**ZEBRA SHARK**

**ZEBRA FACTS**

- Where are its stripes? Only juveniles have dark brown and white 'stripes' similar to a zebra. Length at birth is 20-36 cm.

- Often found in and around coral and rocky reefs, eating mostly crustaceans, molluscs and small fish.

- Although reasonably abundant in Australia, zebra sharks are globally listed as 'Endangered' because of overfishing in south-east Asia for their meat and fins.

- Seasonally travels over 1000 km, forming aggregations of 20-30 individuals in the summer months.

- A docile shark, popular with scuba divers and snorklers.

  Max. size 266cm

**AUSTRALIAN ZEBRA SHARK DISTRIBUTION**

**ZEBRA SHARK**

*Stegostoma fasciatum*

- Least Concern (Australia)
- Endangered (Global)

**Females mature at 6-8 years old and lay 40-80 eggs each year.**

**THREATS & SOLUTIONS**

**THREAT:** Trawl fishing.

- It sometimes rests on, and swims close to the seafloor where it can be 'scooped' up. If caught, zebra sharks are usually thrown back alive.

**SOLUTION:** Trawlers with escape hatches in the trawl nets have reduced the numbers caught in Australia.

**THREAT:** Shark nets.

- Queensland's Shark Control Program accidentally catches zebra sharks amongst a variety of wildlife not considered dangerous to humans.

**SOLUTION:** Remove shark nets and instead use tools like aerial surveillance, signage, and education for bather safety.

Become a champion here: sharkchampions.org.au

SharkChampions with HSI and AMCS