

## Pygmy Lanternshark, *Etmopterus fuscus*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Refer to Global Assessment	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Least Concern
Assessors	Kyne, P. & Cavanagh, R.		
Report Card Remarks	Very small shark known from only a few locations that are areas of low fishing pressure in Australia		

### Summary

The Pygmy Lanternshark is a small, deepwater shark that is currently only known on the continental slope off northwest Western Australia, and potentially off Java, Indonesia. The species is known only from a



few small locations, but further exploratory surveys may indicate a wider distribution. Its occurrence and status off Indonesia require confirmation. There is little fishing in its known range off Western Australia. Therefore, the Pygmy Lanternshark is assessed as Least Concern (IUCN) and in Australia, Sustainable (SAFS).

### Distribution

The Pygmy Lanternshark has been recorded off northwest Western Australia in the Eastern Indian Ocean, with the possibility of occurrence off Java, Indonesia (Last et al. 2002, Last and Stevens 2009).

### Stock structure and status

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

### Fisheries

In Australia, the Commonwealth managed North West Slope Trawl Fishery that operates in part of the range of this species has low fishing effort with only a limited number of vessels operating (Marton and Mazur 2014a) and so is unlikely to affect the population.

## Habitat and biology

The Pygmy Lanternshark has been recorded from the continental slope at depths of 430 to 550 m off Australia, and possibly at 120 to 200 m off Indonesia (Last et al. 2002). Little else is known of the biology.

Longevity and maximum size	Longevity: unknown Max size: at least 29 cm TL
Age and/or size at maturity (50%)	Males: 25 cm TL Females: unknown

**Link to IUCN Page:** <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/41808/0>

**Link to page at Shark References:** <http://shark-references.com/species/view/Etmopterus-fusus>

### References

- Last, P.R. and Stevens, J.D. 2009. *Sharks and Rays of Australia*. Second Edition. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood.
- Last, P.R., G.H. Burgess and Séret, B. 2002. Description of six new species of lantern-sharks of the genus *Etmopterus* (Squaloidea: Etmopteridae) from the Australasian region. *Cybium* 26(3): 203–223.
- Marton, N. and Mazur, K. 2014a. North West Slope Trawl Fishery. In: Georgeson, L., Stobutzki, I. and Curtotti, R. (eds), *Fishery status reports 2013–14*. Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences, Canberra.
- Marton, N. and Mazur, K. 2014b. Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery. In: Georgeson, L., Stobutzki, I. and Curtotti, R. (eds), *Fishery status reports 2013-14*. Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences, Canberra.