

## INSTRUCTIONS

### How to Measure, Photograph and Report a Sawfish Saw

(please read all of the instructions and the disclaimer at the end before measuring and photographing your saw)

Welcome to the See A Saw Citizen Science Sawfish Project. In this project scientists are asking for you to measure, photograph and report any sawfish saws that you may have.

Researchers are exploring the differences between sawfish saws from around the world to better understand the five species of sawfish, which are at a high risk of becoming extinct. For this study, researchers need to measure a large number of saws and have asked us at the Sawfish Conservation Society (SCS) to reach out to you to help them with this important task.

Although we would like you to report saws you already have, we do not want anyone to remove saws from live sawfish, as they need these saws to hunt and protect themselves. We also ask that you do not measure saws from live sawfish, as it can be dangerous to you and to the sawfish.

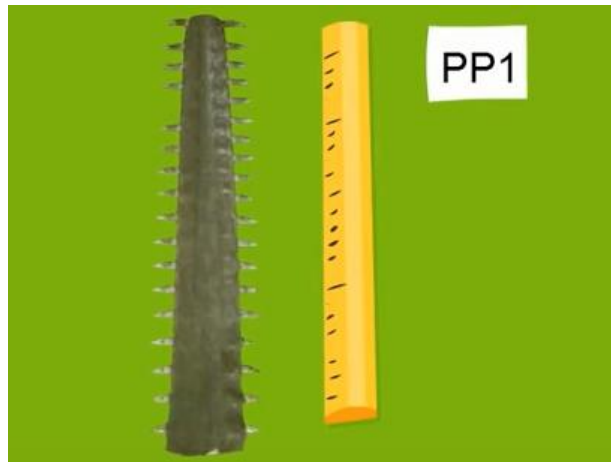
To get started you will need:

1. Your **sawfish saw**
2. The **datasheet or online form**. A printable datasheet and an online form are both available at [www.sawfishconservationsociety.org](http://www.sawfishconservationsociety.org).
3. A **measuring tool** such as a ruler, callipers, a measuring tape or meter/yard stick. Please include the units (e.g. inch, mm, cm) you use when reporting each of your measurements.
4. A **camera**
5. A **small piece of paper and pencil or pen**

Follow the steps listed below to measure, photograph and report your saw.

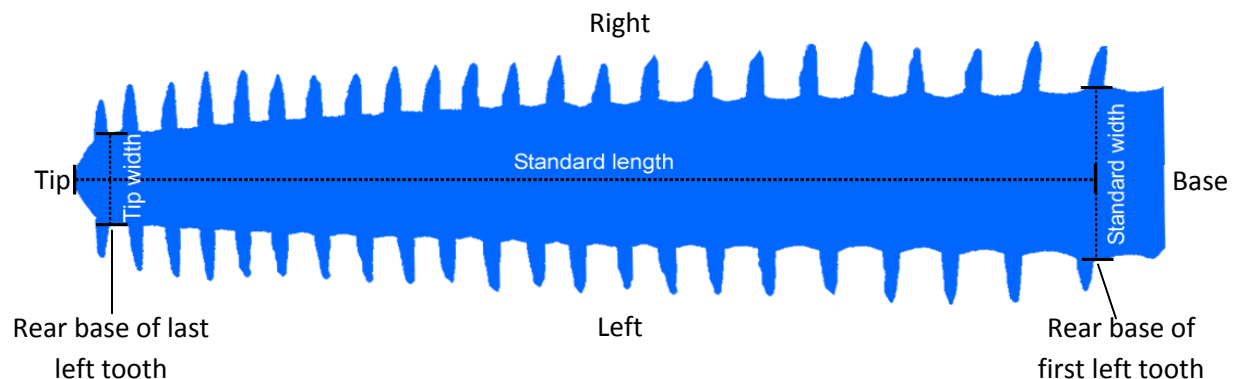
1. Place the saw in front of you with the darker side facing up. This is the top of the saw. The base is where the saw is cut and where the saw will be widest. The teeth closest to the base are the first left and right teeth.
2. **Count the teeth on the left and right side of the saw**. Include missing teeth or broken teeth in your counts. A missing tooth can be hard to spot, but may leave a hole and will create a relatively large gap between neighboring teeth.
3. **Measure the standard saw width**. Starting at the rear base of the first left tooth, measure straight across to the other side of the saw. This typically means you will be measuring to the rear base of the first right tooth, but this will not always be the case if the number of left teeth is different from the number of right teeth.
4. **Measure the standard saw length**. To do this, measure from the tip of the saw to the midpoint of the saw next to the rear base of the first left tooth.
5. **Measure the tip width of the saw**. Starting at the rear base of the last left tooth, measure straight across to the other side of the saw.

6. **Take an overhead photograph of your saw** by placing the saw on the ground with the darker top side of the saw facing up. Also, place the tool you used to measure the saw and a small piece of paper on the ground next to the saw. On the paper write down the ID number of the saw. If the saw already has an ID number, as will be the case if it came from a museum, use that number. If it does not have an ID number then use SAW 1 for the first saw you measure, SAW 2 for the second and so on and so forth). Now take your overhead photograph with the saw, measuring tool and ID number in the picture.



Your picture should look like this.

7. Once you have collected all your information, you can then **submit your data and photograph** to the SCS through our online form (available at [www.sawfishconservationsociety.org](http://www.sawfishconservationsociety.org)) or by email ([sawfishconservationsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sawfishconservationsociety@gmail.com)).



In addition to your measurements, we also ask for other information, such as your email address and the origin as well as the current location of the saw. All information is optional but is important to researchers. Unless required by law, email addresses will be kept confidential and will only be used to contact you if researchers need more information. If you live in a country where it is illegal to possess a saw (see disclaimer), please use the online form to report your saw and do not send us your email address. If the current location of the saw is your house or a private residence, please list the country you live in as its current location.

For further details regarding this project and to view an animated video of how to measure and photograph a rostrum, please visit the SCS website at [www.sawfishconservationsociety.org](http://www.sawfishconservationsociety.org). If you have any questions, please email us at [sawfishconservationsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sawfishconservationsociety@gmail.com), or join our Facebook group (Sawfish Conservation Society).

Thank you for helping us to better understand these rare fishes. Make sure to check the SCS website for updates on this project.

**DISCLAIMER:** Submission of your data will be accepted as a form of consent for researchers to use your data in the current and future studies. Submission of all data fields is optional. You can select to not include your personal information or to have it destroyed at the conclusion of this study. There are a few countries (e.g. India, South Africa and Malaysia) where it is illegal to own a sawfish saw. Penalties for possessing a sawfish saw in these countries include varying degrees of fines and/or imprisonment, depending upon the country. Make sure to check with your local fisheries agency to determine if it is illegal to possess a sawfish saw in your country or email us at [sawfishconservationsociety@gmail.com](mailto:sawfishconservationsociety@gmail.com) before submitting your photograph and/or measurements. Unless required by law, your personal information will be kept confidential. However, it is recommended that you do not provide your email or any identifying information if it is illegal to possess a saw in your country.

**THANK YOU**