

Speckled Carpetshark, *Hemiscyllium trispeculare*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Least Concern
Assessors	Heupel, M.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Small species with minimal fishing pressure in Australia.		

Summary

The Speckled Carpetshark is a small species found across northern Australia and possibly in Indonesia. Its primary habitat is shallow, inshore waters and coral reefs. In Australia, marine parks protect much of its critical habitat where it is likely abundant. There are no important fishing pressures in Australia, although a small aquarium trade may target the species. As it has a large range and there are currently no major threats in Australia, the Speckled Carpetshark is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) (Kynet al. 2021) and in Australia, Sustainable (SAFS).



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Distribution

The Speckled Carpetshark is found on the northern coast of Australia from Rockhampton (Queensland) across the Northern Territory and to Ningaloo (northern Western Australia) (Last and Stevens 2009, Allen et al. 2013). Its occurrence in Indonesia requires confirmation (Last and Stevens 2009, Ebert et al. 2013).

Stock structure and status

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

Fisheries

The Speckled Carpetshark in Australian waters is collected for the aquarium trade and is bycatch from some fishing activities. However, capture as bycatch is likely low as it uses coral reef habitats. These activities likely place minimal pressure on the species. Therefore, there are currently no major threats in Australia.

Habitat and biology

The Speckled Carpetshark is found in shallow tropical waters along the coast and on coral reefs. Individuals are commonly observed under coral structures. It reaches a maximum size of 79 cm total length. Little else is known of the biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: 79 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 53 cm TL Females: unknown

CAAB Code: 37 013015

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41820/68625409>

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

References

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- Ebert, D.A., Fowler, S. and Compagno, L. 2013. *Sharks of the World*. Wild Nature Press, Plymouth.
- 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