

Porbeagle Shark

Lamna nasus



Species Description

The Porbeagle Shark is a dark bluish-grey shark with white undersides, up to 3 m long (on average 1.2-1.8 m). Its body is thickest near the dorsal fin and it has large eyes, a long pointed snout and long gill slits. It has two triangular dorsal fins (the first with a white patch on the trailing edge, the second very small), long, narrow pectoral fins with light-coloured undersides that are dark near the tips and narrowly outlined in black. Its tail (caudal fin) has an upper lobe 1/3 longer than the lower lobe.



Key ID Features: * dorsal fin with white patch on edge on trailing edge * two caudal keels

STATUS



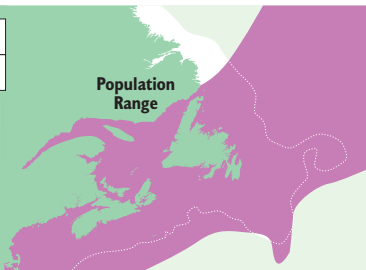
Endangered COSEWIC

Not Listed

SARA

Occurs in cool waters of the Atlantic, southern Indian, southern Pacific and Antarctic Oceans. Found throughout the coastal waters off Nova Scotia and has been observed to undergo annual seasonal migrations. Declined by 90%.

Population Range



Interesting Points

- Fast and very active, with endurance and strength to quickly chase its prey.
- Like the White Shark and Shortfin Mako, the Porbeagle is able to conserve internal body heat (endothermic) through a system of counter-current heat exchangers.



Porbeagle Shark research

Threats

- Mortality from direct and incidental fishing practices.
- Globally impacted by recreational fishing.

Learn how you can help on page 136.



Porbeagle Shark caught on a longline hook

Contacts, Information, Sighting Reports & Stewardship Opportunities

Contact: DFO Species at Risk 1-866-891-0771 or xmarsara@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Info: Canadian Shark Research Lab: www.bio.gc.ca/sharks, www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes

Sighting Reports: Shark Identification Network: <http://sharkidnetwork.com>

Stewardship: Friends of Hector: <http://friendsofhector.org>, <http://atlanticsharks.org>