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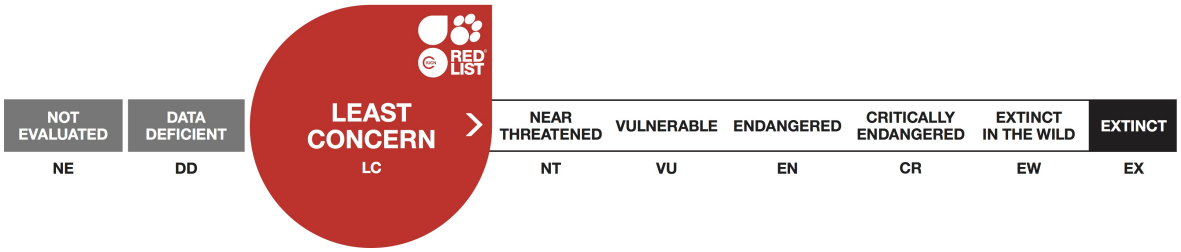
Language: English

Neoharriotta pumila, Arabian Sicklefin Chimaera

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



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Chondrichthyes	Chimaeriformes	Rhinochimaeridae

Taxon Name: *Neoharriotta pumila* Didier & Stehmann, 1996

Synonym(s):

- *Neoharriotta quraishii* Ali-Khan & Hussein, 1999

Common Name(s):

- English: Arabian Sicklefin Chimaera

Taxonomic Source(s):

Eschmeyer, W.N., Fricke, R. and Van der Laan, R. (eds). 2017. Catalog of Fishes: genera, species, references. Updated 28 April 2017. Available at: http://researcharchive.calacademy.org/research/ichthyology/catalog/fishcatmain.asp. (Accessed: 03 May 2017).

Taxonomic Notes:

A record of an egg capsule from the Indian Ocean identified as *Harriotta indica* (Balakrishnan 1962), as well as records of *H. pinnata* in the Arabian Sea and Southwest India (Manilo and Movchan 1989, Silas and Selvaraj 1980) probably refer to this species.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern ver 3.1

Year Published: 2017

Date Assessed: February 5, 2017

Justification:

The Arabian Sicklefin Chimaera (*Neoharriotta pumila*) inhabits waters off Socotra, Yemen and Somalia at depths of 100–1,120 m. It may have a wider distribution in the Indian Ocean, particularly at depths of 1,000 m or more. The maximum size is around 65 cm total length, but biology is poorly-known. There are no targeted fisheries for the species and it is not known from bycatch given its deep occurrence. As there are currently no known threats to this species, it is therefore listed as Least Concern.

Geographic Range

Range Description:

The Arabian Sicklefin Chimaera is endemic to the Arabian Seas region. Its known range is restricted to the Arabian Sea and Gulf of Aden off Somalia and the Socotra Archipelago (Yemen) (Didier and Stehmann 1996, Ebert 2014). It may have a wider distribution in the Indian Ocean, particularly at depths of 1,000 m or more.

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Country Occurrence:

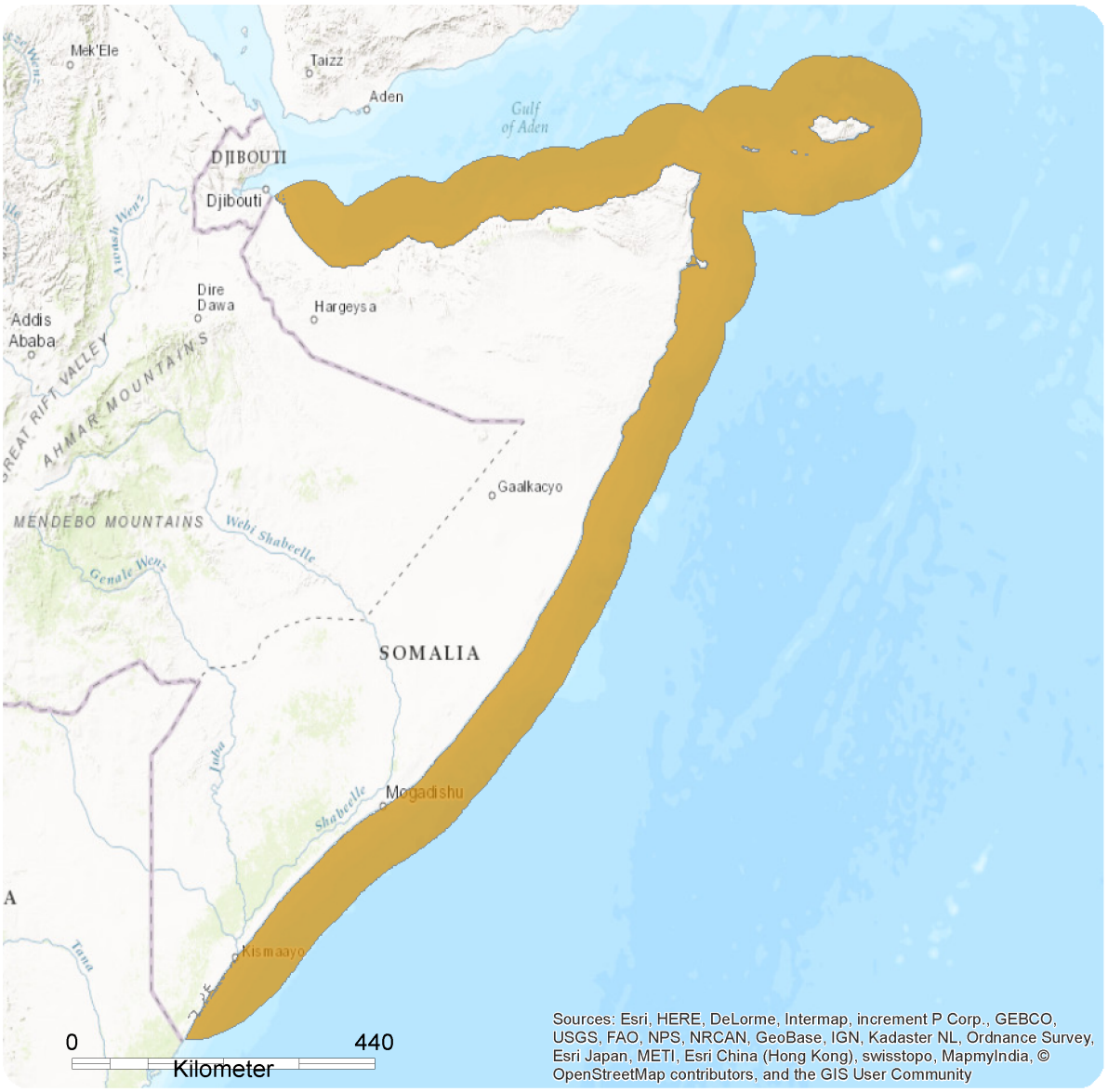
Native: Somalia; Yemen (Socotra)

FAO Marine Fishing Areas:

Native: Indian Ocean - western

Distribution Map

Neoharriotta pumila

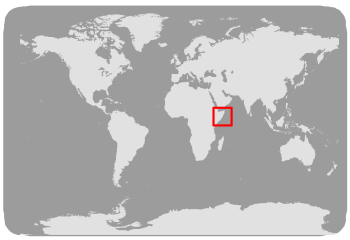


Range

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.

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Population

At present this species is known only from a single population with a range restricted to the Arabian Sea. Very few specimens have been collected and no other data with regard to population structure are available.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

The Arabian Sicklefin Chimaera is a benthic slope dweller, probably preferring rocky, muddy or silty bottoms of the shelf edge and upper to middle slope at depths of 100–1,120 m. The maximum size is believed to be around 65 cm total length (TL) with size at maturity like to be around 50–55 cm TL and 20 cm body length (BDL). Size at birth is unknown. It is oviparous, but nothing else is known of reproduction, litter size, or spawning (Didier and Stehmann 1996, Ebert 2014).

Systems: Marine

Use and Trade

This species is not known to occur in trade.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no known threats to this species. It may be caught as bycatch but there are no substantiated records to date. It is currently largely beyond the depth range of fisheries in the region, but could be put under fishing pressure in the future.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no conservation measures in place for this species. More specimens are needed to conduct research and collect much needed data on biology, ecology and distribution of this species to further assess status and any future conservation needs.

Credits

Assessor(s): Ebert, D.A., Bineesh, K.K., Khan, M. & Akhilesh, K.V.

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Balakrishnan, K.P. 1962. On a chimaeroid egg capsule from the Arabian Sea. *Journal of the Zoological Society of India* 14:137–140.

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Manilo, A.G. and Movchan, Y.V. 1989. First record of long-nosed chimaera, *Neoharriotta pinnata*, from the Arabian Sea. *Journal of Ichthyology* 29:136–141. [Translation of original publication in *Voprosy Ikhtiologii* 1989, 6:908–913].

Silas, E.G. and Selvaraj, G.S.D. 1980. Studies on demersal fishes of the deep neritic waters and the upper continental slope. 3. On *Neoharriotta pinnata* (Schnackenbeck), a potentially important resource. *Journal of the Marine Biological Association of India* 22:149–158.

Weigmann, S. 2016. Annotated checklist of the living sharks, batoids and chimaeras (Chondrichthyes) of the world, with a focus on biogeographical diversity. *Journal of Fish Biology* 88(3): 837-1037.

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

Threats

(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
5. Biological resource use -> 5.4. Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources -> 5.4.4. Unintentional effects: (large scale) [harvest]	Future	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		

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 beningly: No
Subject to ex-situ conservation: No
In-Place Education

Conservation Actions in Place
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
3. Species management -> 3.1. Species management -> 3.1.1. Harvest management
4. Education & awareness -> 4.2. Training
4. Education & awareness -> 4.3. Awareness & communications
5. Law & policy -> 5.2. Policies and regulations

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

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
Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: Unknown
Lower depth limit (m): 1120
Upper depth limit (m): 100

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Population
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations: Unknown
Population severely fragmented: Unknown
Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: Unknown
All individuals in one subpopulation: Unknown
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Unknown
Movement patterns: Unknown

The IUCN Red List Partnership

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is produced and managed by the IUCN Global Species Programme, the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and The IUCN Red List Partnership.

The IUCN Red List Partners are: Arizona State University; BirdLife International; Botanic Gardens Conservation International; Conservation International; NatureServe; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Sapienza University of Rome; Texas A&M University; and Zoological Society of London.