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PURAVIDA CHARTER (from page 24)

After 15 minutes, which seemed like an eternity, did Orlando relinquish the rod to Ron who brought the blue shark to the boat. It was a big one! Pictures were take of this 200 pounder and then it was released. That was the seventh shark of the day!



Paul Laflamme fighting the 150 lb. mako that he brought to the boat in photo below



We didn't get back to the dock until 6:30 PM. Captain Jonathan did a super job. He is knowledgeable and does everything to assist you to catch fish providing us with a great day on the water.

If you want to experience shark fishing like we did, give him a call at 401-601-5499.

MICROPLASTICS (from page 1)

Microplastics, defined as pieces of plastic less than 5 millimeters in size (less than 1/5th of an inch), are everywhere - in the sediments and in the water column, on beaches and in the deep sea. Some microplastics are manufactured at that small size as microbeads for use in cosmetics, toothpaste and facial scrubs, or made as microfibers in synthetic items such as fleece or rope. Others come from larger pieces of plastic that are broken down over time by waves and sunlight into smaller fragments.

Marine animals, from shellfish and fish to larger marine mammals, ingest them through the water or eat prey that contains them. The impact can be serious, affecting an animal's feeding and reproduction.

Chemists Ashok Deshpande and Beth Sharack of the NEFSC's Sandy Hook Lab study the impact of chemicals in the marine environment, using analytical tools like gas chromatography and mass spectrometry.

Deshpande said marine animals exposed to microplastics are subjected to a triple threat. "There is the toxicity of the plastic polymer itself, toxicity of the contaminants adsorbed on the plastics, and the nutritional challenge due to the consumption of plastics with literally no food value. It is an area of concern in the management of fisheries resources and endangered species. Some scientists refer to plastics as the next wildlife predator due to their potential behavioral, morphological, physiological, and life cycle effects on wildlife."

More information can be found at:

www.nefsc.noaa.gov/press_release/pr2017/features/microplastics/



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