

Ahmad Ali Annie Lim Pek Khiok Fahmi Dharmadi Tassapon Krajangdara

By

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#### Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia

## Cataloging-in-Publication Data

#### Ahmad Ali

Identification Guide to Sharks, Rays and Skates of the Southeast Asian Region / Ahmad Ali, Annie Lim Pek Khiok, Fahmi, Dharmadi, Tassapon Krajangdara.

ISBN 978-983-9114-69-0

- 1. Sharks--Asia, southeastern.
- 2. Rays (Fishes)--Asia, southeastern.
- I. Lim, Annie Lim Pek Khiok. II. Fahmi. III. Dharmadi.
- IV. Tassapon Krajangdara. V. Title. 597.3

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This publication should be cited as follows;

Ahmad, A., Lim, A.P.K., Fahmi, Dharmadi and Krajangdara, T. 2017. Identification Guide to Sharks, Rays and Skates of the Southeast Asian Region. SEAFDEC/MFRDMD/SP/31:33pp

February 2017

## Introduction

This guide was developed by SEAFDEC-MFRDMD, SEAFDEC SECRETARIAT and SEAFDEC-TD in collaboration with Department of Fisheries Malaysia; Research Centre for Oceanography, Indonesia Institute of Science; Research Center for Fisheries Management and Conservation, Indonesia; and the Department of Fisheries Thailand. This guide is one of the outcome of a one-year comprehensive data collection on sharks, rays and skates landings conducted from 2015-2016 in Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Vietnam and Thailand. This guide was used by enumerators to identify sharks, rays and skates up to species level at all landing sites. Printing cost was funded by EU-CITES.

Most sharks, rays and skates species look very similar within the family and difficult to quickly identify by enumerators or in some cases even taxonomists. With more than 300 species already recognized and many new species continuously being discovered in the Southeast Asian Region, the challenge is becoming more complicated.

This waterproof guide was developed in addition to that of three publications of SEAFDEC including 'Field guide to Sharks of the Southeast Asian Region'; Field guide to Look-alike Sharks and Rays Species of the Southeast Asian Region, and 'Field guide to Rays, Skates and Chimaeras of the Southeast Asian Region'.

This guide includes 56 species of sharks, 62 species of rays and five species of skates found in this region. Most of these species are found in abundance in this region. Colour photographs are provided for each species with highlighted arrows on the main identifying characters. Images of look-alike species were arranged in one page or the following adjacent page for easy comparison.

This guide was made possible based on knowledge and experiences of the authors through their studies especially in Malaysia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand and accumulated information from enumerators during this project. All authors of this guidebook were directly involved in this project as taxonomist.

#### Classification

The classification used in this book follows classification adopted by Compagno (1999), Last and Stevens (2009), Weigmann (2016) and Last *et al.*, (2016).

# Acknowledgement

The authors would like to thank The Secretary-General of SEAFDEC Dr. Kom Silapajarn, Chief of SEAFDEC/MFRDMD Mr. Raja Bidin bin Raja Hassan and Deputy Chief of SEAFDEC/MFRDMD Dr. Osamu Abe for their support in the research and management of elasmobranch in the Southeast Asian Region. Special thanks to Dr. Haruko Okusu, Senior Programme Officer and Chief, Knowledge Management and Outreach Services (KMOS), CITES Secretariat, United Nations Environment Programme, Geneva, Switzerland for her support in getting funding from European Union (EU) to conduct this project in Cambodia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand and Vietnam.

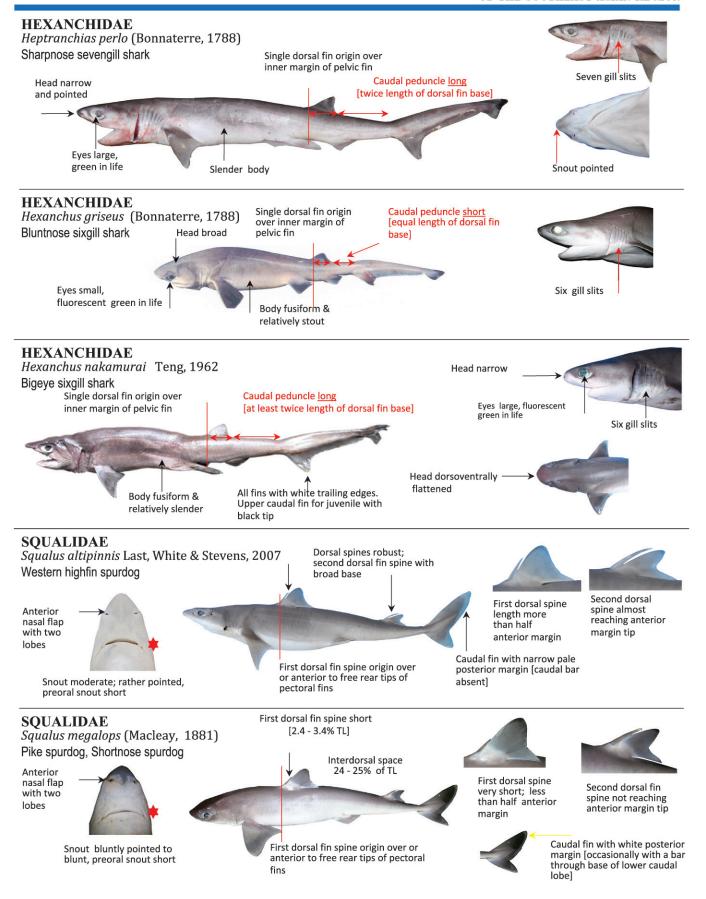
We express gratitude to Dr. Worawit Wanchana, Assistance Policy and Program Coordinator (SEAFDEC-SECRETARIAT), Mr. Abdul Haris Hilmi bin Ahmad Arshad, Senior Research Officer, Fisheries Research Institute, Kg. Acheh, Perak, Malaysia; Mr. Lawrence Kissol Jr, Assistant Director (Marine Resource Management), Department of Fisheries Sabah; Mr. Nor Azman bin Zakaria, Mr. Mohd Saki bin Nor, Mr. Wahab bin Daud and Mr. Ruzelan bin Jusoh (SEAFDEC-MFRDMD); Mr. Sukchai Arnupapboon and Mr. Santiphong Putsa (SEAFDEC-TD); Mr. Abdul Rahman bin Haji Ali Hasan and Mr. Mahazir bin Baharom (Department of Fisheries Malaysia); Mr. Justin Agon, Mr. Norhairul bin Nordin, Mr. Chin En Kiong and Mr. Maurice @ Kassim bin Anchi (Department of Fisheries Sabah); Mr. Ly Seyha (Department of Fisheries Cambodia); Mr. Agung Ferieigha Nugroho (State Fisheries Office Cilacap, Indonesia), Mr. Munawir (State Fisheries Office Lampulo); Mr. Min Naung, Mr. Soe Win, Mr. Kyaw Swar Win, Mr. Soe Nyunt and Mr. Nay Myo Aye (Department of Fisheries Myanmar); Mr. Montri Sumontha, Ms. Suwantana Tossapornpitakkul, Mr. Watchira Sodop and Ms. Jureerat Songnui (Department of Fisheries Thailand); Mr. Le Huu Tuan Anh, Mr. Bui Quang Manh, Mr. Cao Van Hung, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Toan, Mr. Dinh Xuan Hung and Nguyen Phuoc Trieu (Department of Fisheries Vietnam) for helping us in many ways in the preparation for publication of this guidebook.

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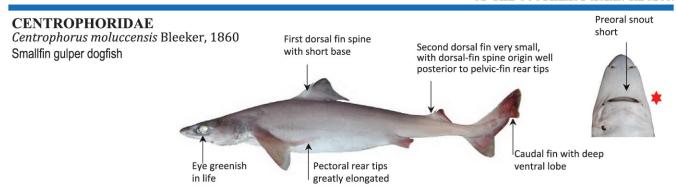


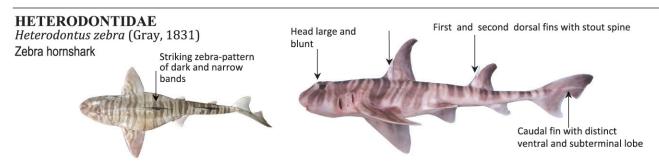






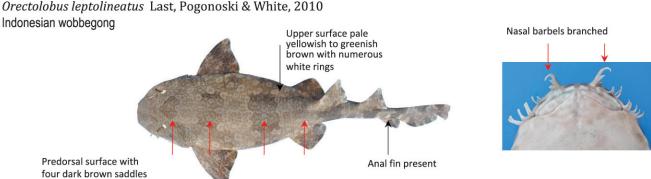






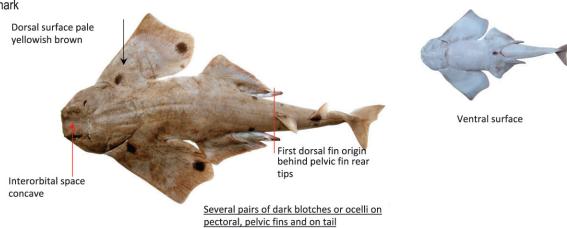
#### **ORECTOLOBIDAE**

Orectolobus leptolineatus Last, Pogonoski & White, 2010



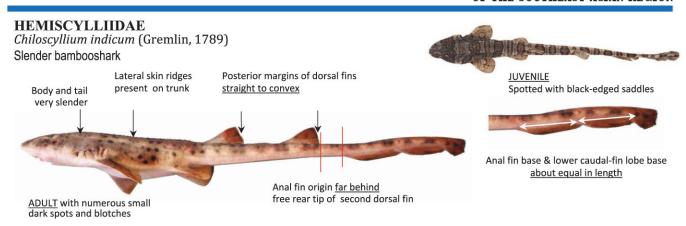
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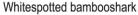


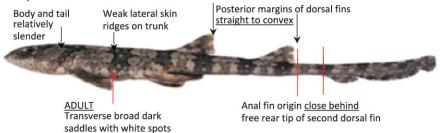




#### **HEMISCYLLIIDAE**

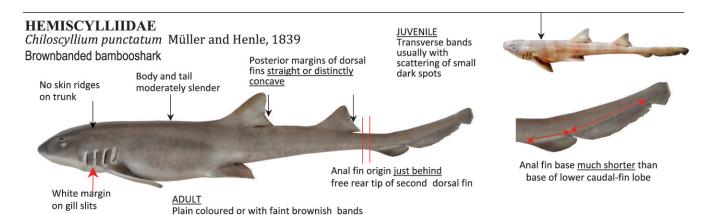
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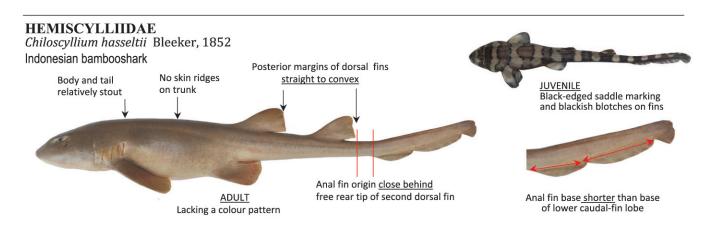






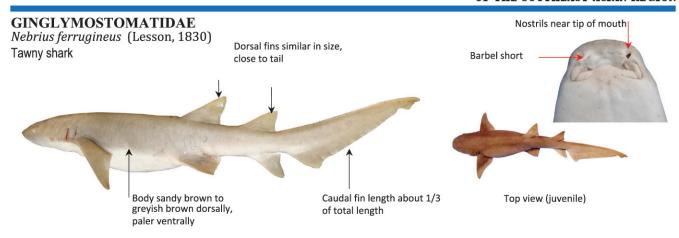
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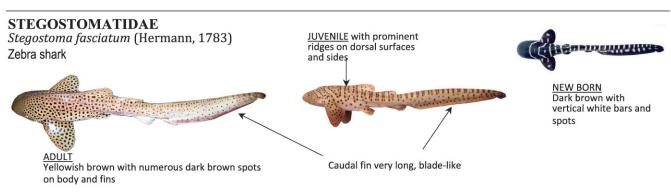


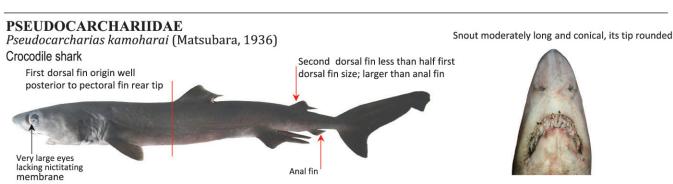


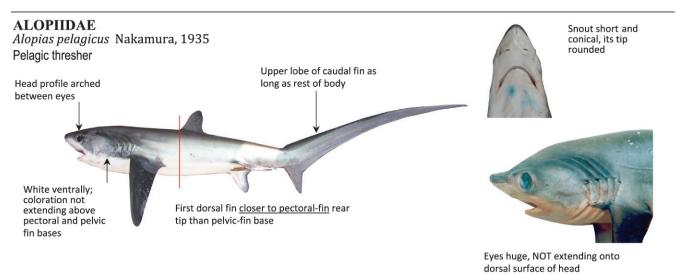












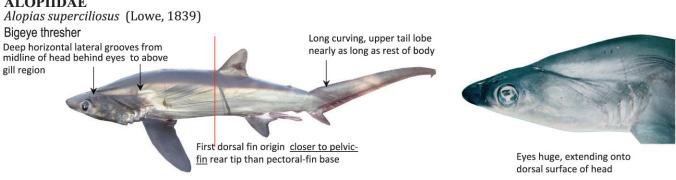




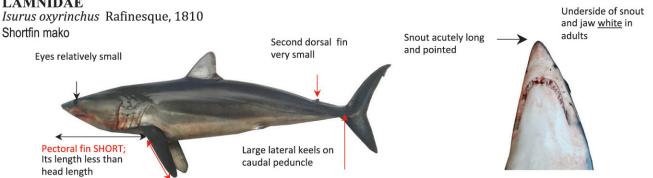




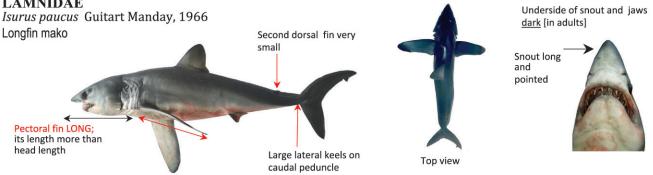
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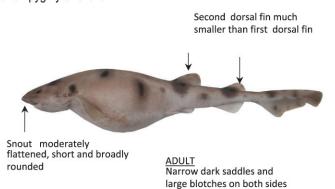


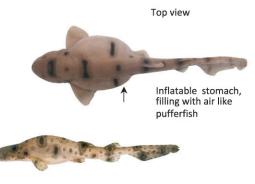




#### **SCYLIORHINIDAE**

Cephaloscyllium sarawakensis Yano, Ahmad & Gambang, 2005 Sarawak pygmy swellshark



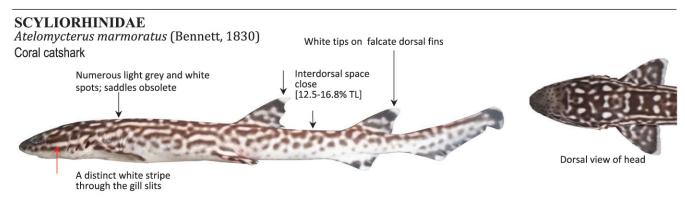


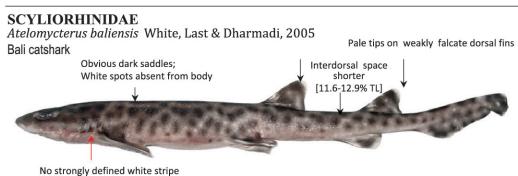
JUVENILE Body light brown with dark elongate spots and small light brown spots

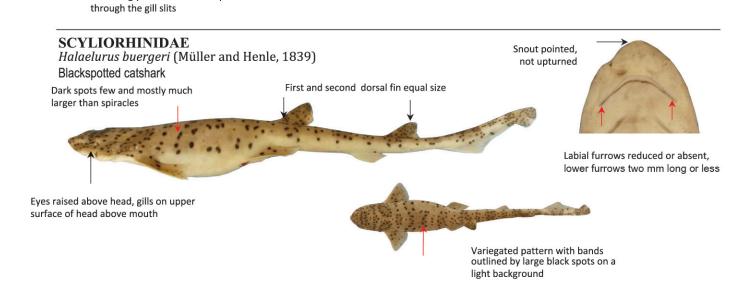




# SCYLIORHINIDAE Atelomycterus erdmanni Fahmi & White, 2015 Spotted-belly catshark White tips on falcate dorsal fins Interdorsal space relatively close [13,4-13.7% TL] A distinct white stripe through gill slits Dark spots scattered along most of ventral surface White spots surrounded by 2-4 dark spots Dorsal view of head

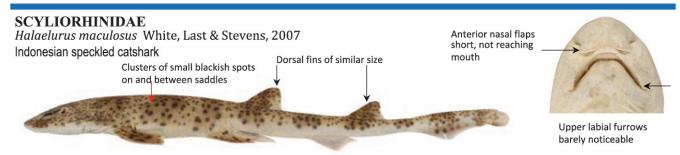


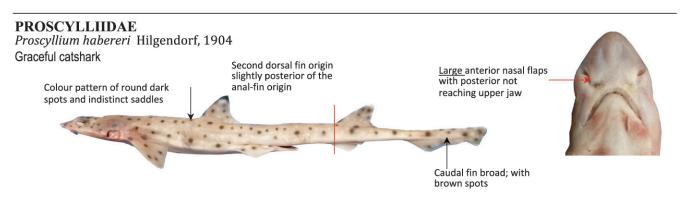


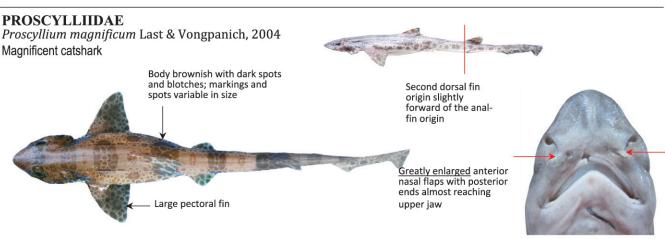


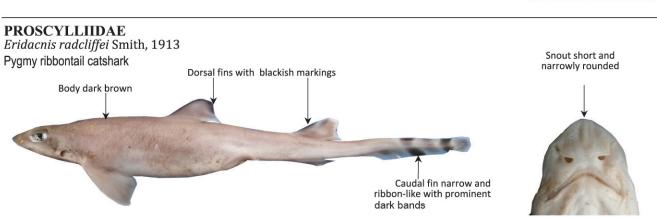






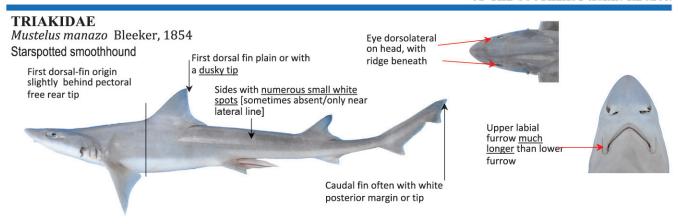


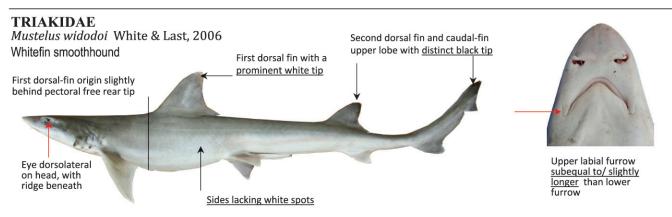


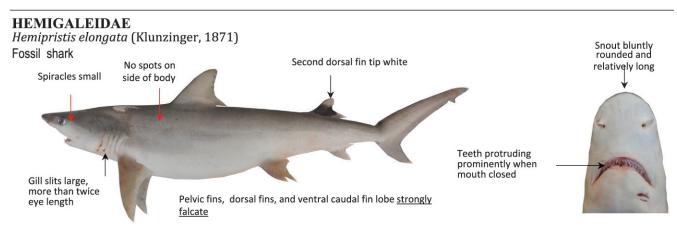


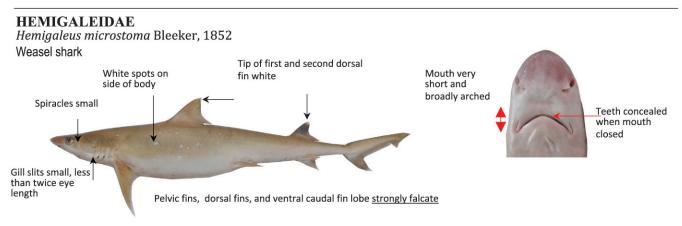












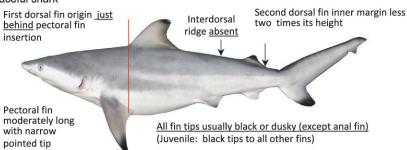


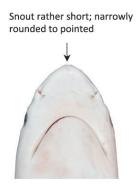


#### **CARCHARHINIDAE**

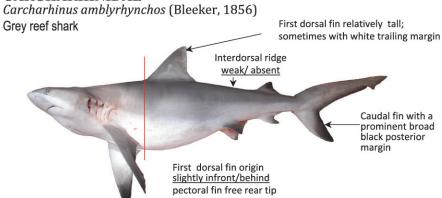
Carcharhinus amblyrhynchoides (Whitley, 1934)

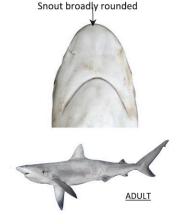
Graceful shark



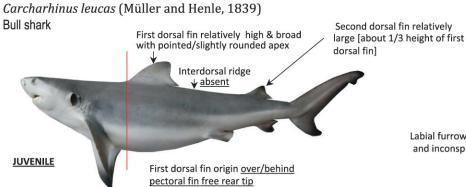


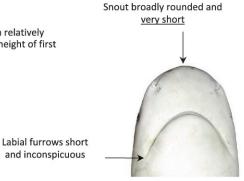




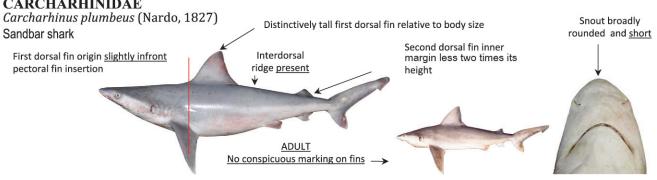






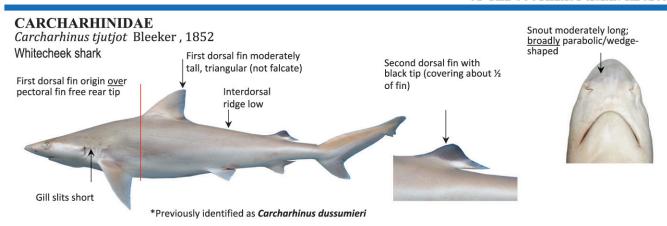


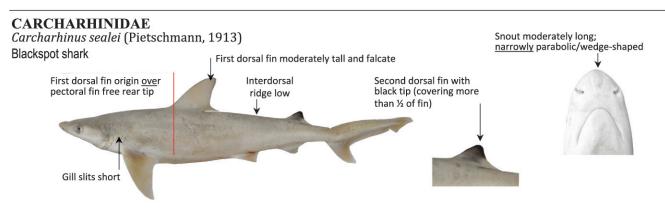
#### **CARCHARHINIDAE**

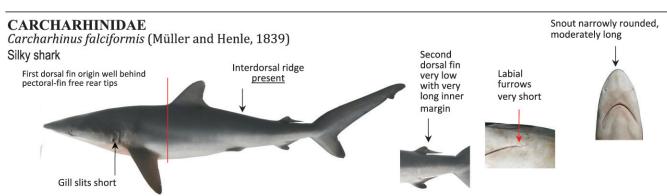


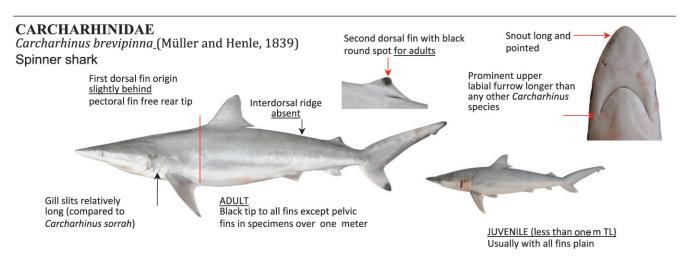






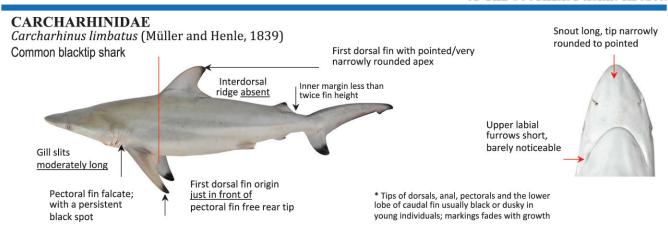


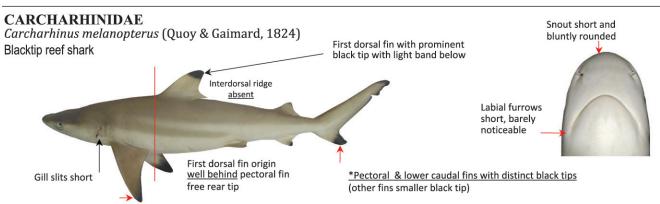


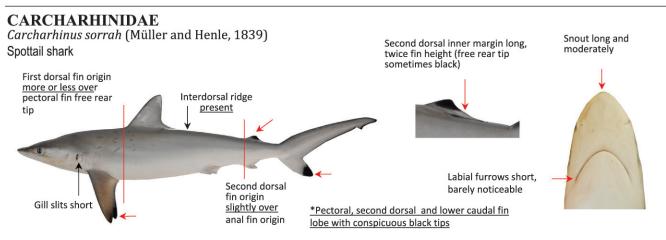


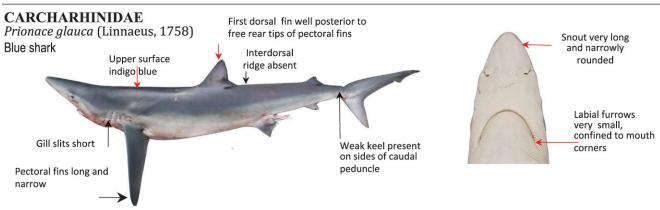






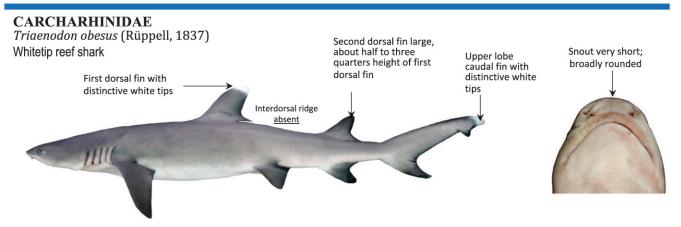






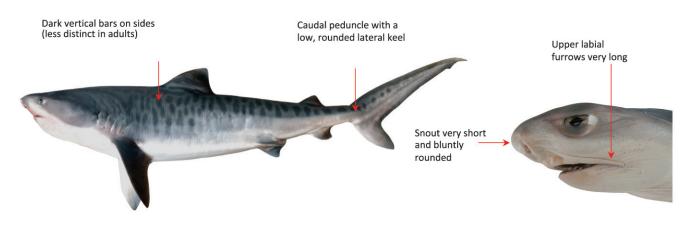






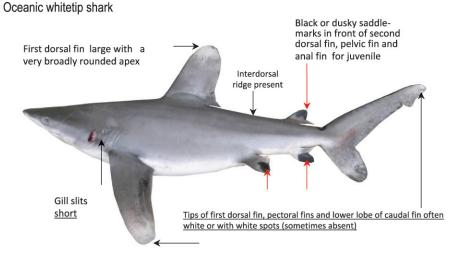
#### **CARCHARHINIDAE**

Galeocerdo cuvier (Peron & Lesueur, 1822) Tiger shark



#### **CARCHARHINIDAE**

Carcharhinus longimanus (Poey, 1861)

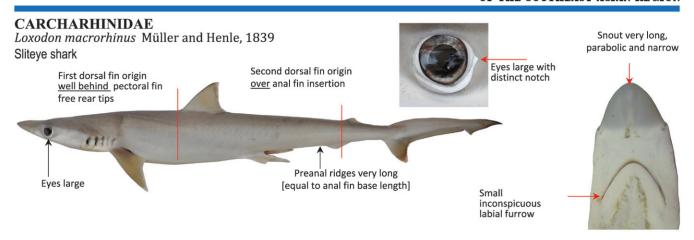


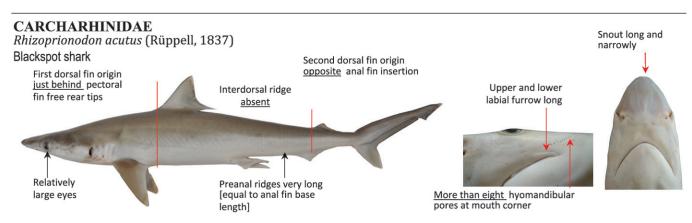


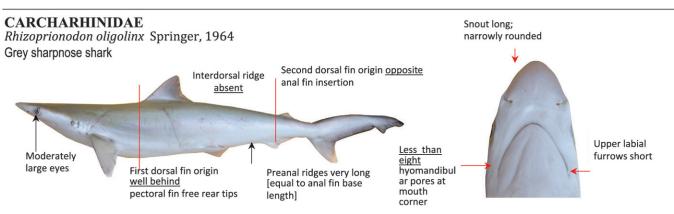


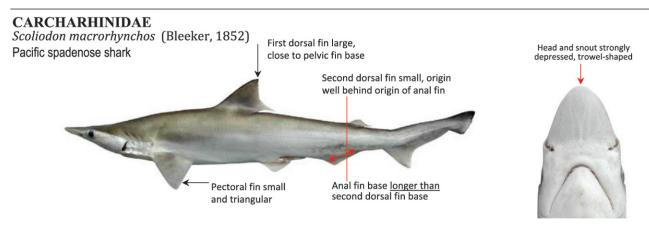










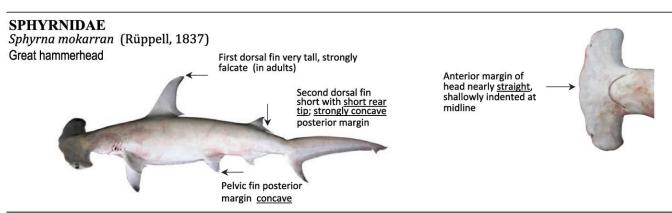


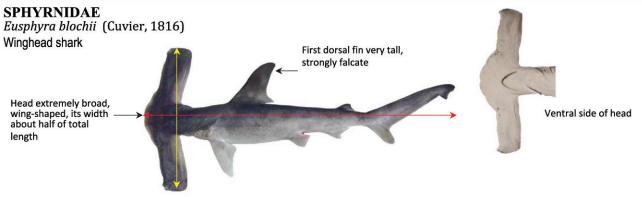


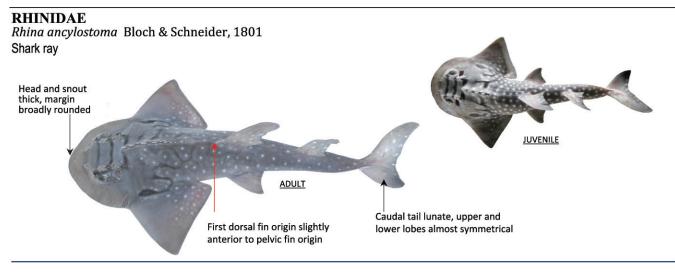


## **SPHYRNIDAE** Sphyrna lewini (Griffith & Smith, 1834) Second dorsal fin short with long rear Scalloped hammerhead tip; weakly concave posterior margin First dorsal fin tall, moderately falcate Anterior margin of head <u>arched</u>, barely indented at midline Pelvic fin

posterior margin straight





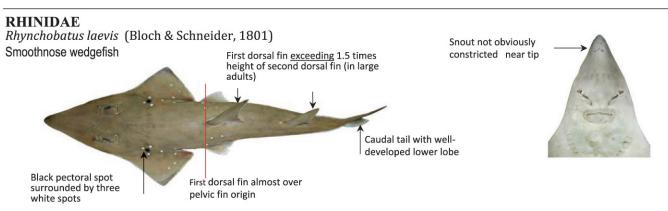


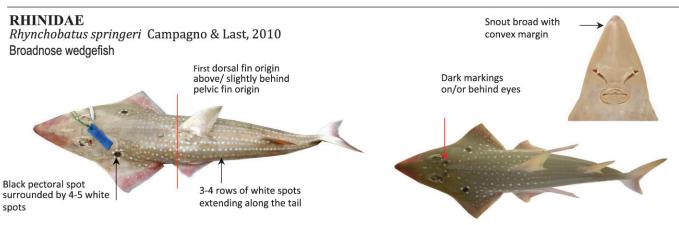


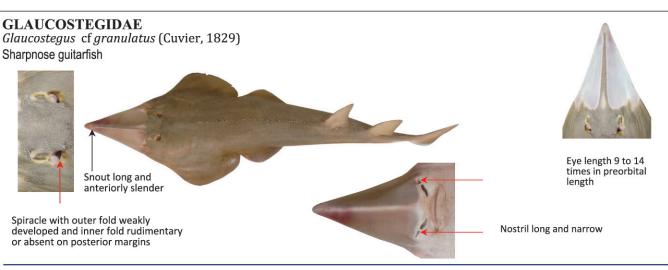


## **RHINIDAE** Rhynchobatus australiae Whitley, 1939 Bottlenose wedgefish First dorsal fin less 1.5 times Snout bottle-shaped, height of second dorsal fin constricted slightly near tip Caudal tail with welldeveloped lower lobe Diagonal row of three white spots usually above black pectoral spot First dorsal fin origin slightly

posterior to pelvic fin origin



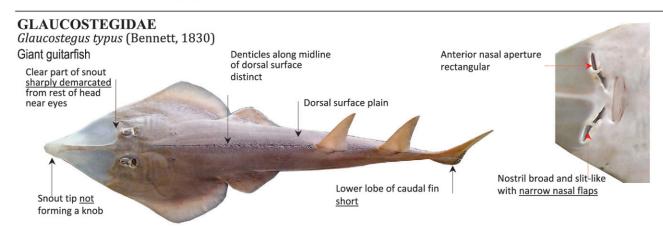






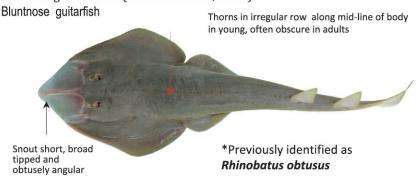


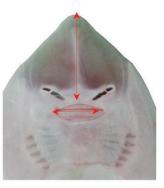
# GLAUCOSTEGIDAE Glaucostegus thouin (Anonymous, 1798) Clubnose guitarfish Clear part of snout sharply demarcate from rest of head near eyes Denticles along midline of dorsal surface distinct Dorsal surface plain Nostril broad and slit-like with narrow nasal flaps Lower lobe of caudal fin short





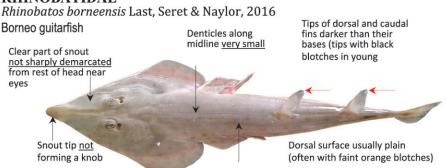






Preoral length less than two times mouth width

#### RHINOBATIDAE



Anterior nasal aperture almost circular

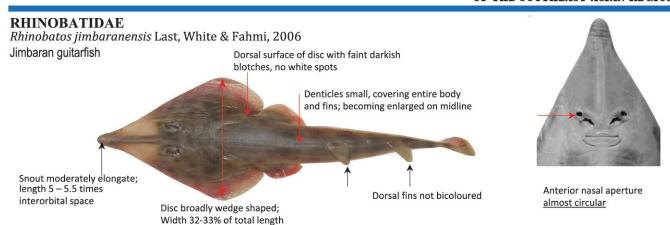
Nostril broad and with wide nasal flaps

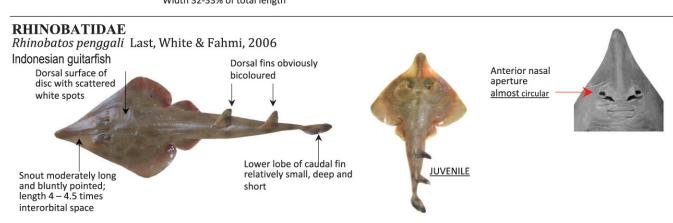
Previously identified as Rhinobatos formosensis in Ahmad et al., 2014



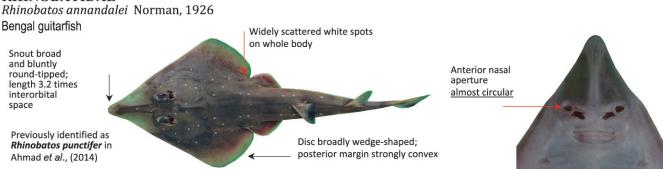


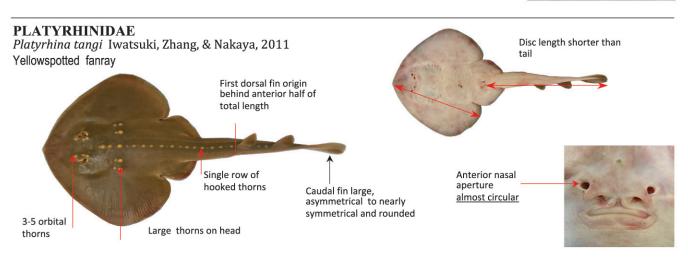






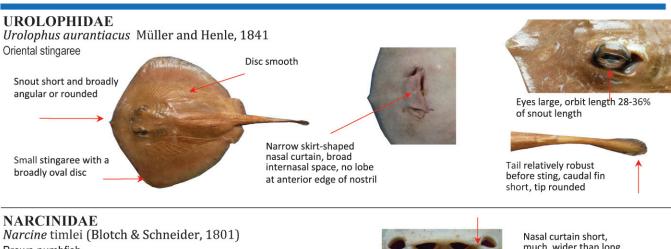


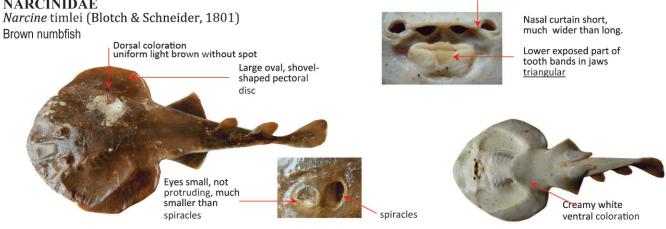


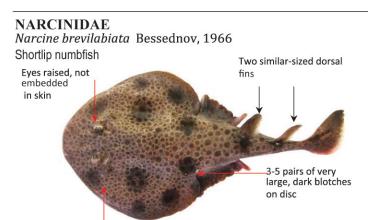




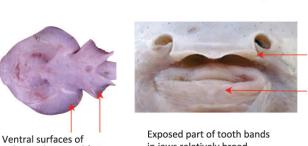






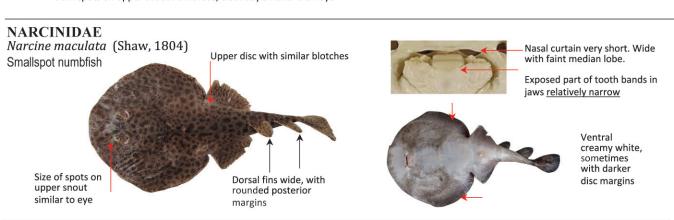






in jaws relatively broad

Nasal certain wider than long.



pelvic and pectoral fins often broadly dark

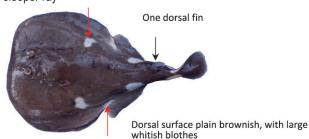
edged

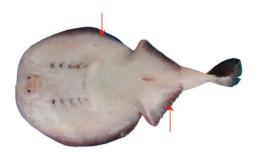




## **NARCINIDAE**

Narke dipterygia (Bloch & Schneider, 1801) Spot-tail sleeper ray





Ventral surface white, posterior disc margins and pelvic fin margin broad brownish

#### **NARCINIDAE**

Temera hardwickii Gray, 1831



Narsal curtain short, median and lower labial grooves inconspicuous or absent



Ventral surface creamy white, posterior of disc and pelvic fin margin broad brownish

#### **RAJIDAE**

Dipturus kwangtungensis (Chu, 1960)

Kwangtung skate Snout narrowly triangular. Snout length 4.4-5.3 times orbit length]

> identified as Okamejei jensenae







Dorsal fins not widely

separated

Most of ventral disc dark brown

## **RAJIDAE** Orbiraja jensenae (Last & Lim, 2010) Sulu ring skate

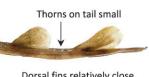


Large dark spots with white-spotted borders [removed with mucous when washed]



Ventral disc margin

broad and dark



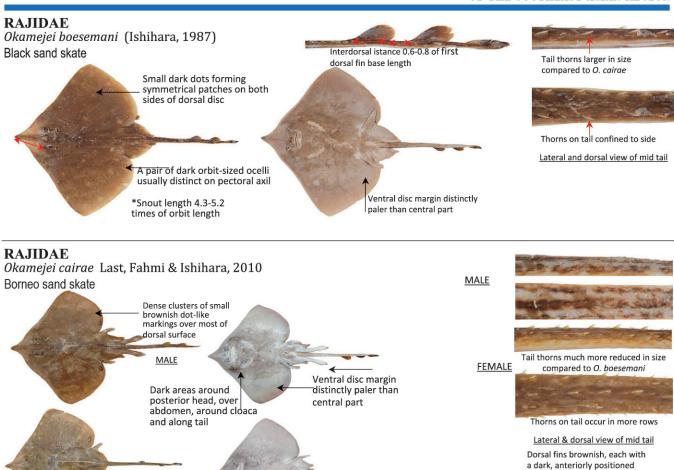
Dorsal fins relatively close together







Preserved specimen



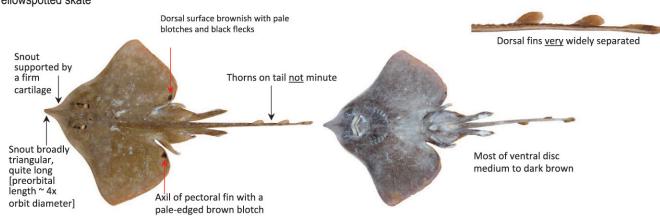
# Okamejei hollandi (Jordan & Richardson, 1909) Yellowspotted skate

FEMALE

A slight larger pair of dotted ocelli

near centre of each pectoral fin

A prominent dark brown ocellus near rear tip of each pectoral fin



MALE

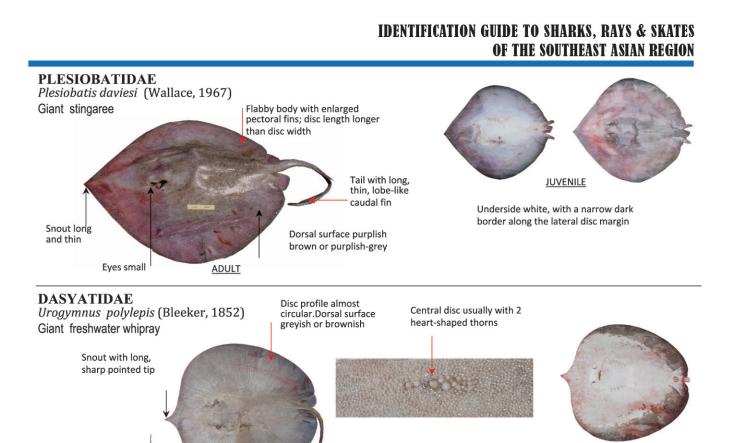
**FEMALE** 

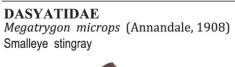




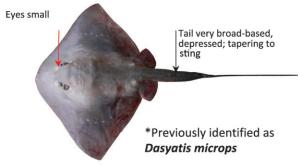
Two dark brown bars

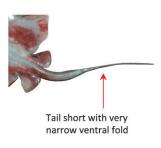
Lateral view of posterior fins





Tail long, thin-base<u>d,</u> whip-like and blackish





\*Previously identified as

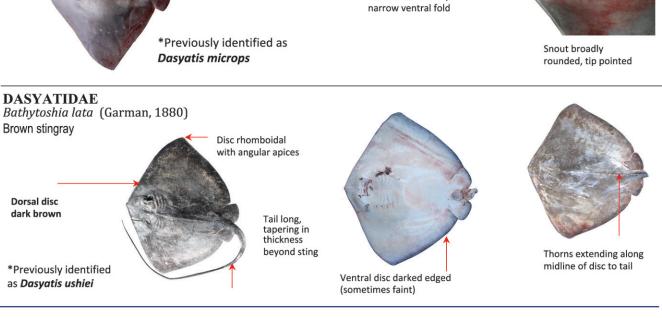
Himantura polylepis



Ventral surface white

with very broad dark

margin



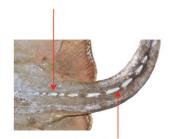




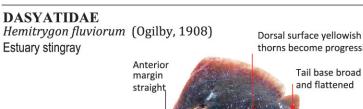
#### **DASYATIDAE** Hemitrygon akajei (Müller and Henle, 1841) Ventral surface whitish Red stingray Dorsal surface reddish brown with a broad yellowish Anterior margin margin slightly concave Tail <u>1.5 times</u> disc width; nearly black towards tip Snout triangular

\*Previously identified as

Dasyatis akajei



Thorns small anteriorly, enlarged on posterior half Thorns size twice that of Hemitrygon fluviorum



Dorsal surface yellowish to greenish brown. A midline row of thorns become progressively longer until base of sting

Snout broad triangular, tip pointed

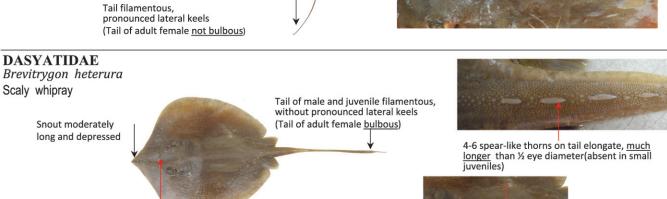
and pointed





Thorn size about 1/2 that of Hemitrygon akajei

#### **DASYATIDAE** Brevitrygon imbricata (Bloch & Schneider, 1801) Bengal whipray Snout long, Bands of flat denticles on acutely pointed central disc very narrow Thorns on tail not elongate, much shorter than ½ eye diameter \*Previously identified as Himantura imbricata



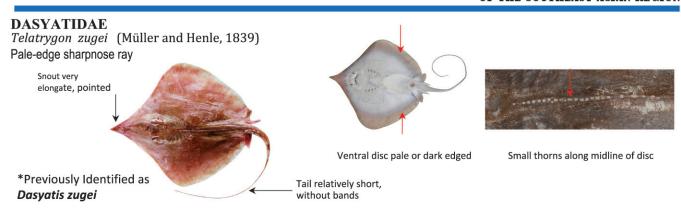
\*Previously identified as Himantura walga

Adults with dense broad band from just before orbit



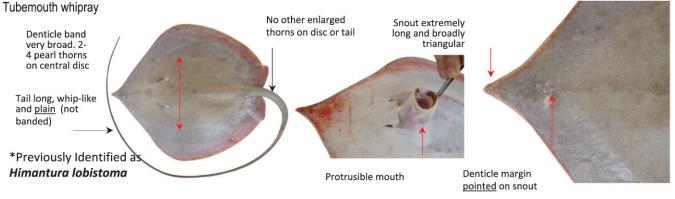


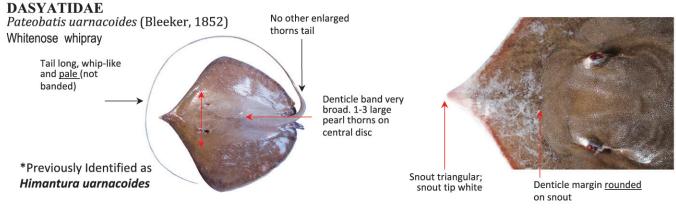


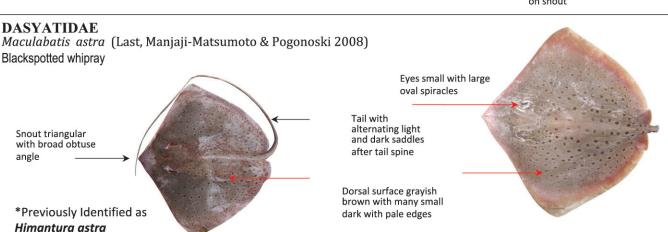




Urogymnus lobistoma (Manjaji-Matsumoto & Last, 2006)

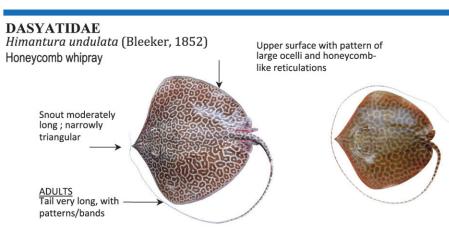












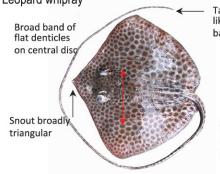


Central disc with dominant pearlshaped followed by 2-3 smaller thorns

JUVENILE Upper surface with relatively large dark spots

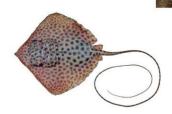
#### **DASYATIDAE**

Himantura leoparda Manjaji-Matsumoto & Last, 2008 Leopard whipray



Tail long, whiplike, variably banded

> Upper surface with leopard-like markings



Central disc with row of up to 15 heart-shaped thorns



## DASYATIDAE

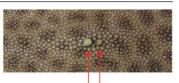
Himantura uarnak (Forsskal, 1775) Coach whipray



Tail long, whip-like, variably banded (faint in adults)





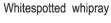


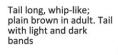
Central disc usually with two heart-shaped thorns

**JUVENILE** Newborns with prominent pattern of similar-sized, closely spaced black

## **DASYATIDAE**

Maculabatis gerrardi (Gray, 1851)





\* Previously identified as Himantura gerrardi







JUVENILE Dorsal disc with white spots; Denticles on central disc absent; Tail with white and dark



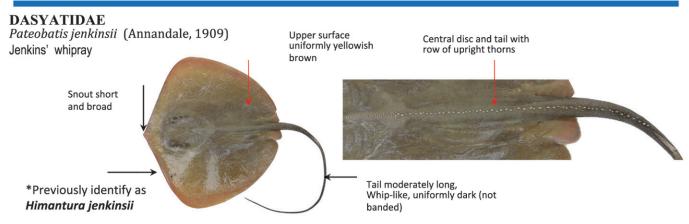
Central disc usually with 1-5 small thorns

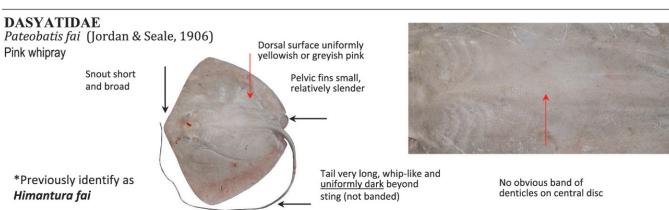


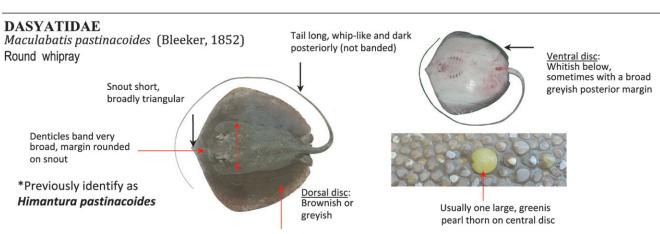


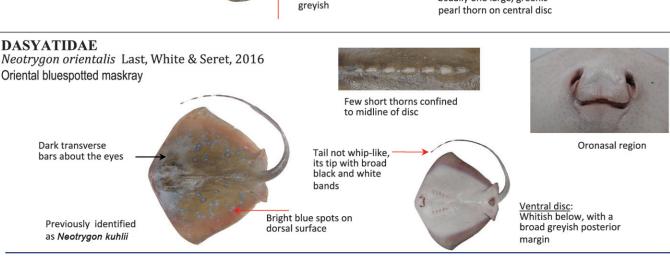






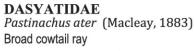














\*Previously identified as Pastinachus atrus

Snout short, broadly rounded apex

Snout apex mostly lacking denticles



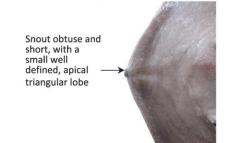
Ventral fold very deep, height behind sting 3.6-5.7 times adjacent tail height



Usually four pearl thorns



Pastinachus gracilicaudus Last & Manjaji-Matsumoto, 2010 Narrow cowtail ray

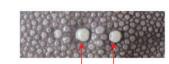


Broad band of flat denticles



No thorns row along middle of tail

Broad band of flat denticles



Two enlarge pearl thorns usually preceded by smaller irregular shaped thorns

Ventral fold rather deep, height behind sting 2.8-3.6 times adjacent tail height

#### **DASYATIDAE**

Pastinachus solocirostris Last, Manjaji & Yearsley, 2005

Roughnose cowtail ray







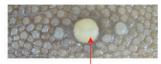
Broad band of flat denticles on central disc

Broad band of

flat denticles on central disc

No thorns row along middle of

Ventral fold slender, height behind sting about twice adjacent tail height



1-3 enlarged pearl-shaped thorns; [large pear between two small pearls]

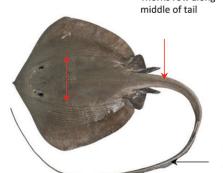
#### **DASYATIDAE**

Pastinachus stellurostris Last, Fahmi & Nyalor, 2010 Starrynose cowtail ray

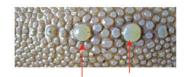


Snout apex covered with enlarged denticles with broad stellate crown

Photo source: Last et al., 2010







1-3 enlarged pear-shaped thorns

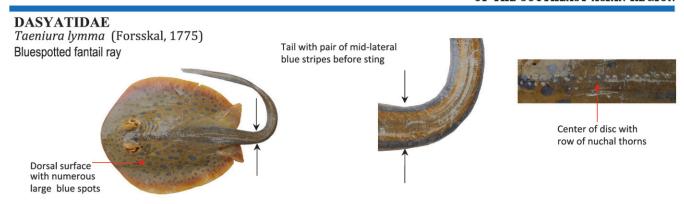
Ventral fold narrow, height behind sting just exceeding adjacent tail height







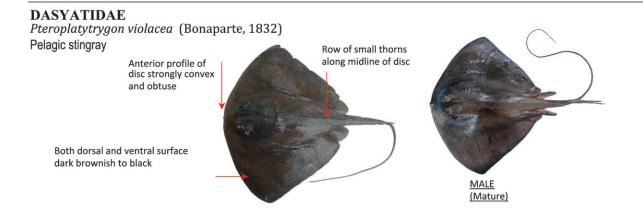


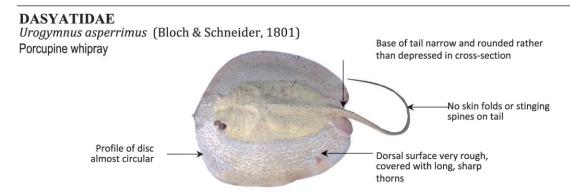


#### **DASYATIDAE**

Taeniurops meyeni Müller and Henle, 1841 Blotched stingray







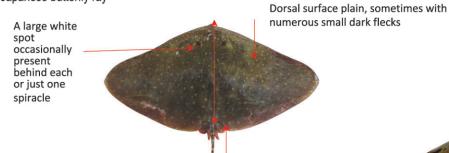




#### **GYMNURIDAE**

Gymnura japonica (Temminck & Schlegel, 1850)

Japanese butterfly ray



Tail with 5-9 dark bands Tail length as long as/less snout-vent length

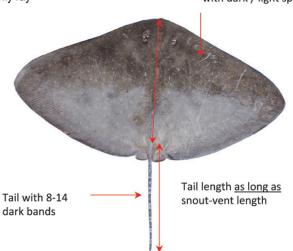


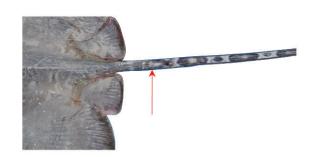
A small sting on tail

#### **GYMNURIDAE**

Gymnura poecilura (Shaw, 1804) Longtail butterfly ray

Dorsal surface brown/ yellowish-brown, with dark / light spots



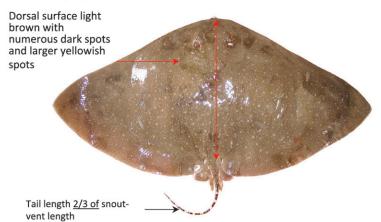


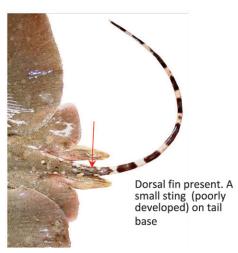
Dorsal fin absent; may have small sting on tail base. Dark spots frequently between each black band

#### **GYMNURIDAE**

Gymnura zonura (Bleeker, 1852)

Zonetail butterfly ray



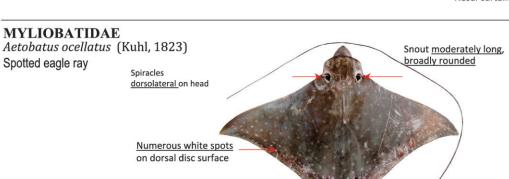










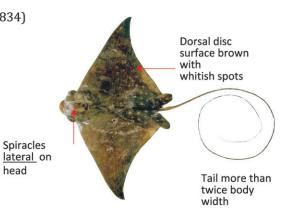




Nasal curtain V-shaped

#### **MYLIOBATIDAE**

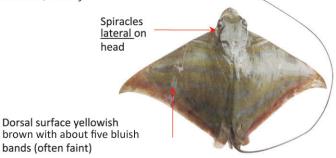
Aetomylaeus maculatus (Gray, 1834) Mottled eagle ray





**MYLIOBATIDAE** 

Aetomylaeus nichofii (Bloch & Schneider, 1801) Banded eagle ray





Edge of nasal curtain almost straight







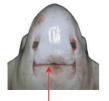


#### **MYLIOBATIDAE**

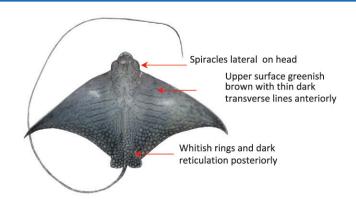
Aetomylaeus vespertilio (Bleeker, 1852) Ornate eagle ray







Edge of nasal curtain near mouth almost straight



#### **MYLIOBATIDAE**

Myliobatis hamlyni Ogilby, 1911 Purple eagle ray



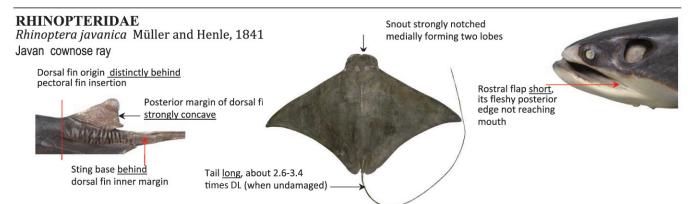
Snout connected to edge of head by fleshy ridge



Edge of nasal curtain almost straight

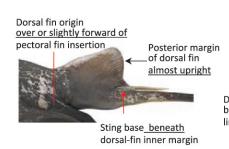
Dorsal surface uniformly purplish brown; no spots of blotches Tail very long, slender, whip like

Identified as Myliobatis tobijei Bleeker, 1854 (Ahmad et al., 2014)



#### RHINOPTERIDAE

Rhinoptera jayakari Boulenger, 1895 Short-tail cownose ray



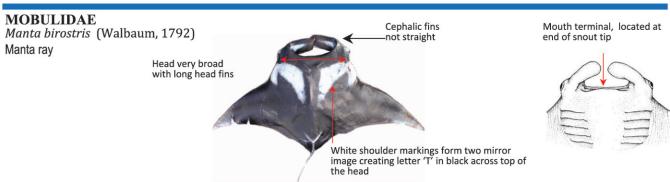
Snout strongly notched medially forming two lobes Denticles in weak band on disc mid-

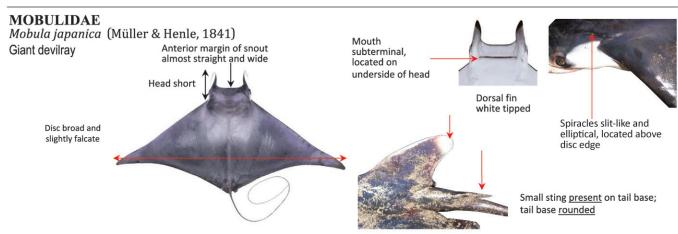
Rostral flap long, its fleshy posterior edge extending past mouth

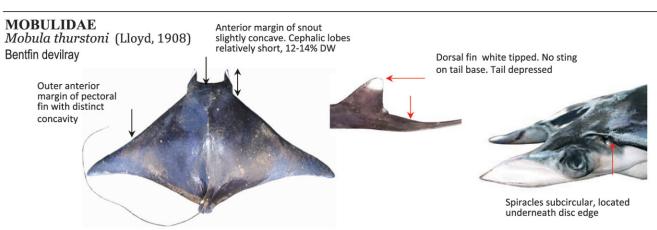
> Tail short, about 1.4-1.8 times DL (when undamaged)

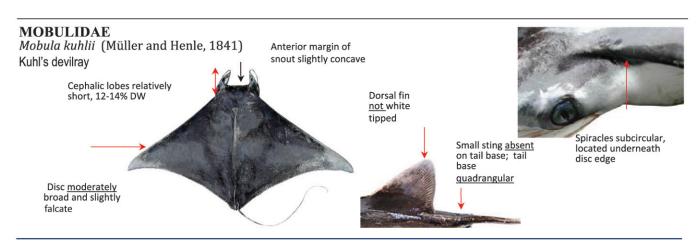
















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