

Tasselled Wobbegong, *Eucrossorhinus dasypogon*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Least Concern
Assessors	Huveneers, C. & Pillans, R.D.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Relatively common and infrequently caught in Australia.		

Summary

The Tasselled Wobbegong is a relatively common, medium-sized species distributed across northern Australia and New Guinea. It is typically found on coral reefs. In Australia, there are no target fisheries for the species and it is unlikely to be frequently caught incidentally as trawling and gillnetting does not take place in its preferred reef habitat. Part of its range is protected in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. There are currently no significant threats likely to result in declining populations. Therefore, it is assessed as Least Concern in Australia (IUCN) (Kyne et al. 2021) and Sustainable (SAFS).



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Distribution

The Tasselled Wobbegong is found across northern Australia from Ningaloo Reef (Western Australia) through the Northern Territory to Bundaberg (Queensland). It is also found in New Guinea (Last and Stevens 2009).

Stock structure and status

There is currently no information on population size, structure, or trend for the species, although it is commonly encountered on the Great Barrier Reef (Last and Stevens 2009).

Fisheries

Threats to the Tasselled Wobbegong within Australia are likely to be minimal as the species is not commercially or recreationally targeted and is rarely caught as bycatch. The Tasselled

Wobbegong was observed in the bycatch survey of the Pilbara Fish Trawl Fishery (Department of Fisheries WA 2010), but the catch rate was not reported and is likely to be low as trawling does not take place in its preferred reef habitat. The species has not been reported in the Coral Reef Line Fishery or the East Coast Inshore Fish Fishery in Queensland. It is an occasional bycatch in the Queensland East Coast Trawl Fishery (Kyne 2008). It is also protected by marine protected areas within the Great Barrier Reef and other areas closed to fishing in northern Australia.

Habitat and biology

The Tasselled Wobbegong is commonly found on coral heads and in reef channels (Compagno 2001). It occurs in shallow areas of the continental shelf and offshore reefs, to approximately 50 m depth (Last and Stevens 2009). The maximum recorded size is 125 cm total length (TL). Little else is known of the biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: 125 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 117 cm TL Females: unknown

CAAB Code: 37 013011

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41873/68623121>

Link to page at Shark References: <http://shark-references.com/species/view/Eucrossorhinus-dasyopogon>

References

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- 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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