

Cobbler Wobbegong, *Sutorectus tentaculatus*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Endemic to Australia	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Least Concern
Assessors	Huveneers, C. & Simpfendorfer, C.		
Report Card Remarks	Minor bycatch rarely retained with likely high post-release survival		

Summary

The Cobbler Wobbegong is a small bodied species endemic to waters of southern and southwest Australia. It is a minor bycatch of commercial fisheries, however due to its small size it is rarely retained and likely has high post-release survival rates. Further research on the distribution, biology, ecology and population



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structure of the Cobbler Wobbegong is required however, no evidence of population decline exists. Therefore, the Cobbler Wobbegong is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) and Sustainable (SAFS).

Distribution

The Cobbler Wobbegong is found from Adelaide (South Australia) to the Houtman Abrolhos (Western Australia) (Last and Stevens 2009).

Stock structure and status

There is currently no information on population size, structure, or trend for the Cobbler Wobbegong. It appears to be most common in southwest Western Australia.

Fisheries

The Cobbler Wobbegong is a minor component of bycatch in Western Australia commercial fisheries, constituting 0.9% of total elasmobranch bycatch in gillnets (Jones et al. 2010). In Western Australian fisheries, the total catch of all species of Wobbegongs of about 40 tonnes per year between 1999 and 2014 did not show any signs of decline (Braccini et al. 2014). In South Australia, it is caught as bycatch in trawl fisheries but the catch is minimal and it is not retained (Currie et al. 2009). Post-release survival is thought to be high. Although the Cobbler Wobbegong occurs within the western extent of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery, the species is not or only rarely caught by this fishery (Walker and Gason 2007).

Habitat and biology

The Cobbler Wobbegong is found on rocky reef and weedy habitats and occurs to depths of at least 35 m (Last and Stevens 2009). Both sexes mature at 60-65 cm total length (TL) (Last and Stevens 2009). Little else is known of its biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: at least 92 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Both sexes: 60-65 cm TL

Link to IUCN Page: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/41864/0>

Link to page at Shark References: <http://shark-references.com/species/view/Sutorectus-tentaculatus>

References

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