

## Hardnose Shark, *Carcharhinus macroti*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Near Threatened
Assessors	Rigby, C.L., Bin Ali, A., Bineesh, K.K., Derrick, D., Fahmi, Fernando, D. & Haque, A.B.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	In Australia, fishing pressure across its northern range is strictly managed.		

### Summary

The Hardnose Shark is a small bodied shark that inhabits continental shelf waters throughout the Indo-West Pacific region. It is caught in artisanal and commercial



fisheries throughout its distribution. It is not as productive as similar small bodied sharks (eg: *Rhizoprionodon* spp.), making it more sensitive to fishing pressure. In Australia, fishing pressure is strictly managed and with small catches it is considered sustainable. Therefore, it is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) (Kyne et al. 2021) in Australia 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 Hardnose Shark occurs throughout the tropical Indo-West Pacific in continental shelf waters. Within Australia, it occurs from Bundaberg (Queensland), across the Northern Territory and as far south as Carnarvon (Western Australia) (Last and Stevens 2009). Globally, it is found from Kenya, across southern Asia to southern Japan (Last and Stevens 2009).

### Stock structure and status

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

### Fisheries

In northern Australia, it constitutes 13% of gillnet and 4% of longline catches. In Queensland, it constitutes 4% of the Inshore Finfish Fishery (Harry et al. 2011). These catch levels are likely sustainable and the fisheries managed bycatch limits that ensure they remain at sustainable levels. Globally, it is commonly taken in subsistence, artisanal and commercial fisheries. High harvest levels occur in southern Asia (Compagno 1984, Henderson et al. 2009). Catch declines may have occurred in Indonesia, suggesting depletion has occurred outside of Australian waters.

## Habitat and biology

The Hardnose Shark occurs in shallow and continental shelf waters in tropical waters of the Indo-West Pacific. It is a relatively fast-growing species that reaches maturity in 4 years (Smart et al. 2013). Its maximum size is at least 110 cm total length (TL) (Last and Stevens 2009). The maximum age recorded is 12 years (Smart et al. 2013).

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: at least 12 years Max size: at least 110 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Both sexes: 4 years, 70–75 cm TL

**CAAB Code:** 37 018025

**Link to IUCN Page:** <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41737/173434501>

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

### References

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- Harry, A.V., Tobin, A.J., Simpfendorfer, C.A., Welch, D.J., Mapleston, A., White, J., Williams, A.J., and Stapley, J. 2011. Evaluating catch and mitigating risk in a multispecies, tropical, inshore shark fishery within the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area. *Marine and Freshwater Research* 62: 710–721.
- Henderson, A.C, McIlwain, J.L, Al-Oufi H.S, Al-Sheile, S & Al-Abri, N. 2009. Size distributions and sex ratios of sharks caught by Oman's artisanal fishery. *African Journal of Marine Science* 31(2).
- 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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- Smart, J. J., Harry, A. V., Tobin, A. J. and Simpfendorfer, C. A. 2013. Overcoming the constraints of low sample sizes to produce age and growth data for rare or threatened sharks. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems* 23: 124–134.