

Whale shark landed in Sakthikulangara Fisheries Harbour

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Fig. 1. An immature female whale shark landed at Sakthikulangara Fisheries Harbour

An immature female whale shark *Rhincodon typus* accidentally caught by a multiday trawler on 19th August 2019 was landed on the same day at Sakthikulangara Fisheries Harbour (Fig. 1) Listed as an endangered species by International Union for Conservation of Natural Resources, locally the shark is known as 'pullisravu.' The whaleshark measured 265cm and weighed approximately 250kg. As there was no buyer for this species which is protected under the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the carcass was discarded into the sea.

The morphometric measurements are given below:

Total length	:	267 cm
Standard length	:	195 cm
Snout vent length	:	139 cm
Anal length	:	166 cm
Length of dorsal caudal space	:	26 cm
First dorsal length	:	122 cm
Second dorsal length	:	167 cm
Caudal fin length	:	122 cm
Pre pelvic fin length	:	32 cm
Pre pectoral fin length	:	56 cm
Inter dorsal space length	:	27 cm
Pre branchial length	:	44 cm