

Sarah Fowler has worked in marine biodiversity conservation for nearly 30 years. During the 1980s she was Deputy Marine Ecologist in the UK government advisory body, the Nature Conservancy Council's Chief Scientist Directorate. In this position, Sarah was responsible for various marine nature conservation and development assessment casework, field surveys, monitoring and research programmes in England, Wales and Scotland. Sarah left the NCC to become Director of marine and coastal ecology in Naturebureau International, and has since worked in a wide variety of international and national marine biodiversity conservation and management projects. Her interest in sharks, which started in her childhood, turned into an active involvement in the voluntary marine conservation sector when Sarah was appointed as Deputy Chair upon the establishment of the IUCN Species Survival Commission Shark Specialist Group in 1991, subsequently becoming Co-Chair. This work also led to Sarah developing and co-founding the European Elasmobranch Association and the UK Shark Trust. Sarah recently stood down from chairing the Shark Specialist Group following the successful completion of the Global Shark Red List Assessment, which will soon be published. In 2004, Sarah was appointed an Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for her services to marine nature conservation. She received a Pew Fellowship in Marine Conservation in 2005 to support her efforts to improve the international management of sharks through the combined use of fisheries and biodiversity measures.