

Brownbanded Bambooshark, *Chiloscyllium punctatum*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Near Threatened
Assessors	Dudgeon, C.L., Bennett, M.B. & Kyne, P.M.		
Australia Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Australia catches are discarded bycatch with likely high survival rates.		

Summary

The Brownbanded Bambooshark is widely distributed through the Indo-West Pacific region. The species is fished and retained throughout southeast Asia. It is susceptible to capture in a range of fishing gear, and given its coastal preference, the distribution largely overlaps with artisanal and commercial fisheries in many countries. Within Australia, it is not targeted in any fishery and as bycatch, it is largely released with likely high survival rates. Based on the



ongoing threats to this species from fishing pressure and suspected population declines, the Grey Carpetshark is assessed globally as Near Threatened (IUCN). In Australia, mortality from fisheries is limited and the species is afforded protection through marine parks throughout several parts of its distribution. Therefore, the species is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) (Kyne et al. 2021) and Sustainable (SAFS).

Distribution

The Brownbanded Bambooshark is widely distributed in tropical and warm temperate waters. It is known from India, southeast Asia, Japan and northern Australia (Last and Stevens 2009, Akhilesh et al. 2014). In Australia, it occurs from Sandon River (New South Wales) to Shark Bay (Western Australia). There is taxonomic uncertainty for this species with evidence suggesting that the Australian form may be a cryptic sister-species to the southeast Asian form (Naylor et al. 2012).

Stock structure and status

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

Fisheries

It is taken in a range of inshore artisanal and commercial fisheries. Within Australia, small numbers of the species are known to be taken as bycatch and generally discarded in trawl and net fisheries across northern Australia; Pilbara Trawl, Queensland East Coast Inshore Finfish Fisheries, Queensland East Coast Trawl Fishery and the Northern Prawn Fishery (Stobutzki et al. 2002, Kyne 2008, Western Australian Department of Fisheries 2010, Harry et al. 2011). The species is taken in moderate numbers as trawl bycatch in southern Papua New Guinea. Extensive trawling in the Arafura Sea and in the Java Sea (Blaber et al. 2009) is likely to impact the species.

Habitat and biology

The Brownbanded Bambooshark is a demersal species found inshore in a variety of habitats including nearshore intertidal, sandy and muddy substrate, seagrass beds and rocky and coral reef habitat to depths of at least 85 m (White and Potter 2004, Last and Stevens 2009, Chin et al. 2012). Maximum size is at least 132 cm total length (TL) with males mature at 82 cm TL and females at 87 cm TL (Last and Stevens 2009). It produces large numbers of eggs in captivity; 692 eggs were laid in one year between 6 females, although only one fifth of the eggs were viable (Harahush et al. 2007). The species is extremely hardy and physiologically adapted to inhabiting environments that undergo cyclical hypoxic conditions such as coral reef flats (Chapman and Renshaw 2011).

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: estimated at least 16 years Max size: 132 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 82 cm TL Females: 87 cm TL

CAAB Code: 37 013008

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41872/68616745>

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

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