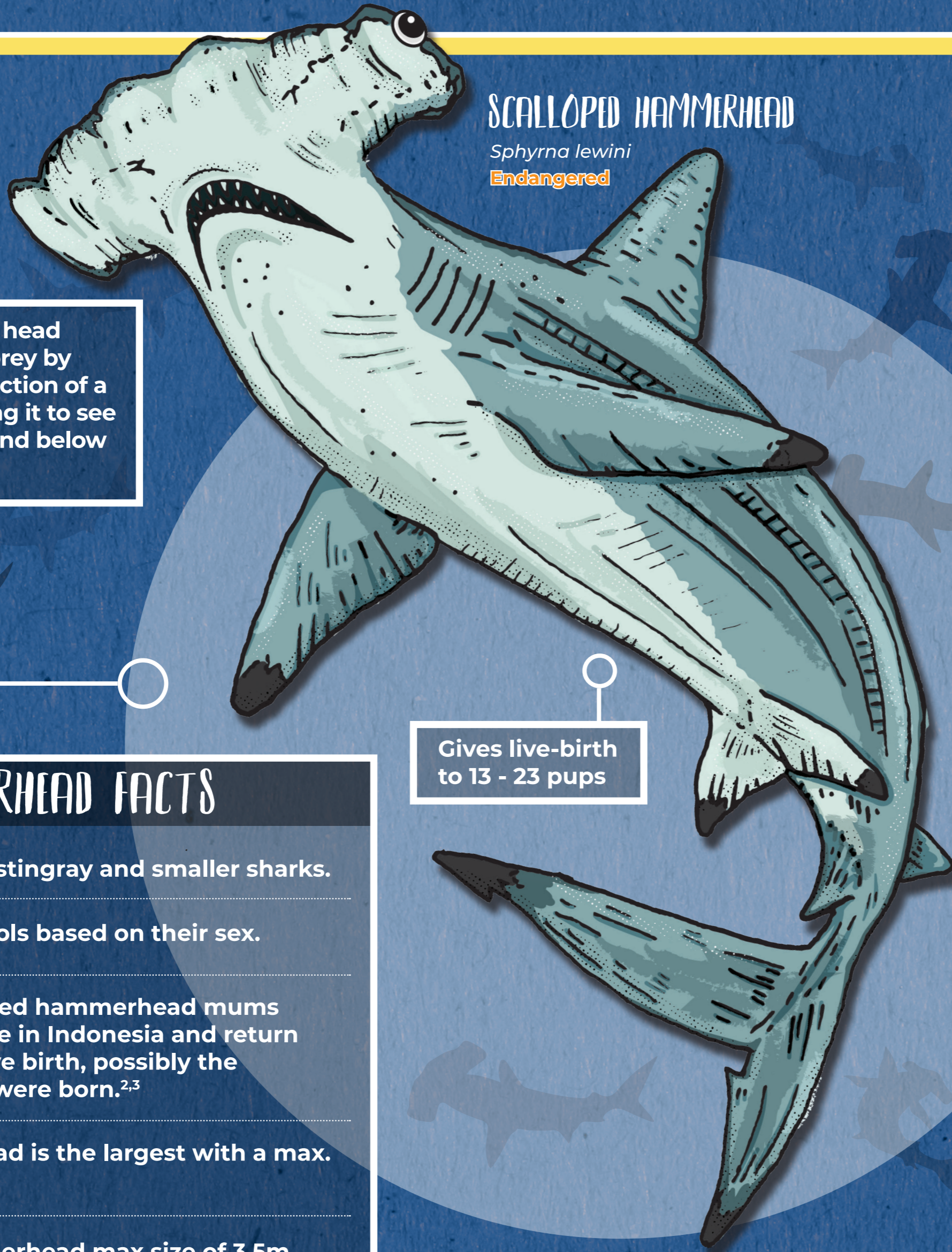


# HAMMERHEAD SHARK



## SCALLOPED HAMMERHEAD

*Sphyrna lewini*  
Endangered

'Hammer' 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.

Gives live-birth to 13 - 23 pups

## HAMMERHEAD FACTS

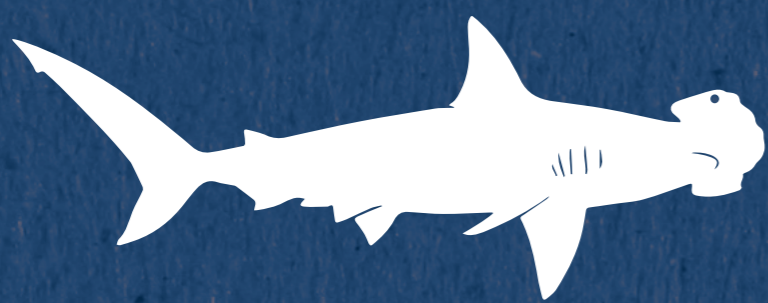
Favourite food is stingray and smaller sharks.

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.<sup>2,3</sup>

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  
Endangered



Great hammerhead  
Vulnerable



Smooth hammerhead  
Near Threatened



Winghead  
Least Concern

## 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:

1. Guttridge et al. (2017) Philopatry and Regional Connectivity of the Great Hammerhead Shark, *Sphyrna mokarran* in the U.S. and Bahamas. *Front. Mar. Sci.* doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2017.00003
2. Chin et al (2017) Crossing lines: a multidisciplinary framework for assessing connectivity of hammerhead sharks across jurisdictional boundaries. *Sci. Rep.* 7:4606. www.nature.com/articles/srep46061

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