

## Dwarf Catshark, *Asymbolus parvus*

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|---|---|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Report Card assessment</b>             | <b>Sustainable</b>  |                                       |               |
| IUCN Red List<br>Australian<br>Assessment | Least Concern (Endemic to Australia)  | IUCN Red List<br>Global<br>Assessment | Least Concern |
| Assessors                                 | Kyne, P.M. & Heupel, M.R.   |                                       |               |
| Australian Assessors                      | Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan) |                                       |               |
| Report Card Remarks                       | Very small shark from northwest Australia infrequently caught.                  |                                       |               |

### Summary

The Dwarf Catshark is endemic to a small area off the northwest coast of Australia. The species is unlikely to be significantly affected by the trawl fisheries in the area as it is

very small. In addition, it is probably discarded when caught due to its size and low commercial value. It is believed to have a high post-release survival rate. Therefore, the species is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) (Kyne et al. 2021) and Sustainable (SAFS).



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### Distribution

The Dwarf Catshark is restricted to a confined region off northwest Australia between Dampier and the Buccaneer Archipelago off the coast of Western Australia (Last and Stevens 2009).

### Stock structure and status

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

### Fisheries

This species is likely caught only infrequently as bycatch in commercial fisheries (e.g. the Pilbara Fish Trawl Fishery). In addition, it is believed to have high survival rates and is thought to be discarded when caught (Last and Stevens 2009).

### Habitat and biology

The Dwarf Catshark is found at depths of 160– 360 m. It is most commonly found on the outer continental shelf (Last and Stevens 2009). Maximum size is at approximately 40 cm total length (TL). Males mature at approximately 28 cm TL (Last and Stevens 2009).

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| Longevity and maximum size | Longevity: unknown<br>Max size: ~40 cm TL |
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| Age and/or size at maturity (50%) | Males: ~28 cm TL<br>Females: unknown |
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**CAAB Code:** 37 015022

**Link to IUCN Page:** <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41724/68609648>

**Link to page at Shark References:** [www.shark-references.com/species/view/Asymbolus-parvus](http://www.shark-references.com/species/view/Asymbolus-parvus)

#### References

- Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. and Simpfendorfer, C.A. 2021. *The Action Plan for Australian Sharks and Rays 2021*. National Environmental Science Program, Marine Biodiversity Hub, Hobart
- Last, P.R. and Stevens, J.D. 2009. *Sharks and Rays of Australia*. Second Edition. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood.