**SPECIES INFORMATION SHEET**

**Galeus malestomus**

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English name:</th>
<th>Scientific name:</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Black mouthed dogfish</strong></td>
<td><strong>Galeus malestomus</strong></td>
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</table>

**Taxonomical group:**
- Class: Elasmobranchii
- Order: Carcharhiniformes
- Family: Scyliorhinidae

**Species authority:** Rafinesque, 1810

**Subspecies, Variations, Synonyms:** –

**Generation length:** Not known

**Past and current threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes):** –

**Future threats (Habitats Directive article 17 codes):** –

**IUCN Criteria:** –

**HELCOM Red List Category:** NA

**Global / European IUCN Red List Category:**
- LC/NE

**Habitats Directive:** –

**Previous HELCOM Red List Category (2007):** EN

**Protection and Red List status in HELCOM countries:**
- Denmark –/–, Estonia –/–, Finland –/–, Germany –/–, Latvia –/–, Lithuania –/–, Poland –/–, Russia –/–, Sweden –/NA

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**Distribution and status in the Baltic Sea region**

This small, common to abundant catshark is widely distributed in the Northeast Atlantic and Mediterranean Seas. Various research survey and landings data show no evidence of any significant decline, and overall populations appear stable. In the HELCOM area however the black mouthed dog fish is only a rare visitor.

**Habitat and ecology**

The black mouthed dog fish occurs on continental shelves and upper slopes, mainly at depths of 200–500 m. The species is ooviviparous and size at maturity in females is documented as 38–51 cm and males as 34–45 cm. It feeds mainly on crustaceans, teleost fishes and cephalopods.

**Description of major threats**

No major threats identified within the HELCOM area but the species is taken as bycatch by demersal trawls and longlines throughout large areas of its geographic range.

**Assessment justification**

No regular occurrence of mature individuals, hence considered Not Applicable (NA) for the assessment.

**Recommendations for actions to conserve the species**

No protection actions currently needed in the HELCOM area.

**Common names**

- D - Fleckhai; ES –; GB –; DK - Ringhaj; FI - N - Rengaskissahai ; LV - Melnutes kažhaizivs; LT - Juodažiotis pjuklauodegis katryklis; PL - Piłogon; RU - Chernorotaja akula; S – Hågäl
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**References**

