

Dwarf Catshark, *Aymbolus parvus*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Endemic to Australia	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Least Concern
Assessors	Heupel, M.R. & Smyth, W.		
Report Card Remarks	Very small shark from northwest Australia infrequently caught		

Summary

The Dwarf Catshark is from a small area off the northwest coast of Australia. The species is unlikely to be significantly affected by the trawl fisheries in the area as it is very



Source: CSIRO National Fish Collection. License: CC BY Attribution

small. In addition, it is probably discarded when caught due to its size and low commercial value. It is believed to have a high post-release survival rate. Therefore, the species is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) and Sustainable (SAFS).

Distribution

The Dwarf Catshark is restricted to a confined region off northwest Australia between Dampier and the Buccaneer Archipelago off the coast of Western Australia (Last and Stevens 2009).

Stock structure and status

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

Fisheries

The Dwarf Catshark is likely caught only infrequently as bycatch in commercial fisheries (e.g. the Pilbara Fish Trawl Fishery). In addition, it is believed to have high survival rates and is thought to be discarded when caught (Last and Stevens 2009).

Habitat and biology

The Dwarf Catshark is found at depths of 160 to 360 m. It is most commonly found on the outer continental shelf (Last and Stevens 2009). Maximum size is at approximately 40 cm total length (TL). Males mature at approximately 28 cm TL (Last and Stevens 2009).

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: ~40 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: ~28 cm TL Females: unknown

Link to IUCN Page: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/41724/0>

Link to page at Shark References: www.shark-references.com/species/view/Asymbolus-parvus

References

Last, P.R. and Stevens, J.D. 2009. Sharks and Rays of Australia. Second Edition. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood.