

Blackbelly Lanternshark, *Etmopterus lucifer*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Refer to Global Assessment	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Least Concern
Assessors	Ebert, D.A. & Schaaf-DaSilva, J.A		
Report Card Remarks	Small shark occasionally taken by trawl		

Summary

The Blackbelly Lanternshark is a deepwater species found on the outer continental and insular shelves. Confirmed from Australia and the western Pacific; nominal records from elsewhere are likely a different species. The species is occasionally taken by bottom trawls but generally too small to be captured by most fishing gear. There is no reason to suspect that declines have occurred given the species' relatively wide depth and geographic range and minimal threats. Therefore, the species is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) and in Australia, Sustainable (SAFS).



Distribution

The Blackbelly Lanternshark occurs in Australia from Cairns (Queensland) to Perth (Western Australia). Elsewhere in the western Pacific it has been recorded from Japan, South China Sea, New Caledonia and New Zealand. This species is particularly abundant on the south Chatham Rise, east of New Zealand at around 500 m depth (Dunn et al. 2013). Nominal records from the southeast Pacific, south Atlantic, central Pacific, and some Indo-west Pacific localities are likely a different species (Ebert et al. 2013).

Stock structure and status

Nothing is known of the population size, structure, or trend for the species in Australian waters.

Fisheries

The Blackbelly Lanternshark is occasionally taken in bottom trawls, but otherwise this species is generally too small to be taken by longline or most other fishing methods (D. Ebert pers. obs. 2007).

Habitat and biology

The Blackbelly Lanternshark is a demersal species found on outer continental shelves and upper slopes at depths of 158 to 1,357 m. Males mature at 29–42 cm total length (TL) and females at 34 cm TL or larger (Ebert et al. 2013). Little else is known of its biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: at least 47 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 29-42 cm TL Females: ≤ 34 cm TL

Link to IUCN Page: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/161517/0>

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

References

- Dunn, M.R., Stevens, D.W., Forman, J.S. and Connell, A. 2013. Trophic interactions and distribution of some squaliforme sharks, including new diet descriptions for *Deania calcea* and *Squalus acanthias*. *PLoS One* 8(3): e59938.
- Ebert, D.A., Fowler, S. and Compagno, L. 2013. *Sharks of the World*. Wild Nature Press, Plymouth.