

Tasselled Wobbegong, *Eucrossorhinus dasypogon*

Report Card assessment	Sustainable		
IUCN Red List Australian Assessment	Refer to Global Assessment	IUCN Red List Global Assessment	Least Concern
Assessors	Huveneers, C. & Pillans, R.D.		
Report Card Remarks	Relatively common and infrequently caught in Australia		

Summary

The Tasselled Wobbegong is a relatively common, medium-sized species with 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 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 (IUCN) and in Australia, Sustainable (SAFS).



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 by divers on the Great Barrier Reef (Last and Stevens 2009).

Fisheries

The Tasselled Wobbegong was observed in the bycatch survey of the Pilbara Trawl Fishery (Department of Fisheries WA 2010), but 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. It is an occasional bycatch in the Queensland East Coast Trawl Fishery (Kyne 2008). Approximately 15 wobbegongs are caught annually by recreational fishing in Western Australia (Ryan et al. 2013). It is also protected by marine protected areas within the Great Barrier Reef and other parts of its range.

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). 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

Link to IUCN Page: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/41873/0>

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

References

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- Department of Fisheries, Western Australia. 2010. A bycatch action plan for the Pilbara fish trawl interim managed fishery. Fisheries Management Paper no 244. Department of Fisheries, Western Australia, Perth.
- Last, P.R. and Stevens, J.D. 2009. Sharks and Rays of Australia. Second Edition. CSIRO Publishing, Collingwood, Australia.
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