UN environment programme CMS

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SHARKS

CMS/Sharks/MOS4/National Report/Saudi Arabia
29/01/2023
Original: English

4th Meeting of the Signatories (Sharks MOS4)
Bonn, 28 February – 2 March 2023

Saudi Arabia National Report

Page number	Item
1 – 4	Completed National Reporting Form
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Sharks MOS4: National Reporting Format

(*Offline version for endorsement by Signatories*)

Purpose: Evaluate the status of how Signatories are meeting the objective of the Memorandum of Understanding: "*to achieve and maintain a favorable conservation status for migratory sharks based on the best available scientific information, taking into account current management and conservation actions, the socio-economic, and other values of these species for the people of the Signatories*" and to report on implementation of the Conservation Plan.

*Compulsory field

Additional instructions are provided in *italics*.

Report submitted by

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   Tareq Hussein Alqahtani

2. Position*
   Marine environment specialist

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   National Centre for Wildlife

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5. Contributors
   If contributions were submitted by multiple entities
   N/A

Species in your area of national jurisdiction

6. Signatory*
   Please select the Signatory you represent
   Saudi Arabia

7. Please open the excel spreadsheet that you were provided for your country by the Secretariat. Use the spreadsheet to review the status of Annex 1-listed species in your national jurisdiction. Once complete, please email the spreadsheet, along with this word document, to the Secretariat (fenella.wood@cms.int)

   Please contact the Secretariat if you have any difficulty accessing the spreadsheet or require additional advice and support to complete the spreadsheet.

   ☒ I have downloaded the spreadsheet successfully
   ☐ I could not download the spreadsheet

8. Do your vessels catch (landed, transhipped, or discarded) any Annex 1-listed species WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction? *

   ☒ Yes
   ☐ No

9. If yes, please report species-specific catch information within your area of national jurisdiction on the **spreadsheet** provided.

   Please provide information on species that are caught (landed, transhipped, or discarded).

   *Please infill **column F** on the spreadsheet for each species. There is a drop-down list for you to use with the following options: 'taking occurs', 'taking potentially occurs', 'taking does not occur', 'unknown' or 'not applicable'.*

   *Please provide any additional information in **column G**, for example links to publicly available reports that may contain relevant data.*

   ☐ I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
   ☒ Not applicable

10. Do your vessels catch (landed, transhipped, or discarded) any Annex 1-listed species OUTSIDE of your area of national jurisdiction? *

    ☐ Yes
    ☒ No

11. If yes, please report species-specific catch information outside of your area of national jurisdiction on the **spreadsheet** provided.

    Please provide information on species that are caught (landed, transhipped, or discarded).

    *Please infill **column H** on the spreadsheet for each species. There is a drop-down list for you to use with the following options: 'taking occurs', 'taking potentially occurs', 'taking does not occur', 'unknown' or 'not applicable'.*

    *Please provide any additional information in **column I**, for example links to publicly available reports that may contain relevant data.*

    ☐ I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
    ☒ Not applicable

Management and conservation measures

12. Are any Annex 1-listed species protected or have a managed fishery? *
    - ☒ Yes
    - ☐ No

13. If yes, please include details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species in the **spreadsheet** provided.

    - ☒ I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
    - ☐ Not applicable

14. Are there any regulations concerning Annex 1-listed species currently in the process of being proposed or implemented? *

    - ☒ Yes
    - ☐ No

15. If yes, please include details of the proposed or in the process of implementation in the **spreadsheet** provided.

    - ☒ I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
    - ☐ Not applicable

16. Have you established other conservation measures for Annex 1-listed species in your area of national jurisdiction? *

    - ☒ Yes
    - ☐ No

17. If yes, please include details of the conservation measures in the **spreadsheet** provided.

    These could include activities including research, capacity building, training, habitat conservation, etc.

    *Please infill **column L** on the spreadsheet for each species.*

    - ☒ I have added species-specific information to the spreadsheet
    - ☐ Not applicable

Cooperation

18. Are you cooperating with other Signatories on the implementation of the Sharks MOU and its Conservation Plan? *

Please provide details of the cooperation.
Not at this time. However, Saudi Arabia is a member of ROPME and PERSGA – both regional organisations that aim to streamline conservation and management measures for the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Gulf. Through these agreements we believe Saudi Arabia aligns with work from other regional neighbours.

19. Have you identified the need, or do you have a request for cooperation with other Signatories or Cooperating Partners to implement the Conservation Plan within your country/region? For example a relevant Regional Fisheries Body. *

Please describe.
Not at present.

Capacity and materials

20. What capacity needs have you identified in your country? Please provide details. *

We envision the need for capacity building in species identification, fisheries management, management of critically endangered species, bycatch reduction and collaboration with local fisheries.

21. What regional (or national) identification guides, and safe handling and release guidelines do you use? *

Please provide citation and internet link. If national guides can be made available to other Signatories, please email them as a PDF to fenella.wood@cms.int.

Nil

22. Please send any documents related to the conservation and management of Annex 1-listed species that should be included in the Info Hub (https://www.cms.int/sharks/en/sharks-mou-infohub) to fenella.wood@cms.int.

☒ Relevant documents for the Info Hub have been emailed to the Secretariat
☐ Not Applicable

Species		Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction according to IUCN	Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your vessels catch WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction[1]	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your flag vessels catch OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits[2]	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**						
Alopias pelagicus	Pelagic Thresher Shark	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Alopias superciliosus	Bigeye Thresher Shark	Possibly Extant		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Alopias vulpinus	Common Thresher Shark	Doesn't Occur					
Anoxypristis cuspidata	Narrow Sawfish	Doesn't Occur					
Carcharhinus falciformis	Silky Shark	Extant (Resident)		Taking occurs			No
Carcharhinus longimanus	Oceanic Whitetip Shark	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	no
Carcharhinus obscurus	Dusky Shark	Possibly Extant		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Carcharodon carcharias	Great White Shark	Extant (Resident)	Doesn't Occur	Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Cetorhinus maximus	Basking Shark	Doesn't Occur					

[1] Species that your vessels catch (landed, transhipped or discarded) WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction.

[2] Species that your flag vessels are engaged in catching (landed, transhipped or discarded) OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits. This also includes those vessels with the potential to take these species.

Species		Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction according to IUCN	Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your vessels catch WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction[1]	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your flag vessels catch OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits[2]	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**						
Isurus oxyrinchus	Shortfin Mako Shark	Extant (Resident)		Taking occurs		Taking does not occur	No
Isurus paucus	Longfin Mako Shark	Doesn't Occur					
Lamna nasus	Porbeagle	Doesn't Occur					
Manta alfredi (*Mobula alfredi*)	Reef Manta Ray	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Manta birostris (*Mobula birostris*)	Manta Ray	Doesn't Occur	Possibly Extant				
Mobula eregoodootenkee (*Mobula eregoodoo*)	Longhorned Pygmy Devil Ray	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Mobula hypostoma	Atlantic Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur					
Mobula japanica (Please enter information under Mobula mobular)	Japanese Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur					

Species		Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction according to IUCN	Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your vessels catch WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction[1]	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your flag vessels catch OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits[2]	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**						
Mobula kuhlii	Shortfin Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur	Extant Vagrant	Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Mobula mobular	Giant Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur	Possibly Extant	Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Mobula munkiana	Pygmy Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur					
Mobula rochebrunei (Please enter information under *Mobula hypostoma*)	Lesser Guinean Devil Ray	Doesn't Occur					
Mobula tarapacana	Sicklefin Devil Ray	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Mobula thurstoni	Bentfin Devil Ray	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Pristis clavata	Dwarf Sawfish	Doesn't Occur					
Pristis pectinata	Smalltooth Sawfish	Doesn't Occur					
Pristis pristis	Largetooth Sawfish	Doesn't Occur					
Pristis zijsron	Green Sawfish	Presence Uncertain		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Rhincodon typus	Whale Shark	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Rhinobatos rhinobatos	Common Guitarfish	Doesn't Occur					

Species		Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction according to IUCN	Status of species in your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your vessels catch WITHIN your area of national jurisdiction[1]	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction	Species that your flag vessels catch OUTSIDE of your national jurisdiction limits[2]	Any supporting documentation for catches within your area of national jurisdiction
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**						
Rhynchobatus australiae	Bottlenose Wedgefish	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Rhynchobatus djiddensis	Whitespotted Wedgefish	Extant (Resident)		Taking occurs	no	Taking does not occur	No
Rhynchobatus laevis	Smoothnose Wedgefish	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Sphyrna lewini	Scalloped Hammerhead Shark	Extant (Resident)		Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Sphyrna mokarran	Great Hammerhead Shark	Extant (Resident)		Taking occurs		Taking does not occur	No
Sphyrna zygaena	Smooth Hammerhead Shark	Extant (Resident)	Presence Uncertain	Unknown	no	Taking does not occur	No
Squalus acanthias	Spiny Dogfish	Doesn't Occur					
Squatina squatina	Angelshark	Doesn't Occur					

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
Alopias pelagicus	Pelagic Thresher Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Alopias superciliosus	Bigeye Thresher Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
				elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	
Alopias vulpinus	Common Thresher Shark				
Anoxypristis cuspidata	Narrow Sawfish				
Carcharhinus falciformis	Silky Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux		This specie potentially ended up in som fishmarket as result of Bycatch
Carcharhinus longimanus	Oceanic Whitetip Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Carcharhinus obscurus	Dusky Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
				essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	
Carcharodon carcharias	Great White Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Cetorhinus maximus	Basking Shark				
Isurus oxyrinchus	Shortfin Mako Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
				Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays.	
Isurus paucus	Longfin Mako Shark				
Lamna nasus	Porbeagle				
Manta alfredi (*Mobula alfredi*)	Reef Manta Ray	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Manta birostris (*Mobula birostris*)	Manta Ray				
Mobula eregoodootenkee	Longhorned Pygmy Devil Ray	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation

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Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
(*Mobule eregoodoo*)				the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	
Mobula hypostoma	Atlantic Devil Ray				
Mobula japanica (Please enter information under Mobula mobular)	Japanese Devil Ray				
Mobula kuhlii	Shortfin Devil Ray	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
				marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	
Mobula mobular	Giant Devil Ray	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Mobula munkiana	Pygmy Devil Ray				
Mobula rochebrunei (Please enter information	Lesser Guinean Devil Ray				

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
under *Mobula hypostoma*)					
Mobula tarapacana	Sicklefin Devil Ray	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Mobula thurstoni	Bentfin Devil Ray	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
				Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	
Pristis clavata	Dwarf Sawfish				
Pristis pectinata	Smalltooth Sawfish				
Pristis pristis	Largetooth Sawfish				
Pristis zijsron	Green Sawfish	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Rhincodon typus	Whale Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
				One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	
Rhinobatos rhinobatos	Common Guitarfish				
Rhynchobatus australiae	Bottlenose Wedgefish	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Rhynchobatus djiddensis	Whitespotted Wedgefish	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux		

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
Rhynchobatus laevis	Smoothnose Wedgefish	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Sphyrna lewini	Scalloped Hammerhead Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation

Species		Details of protection measures or managed fisheries for each species	Details of regulations currently being proposed or implemented for each species	Details of conservation measures for each species	Comments, including sources of information, resources and links
Scientific name	**Common name (English)**				
				elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	
Sphyrna mokarran	Great Hammerhead Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux		
Sphyrna zygaena	Smooth Hammerhead Shark	Nil at present except for legislation	https://tinyurl.com/yr8k62ux	In spite of the limited data available on elasmobranchs in Saudi Arabia, local authorities represented mainly by the National Center for Wildlife (Ministry of Environment, Agriculture, and Water; MEWA) has adopted a set of regulations and laws banning the catch and trade of these animals. Some of these legislations also ban any incidental damage to the coastal habitats which are essential for sharks and rays. One of the main goals of the KSA Vision 2030 is to protect the marine environment and wildlife and ensure their sustainability. Within the context of Vision 2030, the National Center for Wildlife has set a plan to protect 30% of the Saudi territorial waters by 2030, which will boost the conservation of sharks and rays. Specifically, the National Center for Wildlife has already started conducting extensive research projects and studies in both the Saudi waters of the Red Sea and Arabian Gulf, with the aim to fill knowledge gaps on the distribution and abundance of elasmobranchs and develop an efficient plan for their management and conservation.	sharks mentioned in page 31-33 in the legislation
Squalus acanthias	Spiny Dogfish				
Squatina squatina	Angelshark				