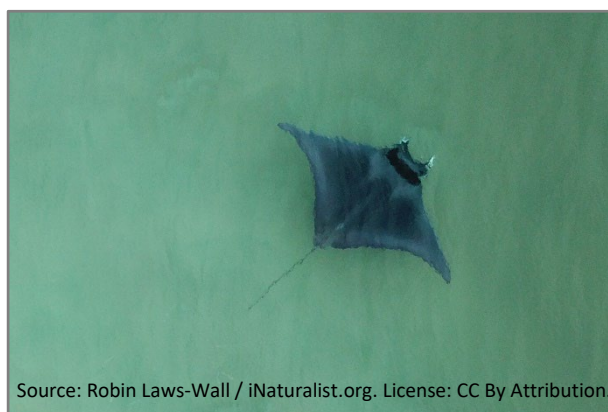


Long-horned Pygmy Devilray, *Mobula eregoodoo*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Least Concern	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Endangered
Global Assessors	Rigby, C.L., Barreto, R., Carlson, J., Fernando, D., Fordham, S., Francis, M.P., Jabado, R.W., Liu, K.M., Marshall, A. & Romanov, E.		
Australian Assessors	Kyne, P.M., Heupel, M.R., White, W.T., Simpfendorfer, C.A. (Shark Action Plan) & Rigby, C.L.		
Report Card Remarks	Australian fishing pressure is managed and low across much of its range; marine parks provide refuge. Listed on EPBC Act (Migratory), CITES Appendix II, CMS Appendices I & II.		

Summary

The Long-horned Pygmy Devilray is a medium-sized pelagic ray found in tropical and subtropical waters of the Indo-West Pacific. Due to its very low biological productivity, it is highly susceptible to exploitation. Globally, population declines have occurred due its very low biological productivity, current and ongoing high levels of industrial and artisanal fishing pressure, and demand for its meat and high-value gill plates. In Australia, it is caught infrequently in gillnet and trawl fisheries and released as it has been protected since 2015 in all Australian Commonwealth waters, and is protected in West Australian waters; although post-release mortality is unknown. Many parts of the species' range across northern Australia have low fishing effort that is managed and it receives significant refuge in the extensive network of marine parks. Thus, the Long-horned Pygmy Devilray is assessed as globally Endangered (IUCN) and in Australia, as Least Concern (IUCN) (Kyne et al. 2021) and Sustainable (SAFS). The species is listed as Migratory (EPBC Act) and listed on CITES Appendix II and CMS Appendices I & II.



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Distribution

The Long-horned Pygmy Devilray is found patchily in tropical to subtropical waters of the Indo-West Pacific from South Africa to Australia (Notarbartolo di Sciara *et al.* 2020). It occurs across northern Australia in a wide range from Evans Head (New South Wales) to Exmouth (Western Australia), though records are patchy and it may be misidentified with the closely related Kuhl's Devilray (*M. kuhlii*) from which it has only recently been taxonomically separated (Broadhurst et al. 2018, Notarbartolo di Sciara *et al.* 2020, Kyne et al. 2021).

Stock structure and status

The global population has declined due to current and ongoing high levels of exploitation and demand for its meat and high-value gill plates throughout much of its distribution (Rigby et al. 2020). In Australia, the population is suspected to be stable due to relatively low fishing effort within its range (Kyne et al. 2021).

Fisheries

The Long-horned Pygmy Devilray is targeted and caught incidentally in industrial and artisanal coastal and pelagic fisheries, mainly by gillnets, and is retained for its highly valued gill plates and for its meat (except in Australia) (Notarbartolo di Sciara et al. 2020, Rigby et al. 2020). In Australia, it has been incidentally caught in in bather protection gillnets in northern New South Wales (Broadhurst et al. 2018). *Mobula* spp. are very infrequently caught in gillnets in the Queensland East Coast Inshore Fishery (Harry et al. 2011) and Gulf of Carpentaria Inshore Fishery. The Long-horned Pygmy Devilray was assigned a precautionary high-risk rating for both fisheries based mainly on their low productivity. However, fishing related risks are being managed and interaction rates in these two inshore fisheries are not expected to have a significant or long-term impact on their sustainability (Jacobsen et al. 2021a, b). *Mobula* spp. also interact very infrequently with the Queensland East Coast Trawl Fishery and may interact infrequently with the Gulf of Carpentaria Developmental Fishery, though due to the low levels of encounters, the risks to the species from these fisheries are considered negligible (Jacobsen et al. 2019). This species and/or the similar Kuhl’s Devilray have been reported from pelagic gillnets in the Northern Territory Offshore Net and Line Fishery (NT 2020, Kyne et al. 2021). The species was caught very infrequently in the Qld Shark Control Program from 1962–2017 (Bayly 2017). If it is captured, it is released as it is a protected species in all Australian Commonwealth waters since 2015 when it was listed as a migratory species under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, and is protected in West Australian waters. Across northern Australia, many parts of the species’ range have low fishing effort and the species would receive refuge in the extensive network of marine parks (Parks Australia 2023).

Habitat and biology

The Long-horned Pygmy Devilray is pelagic in inshore and offshore waters, including in coral reef habitats, on the continental shelf at depths of 0–50 m (Notobartolo di Sciara et al. 2020). Maximum size is 130 cm disc width (DW) and males are mature by 99 cm DW and females by 93 cm DW (Broadhurst et al. 2018, Notobartolo di Sciara et al. 2020). Litter size is one large pup (estimated as 43 cm DW) born possibly every 1–3 years (Broadhurst et al. 2019, Rigby et al. 2020).

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: 130 cm DW
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 99 cm DW Females: 93 cm DW

CAAB Code: 37 041001

Link to IUCN Page: <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/41832/166793082>

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

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