



**General Fisheries Commission
for the Mediterranean**



**Workshop on Stock Assessment of Selected Species of
Elasmobranches in the GFCM area**
12-16 December 2011; Brussels, Belgium

**“Elasmobranches listed in the Annexes to the
SPA/BD Protocol of the Barcelona Convention”
and cooperation with the GFCM**



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**Elasmobranches Biodiversity in the
Mediterranean**



	Orders	Families	Genera	Species
Sharks	5 (#8)	17 (#34)	26 (#99)	49 (#470)
Batoids	5 (#5)	9 (#20)	15 (#69)	37 (# 650)
Chimaeras	1 (#1)	1 (#3)	1 (#6)	1 (#50)
Total # = World Total	11 (#14)	27 (#57)	42 (#174)	87 (#1170)



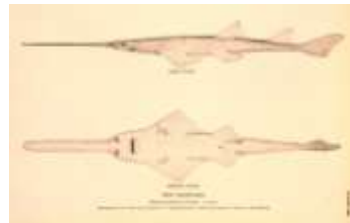
Although the biodiversity of Mediterranean elasmobranches might not look at first sight very high, its real richness is clearly enhanced by the fact that this sea has a surface of only 0.69% that of the World oceans and holds just 0.28% of the Global sea volume



Need to take action to reduce the erosion of the biodiversity



According to the results of the red list evaluation of fishes by IUCN experts, many species of cartilaginous fishes have a threatened status or need their exploitation to be regulated in the Mediterranean.



Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fishes in the Mediterranean Sea



The main objectives of the action plan are:

- To limit the general declining trend showed by elasmobranch populations.
- To set priorities and activities to be undertaken to protect cartilaginous fish at Mediterranean level.
- To co-ordinate the effort among Mediterranean countries to ensure the implementation of these activities.
- To gather the co-operation and collaboration among Mediterranean countries in the protection of cartilaginous fish





Action plan update for 2010-13



A review took place in 2009 to assess the implementation of the Action Plan for the Conservation of Cartilaginous Fishes in the Mediterranean Sea (UNEP(DEPI) / MED WG.331 / Inf.13).

An update of the implementation calendar for 2010-2013 was adopted by the Parties to the Barcelona Convention.

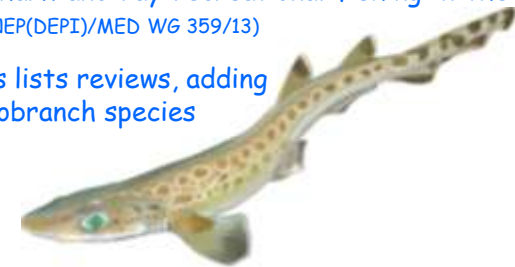


RAC/SPA actions within the Action Plan frame



RAC/SPA recently prepared:

- A regional overview and technical guidelines to improve national legislations and regulations concerning cartilaginous fish conservation and management (UNEP(DEPI) / MED WG.331 /10)
- Guidelines for shark and ray recreational fishing in the Mediterranean (UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG 359/13)
- Protocol annexes lists reviews, adding several new elasmobranch species





Elasmobranches status in the Mediterranean

Four species already listed since 1995 were considered in 2009 worthy to be kept in their actual listing; other six ones were proposed for uplisting in Annex II and other 23 new ones were proposed to be added to the annexes.

(UNEP(DEPI) / MED WG.331 / 6)



Proposed elasmobranches listing in the SPA/BD Protocol Annexes on 2009



Summary of Red List Status and proposed Annex to Barcelona Convention Parties in 2009				
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	RL Threatened Status Mediterranean assessment	RL Threatened Status Global assessment	Proposed for Annex I/Annex III
<i>Squatina spp</i>	Angelsharks	CR	CR (2006)	Annex II (uplist)
<i>Pristis spp</i>	Sawfish	CR	CR (2006)	Annex II
<i>Oxynotus centrina</i>	Angular roughshark	CR	VU (2007)	Annex II
<i>Carcharias taurus</i>	Sand tiger shark	CR	VU (2000)	Annex II
<i>Gymnura altavela</i>	Spiny butterfly ray	CR	VU (2007)	Annex II
<i>Dipturus batis</i>	Common skate	CR	CR (2006)	Annex II
<i>Leucoraja melitensis</i>	Maltese skate	CR	CR (2006)	Annex II
<i>Rostroraja alba</i>	White skate	CR	EN (2006)	Annex II (uplist)
<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	Shortfin mako	CR	VU (2009)	Annex II (uplist)
<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle shark	CR	VU (2005)	Annex II (uplist)
<i>Rhinobatos spp</i>	Guitarfish	EN	EN (2007)	Annex II/Annex III?
<i>Odontaspis ferox</i>	Smalltooth sand tiger	EN	VU (2009)	Annex II
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	Great white shark	EN	VU (2000)	Annex II (no change)
<i>Leucoraja circularis</i>	Sandy skate	EN	VU (2009)	Annex II
<i>Carcharhinus plumbeus</i>	Sandbar shark	EN	VU (2009)	Annex II/Annex III?
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Spiny dogfish	EN (VU Black Sea)	VU (2006)	Annex III
<i>Mobula mobular</i>	Giant devilray	EN	EN (2006)	Annex II (no change)
<i>Sphyrna spp</i>	Hammerhead sharks	NE	EN/EN/VU	Annex II
<i>Raja undulata</i>	Undulate ray	NE	EN (2008)	Annex III
<i>Mustelus spp</i>	Smoothhounds	VU/DD	VU/LC/DD	Annex III
<i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>	Tope shark	VU	VU (2005)	Annex III
<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	Basking shark	VU	VU (2000)	Annex II (no change)
<i>Alopias vulpinus</i>	Thresher shark	VU	VU (2009)	Annex III
<i>Hepranchias perlo</i>	Sharpnose sevengill shark	VU	NT (2003)	Annex III
<i>Prionace glauca</i>	Blue shark	VU	NT (2000)	Annex III (no change)
<i>Centrophorus granulosus</i>	Gulper shark	VU	VU (2006)	Annex III

KEY
 Species currently listed on either Annex
 Mediterranean endemic





Pisces listing update of the SPA/BD Protocol Annexes adopted on 2010



Annex II

Pisces

Acipenser naccarii (Bonaparte, 1836)
Acipenser sturio (Linnaeus, 1758)
Aphanius fasciatus (Valenciennes, 1821)
Aphanius iberus (Valenciennes, 1846)
Carcharias laurus (Rafinesque, 1810)
Carcharias zanzibaricus (Linnaeus, 1758)
Cetorhinus maximus (Günther, 1765)
Dipturus laevis (Linnaeus, 1758)
Gymnura altivelis (Linnaeus, 1758)
Hippocampus guttulatus (Cuvier, 1829) (synon)
Hippocampus hippocampus (Linnaeus, 1758)
Miso fusco (Linnaeus, 1758)
Leithnerion zanzibaricus (Vlastykin, 1955)
Mobula mobular (Bonnaterre, 1788)
Odonaspis ferox (Risso, 1810)
Oxynocheilus cyrenus (Linnaeus, 1758)
Pomatoschistus canebivus (Ninni, 1883)
Pomatoschistus portoricensis (Miles, 1968)
Pristis pectinata (Latham, 1794)
Pristis pristis (Linnaeus, 1758)
Roststraja alba (Lacépède, 1803)
Squalius aculeatus (Duncker, in Cuvier, 1817)
Squalius oculatus (Bonaparte, 1840)
Squalius squalius (Linnaeus, 1758)
Valenciola hispanica (Valenciennes, 1846)
Valenciola leuromexii (Sauvage, 1890)

Annex III

Pisces

Alpias vulpinus (Bonnaterre, 1788)
Alopias albus (Linnaeus, 1758)
Alopias fyllae (Lacépède, 1803)
Anguilla anguilla (Linnaeus, 1758)
Carcharias plumbeus (Nardo, 1827)
Centrophorus granulosus (Bloch & Schneider, 1801)
Epinephelus marginatus (Lowe, 1834)
Galeorhinus galeus (Linnaeus, 1758)
Heterobranchius partus (Bonnaterre, 1788)
Iurus oxyrinchus (Rafinesque, 1810)
Lamna nasus (Bonnaterre, 1788)
Lampetra fluviatilis (Linnaeus, 1758)
Leucoraja circularis (Cluod, 1838)
Leucoraja melitensis (Clark, 1926)
Mustelus asterias (Cloquet, 1821)
Mustelus mustelus (Linnaeus, 1758)
Mustelus punctulatus (Risso, 1826)
Petronyzon marinus Linnaeus, 1758
Prionace glauca (Linnaeus, 1758)
Rhinobatos cemiculus E. Geoffroy (Saint-Hilaire, 1817)
Rhinobatos rhinobatos (Linnaeus, 1758)
Sphyrna lewini (Griffith & Smith, 1834)
Sphyrna mokarana (Ruppel, 1837)
Sphyrna zygaena (Linnaeus, 1758)
Soleneus umbra (Linnaeus, 1758)
Squalus acanthias (Linnaeus, 1758)
Thunnus thynnus (Linnaeus, 1758)
Umbra cirrosa (Linnaeus, 1758)
Xiphias gladius (Linnaeus, 1758)



New Pisces listing update of the SPA/BD Protocol Annexes since 2012



Amendments to the annexes II and III to the SPA/BD Protocol were finally adopted on 2010 by the Barcelona Convention Parties, including most of the elasmobranches proposals.

Certain Parties requested then to update the scientific assessment and to further evaluate the status of shark species listed in Annex III, with a view to consider at the 2012 Meeting of the Contracting Parties the possible amendment of the SPA/BD Protocol for their inclusion in Annex II.





Species to be considered at the 2012 Meeting of the Contracting Parties for uplisting to Annex II



➤ Species newly listed in Annex III on 2010 for which direct listing in Annex II had been proposed: *Sphyrna lewini*, *Sphyrna mokarran*, *Sphyrna zygaena*, *Leucoraja melitensis*, *Leucoraja circularis*, *Rhinobatos rhinobatos* and *Rhinobatos cemiculus*.
(UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.359/7)



➤ Species for which uplisting from Annex III to II is been requested but not yet adopted: *Isurus oxyrinchus*, *Lamna nasus* and *Galeorhinus galeus*
(UNEP(DEPI)/MED WG.359/7)



GFCM contributions to the Action Plan



Contributions on elasmobranches status & scientific assessment gaps by the participants to GFCM meetings may assist RAC/SPA to undertake future annexes reviews on these species.





Thanks for your attention

