Single Species Action Plan for the Angelshark in the Mediterranean Sea & CMS Decision 14.104

Annex IV

Tools and Guidelines to Support Implementation



IWG EDITION | APRIL 2025

Annex IV

Notes to reader:

This document represents the materials which contribute to the Annex IV archive. The archive is intended to be a living document, to be updated as new products develop. This will be hosted on the Angel Shark Conservation Network (ASCN) website.

Not all of the products displayed in this document have been produced for Mediterranean. Despite this, these additional products represent examples of positive resources which could be adapted to further support the delivery of the Mediterranean SSAP.

Cover image © Carlos Suárez

Contents

Section 1: Identification
Global ID Guide 4
Mediterranean ID Materials 6

Section 2: Management
Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean 7
Angel Shark Conservation Strategy 7
Mediterranean Angel Sharks: Regional Action Plan 8
Wales Angelshark Action Plan 9
Angel Shark Action Plan for the Canary Islands 10
SubRegional Action Plans for the Mediterranean 11
Flat Shark Showcase 12

Section 3: Safe Release and Code of Conduct
Shark Trust Angel Shark Safe Release Animation 13
Angel Shark Project Wales: Best Practice Leaflet 14
Angel Shark Project Canaries: Best Practice for Commercial Fishers 15
Angel Shark Project Canaries: Best Practice for Recreational Fishers 16
Angel Shark Project Wales: Code of Conduct for Scuba and Snorkel 17
Angel Shark Project Canaries Code of Conduct for Diving with Angelsharks 18

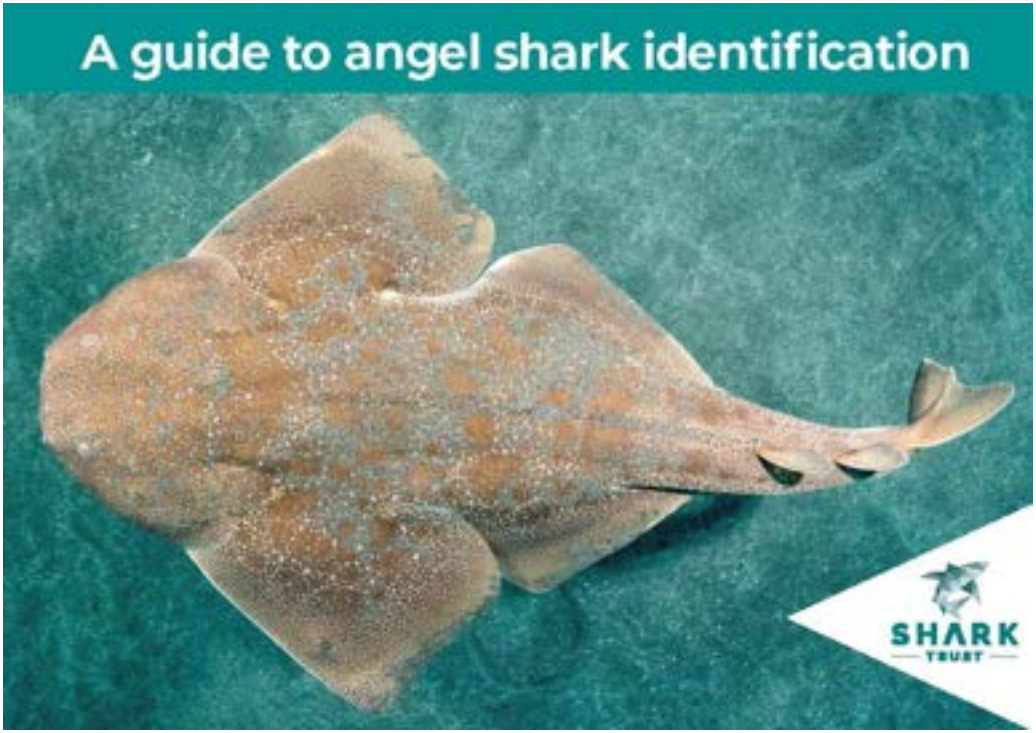
Section 4: Sightings and Reporting

QR Code Reporting Stickers 19

Section 5: Miscellaneous
Angels of Wales eBook 20
Guidance Document for Juvenile Angelshark Habitat 21

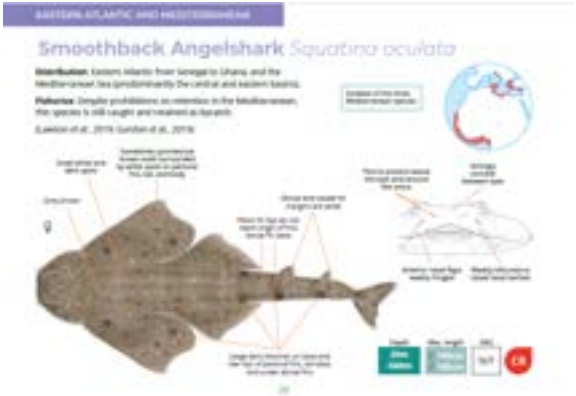
Annex IV Materials corresponding SSAP objectives 22

Global ID Guide






Angelshark Squatina squatina


Smoothback Angelshark Squatina oculata


Sawback Angelshark Squatina oculeata

Mediterranean ID Materials

ARABIC | GREEK | TURKISH (Türkiye) | TURKISH (Cyprus)





Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Angel Shark Conservation Strategy

ENGLISH | FRENCH | SPANISH



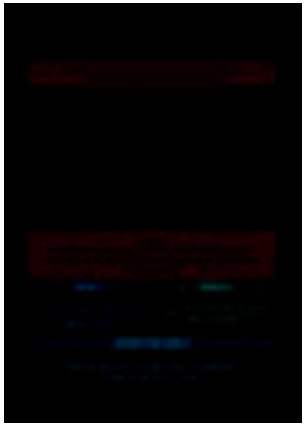


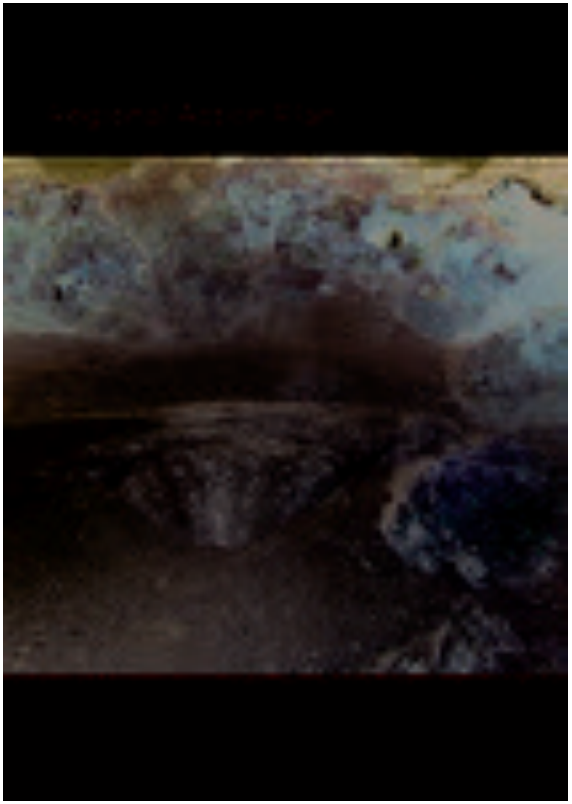


Mediterranean Angel Sharks: Regional Action Plan

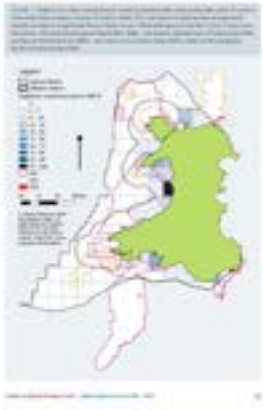
ENGLISH | FRENCH | SPANISH | ARABIC







Wales Angelshark Action Plan





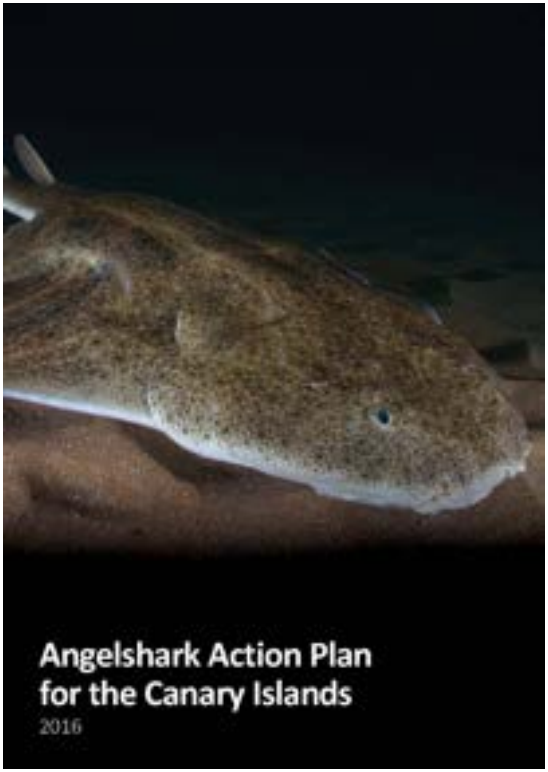


Angel Shark Action Plan for the Canary Islands

ENGLISH | SPANISH







SubRegional Action Plans for the Mediterranean

SubRegional Action Plan for Aegean Sea & Crete:
ENGLISH | GREEK | TURKISH

SubRegional Action Plan for Republic of Cyprus:
ENGLISH | CYPRIOT GREEK

SubRegional Action Plan for Southern Ionian Sea:
ENGLISH | ARABIC

SubRegional Action Plan for Northern Levant Sea: ENGLISH | TURKISH



Flat Shark Showcase

The Flat Shark Showcase presents the breadth of work being delivered across the Mediterranean by a diversity of partners and organisations, collaborating across multiple countries.

Flat sharks: sawfish, giant guitarfishes, guitarfish, angel sharks and rays, rank as the most threatened families of elasmobranchs on the IUCN Red List. Flat sharks represent over 50% of the elasmobranchs listed on Annex II of the Barcelona Convention & GFCM/42/2018/2. Yet conservation action in the Mediterranean is still urgently required for: three species of Critically Endangered angel shark; the Blackchin Guitarfish; Common Guitarfish, and a host of rays – from the sizeable Endangered Giant Devil Rays to Butterfly Rays, and the endemic skates.

This online content will signpost delegates to opportunities, resources, and willing project partners. Facilitating efforts for countries to honour existing conservation commitments, and establish - and implement - domestic and regional regulations to better protect highly threatened flat sharks across the region and beyond.



Shark Trust Angel Shark Safe Release Animation

*Translation into French, Spanish, Italian, Greek, Turkish and Arabic underway

Angel Shark Project: Wales
Best Practice Leaflet

ENGLISH | WELSH







Angel Shark Project: Canaries
Best Practice for Commercial Fishers

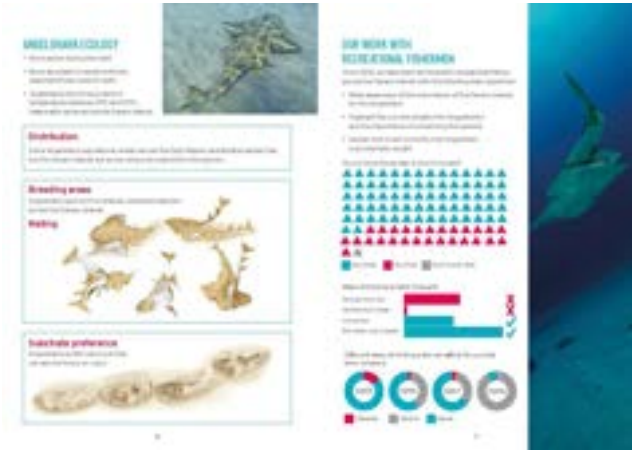
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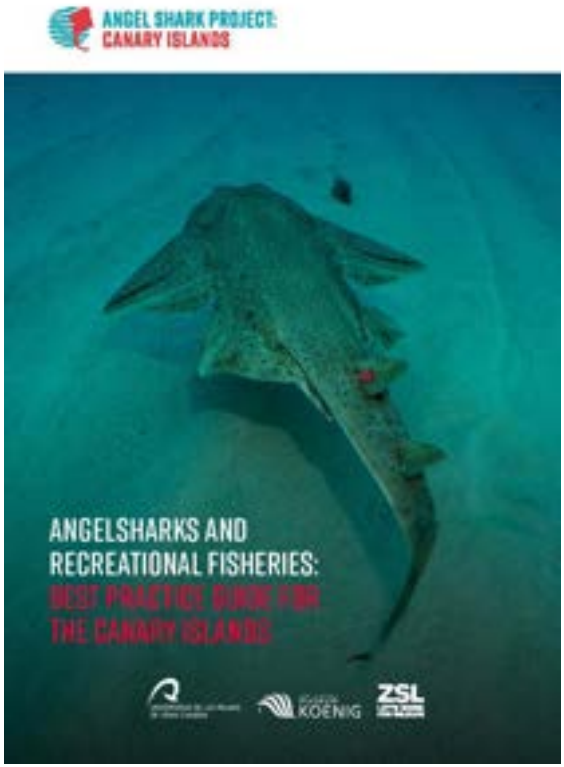




Angel Shark Project: Canaries
Best Practice for Recreational Fishers

ENGLISH | SPANISH

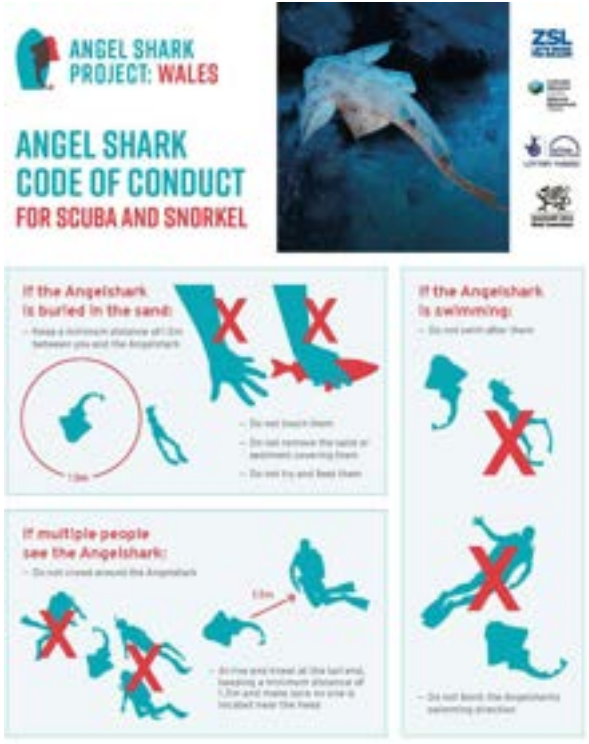




Angel Shark Project: Wales
Code of Conduct for Scuba and Snorkel

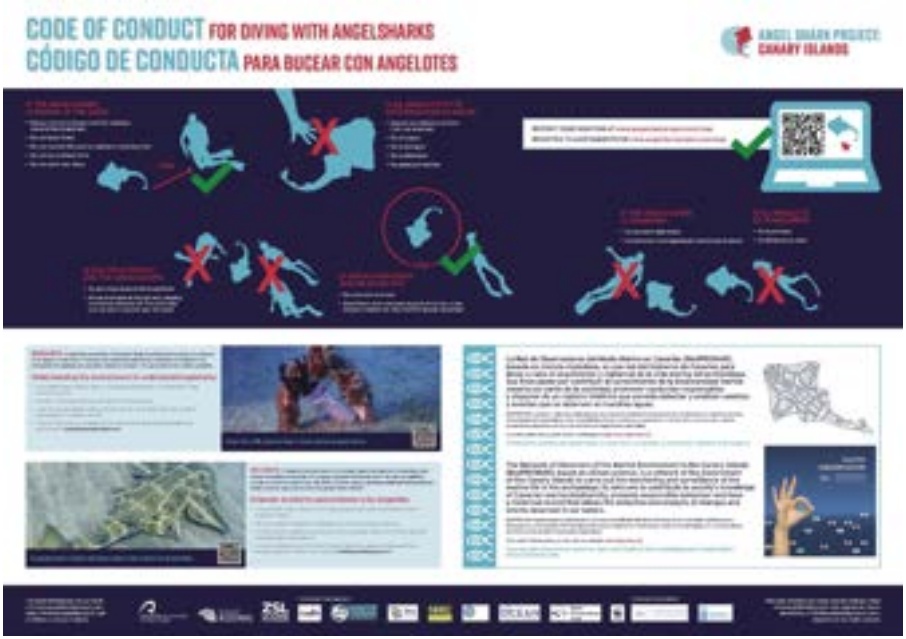
ENGLISH | WELSH





Angel Shark Project: Canary Islands

Code of Conduct for Diving with Angelsharks



QR Code Reporting Stickers

ARABIC | FRENCH | GREEK (Enalia Physis) | GREEK (iSea) | TURKISH (Mersea) | TURKISH (SPOT)







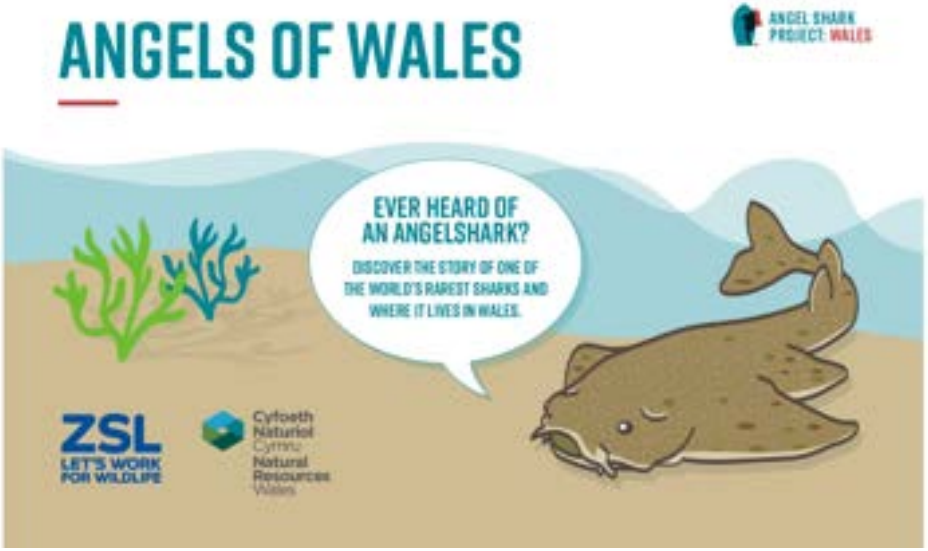






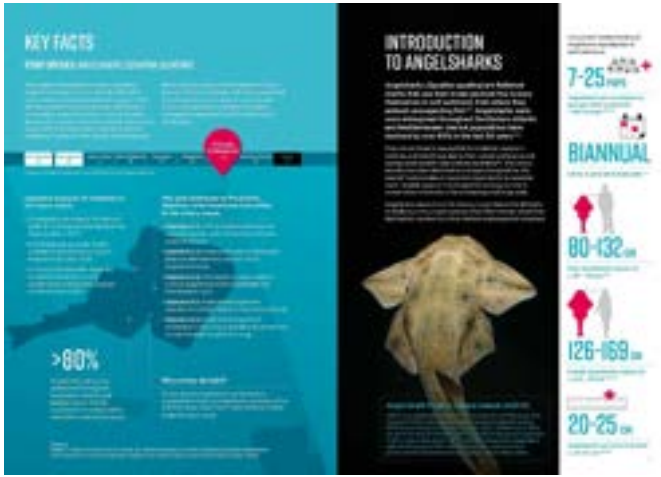

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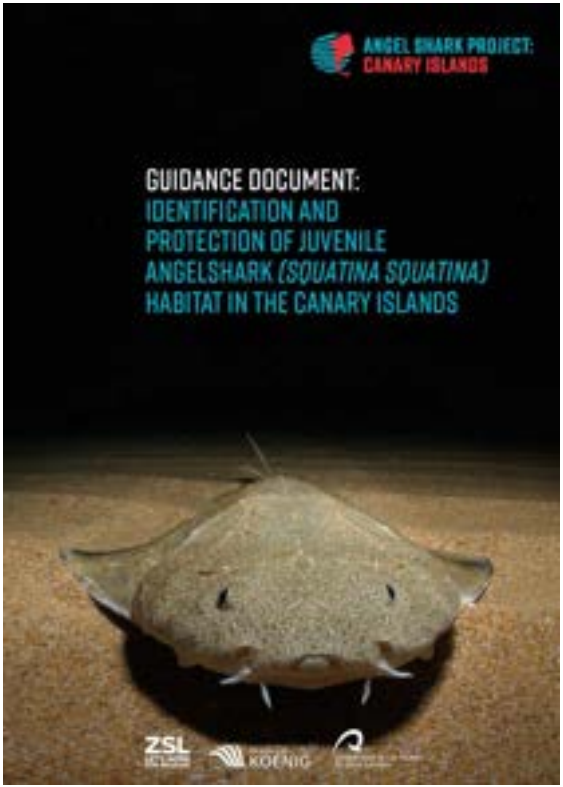
Angels of Wales eBook



Guidance Document for Juvenile Angelshark Habitat

ENGLISH | SPANISH





Annex IV Materials corresponding to the objectives of the SSAP

Objective 1 – Ensure appropriate species-level protection for Angelshark *Squatina squatina*

Action	Supporting Annex IV Materials
1.1 Prohibition in fisheries regulations	Flat Shark Showcase
1.2 Species-protection	
1.3 Awareness programmes	Shark Trust Global ID Guide Shark Trust Mediterranean ID Guides Shark Trust Safe Release Animation ASP Canaries Commercial Best Practice Materials ASP Canaries Recreational Best Practice Materials Wales Best Practice Leaflet
1.4 Monitoring and enforcement	QR Code Reporting Stickers

Objective 2 – Identification of sites and habitats of Angelshark *Squatina squatina*

Action	Supporting Annex IV Materials
2.1 Data collation	Guidance document: Identification and Protection of Juvenile Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) habitat in the Canary Islands
2.2 Habitat modelling	
2.3 Environmental DNA (eDNA) sampling	
2.4 Non-destructive site sampling	
2.5 Role of current MPA network	

Objective 3 – Support and undertake scientific studies, including data collection and liaison with the fishing sectors, to improve scientific knowledge of Angelsharks *Squatina squatina*, including population trends.

Action	Supporting Annex IV Materials
3.1 Scientific monitoring	
3.2 Commercial fishery-dependent catch-per-unit-effort data	
3.3 Recreational fishery	Shark Trust QR Code Reporting Stickers
3.4 Citizen science	ASP Canaries Code of Conduct (Divers) ASP Wales Code of Conduct
3.5 Fishery-independent survey trends	
3.6 Quantification and characterization of discarded Angelshark survival and options for minimising discard mortality	
3.7 Tagging	Guidance document: Identification and Protection of Juvenile Angelshark (*Squatina squatina*) habitat in the Canary Islands
3.8 Population structure and connectivity	
3.9 Life-history studies	
3.10 Longer-term, historical population dynamics	

Objective 4 – Sufficient resources secured for long-term Angelshark *Squatina squatina* conservation actions

Action	Supporting Annex IV Materials
4.1 Provide Resources	Strategic Conservation Planning Documents: • Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Angel Shark Conservation Strategy • Mediterranean Angel Sharks: Regional Action Plan • Wales Angelshark Action Plan • Angel Shark Action Plan for the Canary Islands • Mediterranean Angel Sharks: Sub-Regional Action Plans
4.2 Establish an international working group (IntWG) for the Mediterranean region	
4.3 Appraise protected areas	



Compiled by the Shark Trust on behalf of the Angel Shark Conservation Network. If you have resources to contribute to this document, please contact angels@sharktrust.org