

## 2016-2017 Report



Nicholas Dulvy



Colin Simpfendorfer

### Co-Chairs

Nicholas Dulvy <sup>(1)</sup>  
Colin Simpfendorfer <sup>(2)</sup>

### Red List Authority Coordinator

Peter Kyne <sup>(3)</sup>

### Location/Affiliation

<sup>(1)</sup> Earth to Oceans Research Group, Department of Biology, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada  
<sup>(2)</sup> College of Science and Engineering, James Cook University, Townsville, Australia  
<sup>(3)</sup> Research Institute for the Environment and Livelihoods, Charles Darwin University, Australia

### Number of members

140

### Social networks

Twitter:  
@IUCNshark



### Mission statement

To secure the conservation, management and, where necessary, the recovery of the world's sharks, rays and chimaeras by mobilizing global technical and scientific expertise to provide the knowledge that enables action.

### Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

#### Barometer of life

##### ■ Capacity building

i. Five members attained Red List Trainer certificate course and became Red List Trainers. (KSR #5)

##### ■ Proposal development and funding

i. Global Shark Trends proposal funded.

##### ■ Red List

i. Completed regional Red List assessments for 153 species. Report here: <http://bit.ly/2yhf9qw> (KSR #2)

#### Bolster work at national scales

##### ■ Conservation activities

i. Educational films and books produced for Madagascar and Mozambique. (KSR #36)

##### ■ Red List

i. One hundred and eighty three global assessments. (KSR #2)

#### Capacity building

##### ■ Synergy

i. Liaison with various Sawfish activities throughout the world, sharing knowledge and methods. (KSR #29)

ii. Scientific advice on priorities and investment strategy for the Shark Conservation Fund (<https://www.sharkconservationfund.org/>). (KSR #29)

iii. Scientific advice on priorities for the Global Shark and Ray Initiative (GSRI), <http://www.iucnssg.org/global-sharks-and-rays-initiative.html>. (KSR #29)

#### Conservation action

##### ■ Conservation activities

i. Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Conservation Strategy for three Critically Endangered Angel Sharks completed in Spring 2017. (KSR #15)

ii. Conservation Strategy for Devil and Manta Rays completed in Spring 2017. (KSR #15)

iii. Action Plan for Angel Shark for the Canary Islands completed in December 2016. (KSR #15)

##### ■ Proposal development and funding

i. Sawfish Conservation Planning Meeting Nov. 6-10th, Georgia Aquarium, Atlanta, US.

##### ■ Research activities

i. Search to determine if Sawfishes are still present in N. Papua New Guinea. (KSR #32)

#### Policy

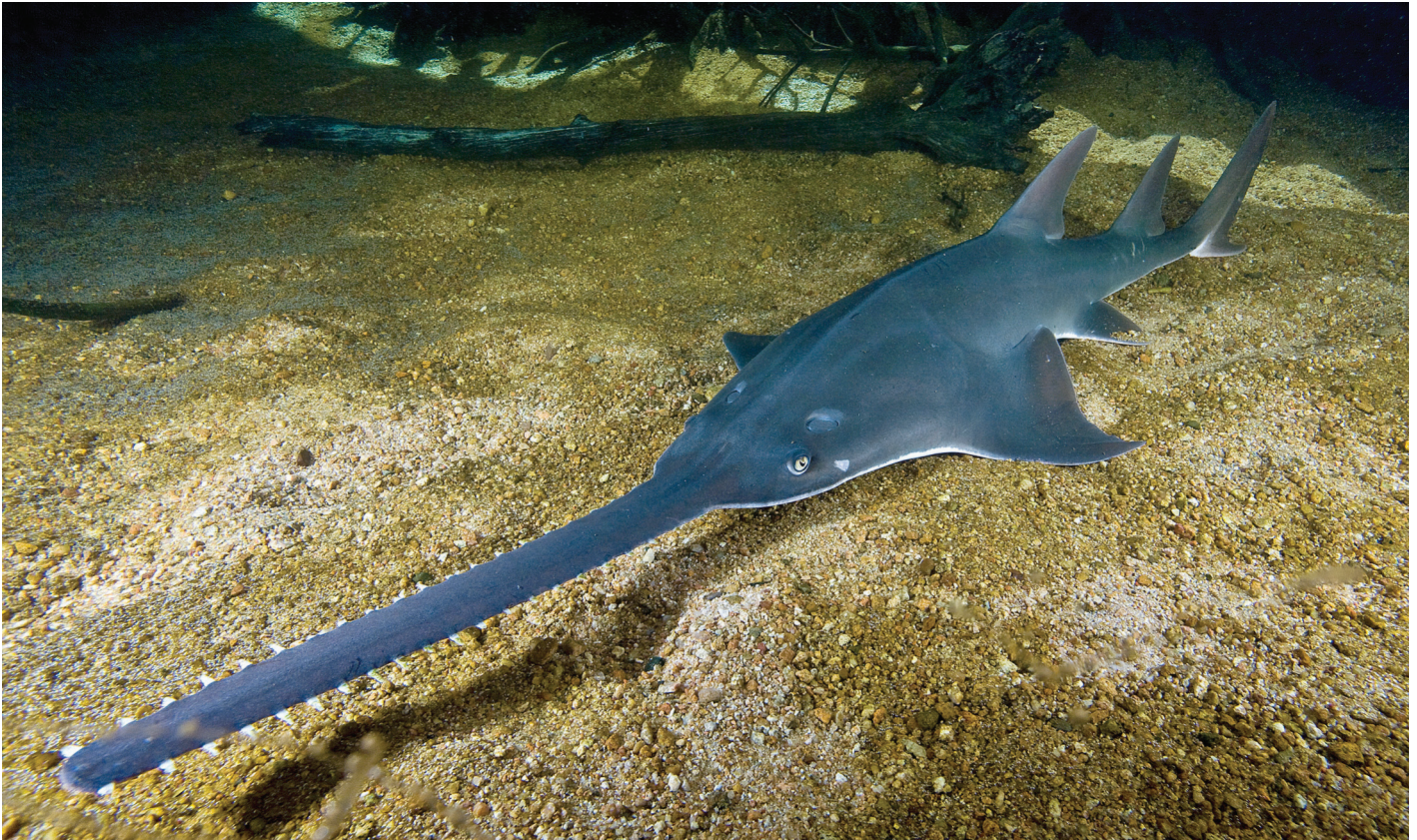
##### ■ Policy advice

i. Thirteen species added to CITES Appendix II, including three Thresher Sharks, the Silky Shark, and nine species of Mobulid Rays. (KSR #27)

##### ■ Technical advice

i. Scientific advice to support listing of Devil and Manta Rays on Annex I of MoU at the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), Memorandum of Understanding for Migratory Sharks (Sharks MoU), Second Meeting of the Signatories. Advice provided significant new evidence of low productivity and elevated risk of Devil Rays. (KSR #27)

ii. Red List assessment and productivity analyses communicated to FAO/CITES panel and TRAFFIC CITES analyses, both entered as INF documents at CITES COP and introduced to the floor by Fiji. (KSR #27)



- iii. Guidance on sustainability of shark product for carriage on a major airline. (KSR #43)
- iv. Formed a FAO-IUCN Ad Hoc Joint Technical Working Group to evaluate the utility of Red List indicators for reporting on marine fisheries targets. (KSR #27)
- v. Advice to CMS on effectiveness of marine protected areas for the conservation of migratory sharks and rays. (KSR #27)

#### **Acknowledgements**

We thank the following donors that helped us to cover the costs of workshops and/or provided research funding: Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Save Our Seas Foundation, Submon, The Shark Trust UK, Angel Shark Project, Shark Conservation Fund, Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Koenig Museum, Zoological Society of London, Disney Conservation Fund, Foundation Ensemble, EcoAqua, The Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund, The Biodiversity Consultancy, British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums, National Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada, The Canada Research Chairs Program, Project Aware Foundation, Wild Aid, The CMS Sharks MoU, The New England Aquarium, Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation, NOAA, and Simon Fraser University.

#### **Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020**

##### **Barometer of life**

Red List: (1) nine hundred and forty five assessments/reassessments through eight regional and two thematic workshops (all chondrichthyans not recently assessed); (2) Global Red List Index for chondrichthyans; (3) predicted status for all species assessed as Data Deficient.

Research activities: Living Planet Index for Chondrichthyans.

##### **Capacity building**

Synergy: formulation of several Memorandums of Understanding.

##### **Conservation action**

Conservation activities: conservation strategy for Guitarfishes.

#### **Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020**

By the end of 2020, we envision a substantial advance in reducing the extinction risk of the top three most threatened groups of chondrichthyans, namely the Sawfishes, Angel Sharks, Guitarfishes. Eight regional and two thematic workshops will be undertaken to inform updated Red List assessments for all remaining chondrichthyans (942 species), thereby informing conservation prioritization beyond these most threatened groups moving forward.

#### **Summary of activities (2016-2017)**

Key Priority Area ratio: 5/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Barometer of life (3 activities)
- Bolster work at national scales (2 activities)
- Capacity building (3 activities)
- Conservation action (5 activities)
- Policy (6 activities)

Main KSRS addressed: 2, 5, 15, 27, 29, 32, 36, 43

KSR: Key Species Result