

## Sliteye Shark, *Loxodon macrorhinus*

<b>Report Card assessment</b>	<b>Sustainable</b>		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Near Threatened
Assessors	Rigby, C.L., Gutteridge, A.N., Derrick, D. & Pacoureau, N.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Relatively abundant and productive inshore species.		

### Summary

The Sliteye Shark is a small-bodied, productive shark species found in inshore waters throughout the Indo-West Pacific. It is commonly taken in artisanal, subsistence, and



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commercial fisheries. Declines have occurred in areas of high fishing pressure such as Southeast Asia; however, the species is likely to be able to sustain a reasonable level of fishing pressure as it has high growth rates and an annual reproductive cycle. In Australia, it is occasionally taken in gillnet fisheries in northern Australia, but forms only a small portion of the catch. Therefore, the Sliteye Shark is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) in Australia (Kyne et al. 2021), and Sustainable (SAFS). From November 2023, the species will be listed on Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES).

### Distribution

The Sliteye Shark occurs almost continuously from eastern South Africa to southern Japan and eastern Australia (Last and Stevens 2009). Within Australia, it is found from Geraldton (Western Australia) across the Northern Territory to Moreton Bay (Queensland) (Last and Stevens 2009).

### Stock structure and status

There is currently no information on population size, structure, or trend for Sliteye Sharks. It is quite common in some inshore locations such as southeast Queensland (Gutteridge et al. 2011).

### Fisheries

It is commonly taken as bycatch in commercial, artisanal, and subsistence fisheries throughout its distribution (Compagno 1984, White 2007, Robinson and Sauer 2013). Within Australia, it is commonly encountered in northwest Australian demersal trawls (Last and Stevens 2009) and gillnet fisheries in Western Australia, Northern Territory, and Queensland (Harry et al. 2011). Catches in these fisheries are small and the effect on populations is likely low.

## Habitat and biology

The Sliteye Shark is a small species that inhabits coastal and insular shelf waters to depths of 100 m. It is more abundant in waters of low turbidity (Gutteridge et al. 2011). Maximum size is at least 99 cm total length (TL) (Stevens and McLoughlin 1991, Harry et al. 2011, Gutteridge et al. 2013). Maximum age is estimated for males as 7.1 years and for females as 8.9 years (Gutteridge et al. 2013). It reproduces every year with an average litter size of 2 pups (Gutteridge et al. 2013).

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity estimated: males 7.1 years, females 8.9 years Max size: at least 99 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 1.7 years, 60–70 cm TL Females: 1.4 years, 60–70 cm TL

**CAAB Code:** 37 018005

**Link to IUCN Page:** <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41831/173435173>

**Link to page at Shark References:** <http://shark-references.com/species/view/Loxodon-macrorhinus>

## References

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