

**SINGLE SPECIES ACTION PLAN FOR THE ANGELSHARK (*Squatina squatina*)
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA**

Goals, Objectives, and Actions adapted from Gordon et al., 2019

This table is adapted from the Mediterranean Angel Sharks: Regional Action Plan (Gordon et al., 2019). Only actions most relevant to this Single Species Action Plan have been included in Annex I. The original numbering and wording of each goal, objective and action remain.

Goal 1: Fisheries-based Angelshark mortality is minimised in the Mediterranean
Objective 1.1: Reporting and monitoring in all segments of Mediterranean fisheries, including recreational, is improved for the three species of angel shark
Action 1.1.2: Develop guidance documents for reporting procedure in line with GFCM Recommendations for data recording and ensure the document is accessible to industry.
Action 1.1.5: Comply with existing GFCM and national reporting procedures.
Objective 1.2: Incidental catch of angel sharks by all segments of Mediterranean fisheries is minimised
Action 1.2.2: Ascertain the level of bycatch and incidental catch by gear type in order to inform further necessary action.
Action 1.2.4: Secure spatial/temporal management and gear restrictions based on collated data.
Objective 1.3: Retention is reduced, and post-release survival enhanced, through information, training, and education for fishers
Action 1.3.2: Identification (see Action 1.1.1) and handling guides (see Action 1.3.1) to be disseminated amongst fishing industry, recreational anglers, enforcement bodies, fish markets, governments etc.
Action 1.3.3: Develop training programmes to educate fishers about conservation status and prohibited status of Angelsharks, as well as best practice handling techniques.
Objective 1.4: The extent of interaction between marine recreational fishing activities and angel sharks is ascertained and minimised
Action 1.4.1: Quantify the level of recreational fishing activity in the Mediterranean, guided by GFCM recreational fisheries handbook.
GOAL 2 Angelshark habitat is identified and protected
Objective 2.1: Angel shark distribution is better understood
Action 2.1.3: Use fisheries data and other reporting methods to improve spatial data on distribution.
Objective 2.3: Angel shark habitat is identified, specifically Critical Angel Shark Areas (CASAs)
Action 2.3.3: Increase engagement with UNEP-MAP SPA/RAC habitat mapping programmes to identify potential CASAs.

<p>Action 2.3.6: Identify activities and develop management plans aiming to conserve and restore CASAs in CMS Range States, in line with CMS Appendix I obligations.</p>
<p>Objective 2.4: Angel shark habitat is reflected in marine spatial planning and coastal development</p>
<p>Action 2.4.1: Engage with Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process prior to coastal developments near CASAs.</p>
<p>Action 2.4.2: Monitor coastal developments near CASAs and mitigate impacts where possible.</p>
<p>Action 2.4.3: Identify what spatial/temporal management measures would be most appropriate according to each subarea.</p>
<p>Action 2.4.4: Include CASAs in MPA processes and EIA to ensure these areas are managed sustainably, that important habitat features are conserved and maintained or re-established and that impacts on angel sharks are kept at acceptable levels.</p>
<p>Goal 3: National legislation for angel sharks is established, implemented, and enforced</p>
<p>Objective 3.1: Angelsharks are protected by regional and national management measures (where GFCM/42/2018/2 has been adopted, go to Action 3.1.5 or Objective 3.2)</p>
<p>Action 3.1.1: Review national legislation and identify gaps in the implementation of relevant international and regional obligations, including those under GFCM and CMS.</p>
<p>Action 3.1.2: Transpose GFCM/42/2018/2 and GFCM/44/2021/16 into national legislation where lacking.</p>
<p>Action 3.1.3: Fulfil obligations under CMS App I & II listing and CMS Sharks MOU Annex I.</p>
<p>Action 3.1.5: Where absent, seek adoption of full protective measures to cover recreational activities and disturbance.</p>
<p>Objective 3.2: Management measures are implemented and enforced</p>
<p>Action 3.2.1: Implement and enforce GFCM/42/2018/2 and GFCM/44/2021/16 as well as national legislations.</p>
<p>Action 3.2.2: Implement CMS Appendix I listing in all Mediterranean and Black Sea Range States.</p>
<p>Action 3.2.3: Reinforce compliance reporting processes at regional fora, requiring more detailed documentation.</p>
<p>Action 3.2.7: Ensure regulatory obligations are reflected in training for fishers, accommodating subregional constraints (see Action 1.3.3).</p>
<p>Objective 3.3: CASAs are protected through appropriate spatial and/or temporal management of non-fishing as well as fishing activities (in line with Goal 2)</p>
<p>Action 3.3.2: Ensure CMS obligations are reflected in marine spatial planning (e.g., MPAs, FRAs, SPAs) and coastal development processes.</p>