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Newsletter

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## Shark photo exhibition at Duikvaker 2018

Divers and sharks often have a unique bond. Swimming with sharks is on the wishlist of many underwater enthusiasts, and divers are generally well aware that the number of sharks is declining worldwide. These shark lovers will have something to look forward to visiting the Save Our Sharks stand at Duikvaker in the Expo Houten on Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 February 2018. The Save Our Sharks team will be there all weekend to provide visitors a look into a year of campaigning for shark conservation with a special photo exhibition.

Irene Kingma, director of the Dutch Elasmobranch Society (NEV) and project manager of Save Our Sharks in the Netherlands: *"We have achieved several successes with the campaign for the protection of Caribbean sharks over the past year and major steps were taken with the scientific research. But many challenges remain which we need to address as a team. With the photo exhibition we hope to show people what our work entails and convey how we will continue to fight for the shark in the coming period."*

## Crowdfunding for St. Maarten

Much of the work of the past years was jeopardized by the devastating effect of hurricane Irma on the windward Dutch Caribbean island of St. Maarten. In addition to the major humanitarian disaster, it is becoming increasingly clear that the nature of the island, both under and above water, has suffered a major blow. A large part of the mangrove forests, which provide important breeding ground for young fish including sharks, have been destroyed, and all installed acoustic receivers tracking shark migration are no longer existent. Save Our Sharks has started a crowdfunding campaign to help the Sint Maarten Nature Foundation with their efforts of cleaning up and restoring critical habitats such as mangrove forests, and resuming scientific research efforts. There will be an opportunity to donate at the fair.



## 7 Things we learned about sharks in 2017

With the year 2017 behind us, we examine some of the most interesting and important scientific finds made about sharks around the world. You can read about it in the new blog by Linda Planthof on [saveoursharks.nl](http://saveoursharks.nl).