

Where do great white sharks show up most?

August 5 2019, by Charles Duncan



Credit: CC0 Public Domain

There are two hot spots where great white sharks surface, data from the shark tracking organization OCEARCH shows. The first is the waters off Cape Cod in Massachusetts, scene of the Jaws movies. But the



second is in the ocean around North Carolina's Outer Banks, the data shows.

"Not a big surprise to see the Cape Cod area, but check out North Carolina, South Carolina & Georgia!" OCEARCH tweeted.

The organization tags sharks and has an interactive map so people can see how the predators migrate along the East Coast. Each time a shark swims near the surface, their tracking device pings a satellite with the location.

The biggest concentration of great white shark pings is off Cape Cod, with 1,641 hits from the shark trackers. Coming in second is a concentration off North Carolina's Outer Banks, with 1,148 pings, according to a map from OCEARCH.

The area around Hilton Head, South Carolina and Savannah Georgia is pretty high on the list, too, coming in fourth with 952 pings from great white sharks.

There are scientific reasons big sharks are attracted to the area off the Carolinas.

OCEARCH explained earlier this year that the currents from the Gulf Stream can "stir up lots of nutrients and by being on the edge of the stream, the sharks have access to a wide range of water temperatures."

All those nutrients getting kicked up along the stream mean lots of fish for the big sharks to eat, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

©2019 The Charlotte Observer (Charlotte, N.C.) Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC.



Citation: Where do great white sharks show up most? (2019, August 5) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <u>https://phys.org/news/2019-08-great-white-sharks.html</u>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.