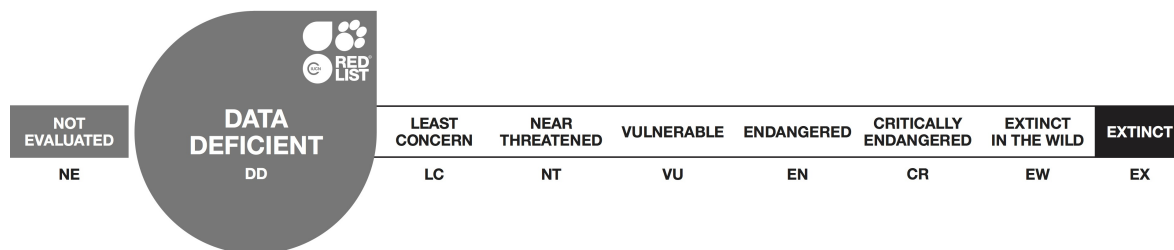


Heterodontus omanensis, Oman Bullhead Shark

Assessment by: Ebert, D.A., Khan, M., Valinassab, T., Akhilesh, K.V. & Tesfamichael, D.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Chondrichthyes	Heterodontiformes	Heterodontidae

Taxon Name: *Heterodontus omanensis* Baldwin, 2005

Common Name(s):

- English: Oman Bullhead Shark
- French: Requin Dormeur d'Oman
- Spanish: Dormilón de Omán

Taxonomic Source(s):

Eschmeyer, W.N., Fricke, R. and Van der Laan, R. (eds). 2017. Catalog of Fishes: genera, species, references. Updated 28 April 2017. Available at: <http://researcharchive.calacademy.org/research/ichthyology/catalog/fishcatmain.asp>. (Accessed: 03 May 2017).

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Data Deficient [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2017

Date Assessed: February 9, 2017

Justification:

The Oman Bullhead Shark (*Heterodontus omanensis*) is known only from central Oman and Pakistan. Although information is limited on its habitat and ecology, based on known habitats of other *Heterodontus* species it likely inhabits a rocky reef substrate, reducing its vulnerability to bottom trawl fisheries. However, there are trawl caught records of this species, and it is a potential bycatch of demersal line fisheries operating within its range, although no specific information is currently available. More information is required on its biology, abundance and full range, capture in fisheries and population trends. While the limited number of individuals recorded to date may suggest this species occurs in areas not fished heavily, there is currently insufficient information to assess how fisheries in the region are interacting with the species, and as such it is assessed as Data Deficient.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2009 – Data Deficient (DD)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2009-2.RLTS.T161720A5488163.en>

Geographic Range

Range Description:

The Oman Bullhead Shark is endemic to the Arabian Seas region and is known only from Masirah Island, central Oman, and Pakistan (Baldwin 2005, Psomadakis *et al.* 2015).

Country Occurrence:

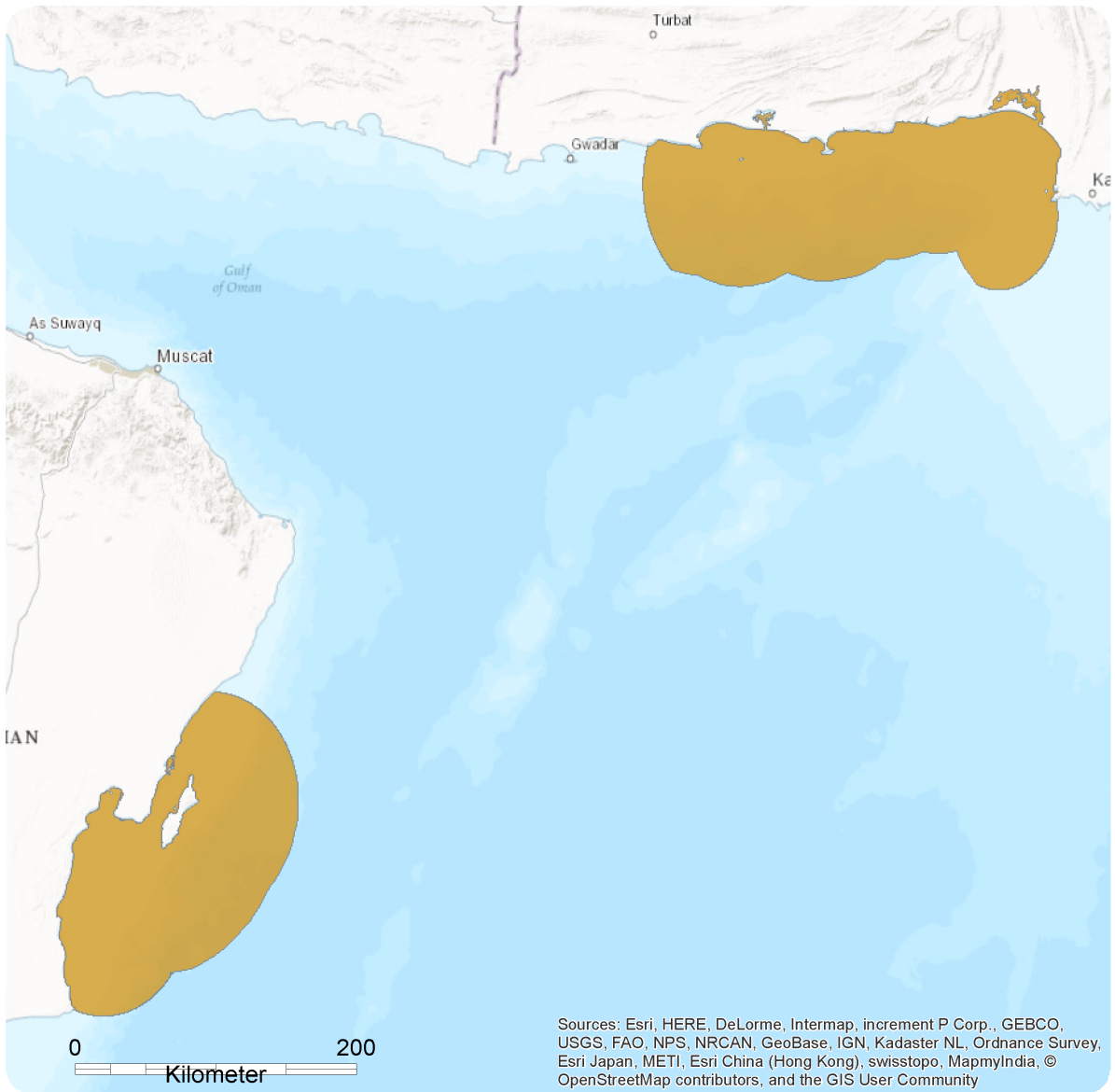
Native: Oman; Pakistan

FAO Marine Fishing Areas:

Native: Indian Ocean - western

Distribution Map

Heterodontus omanensis

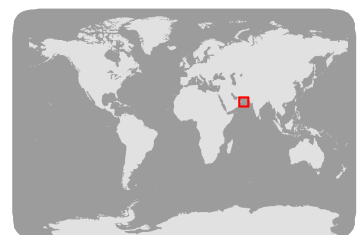
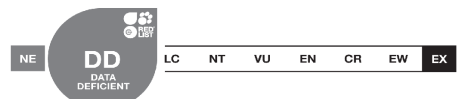


Range

Extant (resident)

Compiled by:

IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



Population

To date there have been no dedicated surveys or population estimates for this species. Further research is needed to determine population size and trends in abundance.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is found on the continental shelf and has been recorded at 72-80 m depth. It attains a maximum recorded size of 61 cm total length (TL) for females and 56 cm TL for males (Baldwin 2005).

Systems: Marine

Use and Trade

No utilization or commercial trade of this species is currently known to exist. Horn sharks are not generally utilized due to tough skin and lack of meat.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

The Oman Bullhead Shark is potentially caught as bycatch in demersal line and trawl fisheries, although no specific information is currently available on catches. The habitat of most known horn sharks is on rocky reefs and so the species may be less vulnerable to bottom trawl fishing, although there are trawl caught records (Bonfil and Abdallah 2004).

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no species-specific conservation measures in place. Oman banned trawling in 2011 which may benefit this species. Research is required on this species' biology, abundance and full range, capture in fisheries and population trends to further assess status and any future conservation needs. Effective monitoring of fisheries is required, as is the effective implementation and management of marine protected areas. An education program on sustainable fishing and bycatch mitigation is needed for fishers.

Credits

Assessor(s): Ebert, D.A., Khan, M., Valinassab, T., Akhilesh, K.V. & Tesfamichael, D.

Reviewer(s): Jabado, R., Pollom, R. & Kyne, P.M.

Facilitators(s) and Compiler(s): Jabado, R., Kyne, P.M.

Bibliography

Baldwin, Z.H. 2005. A new species of Bullhead Shark, genus *Heterodontus* (Heterodontiformes: Heterodontidae), from Oman; *Heterodontus omanensis*. *Copeia* 2005(2): 262-264.

Bonfil, R. and Abdallah, M. 2004. *Field identification guide to the sharks and rays of the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden*. *FAO Species Identification Guide for Fishery Purposes*. FAO, Rome.

IUCN. 2017. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2017-2. Available at: www.iucnredlist.org. (Accessed: 14 September 2017).

Psomadakis, P.N., Osmany, H.B. and Moazzam, M. 2015. *Field identification guide to the living marine resources of Pakistan*. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Marine Fisheries Department, Ministry of Ports & Shipping, Government of Pakistan, Rome, Italy.

Weigmann, S. 2016. Annotated checklist of the living sharks, batoids and chimaeras (Chondrichthyes) of the world, with a focus on biogeographical diversity. *Journal of Fish Biology* 88(3): 837-1037.

Citation

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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information, please see the Red List website](#).

Appendix

Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
9. Marine Neritic -> 9.2. Marine Neritic - Subtidal Rock and Rocky Reefs	Resident	Suitable	Yes
9. Marine Neritic -> 9.5. Marine Neritic - Subtidal Sandy-Mud	Resident	Suitable	Yes

Threats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
3. Energy production & mining -> 3.1. Oil & gas drilling	Past, likely to return	Minority (50%)	Negligible declines	Past impact
5. Biological resource use -> 5.4. Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources -> 5.4.1. Intentional use: (subsistence/small scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, significant declines	Medium impact: 6
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
5. Biological resource use -> 5.4. Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources -> 5.4.2. Intentional use: (large scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, significant declines	Medium impact: 6
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
5. Biological resource use -> 5.4. Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources -> 5.4.3. Unintentional effects: (subsistence/small scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, significant declines	Medium impact: 6
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		

Conservation Actions in Place

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Research, Monitoring and Planning
Action Recovery plan: No
Systematic monitoring scheme: No
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Conservation sites identified: No
Occur in at least one PA: Unknown
Area based regional management plan: No

Conservation Actions in Place
Invasive species control or prevention: Not Applicable
In-Place Species Management
Harvest management plan: No
Successfully reintroduced or introduced benignly: No
Subject to ex-situ conservation: No
In-Place Education
Subject to recent education and awareness programmes: No
Included in international legislation: No
Subject to any international management/trade controls: No

Conservation Actions Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Actions Needed
3. Species management -> 3.1. Species management -> 3.1.1. Harvest management
4. Education & awareness -> 4.2. Training
4. Education & awareness -> 4.3. Awareness & communications
5. Law & policy -> 5.2. Policies and regulations
5. Law & policy -> 5.4. Compliance and enforcement -> 5.4.2. National level

Research Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown

Distribution
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown
Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: Unknown
Lower depth limit (m): 80
Upper depth limit (m): 72
Population
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations: Unknown
Population severely fragmented: Unknown
Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: Unknown
All individuals in one subpopulation: Unknown
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Unknown
Movement patterns: Unknown

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