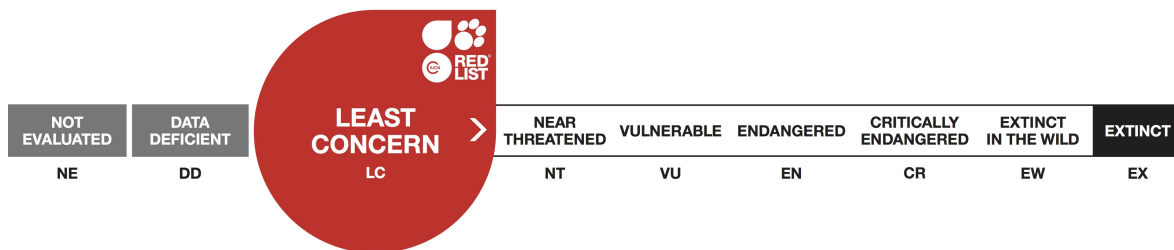




Okamejei ornata, Ornate Skate

Assessment by: Ebert, D.A., Khan, M., Ali, M. & Akhilesh, K.V.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Chondrichthyes	Rajiformes	Rajidae

Taxon Name: *Okamejei ornata* Weigmann, Stehmann & Thiel, 2015

Common Name(s):

- English: Ornate Skate

Taxonomic Source(s):

Last, P., White, W., de Carvalho, M., Séret, B., Stehmann, M. and Naylor, G. 2016. *Rays of the World*. CSIRO Publishing, Clayton.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2017

Date Assessed: February 9, 2017

Justification:

The Ornate Skate (*Okamejei ornata*) is endemic to the Arabian Seas region, where it is only known from 10 specimens caught around the Socotra Islands (Yemen). It occurs on the upper continental slope at depths of 375-390 m, reaches at least 51 cm total length (TL), but virtually nothing is known of its biology. Despite being recorded from only a limited number of specimens, there are currently no known threats to this species since deep-sea fisheries do not operate within its known depth range, and it is therefore assessed as Least Concern. Further information is required on its life history, population size, and geographic and depth range.

Geographic Range

Range Description:

The Ornate Skate is endemic to the Arabian Seas region, where it is only known from 10 specimens caught around the Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) off Somalia (Weigmann *et al.* 2015).

Country Occurrence:

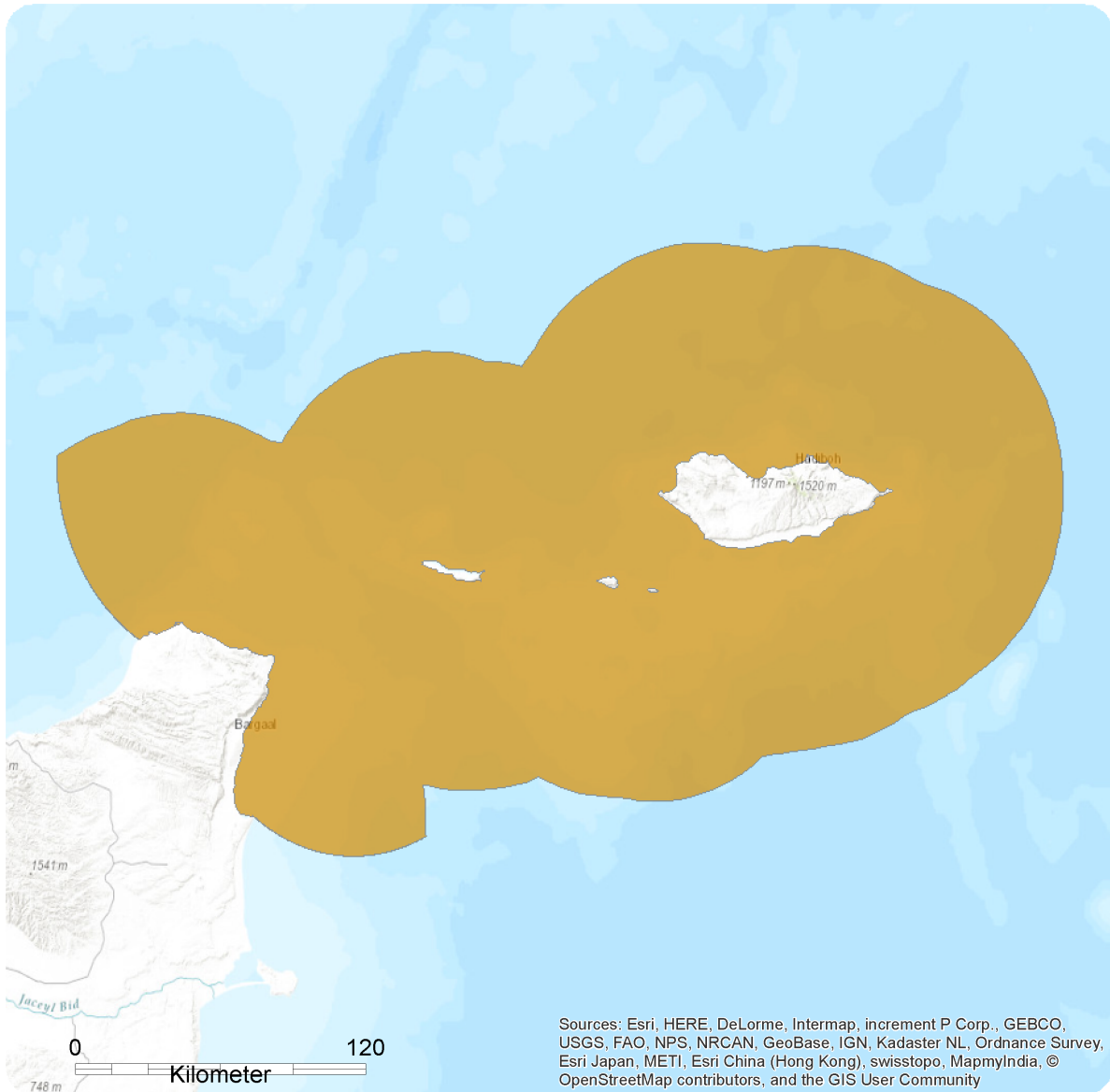
Native: Yemen (Socotra)

FAO Marine Fishing Areas:

Native: Indian Ocean - western

Distribution Map

Okamejei ornata



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

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 information on the population of this species.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

Virtually nothing is known about this recently described skate species. It occurs on the upper continental slope from 375-390 m off Socotra Island (Yemen). It attains a maximum length of at least 51 cm total length (TL), with males mature between 35-41.8 cm TL. Females are subadult at 36 cm TL and adult at 51 cm TL. No other life history information is available on this species (Weigmann *et al.* 2015).

Systems: Marine

Use and Trade

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

Threats

Presently, there are no known threats to this species since deep-sea fisheries do not currently operate within its known depth range.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Currently there are no conservation actions in place that might benefit this species in the waters 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., Khan, M., Ali, M. & Akhilesh, K.V.

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

Contributor(s): Kyne, P.M.

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

Bibliography

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

Weigmann, S., Stehmann, M.F.W. and Thiel, R. 2015. *Okamejei ornata* n. sp., a new deep-water skate (Elasmobranchii, Rajidae) from the northwestern Indian Ocean off Socotra Islands. *Deep-Sea Research II* 115: 18-29.

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 -> 3.4. Habitat 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
Number of Locations: 1
Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: Unknown
Lower depth limit (m): 390
Upper depth limit (m): 375
Population
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations: Unknown
Population severely fragmented: Unknown
Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: Unknown

Population
All individuals in one subpopulation: Unknown
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Unknown
Movement patterns: Unknown

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