

INFORMATION PAPER ON IUCN SSG (SHARK SPECIALIST GROUP) MEETING

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The IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources), The World Conservation Union, is a non-governmental organization consisted with several parties but also includes governments. This organization strongly influences the decision of CITES. The SSG is conducted with volunteers considering problems of shark conservation under the IUCN. The SSG meeting was held on 31st July and 3rd August in 1996 in Brisbane, Australia with participation of the shark scientists, TRAFFIC, NGO and observers.

The aim of this meeting were as follows:

- 1) To make species list of elasmobranch which could be threatened risk of endangered.
- 2) To make action plan for conservation of elasmobranch species.

Although the date of meeting was announced to be held on 3rd August officially, first meeting was suddenly held on 31st July without notice. This SSG meeting changed the rank of the categories for several shark species made by the Marine Fish Red List Workshop, which was held on 29th April through 1st May 1966 in London by collaboration with the IUCN and WWF. For example, some species were down listed from VU (vulnerable) to LR (lower risk) and up listed from EN (endangered) to CR (critically endangered) (see Appendix). In the second meeting held on 3rd August, following three action plans was adapted by vote of SSG members to the government of United States to present the proposal to the CITES.

- 1) Support for listing of sawfishes on Appendix I
- 2) Support for listing of requiem sharks of the western Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico on Appendix II
- 3) Support for listing of spiny dogfish of the western Atlantic on Appendix II

Appendix. Shark species list made by the Marine Fish Red List Workshop held in London
(April 29 - May 1, 1996) and changes made by IUCN SSG meeting (July 31, 1996).

Common Name	Scientific Name	Old Category	New Category
Blacktip shark	<i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i>	VU A1bd, A2d	Lower risk, near threatened
Dusky shark	<i>C. obscurus</i>	EN A1d, A2d	Lower risk, near threatened
"	U.S. Atlantic pop'n		VU A1d,A2d
Sandbar shark	<i>C. plumbeus</i>	VU A1bd, A2d	Lower risk, near threatened
"	U.S. Atlantic pop'n		VU A1b,d,A2d
Ganges shark	<i>Glyphis gangeticus</i>	CR A1b-e, A2c-e, C2b	CR A1c-e, A2c-e, C2b
Bluntnose Sixgill	<i>Hexanchus griseus</i>	VU A1d, A2d	Lower risk, near threatened
Basking shark	<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	VU A1a,d A2d	No change
Great White	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	VU A1b,c,d, A2c,d	No change
Porbeagle	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	VU A1b,d A2d	Lower risk, near threatened
"	NW Atlantic		Lower risk, conservation dependent
"	NE Atlantic		VU A1b,d,A2d
Sand Tiger shark	<i>Carcharias taurus</i>	EN A1a,b,A2d	VU A1b,d,A2d
"	SW Atlantic		EN A1a,b,A2d
"	Eastern Australia		EN A1a,b,A2d
Giant Freshwater Stingray	<i>Himantura chaophraya</i>	EN A1b-e,A2c,e	VU A1a,b,A2d
"	Thailand		CR A1b-, A2c,e
Whale shark	<i>Rhincodon typus</i>	DD	No change
Deepsea skate	<i>Bathyraja abyssicola</i>	DD	No change
Freshwater sawfish	<i>Pristis microdon</i>	EN 1a,b,c,A2c,d	No change
"	E Asia pop'n		CR 1a,b,c,A2c,d
Smalltooth sawfish	<i>Pristis pectinata</i>	EN 1a,b,c,A3c,d	No change
"	NE Atlantic pop'n		CR 1a,b,c,A2c,d
"	SW Atlantic		CR 1a,b,c,A2c,d
Large tooth sawfish	<i>Pristis perotteti</i>	EN 1a,b,c,A4c,d	CR 1a,b,c,A2c,d
Common sawfish	<i>Pristis pristis</i>	EN 1a,b,c,A5c,d	CR 1a,b,c,A2c,d
Kitefin shark	<i>Dalatias licha</i>	EN 1a,b,c,A6c,d	No change
			Lower risk, near threatened

CR: Critically Endangered, EN: Endangered, VU: Vulnerable, DD: Data Deficient. Symbols following two capital letter codes explain more detail criteria: see IUCN Red List Categories. Published by IUCN, Gland, Switzerland. 1994. 21pp.

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