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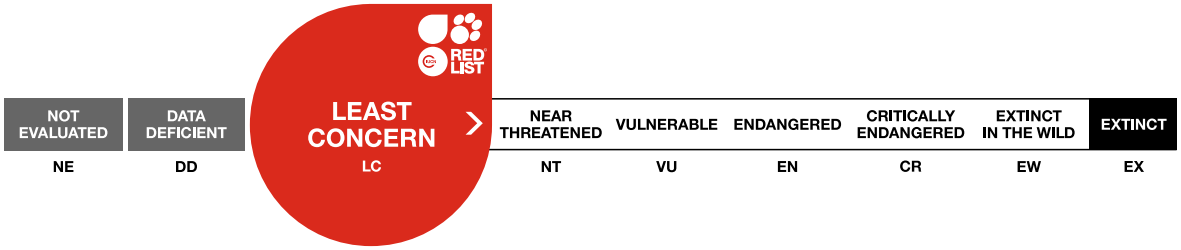
Bathyraja papilionifera, Atlantic Butterfly Skate

Assessment by: Pollom, R., Chiaramonte, G.E., Cuevas, J.M., Herman, K., Paesch, L. & Pompert, J.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Chondrichthyes	Rajiformes	Arhynchobatidae

Scientific Name: *Bathyraja papilionifera* Stehmann, 1985

Synonym(s):

- *Bathyraja papilonifera* Stehmann, 1985 [orth. error]

Common Name(s):

- English: Atlantic Butterfly Skate, Whitemouth Skate

Taxonomic Source(s):

Fricke, R., Eschmeyer, W.N. and Van der Laan, R. (eds). 2020. Eschmeyer's Catalog of Fishes: genera, species, references. Updated 03 August 2020. Available at: http://researcharchive.calacademy.org/research/ichthyology/catalog/fishcatmain.asp.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern ver 3.1

Year Published: 2020

Date Assessed: July 1, 2019

Justification:

The Atlantic Butterfly Skate (*Bathyraja papilionifera*) is a medium-sized (to 150 cm total length) deep-water skate that occurs in the Southwest Atlantic from Uruguay to southern Patagonia, Argentina, and the Falkland Islands (Malvinas). It inhabits continental and insular slopes at depths of 637–2,000 m. This species is captured incidentally on longline and rarely in deep-water demersal trawl fisheries. Although such fisheries are intense in some parts of its range, this species is largely beyond depths at which fishing currently occurs and thus has refuge. There are no other known potential threats and the population is suspected to be stable. Therefore, the Atlantic Butterfly Skate is assessed as Least Concern.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2007 – Data Deficient (DD)
https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2007.RLTS.T63112A12609541.en

Geographic Range

Range Description:

The Atlantic Butterfly Skate occurs in the Southwest Atlantic from Uruguay to southern Patagonia, Argentina, and the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (Last *et al.* 2016).

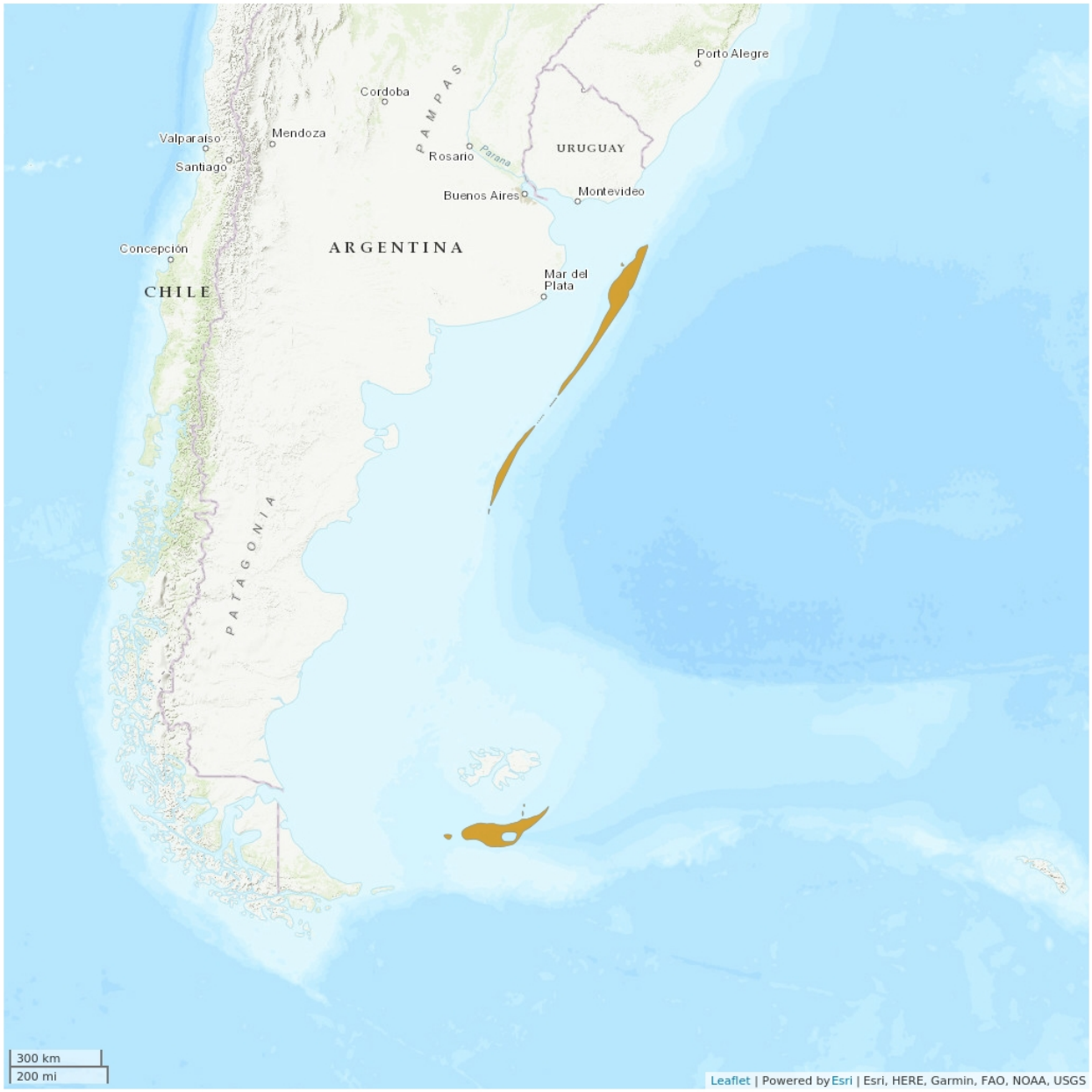
Country Occurrence:

Native, Extant (resident): Argentina; Falkland Islands (Malvinas); Uruguay

FAO Marine Fishing Areas:

Native: Atlantic - southwest

Distribution Map



Legend

EXTANT (RESIDENT)

Compiled by:

IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group 2018

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.

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Population

Although fisheries interact with this species, it has refuge at depth and there are no other known potential threats. The population is suspected to be stable.

Current Population Trend: Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

The Atlantic Butterfly Skate is demersal on continental and insular slopes at depths of 637–2,000 m (Weigmann 2016). It reaches a maximum size of 150 cm total length (TL); females mature at 122 cm TL and males at 130 cm TL (Last *et al.* 2016). The oldest aged individual was 16 years old (Bücker 2006). Reproduction is oviparous (Last *et al.* 2016).

Systems: Marine

Use and Trade

Skates are often utilized for food and are sold locally or exported to Asian markets (Dent and Clarke 2015), and this species is likely included where caught.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

This skate is captured incidentally on longlines and rarely in demersal deep-water trawl fisheries (Agnew *et al.* 2000, Last *et al.* 2016). Although such fisheries are intense in some parts of its range, this species is largely beyond depths at which fishing occurs and thus has refuge. There are no other known potential threats.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no species-specific protections or conservation measures in place for this skate. Further research is needed on life history and population size and trends, and species-specific monitoring should be undertaken in longline and trawl fisheries.

Credits

Assessor(s):	Pollom, R., Chiaramonte, G.E., Cuevas, J.M., Herman, K., Paesch, L. & Pompert, J.
Reviewer(s):	Dulvy, N.K. & Kyne, P.M.
Contributor(s):	McCormack, C. & Stehmann, M.F.W.
Facilitator(s) and Compiler(s):	Kyne, P.M., Pollom, R., Charvet, P. & Dulvy, N.K.
Authority/Authorities:	IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group (sharks and rays)

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Bibliography

Agnew, D.J., Nolan, C.P., Beddington, J.R. and Baranowski, R. 2000. Approaches to the assessment and management of multispecies skate and ray fisheries using the Falkland Islands fishery as an example. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Science* 57: 429-440.

Bücker, A. 2006. Age and growth of skates of the genus *Bathyraja* in Argentina. Faculty for Biology and Chemistry, University of Bremen.

Dent, F. and Clarke, S. 2015. State of the global market for shark products. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Technical Paper No. 590. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Rome, Italy. 187 pp.

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Last, P., White, W., de Carvalho, M., Séret, B., Stehmann, M. and Naylor, G. 2016. *Rays of the World*. CSIRO Publishing, Clayton.

Weigmann, S. 2016. Annotated checklist of the living sharks, batoids and chimaeras (Chondrichthyes) of the world, with a focus on biogeographical diversity. *Journal of Fish Biology* 88(3): 837-1037.

Citation

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External Resources

For Supplementary Material, and for Images and External Links to Additional Information, please see the Red List website.

Appendix

Habitats
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
11. Marine Deep Benthic -> 11.1. Marine Deep Benthic - Continental Slope/Bathyl Zone (200-4,000m)	-	-	-

Use and Trade
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

End Use	Local	National	International
Food - human	No	Yes	Yes

Threats
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
5. Biological resource use -> 5.4. Fishing & harvesting aquatic resources -> 5.4.4. Unintentional effects: (large scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	No decline	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		

Conservation Actions in Place
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Conservation Action in Place
In-place research and monitoring
Action Recovery Plan: No
Systematic monitoring scheme: No
In-place land/water protection
Conservation sites identified: No
Area based regional management plan: No
Occurs in at least one protected area: Unknown
Invasive species control or prevention: Not Applicable
In-place species management
Harvest management plan: No

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Conservation Action in Place
Successfully reintroduced or introduced benignly: No
Subject to ex-situ conservation: No
In-place education
Subject to recent education and awareness programmes: No
Included in international legislation: No
Subject to any international management / trade controls: No

Conservation Actions Needed

(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Conservation Action Needed
3. Species management -> 3.1. Species management -> 3.1.1. Harvest management
3. Species management -> 3.1. Species management -> 3.1.2. Trade management

Research Needed

(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.4. Harvest, use & livelihoods
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends
3. Monitoring -> 3.2. Harvest level trends
3. Monitoring -> 3.3. Trade trends

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Lower depth limit (m): 2,000
Upper depth limit (m): 637

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The IUCN Red List Partnership

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is produced and managed by the IUCN Global Species Programme, the IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) and The IUCN Red List Partnership.

The IUCN Red List Partners are: Arizona State University; BirdLife International; Botanic Gardens Conservation International; Conservation International; NatureServe; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Sapienza University of Rome; Texas A&M University; and Zoological Society of London.