

## Field identification board: Elasmobranch species of Cameroon

The main purpose of these field boards is to comfort the fisherman in his choice, to ensure the veracity of the data, but also to avoid confusion, both between species but also between names. Furthermore the regular use of these boards trains the observer to memory the species.

### Rays already seen

*Fontitrygon margarita* (Günther, 1870)

FR: Pastenague –marguerite  
EN: Daisy stingray  
Species code: FMG

1 or more greatly enlarged pearl



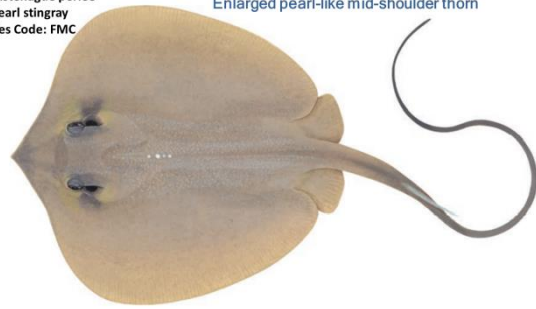
SIZE: Attains at least 78 cm DW (~166 cm TL).

IUCN statut: **VU**

*Fontitrygon margaritella* (Compagno & Roberts, 1984)

FR: Pastenague perlée  
EN: Pearl stingray  
Species Code: FMC

Enlarged pearl-like mid-shoulder thorn



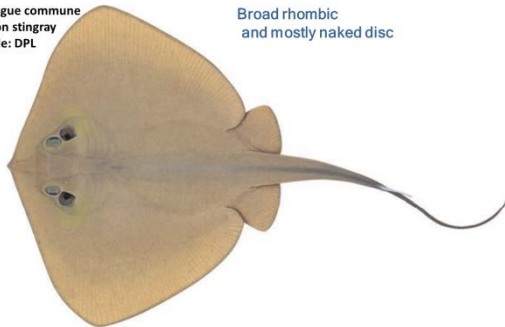
SIZE: Attains at least 28 cm DW (~73 cm TL)

IUCN statut: **NT**

*Dasyatis pastinaca* (Linnaeus, 1758)

FR: Pastenague commune  
EN: Common stingray  
Species code: DPL

Broad rhombic and mostly naked disc



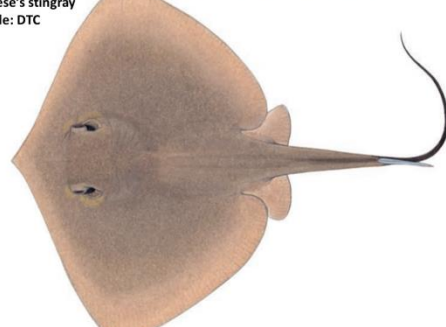
SIZE: Attains ~68 cm DW.

IUCN statut: **VU**

*Dasyatis tortonesei* Capapé, 1977

FR: Pastenague tortonnoise  
EN: Tortonese's stingray  
Species code: DTC

Uniform yellowish above



SIZE: Attains ~84 cm DW.

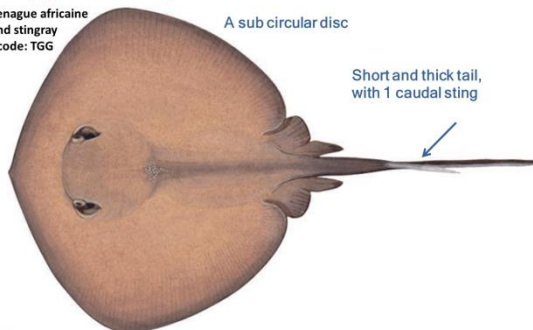
IUCN statut: **DD**

*Taeniurops grabatus* (Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1817)

FR: Pastenague africaine  
EN: Round stingray  
Species code: TGG

A sub circular disc

Short and thick tail, with 1 caudal sting



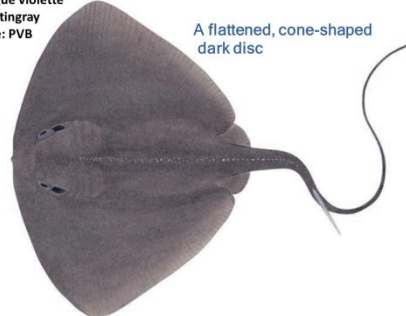
SIZE: Attains at least 100 cm DW.

IUCN statut: **NT**

*Pteroplatytrygon violacea* (Bonaparte, 1832)

FR: Pastenague violette  
EN: Pelagic stingray  
Species code: PVB

A flattened, cone-shaped dark disc



SIZE: Attains ~80 cm DW.

IUCN statut: **LC**

## Rays already seen

*Glaucostegus cemiculus* (Geoffroy St Hilaire, 1817)

FR: Raie-guitare fousseuse  
EN: Blackchin guitarfish  
Species code: GCG

Long and rather broad triangular snout with a broadly rounded rostral cartilage at its tip



SIZE: Attains ~200 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Rhinobatos rhinobatos* (Linnaeus, 1758)

FR: Raie-guitare commune  
EN: Common guitarfish  
Species code: RRL

Rostral cartilages well separated along their entire length



SIZE: Attains ~100 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Rhinobatos albomaculatus* Norman, 1930

FR: Raie-guitare à lunaires  
EN: Whitespotted guitarfish  
Species code: RAN

A pattern of numerous small, circular, bluish white spots surrounded with blackish rims, and symmetrically arranged on disc and trunk.



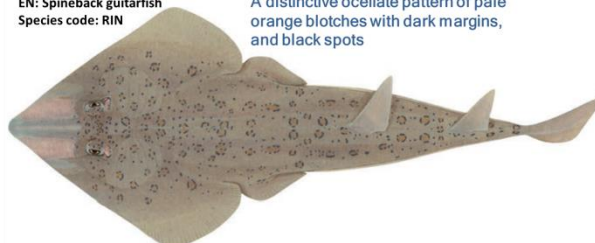
SIZE: Reaches 80 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 


*Rhinobatos irvinei* Norman, 1931

FR: Raie-guitare d'Irvine  
EN: Spineback guitarfish  
Species code: RIN

A distinctive ocellate pattern of pale orange blotches with dark margins, and black spots



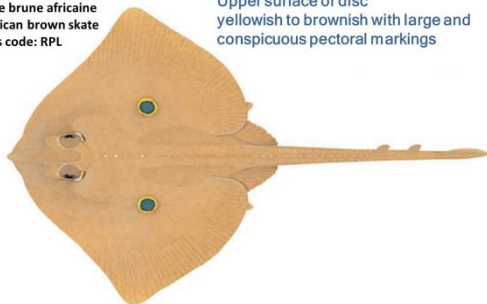
SIZE: Attains 100 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Raja parva* Last & Séret, 2016

FR: Raie brune africaine  
EN: African brown skate  
Species code: RPL

Upper surface of disc yellowish to brownish with large and conspicuous pectoral markings



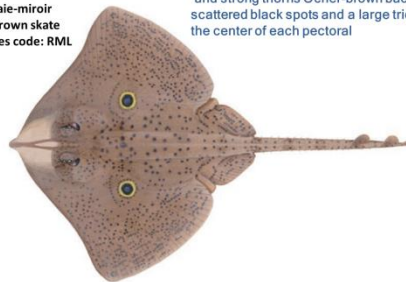
SIZE: Attains at least 63 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Raja miraletus* Linnaeus, 1758

FR: Raie-miroir  
EN: Brown skate  
Species code: RML

Back and tail covered with prickly denticles and strong thorns. Ocher-brown back with small scattered black spots and a large tricolor ocelli in the center of each pectoral



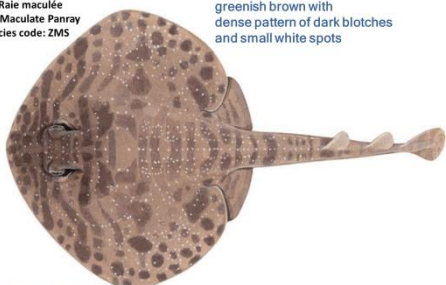
SIZE: Attains ~60 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Zanobatus maculatus* Séret, 2016

FR: Raie maculée  
EN: Maculate Panray  
Species code: ZMS

Dorsal surface brownish to greenish brown with dense pattern of dark blotches and small white spots



SIZE: Attains 36 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Zanobatus schoenleinii* (Müller & Henle, 1841)

FR: Raie tigrée  
EN: Striped panray  
Species code: ZSM

Gray-brown to greenish-brown back with dark brown transverse bands



SIZE: Attains 60 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

# Field identification board: Elasmobranch species of Cameroon

## Rays already seen

*Torpedo torpedo* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
FR: Torpille ocellée  
EN: Ocellate torpedo  
Species code: TTL

Brown to reddish brown back  
with usually 5 large eyespots

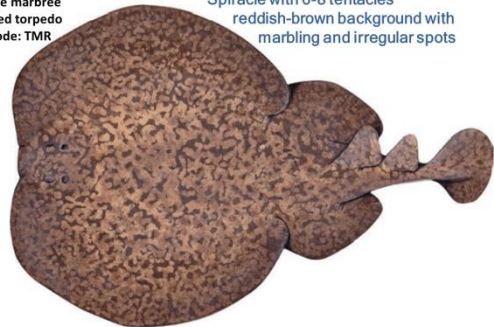


SIZE: Attains 60 cm TL.

IUCN statut:

*Torpedo marmorata* Risso, 1810  
FR: Torpille marbrée  
EN: Spotted torpedo  
Species code: TMR

Spiracle with 6-8 tentacles  
reddish-brown background with  
marbling and irregular spots

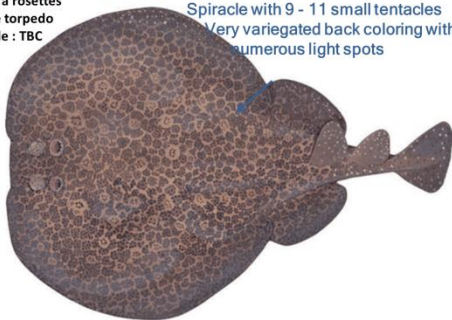


SIZE: Attains 100 cm TL.

IUCN statut:

*Torpedo bauchotae* Cadenat, Capapé & Desoutter, 1978  
FR: Torpille à rosettes  
EN: Rosette torpedo  
Species code: TBC

Spiracle with 9 - 11 small tentacles  
Very variegated back coloring with  
numerous light spots

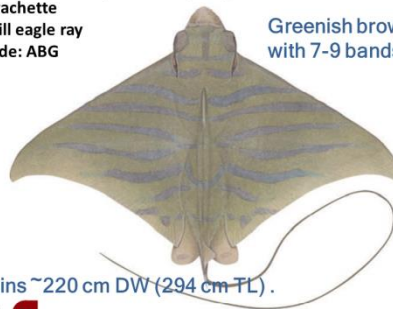


SIZE: Attains 60 cm TL.

IUCN statut:

*Aetomylaeus bovinus* (Geoffroy St. Hilaire, 1817)  
FR: Aigle-vachette  
EN: Duckbill eagle ray  
Species code: ABG

Greenish brown color  
with 7-9 bands dark crosses

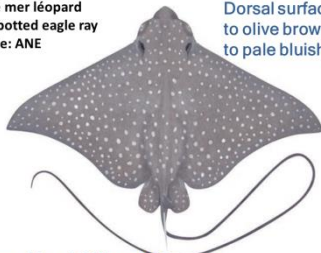


SIZE: Attains ~220 cm DW (294 cm TL).

IUCN statut:

*Aetobatus narinari* (Euphrasen, 1790)  
FR: Aigle de mer léopard  
EN: Whitespotted eagle ray  
Species code: ANE

Dorsal surface usually brownish  
to olive brown with numerous white  
to pale bluish spots or small rings.

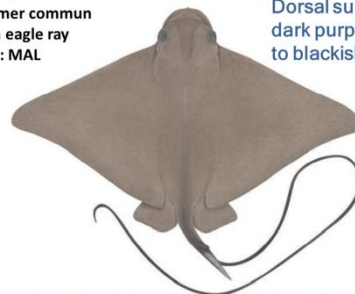


SIZE: Attains at least 230 cm DW.

IUCN statut:

*Myliobatis aquila* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
FR: Aigle de mer commun  
EN: Common eagle ray  
Species code: MAL

Dorsal surface uniformly  
dark purplish brown  
to blackish.

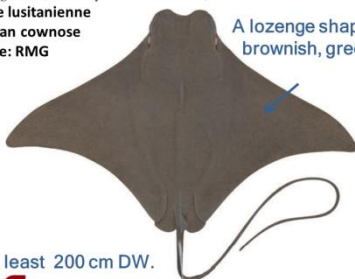


SIZE: Attains up to 150 cm DW (at least 260 cm TL).

IUCN statut:

*Rhinoptera marginata* (Geoffroy St. Hilaire, 1817)  
FR: Mourine lusitanienne  
EN: Lusitanian cownose  
Species code: RMG

A lozenge shaped disc with  
brownish, greenish or bronze



SIZE: To at least 200 cm DW.

IUCN statut:

*Mobula mobular* (Bonnaterre, 1788)  
FR: Raie aigle géante  
EN: Giant devilray  
Species code: MMB

Dorsal fin with  
prominent white tip.



Pectoral fins moderately sickle-shaped

SIZE: Attains at least 520 cm DW.

IUCN statut:



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## Rays already seen

*Mobula hypostoma* (Bancroft, 1831)

FR: Petit diable de mer  
EN: Atlantic Devil Ray  
Species code: MHB



SIZE: Attains at least 133 cm DW.  
IUCN statut: **EN**

*Mobula birostris* (Walbaum, 1792)

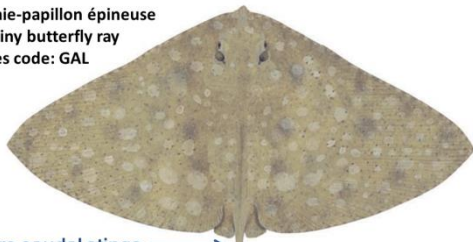
FR: Mante  
EN: Giant manta ray  
Species code: MBW



SIZE: Attains at least 700 cm DW.  
IUCN statut: **EN**

*Gymnura altavela* (Linnaeus, 1758)

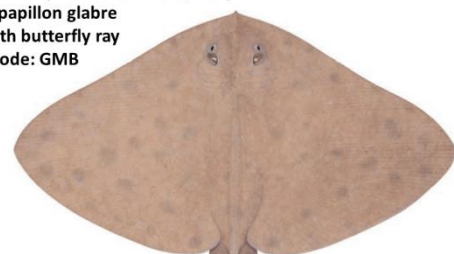
EN: Raie-papillon épineuse  
FR: Spiny butterfly ray  
Species code: GAL



SIZE: Attains at least 260 cm DW.  
IUCN statut: **EN**

*Gymnura micrura* (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)

FR: Raie-papillon glabre  
EN Smooth butterfly ray  
Species code: GMB



SIZE: Attains 110 cm DW.  
IUCN statut: **NT**

## Rays possible to be seen

*Pristis pristis* (Linnaeus, 1758)

FR: Poisson-scie commun  
EN: Common sawfish  
Species code: PPL

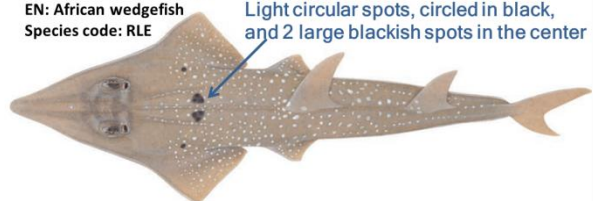


Rostral teeth 14-24

SIZE: Reaches at least 656 cm TL.  
IUCN statut: **EN**

*Rhynchobatus hieberti* Ehrenbaum, 1915

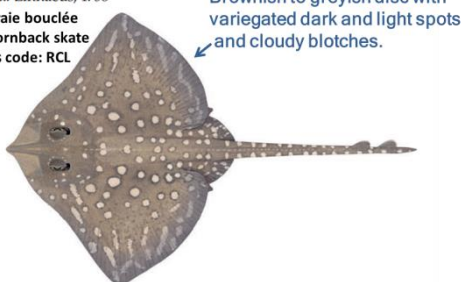
FR: Poisson-paille africain  
EN: African wedgefish  
Species code: RLE



SIZE: Attains 300 cm TL.  
IUCN statut: **EN**

*Raja clavata* Linnaeus, 1758

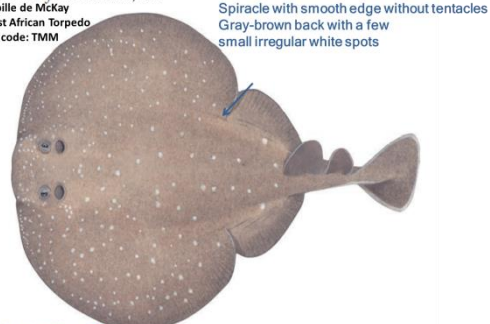
FR: La raie bouclée  
EN: Thornback skate  
Species code: RCL



SIZE: Attains 130 cm TL.  
IUCN statut: **NT**

*Torpedo mackayana* Metzelaar, 1919

FR: Torpille de McKay  
EN: West African Torpedo  
Species code: TMM



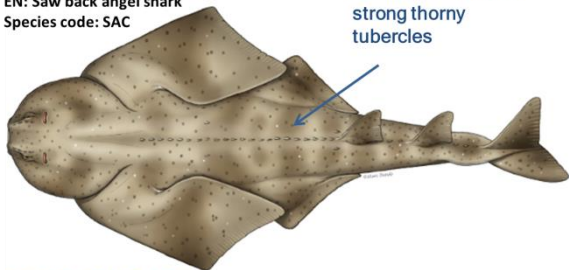
SIZE: Attains 40 cm TL.  
IUCN statut: **EN**

## Sharks already seen

*Squatina aculeata* Cuvier, 1829

FR: Ange de mer épineux  
EN: Saw back angel shark  
Species code: SAC

A mid-dorsal row of strong thorny tubercles



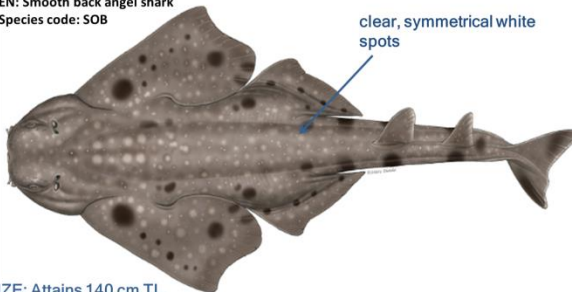
SIZE: Attains 190 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 


*Squatina oculata* Bonaparte, 1840

FR: Ange de mer ocellé  
EN: Smooth back angel shark  
Species code: SOB

clear, symmetrical white spots



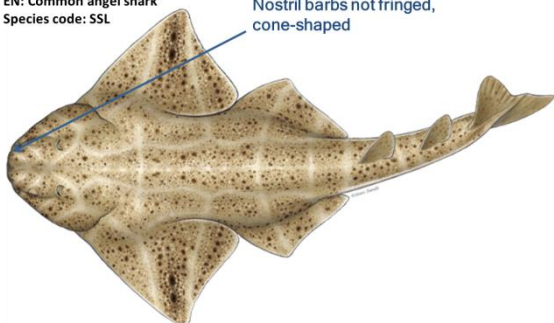
SIZE: Attains 140 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Squatina squatina* (Linnaeus, 1758)

FR: Ange de mer commun  
EN: Common angel shark  
Species code: SSL

Nostril barb not fringed, cone-shaped

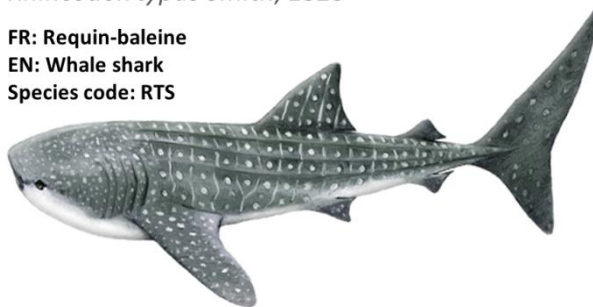


SIZE: Attains 244 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Rhincodon typus* Smith, 1828

FR: Requin-baleine  
EN: Whale shark  
Species code: RTS



SIZE: Attains 15m TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Mustelus mustelus* (Linnaeus, 1758)

FR: Émissole lisse  
EN: Smooth hound  
Species code: MML

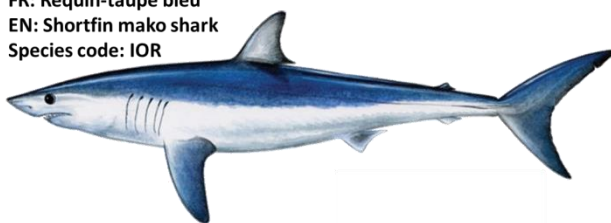


SIZE: Attains 164cm TL.


IUCN statut: 

*Isurus oxyrinchus* Rafinesque, 1810

FR: Requin-taupe bleu  
EN: Shortfin mako shark  
Species code: IOR



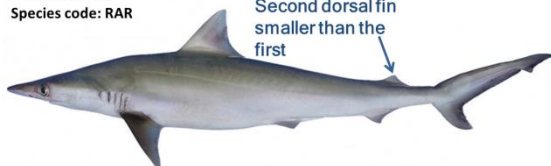
SIZE: Attains 4m TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Rhizoprionodon acutus* (Rüppell, 1837)

FR: Requin à museau pointu  
EN: Milk shark  
Species code: RAR

Second dorsal fin smaller than the first



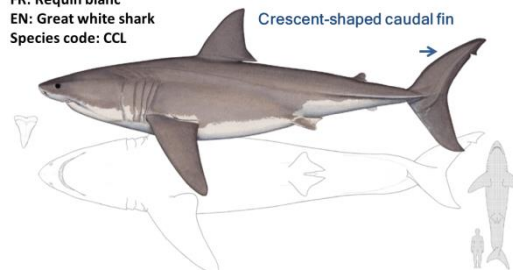
SIZE: Attains 115 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

*Carcharodon carcharias* (Linnaeus, 1758)

FR: Requin blanc  
EN: Great white shark  
Species code: CCL

Crescent-shaped caudal fin



SIZE: Attains 640 cm TL.

IUCN statut: 

## Species already seen

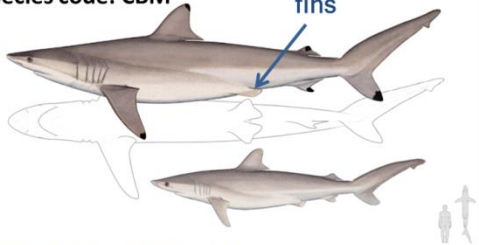
*Carcharhinus brevipinna* (Müller & Henle, 1839)

FR: Requin tisserand

EN: Spinner shark

Species code: CBM

Black tips on all fins except pelvic fins



SIZE: Attains 280 cm TL.

IUCN statut: **VU**

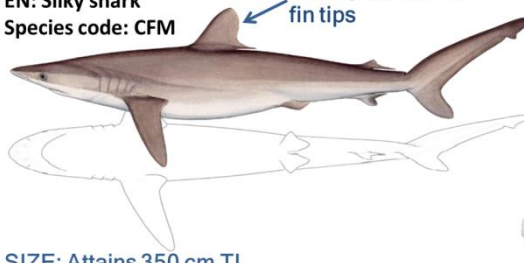
*Carcharhinus falciformis* (Müller & Henle, 1839)

FR: Requin soyeux

EN: Silky shark

Species code: CFM

usually unstained fin tips



SIZE: Attains 350 cm TL.

IUCN statut: **VU**

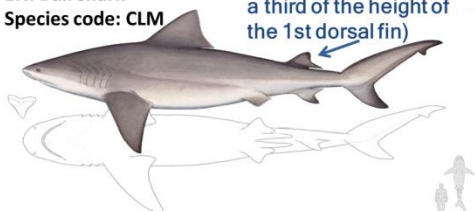
*Carcharhinus leucas* (Müller & Henle, 1839)

FR: Requin bouledogue

EN: Bull shark

Species code: CLM

2nd dorsal fin (more than a third of the height of the 1st dorsal fin)



SIZE: Attains 350 cm TL.

IUCN statut: **VU**

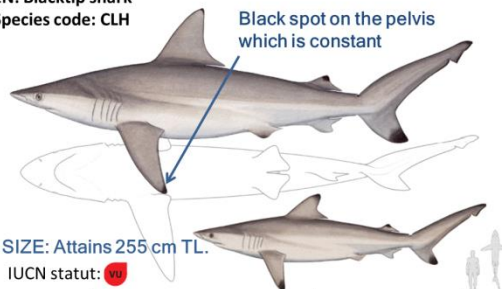
*Carcharhinus limbatus* (Müller & Henle, 1839)

FR: Requin bordé

EN: Blacktip shark

Species code: CLH

Black spot on the pelvis which is constant



SIZE: Attains 255 cm TL.

IUCN statut: **VU**

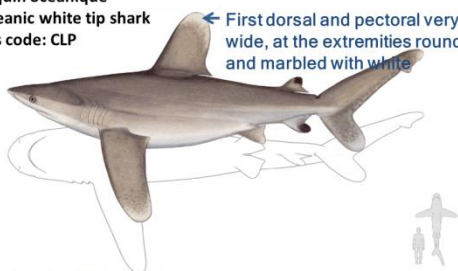
*Carcharhinus longimanus* (Poey, 1861)

FR: Requin océanique

EN: Oceanic white tip shark

Species code: CLP

First dorsal and pectoral very wide, at the extremities rounded and marbled with white



SIZE: Attains 350 cm TL.

IUCN statut: **VU**

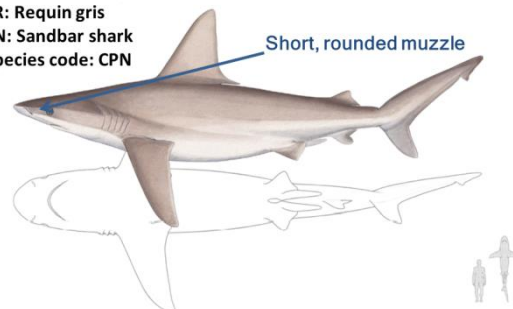
*Carcharhinus plumbeus* (Nardo, 1827)

FR: Requin gris

EN: Sandbar shark

Species code: CPN

Short, rounded muzzle



SIZE: Attains 300 cm TL.

IUCN statut: **VU**

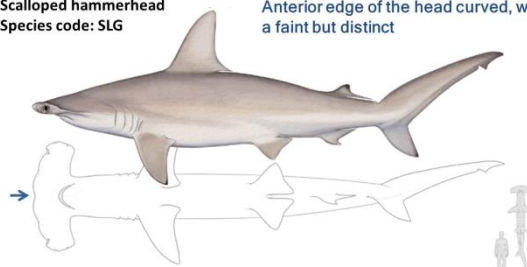
*Sphyrna lewini* (Griffith & Smith, 1834)

FR: Requin marteau halicorne

Scalloped hammerhead

Species code: SLG

Anterior edge of the head curved, with a faint but distinct



SIZE: Attains 420 cm TL.

IUCN statut: **VU**

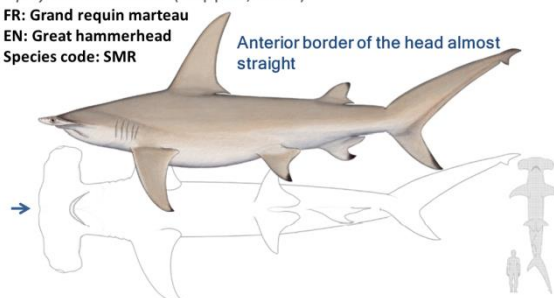
*Sphyrna mokarran* (Rüppell, 1837)

FR: Grand requin marteau

EN: Great hammerhead

Species code: SMR

Anterior border of the head almost straight



SIZE: Attains 6 m TL.

IUCN statut: **VU**