Meet at Windward Mall parking lot by Macy's and Zippy's to take shuttle to Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology
Take Boat to Coconut Island

9:30 am
Shark & Ray Field Educational Experiences, Jerry Crow, Curator, Waikiki Aquarium
10:15
Shark Movement Patterns in NWHI, Dr. Carl Meyer, Assistant Researcher, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology

Break

11:00
Shark Feeding Behavior, Yannis Papastamatiou, Grad Student, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology
11:30
Tagging and Tracking Sharks, Dr. Kim Holland, Researcher, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology

12:00
Lunch

Afternoon

1:00
Cultural Significance of Sharks, Kumu Hula John Keola Lake, Chaminade University

Closing remarks

Return to Windward Mall

Parking:
At Windward Mall, shuttle to Lilipuna Pier, boat to Coconut Island

Food:
Refreshments and lunch included.

Cost:
$20 registration fee.

RSVP:
Attendance is limited, so reserve a space early. To reserve a space, send an email to Manning Taite at: sharkconf@yahoo.com
Manning will respond with registration information attached to a reply email.

Please inform any friends or colleagues who might be interested in this unique opportunity!

We hope to see you there!