

The Wildlife Magazine for Kids

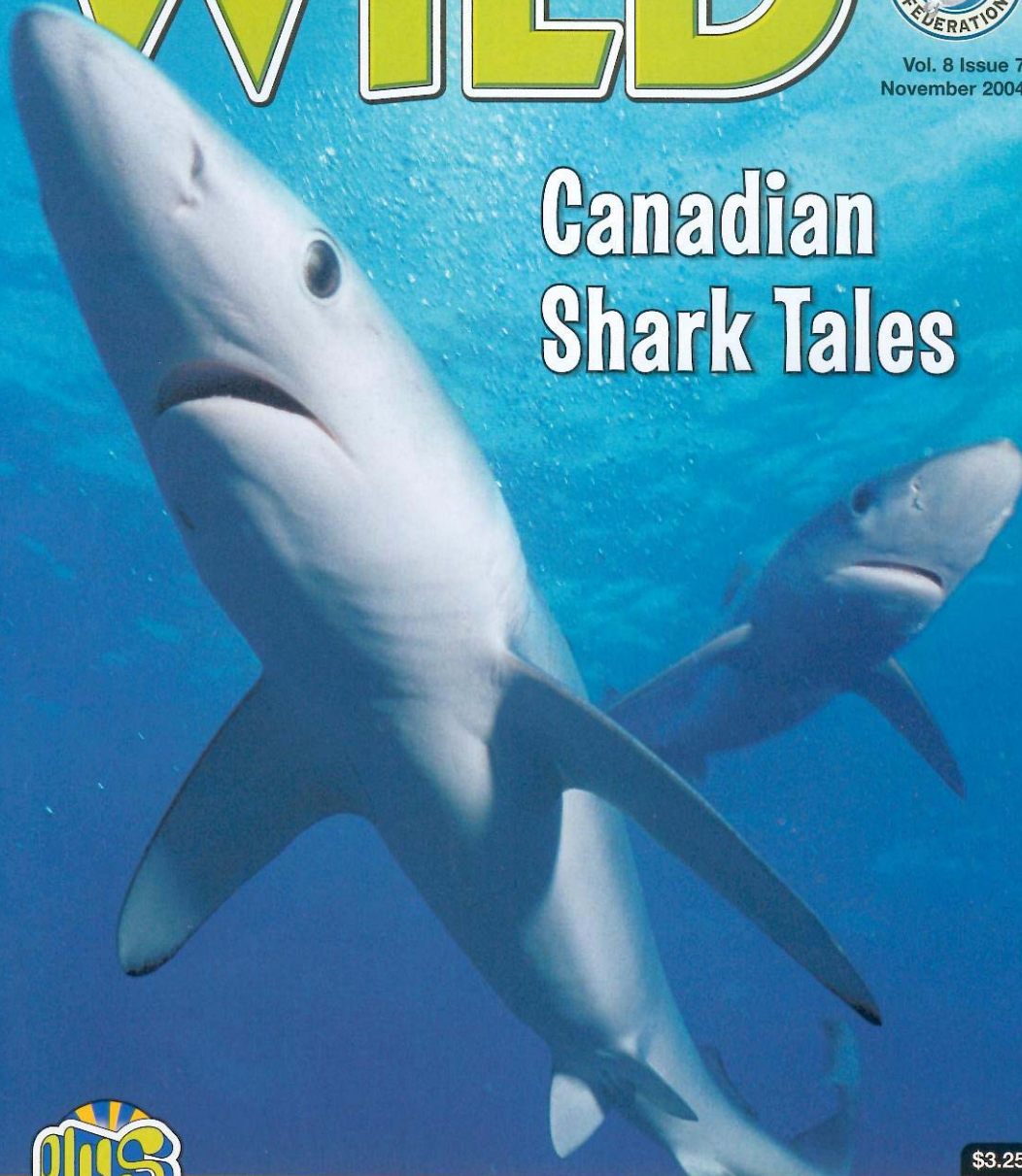
# WILD

Publications Mail  
Agreement # 40062602  
PAP # 10743



Vol. 8 Issue 7  
November 2004

## Canadian Shark Tales



West Coast OWL sanctuary, animal poop, and more

\$3.25

*Cover*

# ON THE WILD

## Bait and Wait

**D**ing-dung, dinner's here! Burrowing owls have evolved a smart way to get free takeout. Piles of poop outside their underground nests lure their favourite snack—manure-munching dung beetles!

American scientists have found that the turd traps work like a charm. Owls with dung doormats feasted on 10 times more beetles than those without. The researchers say the owls may not be aware of the genius of their plan—they probably just evolved this behaviour because their well-fed dung-collecting ancestors survived better.



Tom Vezo, naturepl.com

## Deafening Humpback Bubbles



**H**umpback whales are known to trap schools of fish by blowing a tubular wall of bubbles around them. But how the bubble nets prevent the fish from escaping has remained a mystery until now.

Tim Leighton from the University of Southampton, England, believes the whales also make a loud noise that gets trapped in the bubbles and bounces around. Faced with the prospect of crossing the deafening sound barrier, the fish huddle together in the quiet zone instead. This gives open-mouthed whales swimming up from the bottom (left) an easy meal.

Brandon Cole