

## Graceful Shark, *Carcharhinus amblyrhynchoides*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Vulnerable
Assessors	Simpfendorfer, C., Bin Ali, A., Bineesh, K.K., Derrick, D., Dharmadi, Fahmi, Fernando, D., Haque, A.B., Krajangdara, T., Maung, A., Seyha, L., Tanay, D., Utzurum, J.A.T., Vo, V.Q. & Yuneni, R.R.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	In Australia, taken as bycatch in well managed fisheries.		

### Summary

The Graceful Shark is a large bodied species, distributed throughout coastal waters of the Indo-West Pacific. It is encountered as bycatch in commercial fisheries throughout its distribution, although it is not commonly encountered. However, it is likely threatened in Indo-Pacific waters based on reductions recorded in similar species. Within Australia, it is harvested as bycatch in commercial fisheries although these are well managed. There is no indication of declines in abundance. Therefore, the Graceful Shark is assessed as globally Vulnerable (IUCN) and in Australia as Least Concern (IUCN) (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).



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### Distribution

The Graceful Shark occurs in continental shelf waters throughout the Indo-West Pacific. It occurs as far west as the Gulf of Aden, as far north as China and Vietnam and as far south and east as Australia (Compagno, 1984, Parry-Jones, 1996). Within Australia, it is found in tropical waters from Broome (Western Australia) to Townsville (Queensland) (Last and Stevens 2009).

### Stock structure and status

Within Australia, there is currently no information on population size, structure, or trend for the species. The Graceful Shark is often mistaken for the Blacktip Shark (*C. limbatus*), the Australian Blacktip Shark (*C. tilstoni*), and the Pigeye Shark (*C. amboinensis*) (Morgan et al. 2011, Tillett et al. 2012). Identification issues make it difficult to assess the Graceful Shark. Declines in similar coastal shark species suggest the Graceful Shark may have declined globally by 20–30%.

## Fisheries

Within Australia, the threat to this species from fishing is likely minimal because of very low catches and strict management measures. In Queensland, it makes up 0.3% of the inshore gillnet fishery by weight (Harry et al. 2011). In Northern Australia it previously accounted for 0.6% of longline catches and 2.7% of gillnet catches by weight (Lyle and Timms 1984, Lyle and Griffin, 1987). It is encountered in gillnet and longline fisheries throughout the remainder of its distribution however, data is sparse.

## Habitat and biology

The Graceful Shark is found in continental shelf waters occurring to depths of at least 50 m (Last and Stevens 2009). It is especially common in close association with mangrove habitats. The maximum recorded size is 167 cm total length (TL) (Garrick 1982).

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: 167 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Both sexes: 110 cm TL

**CAAB Code:** 37 018033

**Link to IUCN Page:** <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/40797/68611625>

**Link to page at Shark References:** <https://shark-references.com/species/view/Carcharhinus-amblyrhynchoides>

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