

## Identification of Shark Species off The Nigerian Coast Using DNA Barcoding

**Authors :** O. O. Fola-Matthews, O. O. Soyinka, D. N. Bitalo

**Abstract :** Nigeria is one of the major shark fishing nations in Africa, but its fisheries managers still record catch data in aggregates 'sharks' with no species-specific details. This is because most of the shark specimens look identical in morphology, and field identification of some closely related species is tricky. This study uses DNA barcoding as a method to identify shark species from five different landing areas off the Nigerian Coast. 100 dorsal fins were sampled in order to provide a Chondrichthyan sequence that would be matched to reference specimens in a DNA barcode database

**Keywords :** BOLD, DNA barcoding, nigeria, sharks

**Conference Title :** ICWCGA 2022 : International Conference on Wildlife Conservation Genetics and Applications

**Conference Location :** Cape Town, South Africa

**Conference Dates :** April 14-15, 2022