

Short-tail Lanternshark, *Etmopterus brachyurus*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Data Deficient
Assessors	McCormack, C.; Tanaka, S. & Kyne, P.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Small deepwater shark with low catches managed in Australia.		

Summary

The Short-tail Lanternshark is a small, deepwater species known from eastern and western Australia, Japan, and the Philippines. Its overall distribution and occurrence is



poorly defined. The species is taken as bycatch in deepwater fisheries off Japan and possibly in other locations. The biology of the species and levels of capture are poorly known. In Australia, its catch in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF) is managed using a basket quota for deepwater sharks. Therefore, the species is assessed Least Concern (IUCN) in Australia (Kyne et al. 2021) and Sustainable (SAFS).

Distribution

The Short-tail Lanternshark is found in the western Pacific in Japan, the Philippines, northeast Australia (off Cairns) and West Australia (from Lancelin to Shark Bay) (Last and Stevens 2009, Ebert et al. 2013). Records from elsewhere are likely misidentifications of other lanternsharks (Ebert et al. 2013).

Stock structure and status

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

Fisheries

The primary threat to the Short-tail Lanternshark may be fishing. It is not targeted in any fishery but may be caught incidentally in deepwater trawl fisheries. The species is a possible occasional bycatch in the Western Deepwater Trawl fishery off Western Australia, but there are few boats in operation (Marton and Mazur 2014). Off eastern Australia, deepwater fishing is also limited, with no trawl effort in the Coral Sea Fishery since 2006-2007 (Noriega et al. 2014). This species is managed in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery using a basket quota for deepwater sharks.

However, this species makes up a very small proportion of the catch of this basket group (AFMA 2021).

Habitat and biology

The Short-tail Lanternshark is a deepwater species that occurs on the upper continental slope between 400–610 m depth (Last and Stevens 2009). Maximum size is 50 cm total length (TL) and males mature at 24–28 cm TL (Last and Stevens 2009). Little else is known of the biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: 50 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 24–28 cm TL Females: unknown

CAAB Code: 37 020032

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/161649/68622235>

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

References

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- 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
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- Noriega, R., Hansen, S. and Mazur, K. 2014. *Coral Sea Fishery*. In: Georgeson, L., Stobutzki, I. and Curtotti, R. (eds), Fishery status reports 2013–14, pp. 48–60. Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences, Canberra.