HAMMERHEAD SHARK

'Scanner' shaped head helps zone in on prey by detecting the direction of a scent, and enabling it to see prey both above and below at the same time.

Favourite food is stingray and smaller sharks.

Forms large schools based on their sex.

Great and scalloped hammerhead mums are thought to live in Indonesia and return to Australia to give birth, possibly the same place they were born.2,3

Great hammerhead is the largest with a max. size of 6m.

Scalloped hammerhead max size of 3.5m.

Population decline 50 - 80% in Australian waters

AUSTRALIA'S HAMMERHEADS

Scalloped hammerhead
Great hammerhead
Smooth hammerhead
Winghead

Endangered
Vulnerable
Near Threatened
Least Concern

HAMMERHEAD FACTS

Great and scalloped hammerhead mums are thought to live in Indonesia and return to Australia to give birth, possibly the same place they were born.2,3

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AUSTRALIAN DISTRIBUTION

WINGHEAD
SCALLOPED HAMMERHEAD
GREAT HAMMERHEAD
SMOOTH HAMMERHEAD

THREATS & SOLUTIONS

THREAT: Their unique head shape causes them to get easily tangled in fishing nets.

SOLUTION: Ban the use of gillnets.

THREAT: Live shark finning where the bodies are dumped at sea.

SOLUTION: Ensure kept sharks are brought back to land in one piece with fins attached.

References:
3. Become a champion here: sharkchampions.org.au