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## ABSTRACT

Our project focuses on conserving the shark populations in Cape Cod. The Cape Cod Sea Savers have decided to utilize shark conservation to combat the unbalance between fish, seal, and shark populations. We have set up a GoFundMe and have conducted other fundraising events. The money raised will be donated to an organization that supports shark research.



## PROBLEM: PRESERVING MARINE BIODIVERSITY

What: Decreasing fish populations (cod: 17% decrease per year) and threatened shark population (quarter of all shark populations are threatened)

Where: Cape Cod, Massachusetts

Why: We do not want fish and shark species to go locally extinct

## WHY SHARKS?

- Sharks are globally threatened
- Approximately 100 million sharks are killed annually
- Shark finning is the main cause of population loss
- Sharks are keystone species in marine ecosystems

### Pros

- Sharks become less threatened
- Fish population potentially increases
- Manages seal population
- Healthier ecosystem
- Increase in tourism
- Research

### Cons

- Limited support from public
- More sharks may increase fear for beachgoers
- Increase in shark encounters
- Expensive
- Decrease in tourism

## SOLUTION

To increase the shark population, we have decided to support a shark conservancy group, the Atlantic White Shark Conservancy (AWSC). The AWSC funds for white shark research to purchase tags, help in public safety initiatives, and educate the public. The AWSC is currently supporting research by Dr. Greg Skomal who is focusing on estimating the great white shark population in Cape Cod.

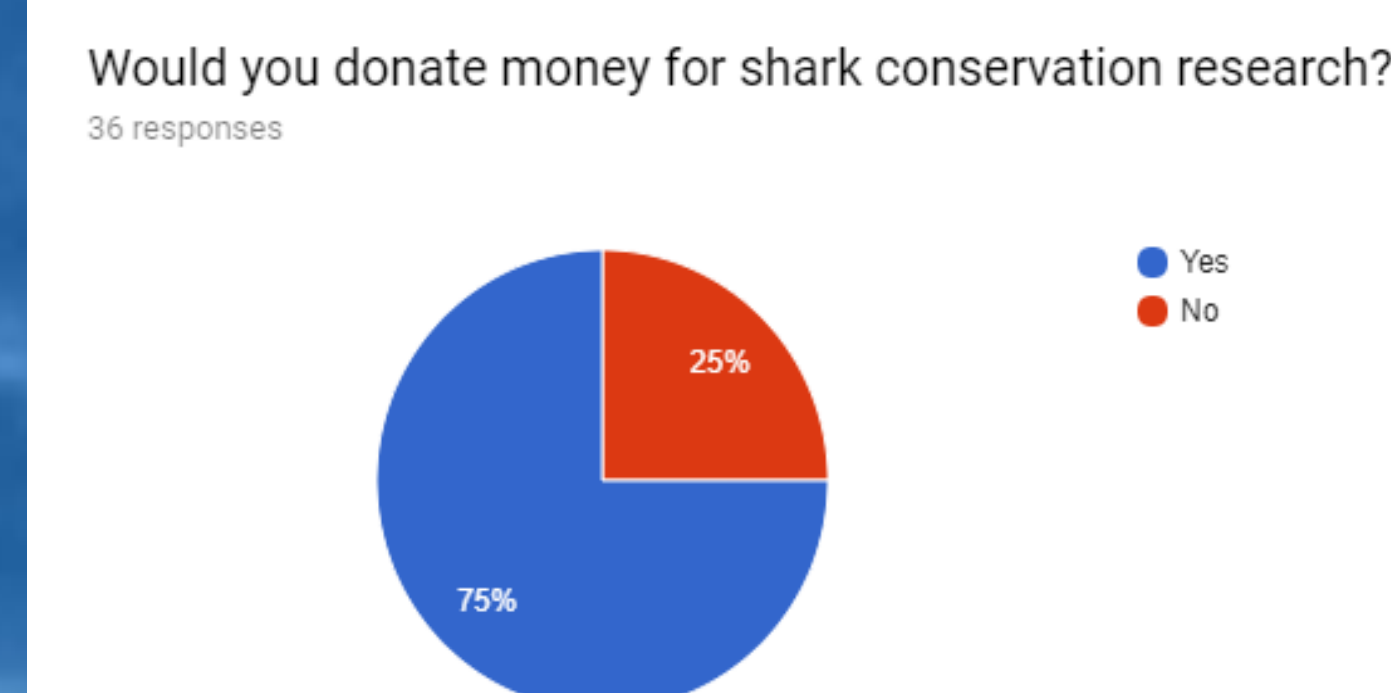
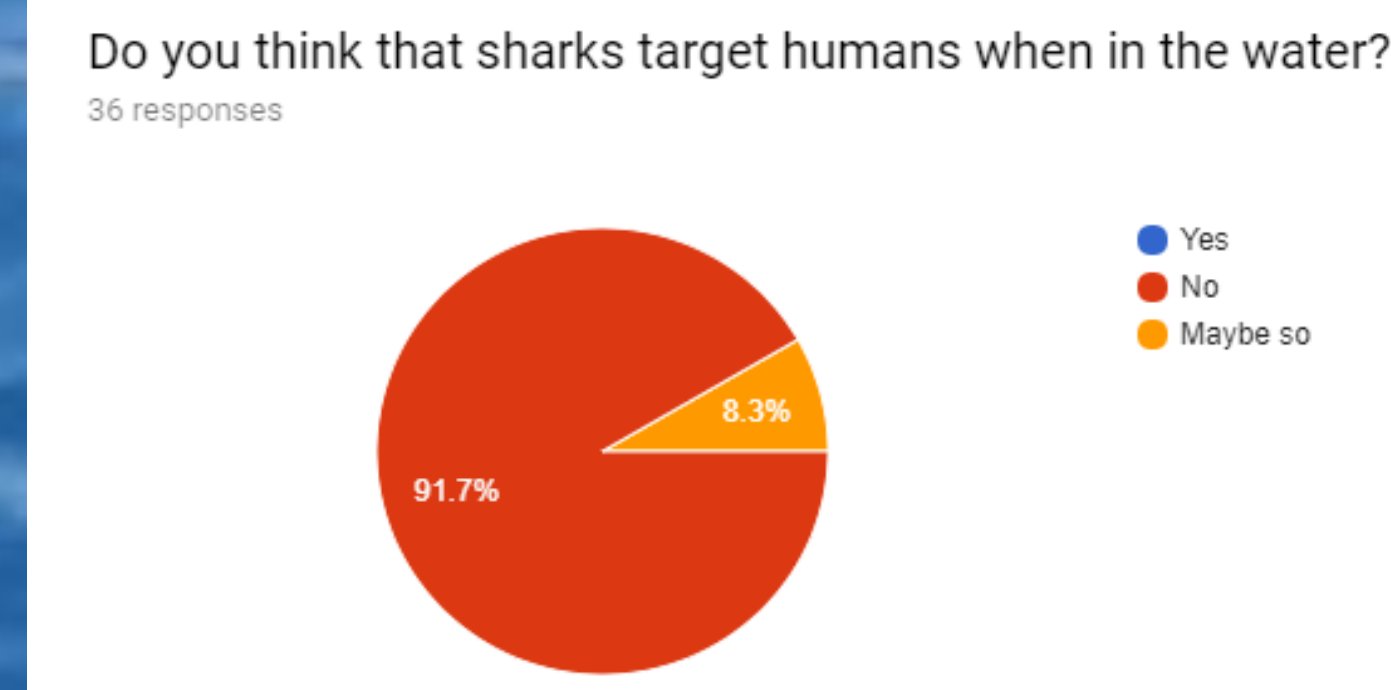
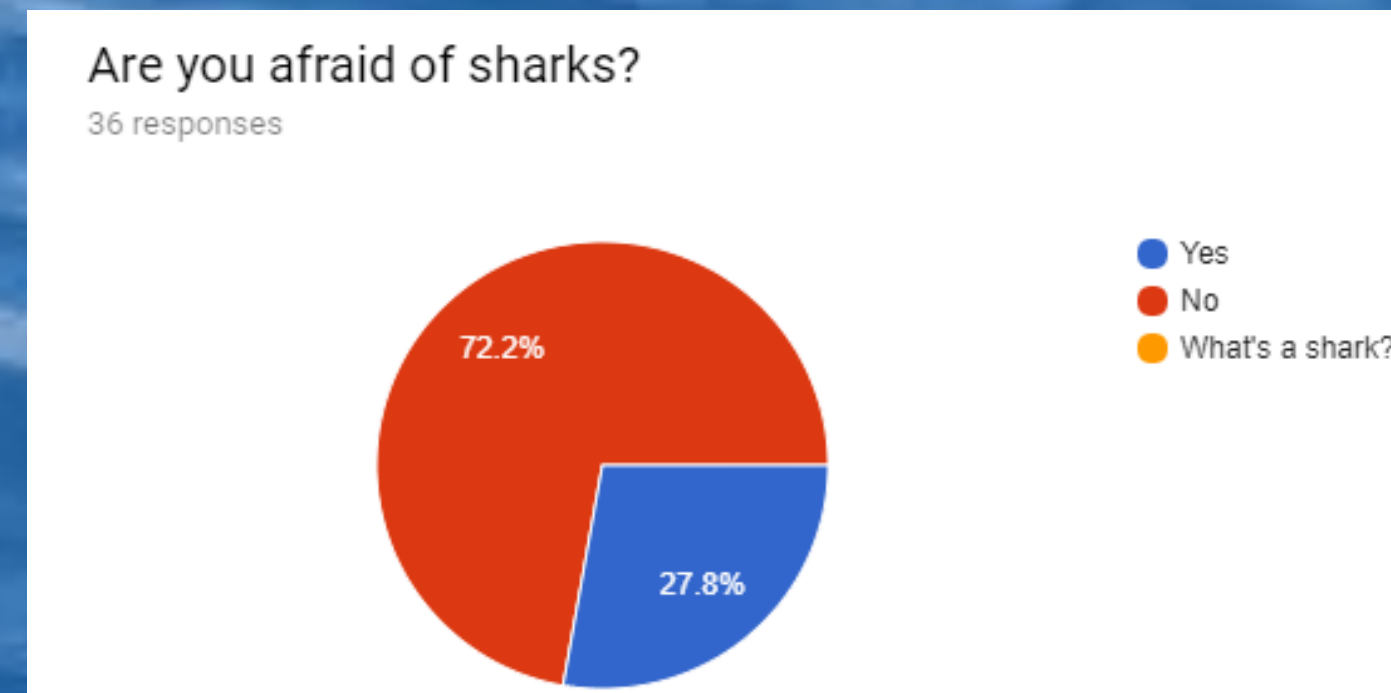


## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

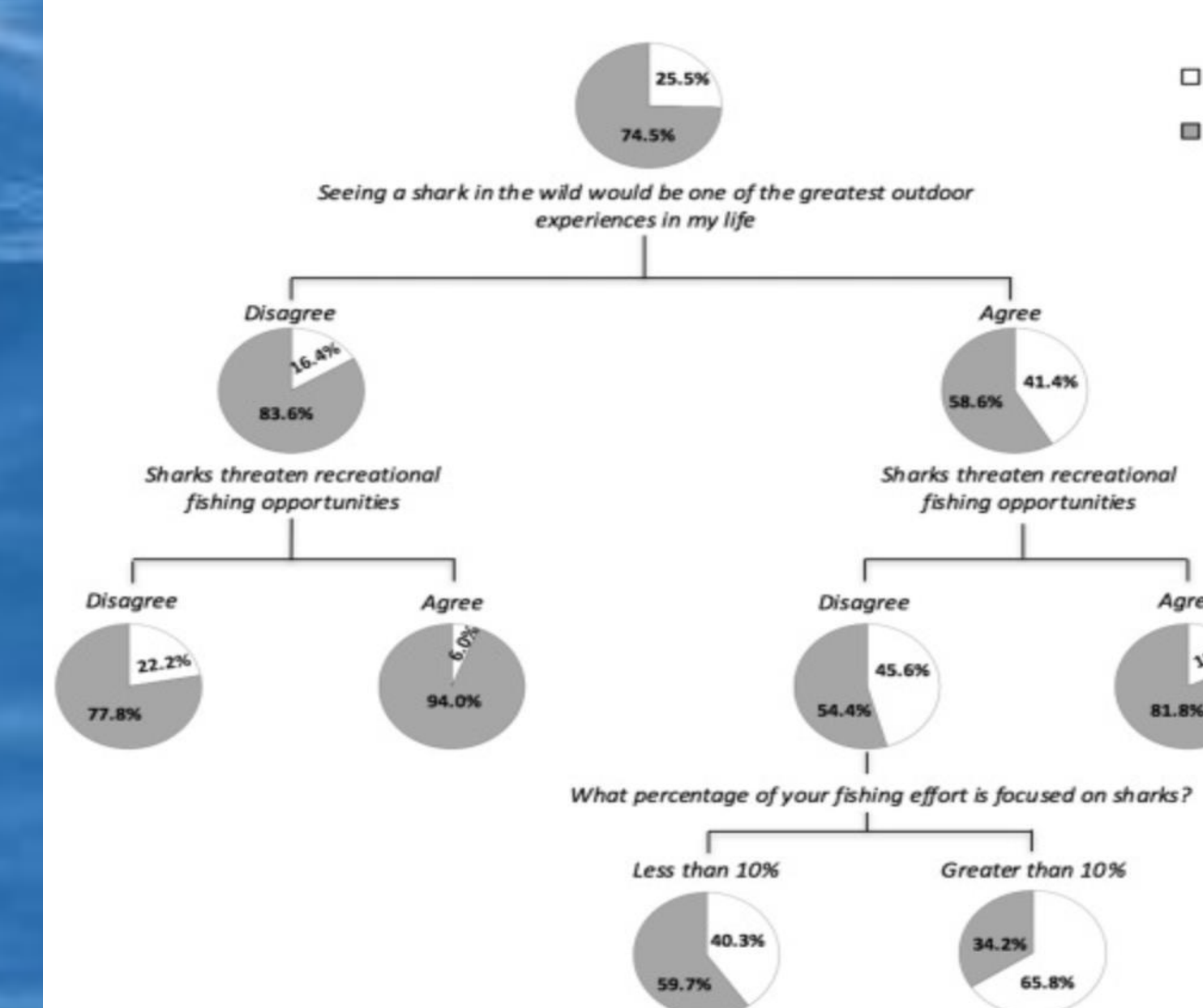
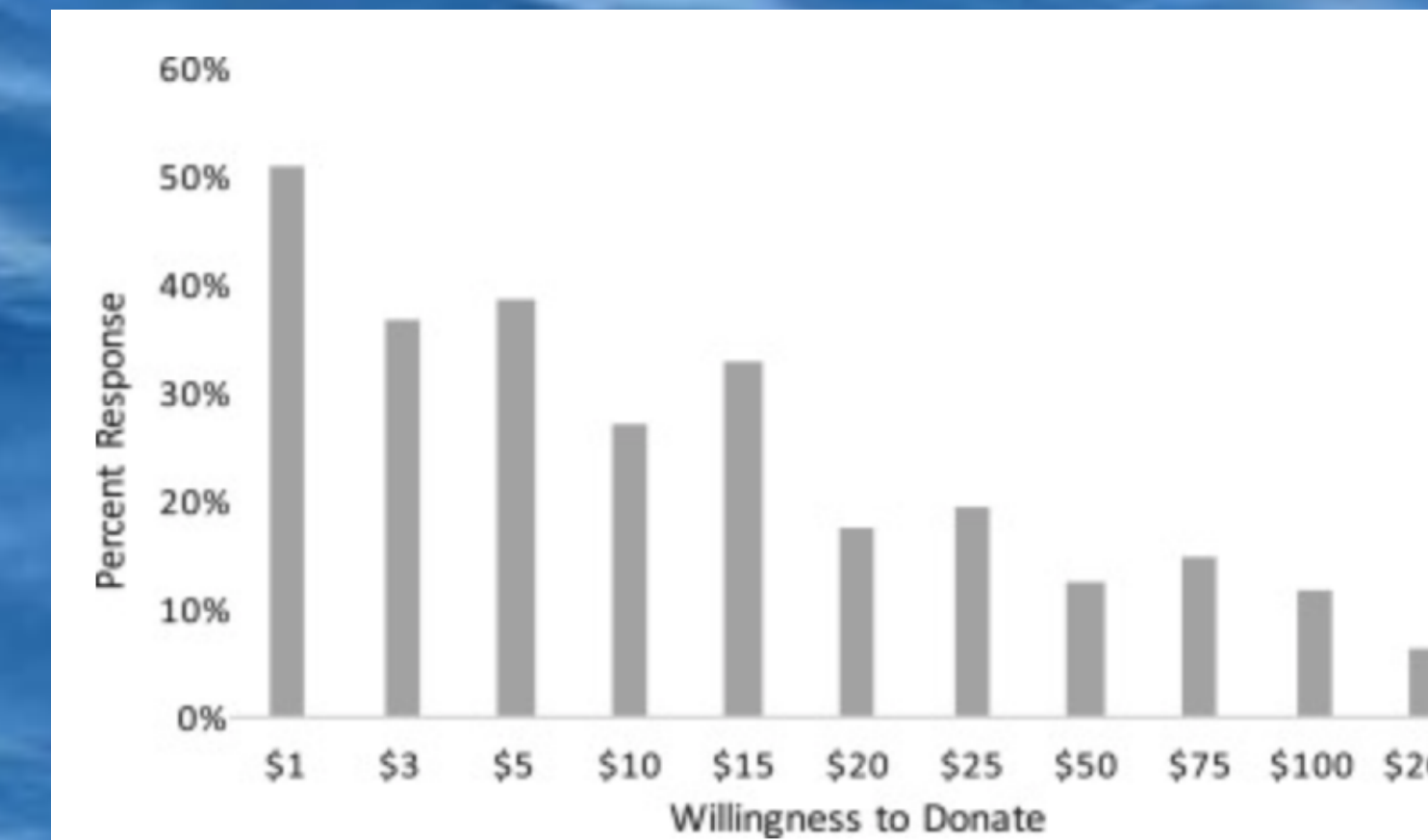
We would like to thank Owen Nichols from the NWASC and Marianne Long from AWSC. We would also like to thank our Professors for their support throughout our project.

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These charts show the results of a survey taken by our classmates. These results represent the opinions of white sharks and shark conservation of semi-educated students of our GPS: Extinctions class.



These charts show the results of a survey taken by J. Marcus Drymon and Steven B. Scyphers. These results show the willingness of anglers to donate to shark conservation.



Support Shark Conservation

