

## Chapter 10B

# **Fish visitors to seamounts: Aggregations of large pelagic sharks above seamounts**

*Feodor Litvinov*

### **Abstract**

Field observations and sampling from widely scattered locations around the globe suggest that pelagic sharks may also be attracted to seamounts. Russian surveys in the 1970s and 1980s noted large aggregations of blue and other pelagic sharks near seamounts, up to 20 times as dense as that of the open ocean. Seamounts may facilitate shark navigation and social mating behavior, which may render some sharks exceptionally vulnerable to over-fishing. Hence sharks at seamounts need protection and management.

Litvinov, F. (2007) Fish Visitors to Seamounts: Aggregations of large pelagic sharks above Seamounts. Chapter 10 Section B. Pp 202-206 in Pitcher, T.J., Morato, T., Hart, P.J.B., Clark, M.R., Haggan, N. and Santos, R.S. (eds) *Seamounts: Ecology, Conservation and Management*. Fish and Aquatic Resources Series, Blackwell, Oxford, UK.