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Marine and Freshwater Research

Supplementary Material

The life (history), diet and death of the blackspot shark (Carcharhinus sealei) from South-east Asia

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Questionnaire

(a) On general fishery the sample was caught from:

- 1. What depth is the longline usually set at (if a range, please indicate)
- 2. How long is the longline and how many hooks does each longline have
- 3. How far from shore is the longline set (if a range, please indicate)
- 4. What bait is used on the longline
- 5. What is the target animal for this fishery or is the fishery mix-species (any species are targeted as every species has a use)
- 6. How long (hours/days) does the fishing boat go out for at a time & what time are sharks usually caught
- 7. Do you practice any catch and release with any animals currently

(b) On the species itself (blackspot shark):

- 1. Have you noticed a decline in their numbers over the years
- 2. When the longline is pulled in, is the *C. sealei* alive or dead
- 3. Have you observed any seasonality in when you catch them and what do you attribute this too (e.g. change of fishing location? Monsoon?)
- 4. Have you observed a month(s)/season when particularly small animals are pulled in (e.g. young animals)
- 5. How valuable or important is this species to your business:
 - a) This species is important for my business and not catching it would affect me
 - b) This species is fairly important for my businesses and not catching it would affect me somewhat
 - c) This species is not important for my business and not catching it would not affect me

(c) On the supply chain:

- 1. Is the catch aggregated at any island before being imported into Singapore
- 2. Is the catch 'landed' at JFP and then driven to your warehouse

(d) On market:

- 1. Who are your main buyers of *C. sealei* in Singapore
- 2. How much do you sell them for in Singapore
- 3. Has the market demand for *C. sealei* changed over the years
- 4. Has the market demand for sharks in general changed over the years
- 5. Why was this species in particular favoured for their meat

(e) On solutions:

- 1. Do you think *C. sealei* could benefit from improved fishery management to help their numbers?
 - a) Yes
 - b) No
- 2. What do you think would be suitable and feasible measure to help *C. sealei* populations (tick all that apply)
 - a) No measures needed the species seems to be doing fine with current rates of fishing
 - b) Release of all C. sealei caught (e.g. removing species from the fishery)
 - c) Release of certain C. sealei and retention of others (e.g. releasing animals over or under a certain size)
 - d) Release of C. sealei during a particular season only (e.g. release animals for a few months of the year)
 - e) Set a quota to limit that number of animals that can be caught per month or year
 - f) Set up more Protected Areas to better protect particular habitats from fisheries
 - g) Other
- 3. If you could not catch/sell or could only catch/sell fewer of *C. sealei* than currently, would you replace this species with another one (e.g. become more reliant on another species?)

Table S1. Results of two-way analysis (ANOVA) for the Hepatosomatic index (HSI) for male (n=41) and female (n=30) Blackspot shark (*Carcharhinus sealei*) for which liver weight was recorded, with significant results marked with an asterisk (*).

	Sum of squares	d.f.	Mean square	F	P
Sex	3.36	1	3.356	5.61	0.0212*
Month	4.31	6	0.718	1.2	0.3188
$Sex \times Month$	4.5	5	0.9	1.5	0.2023
Residuals	35.31	59	0.598		
Sex	3.36	1	3.356	5.17	0.0261*
Maturity	0	1	0	0	0.9866
Sex × Maturity	0.01	1	0.007	0.01	0.92
Residuals	44.11	68	0.649		
Maturity	0.03	1	0.0255	0.04	0.843
Month	5.8	6	0.9664	1.5	0.194
Maturity × Month	3.61	5	0.722	1.12	0.36
Residuals	38.04	59	0.6448		

Interaction of three variables could not be calculated due insufficient data.