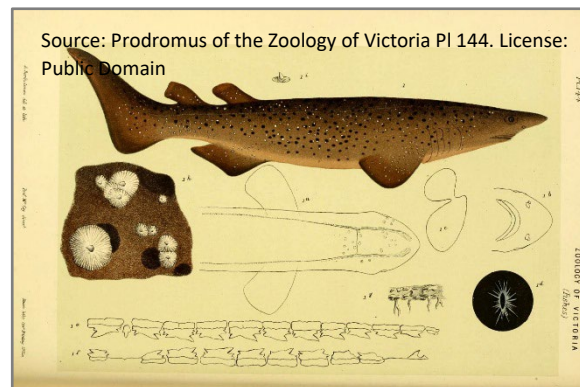


Bramble Shark, *Echinorhinus brucus*

Report Card assessment	Negligible		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Data Deficient	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Endangered
Assessors	Finucci, B., Bineesh, K.K., Cheok, J., Cotton, C.F., Kulka, D.W., Neat, F.C., Pacoureaux, N., Rigby, C.L., Tanaka, S. & Walker, T.I.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Little known of catches and biology.		

Summary

The Bramble Shark is an apparently rare large deepwater shark, recorded sporadically and usually singly at widely dispersed localities across the world. It is likely taken as bycatch in deepwater fisheries but little reported. It is caught infrequently in Australia. In the northeast Atlantic population declines have been reported over recent decades. Although very little is known of its life history, it is likely to be a slow growing, late maturing species of low productivity. At present, there is inadequate information to accurately assess the status of the species. Therefore, the species is assessed as Data Deficient (IUCN) in Australia (Kyne et al. 2021) and Negligible (SAFS) due to its rare interactions with fisheries.



Distribution

The Bramble Shark occurs worldwide. Australian records are from Victoria and the Great Australian Bight (Last and Stevens 2009).

Stock structure and status

There is a reported reduction in numbers in the northeast Atlantic (Quero and Emmonnet 1993, Quero and Cendrero 1996, Quero 1998). There is no other information on population size, structure, or trend for the species.

Fisheries

Although rarely encountered, the species is likely an unreported bycatch in several deepwater trawl and line fisheries. Reportedly used only for fishmeal, however the liver oil has been used medicinally in at least South Africa. It is not used commercially in Australia (Last and Stevens 2009).

Habitat and biology

The Bramble Shark is demersal on upper and middle continental slopes, mainly in depths of 400–900 m (based on relatively few captures) but has also been taken in shallower water (Last and Stevens 2009). It is considered a sluggish shark but may be capable of short rushes to capture prey (fishes, crustaceans). Maximum size is at least 260 cm total length (TL) with sizes at maturity not well known but estimated at approximately 160 cm TL for males and 200 cm for females TL. Little else is known of its biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: 260 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: ~160 cm TL Females: ~200 cm TL

CAAB Code: 37 022001

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41801/2956075>

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

References

- 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.
- Quero, J.-C. 1998. Changes in the Euro-Atlantic fish species composition resulting from fishing and ocean warming. *Italian Journal of Zoology* 65(supplement): 493–499.
- Quero, J.-C. and Cendrero, O. 1996. Effect of fishing on the ichthyological biodiversity of the Bassin d'Arcachon and the surrounding continental shelf. *Cybium* 20(4): 323–356.
- Quero, J.C. and Emonnet, R. 1993. Disparition ou raréfaction d'espèces marines au large d'Archachon. In: Actes du III Colloque International 'Océanographie du Golfe de Gascogne'. pp. 221–225.