

Endangered and Threatened Sharks



Between 26 million and 73 million sharks are killed each year for their fins according to a new paper published in the October 2006 edition of *Ecology Letters*. The estimates are three times higher than those projected by the United Nations.

This number, of course, doesn't include the number of sharks killed for other reasons such as accidental catchings from nets, longlining, or worse still, no other cause except to kill.

If sharks could reproduce faster than their numbers are being decimated, there would be no problem, right? Not even rabbits or cockroaches reproduce that fast! One of the biggest problems is that sharks are slow to mature to reproductive stage.

Hopefully, this list and information will help you see just why we need to protect not only sharks but other species and our environment in general.

"Without any real data, numbers as high as 100 million had been floating around for a while, but we had no way of knowing whether or not this was accurate."

"This paper, which produces the first estimate based on real data, shows that the actual number of sharks killed is indeed very high but is more likely to be in the order of tens of millions, with a median estimate of 38 million sharks killed annually."

— Dr. Ellen Pikitch
Executive Director
University of Miami's Pew
Institute for Ocean Science

compiled by [Sharky](#)

taken from the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List database (2001) with some updates taken from Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

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Shark Attacks

Shark “attacks” are usually just accidents. A shark hunting for food may mistake a swimmer or surfer as an animal which they eat. When this happens, an “attack” is just the shark “tasting” or “testing” to see if it is edible. Sharks, like most animals, will also attack when they feel threatened. Although there is always a risk when going in the water, especially in an area where sharks , your risk of being attacked or killed by one is less than being hit by lightening or even fixing up your house. Sharks are much more threatened by us as a species than we are by them!

[see <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/fish/Sharks/ISAF/ISAF.htm> for more information]

Here are some links to great information

Endangered Species

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) — <http://www.cites.org/>

International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) — <http://www.iucn.org/>

General Shark Information

Florida Museum of Natural History — <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/Fish/Sharks/sharks.htm>

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service — <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/sharks.html>

Groups

Shark Trust — <http://www.sharktrust.org/>






Shark Research Institute — <http://www.sharks.org/>

Local Info/Groups

Shark Research Committee — <http://www.sharkresearchcommittee.com/>

Hawaii Sharks — <http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/dar/sharks/index.html>

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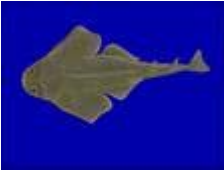


Shark	Red List	Trend	Distribution	Picture
Angel Shark	CR	↓	large areas of its coastal and outer continental shelf sediment habitat in the Northeast Atlantic, Mediterranean and Black Seas	
Bizant River Shark	CR	↓	based on the very few specimens collected to date from just two rivers, this undescribed fresh to brackish water species is possibly a northern Australian endemic, and presumably very rare	
Daggernose Shark	CR	↓	inshore tropical species endemic to the coastal waters off northern South America with a restricted distribution	
Dumb Gulper Shark Dumb Shark	CR	↓	relatively narrow continental slope habitat off New South Wales	
Ganges Shark	CR	↓	freshwater riverine and possibly inshore marine and estuarine shark. Originally known only from three museum specimens, collected in the 19th century from fresh water in the lower reaches of the Ganges-Hooghly river system	
New Guinea River Shark Northern River Shark	CR	↓	northern Australia and possibly Papua New Guinea	No picture available

EX = Extinct	EW = Extinct in Wild	CR = Critically Endangered	EN = Endangered	VU = Vulnerable	NT = Near Threatened
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Pondicherry Shark	CR	?	very rare Indo-West Pacific species	
Sawback Angelshark	CR	↓	formerly a common and important demersal predator over large areas of its coastal and outer continental shelf sediment habitat in the Mediterranean sea and eastern Atlanti	
Striped Dogfish Striped Smooth-Hound	CR	↓	endemic to a restricted area of the inner continental shelf (South Brazil to Argentina) in the Southwest Atlantic ocean	
Angular Angelshark	EN	↓	endemic to the Southwest Atlantic from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (24°S) through Uruguay to northern Patagonia, Argentina (43°S) on the shelf at 10 to 150 m depth	
Argentine Angel Shark Longfin Angel Shark	EN	↓	endemic to the Southwest Atlantic from Rio Grande do Sul, southern Brazil (32°S) through Uruguay to northern Patagonia, Argentina (43°S) on the outer shelf and upper slope generally at 120 to 320 m	
Great Hammerhead Hammerhead Shark Squat-Headed Hammerhead Shark	EN	↓	widely distributed, tropical hammerhead shark largely restricted to continental shelves	

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Hidden Angel Shark Spiny Angel Shark	EN	↓	there is some controversy concerning the taxonomy and nomenclature of angel sharks in southern Brazil; there may be 3 species in southern Brazil	
Narrownose Smoothhound	EN	↓	known to migrate seasonally in large numbers between wintering grounds in south Brazil and summer grounds off Uruguay and/or Argentina	
Smoothback Angel Shark	EN	↓	endemic to the Southwest Atlantic from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (24°S) through Uruguay to Buenos Aires Province, Argentina (38°S) on the continental shelf and slope at depths of 10 to 350 m	
Borneo Shark	EN**	?	A small rare inshore coastal shark. Known only from five specimens (four from Borneo, one from China), none more recent than 1937	
Speartooth Shark	EN**	?	Known from a single specimen of uncertain location within the Indo-Pacific, with possible conspecifics (based on jaws only) from Papua-New Guinea and northern Australia	
Whitefin Topeshark	EN**	?	little-known inshore tropical shark is found only in heavily fished and environmentally degraded Philippine coastal water	

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Shark	Red List	Trend	Distribution	Picture
Angular Rough Shark	VU	?	distributed throughout the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean and possibly off Mozambique at known depths of 60 to 660 m	
Bluegray Carpetshark	VU	?	as presently known it has an extremely limited geographic and bathymetric range off Queensland	
Cape Shark Piked Dogfish Spurdog	VU	↓	temperate continental shelf seas worldwide. Most stocks are highly migratory, but there is no regional fisheries management for the species	
Curry Shark Golden Hammerhead Smalleye Hammerhead Shark	VU	↓	its true range appears restricted to the Western Central and Southwest Atlantic from Venezuela to Uruguay	
Deepwater Spiny Dogfish Leafscale Gulper Shark Nilson's Deepsea Dogfish	VU	↓	deepwater Northeast Atlantic (Ireland, Spain, Portugal and France)	
Eastern Angel Shark	VU	↓	endemic species of the outer shelf and upper slope of Eastern Australia	No picture available
Fossil Shark Snaggletooth Shark	VU	↓	shallow (to 130 m) tropical Indo-West Pacific range (to a lesser extent in Australia)	
Gulper Shark	VU	↓	distribution is difficult to establish due to remaining confusion to the genus	

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Hooded Carpet Shark	VU	?	largely unknown species endemic to the northern and southern coast along the eastern extent of New Guinea. Its range is limited and somewhat fragmented with a high degree of habitat destruction		
Humpback Smoothhound	VU	↓	recorded from the Southeast Pacific from Peru to southern Chile		
Leopard Shark Zebra Shark	VU	↓	broadly distributed continental and insular shelf species of the Indian, west and central Pacific Oceans. Usually found within a narrow band of shallow coral reef habitat and soft bottom (to 62 m)		
Liver-Oil Shark Miller's Dog Oil Shark Penny Dog Rig School Shark Snapper Shark Soupfin Soupie	Southern Tope Sweet William Tiburon Tope Shark Tope Tope Vitamin Shark Whithound	VU	↓	widespread mainly coastal and bottom associated shark of temperate areas	
Lizard Catshark	VU	?	the known area of distribution of this recently described Brazilian endemic catshark is small, comprising only about 600 km of coastline	No picture available	

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Shark	Red List	Trend	Distribution	Picture
Longfin Mako	VU	↓	widely distributed but rarely encountered oceanic tropical shark	
New Caledonia Catshark	VU	?	known from only one specimen and two photographs within an area that is well surveyed for its fish fauna. It is very likely a New Caledonian endemic and uncommon within its range	
Night Shark	VU	↓	South America	
Oceanic Whitetip Shark White-Tipped Shark Whitetip Oceanic Shark Whitetip Shark	VU	↓	formerly widespread and abundant now found possibly only in Northwest and Western Central Atlantic	
Papuan Epaulette Shark	VU	?	largely unknown species endemic to the Gulf of Papua (Papua New Guinea), a limited distribution subject to a high degree of habitat destruction	
Porbeagle	VU	↓	wide-ranging, coastal and oceanic	
Sharpfin Houndshark	VU	?	described in 1968 from two specimens collected off the Isla de la Plata, Ecuador. It has not been reported since	

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Sharptooth Lemon Shark	VU	↓	widely distributed tropical Indo-west and central Pacific inshore species usually associated with coral reefs, lagoons and mangrove estuaries, and which exhibits very limited movement patterns. Within Australian waters, this species is wide-ranging	
Shorttail Nurse Shark	VU	?	status of this poorly known endemic species is of concern due to its limited distribution on coral reefs in inshore tropical waters of East Africa and Madagascar (and possibly the Seychelles and Mauritius)	
Southern Sawtail Catshark	VU	↓	So far, recorded only off Santa Catarina and north of Rio Grande do Sul States, Brazil, on the upper continental slope in depths of 236 to 600 m	No picture available
Spotted Houndshark	VU	↓	endemic to the Southeast Pacific from Peru to northern Chile and the Galapagos Islands	
Tawny Nurse Shark	VU	↓	widely distributed continental and insular shelf species of the Indian, west and central Pacific Oceans. Restricted to a narrow band of shallow water habitat (5 to 30 m, occasionally to 70 m)	

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Shark	Red List	Trend	Distribution	Picture
Basking Shark¹	VU**	?	widely distributed but only regularly seen in a few favoured coastal locations and probably never very abundant	
Flapnose Houndshark	VU**	?	uncommon endemic Houndshark with low fecundity and an extremely restricted range off eastern South Africa (northeastern part of Eastern Cape Province to northern KwaZulu-Natal)	
Great White Shark²	VU**	?	widely but sparsely distributed³	
Grey Nurse Shark Sand Tiger Shark Spotted Ragged-Tooth Shark	VU**	?	although the species is widespread, regional populations are isolated and no longer thought to mix	
Smoothtooth Blacktip	VU**	?	Known from a single record from the Gulf of Aden. Presumed to have a very restricted distribution in the North Indian Ocean and a small population	

¹ CITES has recently classified this shark as endangered.

² CITES has recently classified this shark as endangered.


³ Cited as the most dangerous to humans ("attacks")

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Shark	Red List	Trend	Distribution	Picture
Whale Shark ⁴	VU**	↓	life history of this relatively scarce but cosmopolitan tropical and warm temperate species is poorly understood, but it may be relatively fecund and migrates extremely large distances	

⁴ CITES has recently classified this shark as endangered.





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Endangered and Threatened Sharks

The following sharks are considered Near Threatened or Lower Risk bordering on Near Threatened.
The LR/CD and LR/NT classifications have been taken from the 1994 database list.




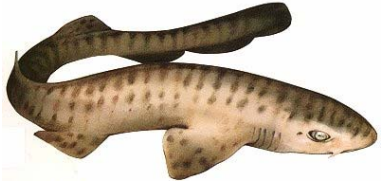

Common Name	Red List	Trend	Distribution	Picture
Atlantic Sawtail Catshark	NT	?	little known; reported at depths of 330 to 710 m; has a narrow extent of occurrence (approximately 50,000 km), being recorded only in the Mediterranean, from the Strait of Gibraltar to Cape Gata, in Northeast Atlantic from Cape S. Vicente to the Strait of Gibraltar. Off West Africa this species is only confirmed from the type specimen captured off Cape Spartel (northwest coast of Morocco), and from one specimen caught off Mauritania	
Banded Wobbegong Carpet Shark Gulf Wobbegong Ornate Wobbegong	NT	↓	Probably an Australian endemic (other locality records unconfirmed, pending taxonomic review)	
Blackspot Shark	NT	?	commonly found in shallow waters in South East Asia	
Bluespotted Bamboo Shark Whitespotted Bamboo Shark	NT	?	reef-dwelling, shallow water; with a relatively wide distribution in the Indo-West Pacific from India east to Indonesia and north to southern Japan	

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Bronze Whaler Cocktail Shark Copper Shark Narrowtooth Shark New Zealand Whaler	NT	?	coastal with low productivity; although widespread, regional populations appear to be discrete, and movement of individuals between them is thought infrequent or absent, and it does not appear to be naturally abundant anywhere	
Brown-Spotted Catshark Brownbanded Bamboo Shark Grey Carpet Shark Spotted Catshark	NT	↓	widely distributed and probably fecund (oviparous) tropical species occurring in a variety of habitats throughout its range	
Caribbean Reef Shark	NT	↓	reef-dwelling; found in the Western Atlantic from North Carolina (USA), throughout the Caribbean (where it is the most common reef shark) south to Brazil	
Catshark Frog Shark Nurse Shark Ridge Back Shark Ridgeback Catshark Ridgebacked Bamboo Shark Slender Bamboo Shark Stone Shark Time Teller Shark	NT	?	species is regularly taken in inshore fisheries in India, Sri Lanka and Thailand	
Coral Catshark	NT	?	widespread and common inshore Indo-West Pacific	

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Crown Shark Mallehead Shark Scalloped Bonnethead	NT	?	Eastern Pacific: Gulf of California. Southern Mexico to Peru	
Cyrano Spurdog	NT	?	appears to be a Vanuatu endemic with an extremely restricted geographic range near Éfate	
Dogfish Lazy Shark Spotted Lazyshark White-Spotted Dogfish Yellowspotted Catshark	NT	?	endemic to southern Namibia and most of South Africa	
Draughtboard Shark Swell Shark Whitefin Swell Shark	NT	↓	endemic to southeastern Australia on the upper continental slope in depths of 240 to 550 m	No picture available
Eastern Longnose Spurdog	NT	?	found on the continental shelf off northern Queensland, at depths of between 220 and 500 m. Its length is up to 64 cm	
Eastern Sawshark	NT	?	endemic found only in a small region off the east coast of Australia on the continental shelf and upper slope	No picture available
Freycinet's Epaulette Shark Indonesian Speckled Carpet Shark	NT	?	endemic species from New Guinea. It is apparently common in parts of its range although the shallow water habitat	

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<p>Frilled Shark Lizard Shark Scaffold Shark</p>	NT	?	<p>Wide-ranging with patchy distribution. Eastern Atlantic: Norway, Scotland, Bay of Biscay, Portugal, Spain, Morocco, Mauretania, Madeira, Angola, Namibia and South Africa. Western Pacific: Japan, Australia. Eastern Pacific: Southern California, northern Chile.</p>	
Galapagos Shark	NT	?	<p>widespread, but patchy distribution, occurring at many widely separated island and some coastal sites in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans</p>	
<p>Greenland Shark Gurry Shark Large Sleeper Shark Sleeper Shark Sleeper</p>	NT	?	<p>Arctic and North Atlantic, inhabiting inshore zones to continental shelves and slopes usually in depths of 0 to 1,200 m</p>	
Grey Bamboo Shark	NT	?	<p>Indo-Western Pacific: Iran, Arabian Peninsula, Pakistan, India, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Japan, Philippines, Papua New Guinea</p>	
Hardnose Shark	NT	?	<p>widespread continental shelf species throughout the Indo-West Pacific region</p>	
Mandarin Shark	NT	?	<p>found in Japan, Torres Island, Indonesia, New Zealand and Tasmania and New South Wales in Australia; appears to be locally rare</p>	

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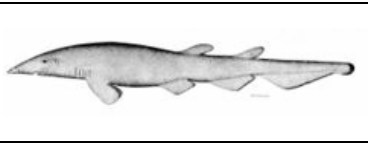

Needle Dogfish Steindachner's Dogfish	NT	?	deepwater with a limited known distribution in the Western Pacific around parts of Japan, Taiwan and the Philippines. It is also nominally recorded from the Western Central Atlantic	
Northern Draughtboard Shark	NT	?	restricted to the east coast of Australia between southern Queensland and central New South Wales	No picture available
One-Finned Shark Perlon Shark Sevengill Cow Shark Sharpnose Sevengill Shark Sharpsnouted Sevengill Slender Sevengill	NT	?	Wide ranging in tropical and temperate seas but relatively uncommon species where it occurs	
Plunket's Dogfish Plunket's Shark Waite's Dogfish	NT	?	deepwater shark within its known geographic range (parts of Australasia, perhaps now extended to southern Africa), although it may extend deeper than is currently recognised	
Portuguese Dogfish	NT	?	Australia (not enough data found)	
Prickly Shark Spinous Shark	NT	?	rare deepwater; known only from the Pacific Ocean	

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Quelvacho Chino Taiwan Gulper Shark	NT	↓	very widely, but patchily distributed world-wide	
Sixgill Sawshark	NT	?	southern African endemic with a relatively restricted geographic distribution, depth range of 37 m to at least 500 m	
Slender Hammerhead Winghead Shark	NT	?	Indo-west Pacific continental shelf southern Asia and Indonesia	
Speckled Smoothhound	NT	↓	Peru, Chile, Galapagos Islands and Juan Fernandez Islands	
Whitecheek Shark (Eng) Widemouth Blackspot Shark	NT	↓	wide tropical Indo-West Pacific distribution in coastal waters down to 170 m; is one of the most common whaler sharks of northern Australia	
Whitish Catshark	NT	?	endemic to the Western South Pacific, occurring on the island slopes of New Caledonia and adjacent sea mounts	
Leopard Shark (<i>Triakis semifasciata</i>)	LR/CD	?	restricted to the eastern north Pacific, from Oregon to Gulf of California (USA and Mexico)	

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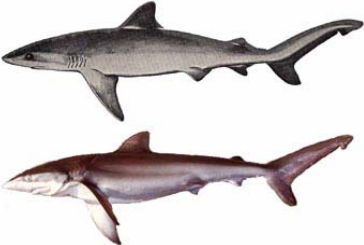
Barbeled Houndshark	LR/NT	?	is (or was?) relatively common within its limited range in heavily fished tropical inshore West African coastal waters	
Blacktip Reef Shark	LR/NT	?	common and wide-ranging species of the Indo-West Pacific and Central Pacific. Commonly found in shallow waters on and near coral reefs and occasionally in brackish waters.	
Blacktip Shark	LR/NT	?	widespread in all tropical and subtropical continental waters.	
Blacktip Topeshark	LR/NT	?	patchy distribution in the Indo-West Pacific	
Blue Shark	LR/NT	?	oceanic and circumglobal, occurring in temperate and tropical waters	
Bluntnose Sixgill Shark	LR/NT	?	Found both in tropical and temperate marine systems, the range of this species is almost circumglobal	

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Brown Shyshark	LR/NT	?	endemic to South African	
Bull Shark	LR/NT	?	common tropical and subtropical; occurs in marine, estuarine and freshwater, and can penetrate long distances up large rivers⁵	
Crocodile Shark	LR/NT	?	uncommon, pelagic, oceanic; circumtropical in distribution	
Dusky Shark	LR/NT	↓	coastal-pelagic species of inshore and offshore warm-temperate and tropical waters. It occurs on continental and insular shelves and the oceanic waters adjacent to them, ranging from close inshore in the surf zone to well out to sea and from the surface to 400 m depth	


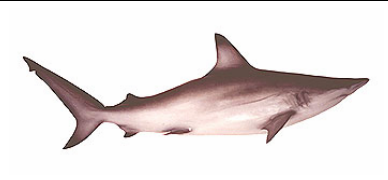




⁵ Cited as the third most dangerous to humans ("attacks")

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Dusky Smoothhound	LR/NT	?	Western Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean from Massachusetts to Northern Argentina	
Graceful Shark	LR/NT	?	coastal Indo-West Pacific continental shelf	
Gray Reef Shark Grey Reef Shark	LR/NT	?	widespread + social; was formerly common in clear tropical coastal waters and oceanic atolls.	
Lemon Shark	LR/NT	?	common on Atlantic coasts from the US to Brazil and possibly in some west African countries, and in the Pacific from Baja California to Ecuador	
Pacific Angel Shark	LR/NT	?	once abundant, eastern Pacific coastal	
Puffadder Shyshark	LR/NT	?	Locally common, but with a very limited range lying wholly within inshore waters; South African endemic.	

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Pyjama Shark	LR/NT	?	South African with a restricted zoogeographic and bathymetric range	
Sandbar Shark	LR/NT	?	Coastal; common and widespread in subtropical and warm temperate waters world-wide	
Scalloped Hammerhead	LR/NT	?	Essentially circumglobal in coastal warm temperate and tropical seas	
Shortfin Mako	LR/NT	?	extremely active, offshore littoral and epipelagic species found in tropical and warm temperate seas. It seldom occurs in waters below 16°C	
Smooth Hammerhead	LR/NT	?	relatively common and wide-spread	
Spadenose Shark	LR/NT	?	coastal; abundant in the northern Indian Ocean and Southeast Asia	

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Spinner Shark	LR/NT	?	near and offshore warm-temperate, subtropical and tropical continental and insular shelf waters	
Spotted Gully Shark	LR/NT	?	uncommon inshore species with limited distribution from Southern Angola to KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, from the intertidal and surfline to 50 m depth	
Tiger Shark	LR/NT	?	common world-wide in tropical and warm-temperate coastal waters⁶	 <small>© 2003 Canadian Shark Research Lab</small>
Whitetip Reef Shark	LR/NT	?	widely distributed in warm shallow Indo-Pacific waters and is closely associated with coral reefs	

⁶ Cited as the second most dangerous to humans ("attacks")

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