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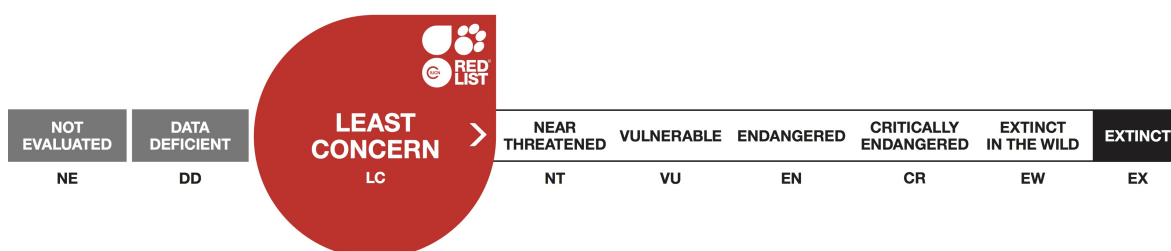
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Scope: Global

Language: English

Apristurus indicus, Smallbelly Catshark

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



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Chondrichthyes	Carcharhiniformes	Scyliorhinidae

Taxon Name: *Apristurus indicus* (Brauer, 1906)

Synonym(s):

- *Scylliorhinus indicus* Brauer, 1906

Common Name(s):

- English: Smallbelly Catshark

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: Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2017

Date Assessed: February 8, 2017

Justification:

The Smallbelly Catshark (*Apristurus indicus*) is known from only a handful of specimens captured in the Gulf of Aden and off Somalia in the Arabian Sea. Records from off Oman and India require confirmation and previous records referring to this species from the Southeast Atlantic are of a different species. It occurs at depths of 1,282-1,840 m, reaches at least 34 cm total length, but its biology is virtually unknown. It is assessed as Least Concern due to its deep-water habitat and the lack of fisheries where it occurs. A reassessment may be required as more information is obtained on the full range of its occurrence in the region.

Geographic Range

Range Description:

The Smallbelly Catshark is endemic to the Arabian Seas region. It is known from specimens captured in the Gulf of Aden and off Somalia (Compagno *et al.* 2005). Records from off Oman and India require confirmation and previous records referring to this species from the Southeast Atlantic are of a different species.

Country Occurrence:

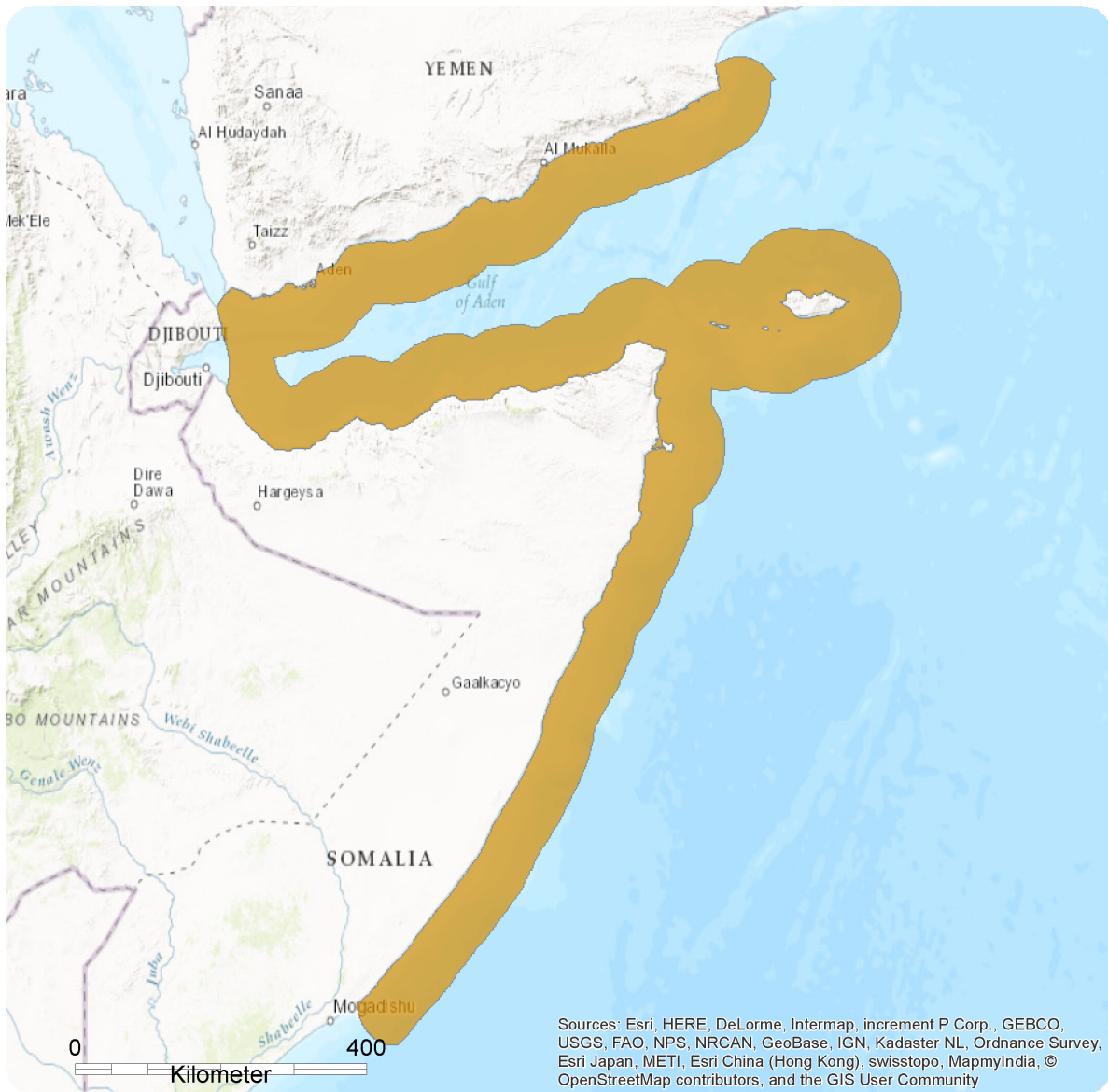
Native: Somalia; Yemen (Socotra)

FAO Marine Fishing Areas:

Native: Indian Ocean - western

Distribution Map

Apristurus indicus

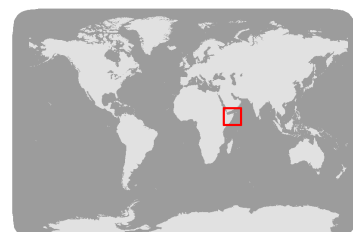


Range

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

Currently there is no population information available for this species.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

The depth range of the species is 1,282-1,840 m. It is known from only three specimens ranging in size from 13.4-33.6 cm total length (TL). All three known specimens are females, but no information is available on the maturity of these specimens.

Systems: Marine

Use and Trade

No utilization or commercial trade of this species is currently known to exist.

Threats

There are no known threats. The species is known to occur only in very deep water and there is no deep-sea fishing occurring in the region.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

There are currently no conservation actions in place that might benefit this species in the waters it which it occurs. Research is required on this species' biology, abundance and distribution to further assess status and any future conservation needs.

Credits

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

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

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

Bibliography

Compagno, L.J.V., Dando, M. and Fowler, S.L. 2005. *Sharks of the World*. Harper Collins.

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

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?
11. Marine Deep Benthic -> 11.1. Marine Deep Benthic - Continental Slope/Bathyl Zone (200-4,000m) -> 11.1.1. Hard Substrate	Resident	Suitable	Yes
11. Marine Deep Benthic -> 11.1. Marine Deep Benthic - Continental Slope/Bathyl Zone (200-4,000m) -> 11.1.2. Soft Substrate	Resident	Suitable	Yes

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
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
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
3. Monitoring -> 3.2. Harvest level trends

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown
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): 1840
Upper depth limit (m): 1282
Population
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations: Unknown
Population severely fragmented: Unknown
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Unknown
Movement patterns: Unknown

The IUCN Red List Partnership



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