



A celebration of the flagship species for coastal habitat conservation!

Dear friends of the horseshoe crab:

The members of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Horseshoe Crab Specialist Group invite you to celebrate with us the value of horseshoe crabs in our coastal ecosystems. Many people are unaware of the ecological and economic importance of the one American and three Asian horseshoe crab species.

The world's horseshoe crab populations are in decline largely due to overharvesting and habitat loss. As a result, the American horseshoe crab is listed as Vulnerable to extinction and the tri-spine horseshoe crab is classified as Endangered on the IUCN Red List for Threatened and Endangered Species. As their populations decline, their important links to other species in the coastal ecosystem can be compromised. Two additional Asian horseshoe crab species will soon be listed on the IUCN Red List.

Horseshoe crabs are a critical link to world health, biodiversity and hold cultural importance across the globe. One of their ecological functions is to lay millions of eggs on our beaches to feed shorebirds, fish and other wildlife. Unfortunately, this ecological link can be broken in areas where population density is low.

Please celebrate International Horseshoe Crab Day with us on **June 20, 2020** by educating your local community about the importance of this ancient mariner, also known as a 'living fossil'. We would like to share globally all of our planned activities throughout the next coming months and in particular, on June 20th.

Please share with us a link to your website and a brief description of any planned activities. Please keep in mind social distancing and modify your plans to keep people safe from spreading COVID-19. Thank you for your help and actions promoting the conservation of horseshoe crabs and coastal habitats!

Jennifer H. Mattei, Ph.D.

Professor, IUCN - SSG Co-Chair Horseshoe Crab Education Committee

Department of Biology, Sacred Heart University, 5151 Park Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06825


matteij@sacredheart.edu; www.projectlimulus.org; www.sacredheart.edu/livingshorelines,

📍 Find us on Facebook – Project *Limulus* and ERDG www.horseshoecrab.org

Kit Yue Kwan (Billy), Ph.D.

IUCN - SSG Co-Chair Horseshoe Crab Education Committee

Beibu Gulf University, College of Marine Sciences, Qinzhou 535011, China.

kityuekwan@bbgu.edu.cn;  **Find us on Facebook** – Asian Horseshoe Crab,
WeChat group: HSC Researchers.



一起来庆祝海岸带旗舰物种——鲨的保育日！

尊敬的鲨教育与科研工作者：

6月20日，世界鲨保育日，世界自然保护联盟（IUCN）鲨专家组成员邀请您一同认识鲨在近海生态系统的价值。

全球鲨种群数量因为过度捕捞和栖息地破坏面临衰竭，所以美洲鲨和中国鲨（也称三棘鲨）在IUCN濒危物种红色名录分别被列为“易危”和“濒危”等级。鲨对于全球的医疗健康、生物多样性和文化习俗都有着无法替代的意义。我们也在鲨种群下降过程中认清了鲨与近海生态系统其他物种的重要关联性。其中，鲨在滩涂产下大量的卵为水鸟、鱼类等野生动物提供食物。遗憾的是，鲨种群密度下降破坏了这种生态关联。

我们希望大家在2020年6月20日与我们一同庆祝世界鲨保育日，与当地社区分享古老的海洋“活化石”——鲨的重要性。我们也希望和全世界分享近几个月拟开展的科普庆祝活动。大家可以将活动资料链接和活动简介与我们分享。在新型冠状病毒肺炎（COVID-19）疫情期间，大家一定要注意活动期间的防护安全工作。在此感谢大家与我们共同努力推进鲨与其栖息地的保育工作。

此致
敬礼！

Jennifer H. MATTEI 博士

IUCN 鲨专家组鲨自然教育工作组联合主席（美洲地区）

美国圣心大学（Sacred Heart University）教授

邮箱：matteij@sacredheart.edu;

相关网页：www.projectlimulus.org ;

www.sacredheart.edu/livingshorelines

关杰耀 (Kit Yue KWAN) 博士

IUCN 鲨专家组鲨自然教育工作组联合主席 (亚洲地区)

北部湾大学副研究员;

邮箱：kityuekwan@bbgu.edu.cn;

微信群：鲨科研工作者 HSC Researchers