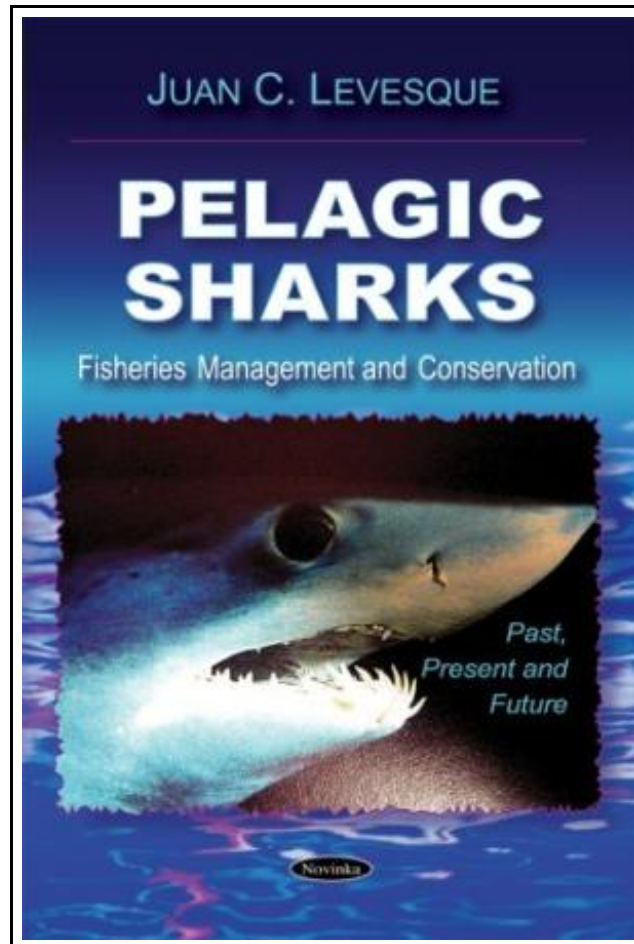


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PELAGIC SHARKS: FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION - PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE



Nova Science Publishers Inc. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Pelagic Sharks: Fisheries Management and Conservation - Past, Present and Future, Juan C. Levesque, Highly migratory species (HMS) are fish stocks that often have trans-oceanic movements and life cycles. Tunas, billfishes, swordfish, and sharks are taxa which comprise HMS. Historically, pelagic shark population dynamics and biology have been difficult to study given their migratory nature and open-ocean habitat. Displaying large-scale migration patterns and crossing international management boundaries, pelagic sharks are susceptible to many international fisheries at various life stages. Pelagic sharks are slow-growing, late-maturing, long-lived, and produce few offspring, resulting in slower and much more reduced population recruitment than most marine species. These life history characteristics make pelagic sharks vulnerable to overexploitation by global commercial and recreational fisheries and elevate concerns of their long-term survival. While it is widely accepted that pelagic sharks are K-selected species and at-risk to overfishing throughout various life stages, domestic and international fishery managers have yet to develop effective methodologies for managing pelagic sharks. Most shark species are classified as fully fished, overexploited, already depleted, or commercially extinct. Others are poorly researched and their stock status is classified as uncertain and unknown. Despite there are no current directed pelagic shark fisheries in most parts of the world, demand for shark products (e.g., shark fins) and landings continue to increase and more countries are now reporting shark landings than at any other time. In fact, even without estimating or understanding the virgin (i.e., before commercial fishing) population, most scientific population assessments demonstrate that pelagic shark populations over the last three to four decades have declined to levels that are alarming. Compelling scientific evidence suggests that there are a number of sharks that are in danger of extinction. Some species of pelagic sharks, such as porbeagle (*Lamna...*



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