



SHARK FACTS

CONSERVATION STATUS
The blue shark is classified as **NEAR THREATENED** by the IUCN

Blue sharks are named for their **DISTINCT BLUE COLOR** that fades to their white underbelly. This contrast in colors is known as countershading. Countershading provides camouflage for the animal in the open ocean.

BLUE SHARK



WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Blue sharks are a pelagic species, found in deep waters in the world's temperate and tropical oceans.

BLUE SHARK (*Prionace glauca*)

- ▶ The blue shark is the most heavily fished shark (bycatch by longline and driftnet fisheries) in the world (Compagno et al. 2005) with annual global catch estimates of around 20 million individuals each year
- ▶ Blue sharks are viviparous, delivering four to 135 pups per litter