

## Whale shark, *Rhincodon typus* landed at Kalamukku fish landing centre, Kerala

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A whale shark, *Rhincodon typus* caught by a trawl boat landed at Kalamukku fish landing centre on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2013. This fish was accidentally entangled in a trawl net operated off Kochi at a depth of 70 m. The fish did not have external injuries on its body. It was having a total length of 5 m (Fig.1) and other measurements could not be taken as the information received was at a later stage and the specimen was already thrown back to the sea.

It is locally known as “Thimingala sravu” and is listed as an endangered species as per the IUCN Red list. *Rhincodon typus* is a protected species included under Schedule-I of Indian Wildlife Protection Act, 1972.



Fig. 1. *Rhincodon typus* landed at Kalamukku, Kochi