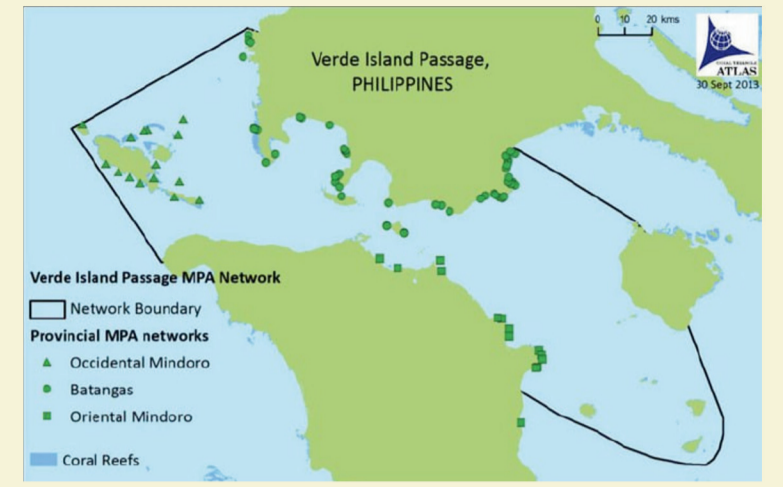




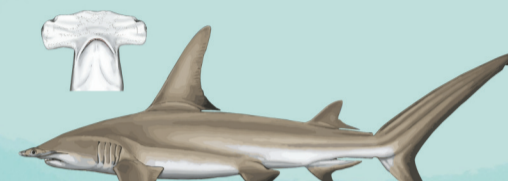
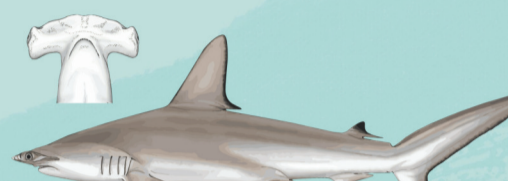





Sharks and Rays of the Verde Island Passage



Among the thousands of shark and ray species that inhabit diverse marine ecosystems and occupy a wide range of trophic levels within the oceanic food chain, only a select few are truly considered apex predators.

Trophic Level 4 to 5





 NT Tiger Shark <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>	 EN shortfin mako shark <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	 VU bull shark <i>Carcharhinus leucas</i>
 VU smooth hammerhead shark <i>Sphyrna zygaena</i>	 CR great hammerhead shark <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i>	 CR scalloped hammerhead shark <i>Sphyrna lewini</i>
 NT bluntnose sixgill shark <i>Hexanchus griseus</i>	 LC goblin shark <i>Mitsukurina owstoni</i>	 EN pelagic thresher shark <i>Alopias pelagicus</i>

TOP PREDATORS

PREY

- marine turtles
- squid
- dolphins
- large fish like tuna or mackerel
- other smaller sharks
- large rays
- stingrays
- small whales

Trophic Level 3 to 4

 LC dwarf sawtail catshark <i>Galeus schultzi</i>	 VU blacktip reef shark <i>Carcharhinus melanopterus</i>	 NT milk shark <i>Rhizoprionodon acutus</i>	 VU blacktip shark <i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i>
 EN Grey Reef Shark <i>Carcharhinus amblyrhynchos</i>	 LC onefin catshark <i>Pentanchus profundicolus</i>	 LC pygmy ribbontail catshark <i>Eridacnis radcliffei</i>	 EN shortspine spurdog <i>Squalus mitsukurii</i>
 NT Whitespotted Bambooshark <i>Chiloscyllium plagiosum</i>	 LC Longfin Catshark <i>Apristurus herklotsi</i>	 VU whitetip reef shark <i>Triaenodon obesus</i>	 LC blacktip sawtail catshark <i>Galeus sauteri</i>
 NT Lana's Sawshark <i>Pristiophorus lanae</i>	 LC longnose hound shark <i>Iago garricki</i>	 NT arrowhead dogfish <i>Deania profundorum</i>	 LC Marsha's lanternshark <i>Etmopterus marshae</i>
 VU Silver Chimaera <i>Chimaera phantasma</i>	 NT Brownbanded bamboo shark <i>Chiloscyllium punctatum</i>	 EN Zebra Shark <i>Stegostoma tigrinum</i>	 LC blackbelly lanternshark <i>Etmopterus lucifer</i>
 dogfish shark <i>Squatina sp.</i>	 LC spined pygmy shark <i>Squaliolus laticaudus</i>	 LC tasseled wobbegong <i>Eucrossorhinus dasypogon</i>	 LC ornate wobbegong <i>Orectolobus ornatus</i>
 swell shark 2011 <i>Cephaloscyllium sp.</i>	 LC smalleye pygmy shark <i>Squaliolus aliae</i>		

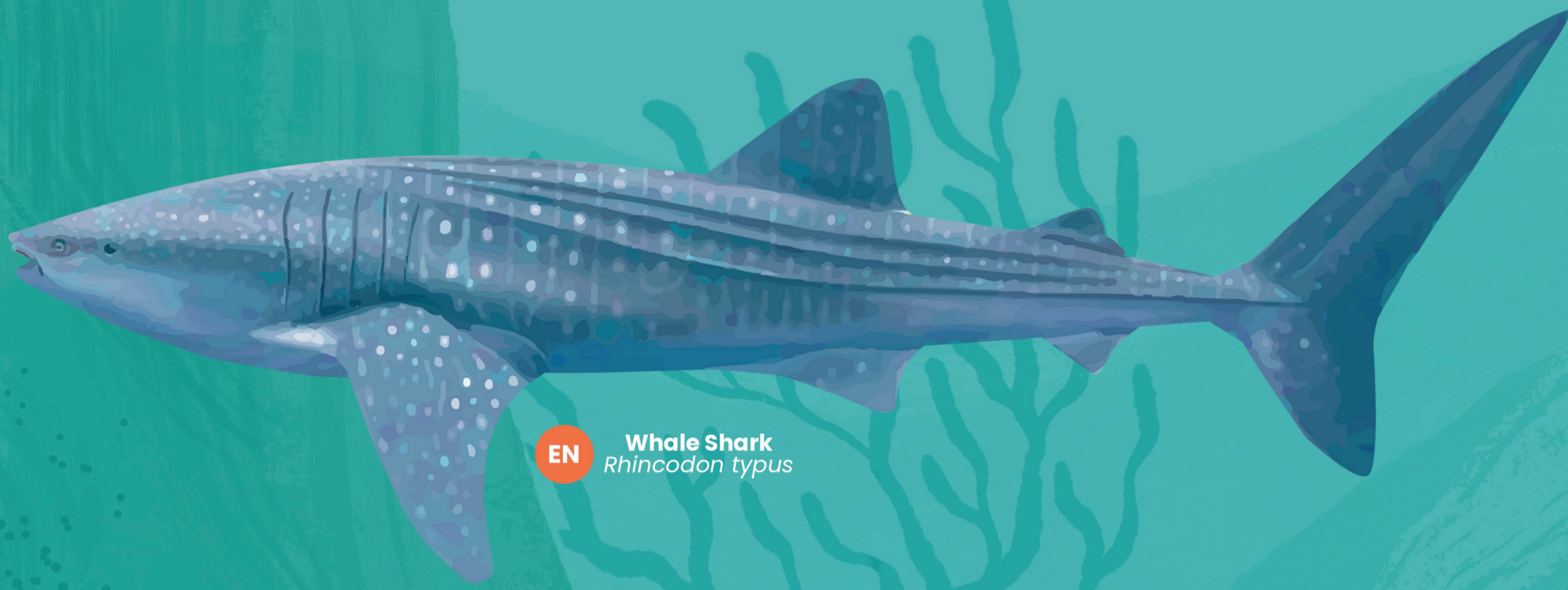
MIDDLE PREDATORS

PREY

- fish eggs
- squid
- mollusks
- reef fish
- crustaceans
- octopus

- CR** Critically Endangered
- EN** Endangered
- VU** Vulnerable
- NT** Near Threatened
- LC** Least Concern
- NE** Not Evaluated

Trophic Level 2 to 3



EN Whale Shark
Rhincodon typus



LC Megamouth Shark
Megachasma pelagios

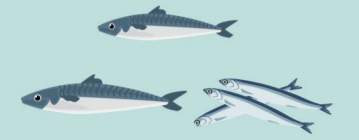


EN Oceanic Manta Ray
Mobula birostris

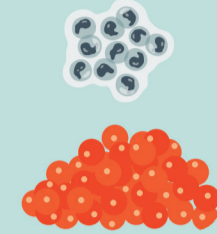


FILTER FEEDERS

PREY



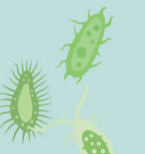
small fish - juvenile or small schooling fish or anchovies



larval fish and fish eggs

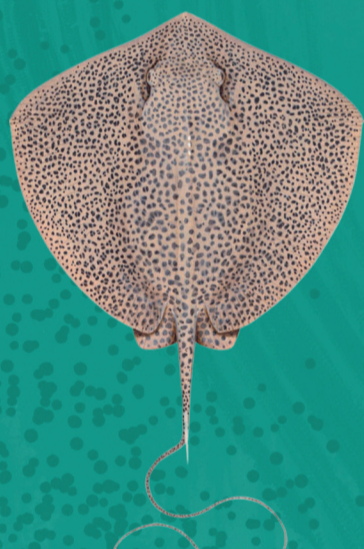


swarming crustaceans



plankton

Trophic Level 3



EN Coach Whipray
Himantura uarnak



LC Oriental Bluespotted Maskray
Neotrygon orientalis



CR Bowmouth Guitarfish
Rhina ancylostoma



VU sharpnose stingray
pale-edged stingray
Telatrygon zugei



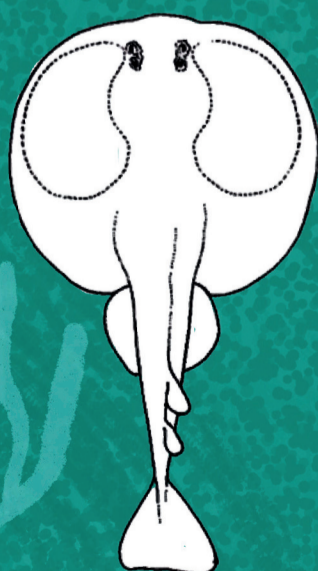
EN pelagic stingray
Pteroplatytrygon violacea



EN bluespotted ribbontail ray
fantail ray
blue-spotted stingray
ribbontailed stingray
Taeniura lymma



LC western looseskin skate
Insentiraja subtilispinosa



Philippine spotted torpedo
Torpedo sp.



BOTTOM FEEDERS

PREY



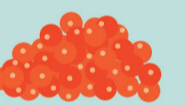
small vertebrates (like sea stars, urchins)



mollusks



crustaceans



fish eggs



reef fish

CR Critically Endangered

EN Endangered

VU Vulnerable

NT Near Threatened

LC Least Concern

NE Not Evaluated

IMAGE AND ILLUSTRATION SOURCES:

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- Illustrations by Marc Dando
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