

Papuan Epaulette Shark, *Hemiscyllium hallstromi*

Report Card assessment	Negligible		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Vulnerable
Assessors	Dudgeon, C.L., Heupel, M.R., Kyne, P.M. & Allen, G.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T. & Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan)		
Report Card Remarks	Small species that occurs at one Australian island in the Torres Strait with no threats.		

Summary

The Papuan Epaulette Shark is a small species found mostly in southern Papua New Guinea, but known to occur at Murray Island in the Torres Strait. Its primary habitat is shallow, inshore waters and coral reefs. In its very small Australian range there are no known threats, and it is not reported to occur in any fisheries. Therefore, the Papuan Epaulette Shark is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) (Kyne et al. 2021) in Australia, and Negligible (SAFS) as it is not known to occur in fisheries.



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Distribution

The Papuan Epaulette Shark is found along the south coast of Papua New Guinea, and also on Australia's Murray Island in the Torres Strait (Allen et al. 2016).

Stock structure and status

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

Fisheries

The Papuan Epaulette Shark in Australian waters not known to occur in any fisheries

Habitat and biology

The Papuan Epaulette Shark is found in shallow tropical waters along the coast and on coral reefs. Individuals are commonly observed under coral structures. It reaches a maximum size of 77 cm total length (TL). Little else is known of the biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: 77 cm TL
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Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Both sexes: unknown
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CAAB Code: 37 013024

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41875/70709453>

Link to page at Shark References: <https://shark-references.com/species/view/Hemiscyllium-hallstromi>

References

- Allen, G.R., Erdmann, M.V., White, W.T., Fahmi & Dudgeon, C.L. (2016) Review of the bamboo shark genus *Hemiscyllium* (Orectolobiformes: Hemiscyllidae). *Journal of the Ocean Science Foundation*, 23, 51–97.
- 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