Bigeye Sixgill Shark, *Hexanchus nakamurai*

Report Card assessment	**Undefined Stock**		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Refer to Global Assessment	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Data Deficient
Assessors	Barnett, A. J. & Braccini, M.		
Report Card Remarks	Little knowledge of catches or biology		

Summary

The Bigeye Sixgill Shark is a little known, mainly deepwater species with a wide ranging but patchy distribution. It is uncommonly taken by trawl and longline gear and is of relatively minor importance to fisheries. The species has often been misidentified as the larger Bluntnose Sixgill Shark (*Hexanchus griseus*), leading to confusion and poor knowledge of its distribution, catches and population trends. There is little life history information. Therefore, the species is assessed as Data Deficient (IUCN) and Undefined Stock (SAFS).

Distribution

The Bigeye Sixgill Shark occurs across tropical and warm-temperate waters of the western Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans, but appears to be absent from the entire eastern Pacific Ocean. In Australia, it is recorded from Queensland down to Tathra (New South Wales) and off the North West Shelf and Bunbury (Western Australia) (Last and Stevens, 2009).

Stock structure and status

There is currently no information on population size, structure, or trend for the species. It is uncommon to rare where it occurs (Ebert 1990, Serena 2005).

Fisheries

This species is taken as bycatch in line and trawl fisheries. In southeast Australia, where it is caught in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, the species is considered rare based on reported catches. It has a moderate to low catch susceptibility to trawl, gillnet and hook fishing gears and is categorized as at high ecological risk (Walker et al. 2008).

Habitat and biology

The Bigeye Sixgill Shark is found on the continental and insular shelves and slopes from 60 to 620 m depth, usually on or near bottom, but occasionally moving to near the surface or inshore in the tropics (Ebert 1990, Barnett et al. 2012). Males mature at 142-178 cm total length (TL) and females at 123-157 cm TL (Ebert 1990, Barnett et al. 2012).

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: 180 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 142-178 cm TL Females: 123-157 cm TL

Link to IUCN Page: http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/161352/0

Link to page at Shark References: http://www.shark-references.com/species/view/Hexanchus-nakamurai

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