

## Prickly Dogfish, *Oxynotus bruniensis*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Near Threatened	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Near Threatened
Assessors	Finucci, B. & Kyne, P.M.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Taken as bycatch but also occurs in Australia in areas of lower fishing pressure and has refuge at depth.		

### Summary

The Prickly Dogfish is a deepwater and temperate dogfish. It is widespread in southern Australia and throughout New Zealand but uncommon and only occasionally caught. Limited information is available on catches by commercial vessels, but there is some evidence of population declines, but not to levels that would cause it to be threatened. There are no target fisheries, but it is taken as trawl bycatch and released in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery. Elsewhere in its Australian range, fishing pressure is lower, and across its Australian range, it has refuge in deepwater. The biology is poorly known but fecundity is low. Therefore, the species is assessed as Near Threatened (IUCN) (Kyne et al. 2021) and Sustainable (SAFS).



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### Distribution

The Prickly Dogfish is found in Australia from Newcastle (New South Wales) to the western Great Australian Bight.

### Stock structure and status

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

### Fisheries

This species is occasionally taken as bycatch in bottom trawl fisheries, but the extent of mortality is unknown. It is an incidental and mainly released catch in the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery; however, elsewhere in its Australian range the fishing pressure is lower, and it has refuge in deepwater.

### Habitat and biology

The Prickly Dogfish lives near the bottom on continental shelves depths of 45–1,067 m (Cox and Francis 1997). Maximum size is at least 75 cm total length (TL) (possibly 91 cm TL) (Last and Stevens 2009). Fecundity is low: one female contained seven embryos. Little else is known of its biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: at least 75 cm TL, possibly 91 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 55–60 cm TL Females: ≤ 67 cm TL

**CAAB Code:** 37 021001

**Link to IUCN Page:** <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41840/68639645>

**Link to page at Shark References:** <http://www.shark-references.com/species/view/Oxynotus-bruniensis>

#### References

- Cox, G. and Francis, M. 1997. *Sharks and rays of New Zealand*. Canterbury University Press, Christchurch.
- 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