

## Slender Lanternshark, *Etmopterus bigelowi*

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|--|---|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Report assessment</b>               | <b>Card</b>   | <b>Sustainable</b>         |   |
| IUCN Red List<br>Australian Assessment |   | Refer to Global Assessment | IUCN Red List<br>Global Assessment<br>Least Concern |
| Assessors                              | Horodysky, A.Z. & Burgess, G.H.   |                            |   |
| Report Card Remarks                    | Wide geographical and depth distribution and apparent lack of current threats |                            |   |

### Summary

The Slender Lanternshark is a widespread, deepwater shark (163 to 1,000 m) recorded from various localities in the Atlantic, Indian and Pacific Oceans. The species is not targeted but probably a discarded bycatch in some deepwater fisheries. The biology is virtually unknown. Like many deepwater sharks, more information on biology, ecology and importance in fisheries are required. It is important to assess regional bycatch levels of this species as global deepwater fisheries expand. The species has a very wide geographical and depth distribution and apparent lack of current significant threats. Therefore, the species is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) and in Australia, Sustainable (SAFS).



### Distribution

The Slender Lanternshark is widespread throughout various localities in the eastern, western and northern Pacific Oceans (Australia, Japan, seamounts and ocean ridges, Peru); eastern and western Indian; and eastern and western Atlantic Oceans (Ebert et al. 2013). The species probably occurs at more locations than presently recorded. In Australia, it is found in the east from Sydney (New South Wales) to Maria Island (Tasmania) and in the west from the North West Shelf to Bunbury (Western Australia) (Last and Stevens 2009).

### Stock status

There is currently no information on population size, structure, or trend for the species.

### Fisheries

The Slender Lanternshark is probably a discarded bycatch in some deepwater demersal and pelagic fisheries, particularly trawls (Compagno 1984). Specific information is not available.

### Habitat and biology

The Slender Lanternshark occurs on continental shelves and slopes, island slopes, and submarine ridges and seamounts, at depths of 163 to 1,000 m and deeper. Also partially epipelagic, occurring near the surface in open waters of 110 to 700 m depth (Ebert et al. 2013). Maximum size is at least 72 cm total length (TL) with males mature at 40–67 cm TL and females at 50–65 cm TL (Ebert et al. 2013). Little else is known of its biology.

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| Longevity and maximum size        | Longevity: unknown<br>Max size: at least 72 cm TL |
| Age and/or size at maturity (50%) | Males: 40-67 cm TL<br>Females: 50-65 cm TL        |

**Link to IUCN Page:** <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/60236/0>

**Link to page at Shark References:** <http://www.shark-references.com/species/view/Etmopterus-bigelowi>

### References

- Compagno, L.J.V. 1984. Sharks of the world. An annotated and illustrated catalogue of shark species known to date. Part 1. Hexanchiformes to Lamniformes. FAO Fish. Synop., (125) Vol. 4(1).
- Ebert, D.A., Fowler, S. and Compagno, L. 2013. Sharks of the World. Wild Nature Press, Plymouth.
- Last, P.R. and Stevens, J.D. 2009. Sharks and Rays of Australia. Second Edition. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood.