

Dusky Catshark, *Bythaelurus incanus*

Report Card assessment	Negligible		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Data Deficient (Endemic to Australia)	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Data Deficient
Assessors	White, W.T.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Known only from a single specimen.		

Summary

The Dusky Catshark is known from a single specimen caught on the continental slope off Ashmore Reef, northwestern Australia. It is unlikely to be caught by any fishery at this depth. However, there is no information available on the species' catches or biology. Therefore, the species is assessed as Data Deficient (IUCN) (Kyne et al. 2021) and Negligible (SAFS) because it is rarely if ever taken in fisheries.



Distribution

The Dusky Catshark single specimen was caught on the continental slope south of Roti Island, Ashmore Terrace, northwest Australia (Last and Stevens 2008, Last and Stevens 2009).

Stock structure and status

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

Fisheries

The Dusky Catshark is unlikely to be caught as no deepwater fisheries currently operate at the depths where the species was caught. However, the full extent of the species' occurrence is unknown and so any interactions with fisheries are also unknown.

Habitat and biology

The Dusky Catshark is solely known from the continental slope off northwest Australia at 900–1,000 m depth. Maximum size is unknown; the single recorded specimen was an immature male of 45 cm total length (Last and Stevens 2008, Last and Stevens 2009). Nothing is known of its biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: unknown
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Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Unknown
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CAAB Code: 37 015035

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/44171/68610885>

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

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. 2008. *Bythaelurus incanus* sp. nov., a new deepwater catshark (Carcharhiniformes: Scyliorhinidae) from northwestern Australia. In: Last, P.R., White, W.T. and Pogonoski, J.J. (eds), *Descriptions of New Australian Chondrichthyans*, pp. 123–127. CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research Paper No. 022.
- Last, P.R. and Stevens, J.D. 2009. *Sharks and Rays of Australia*. Second Edition. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood.