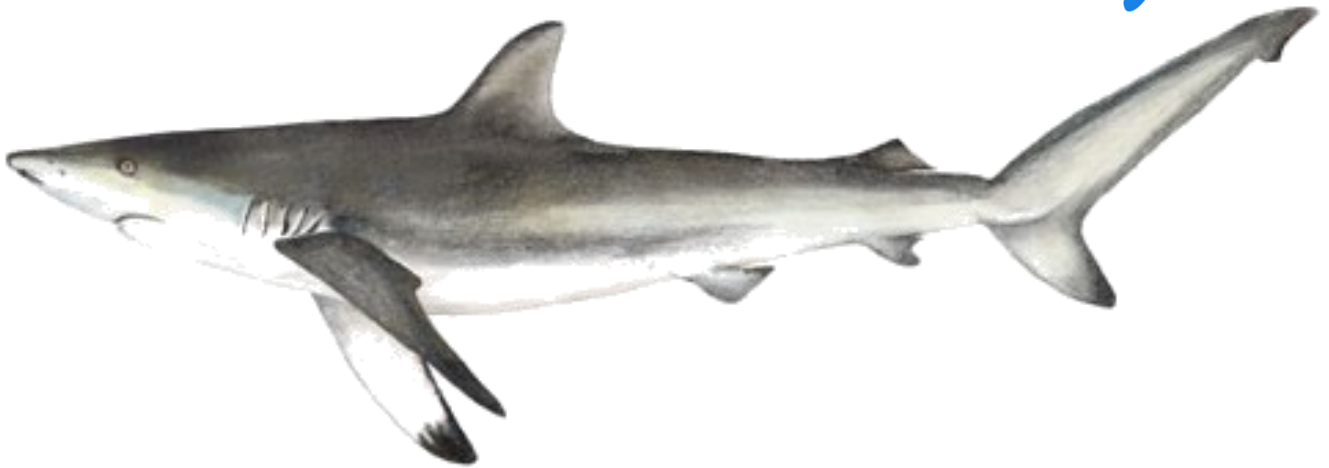


REELING IN Junior Anglers



Dusky Shark

The Dusky Shark is found in continental shelf and gulf waters of South Australia. The species ventures into temperate waters during the warmer periods of late spring, summer and early autumn, yet is mostly found in tropical, sub-tropical waters. They range in size up to 3.5 m and live for up to 55 years. Dusky Sharks produce around three female pups per year, reach sexual maturity at 20 years of age and grow very slowly. Dusky Sharks are occasionally captured in the same places where Bronze Whalers are found.

Dusky Sharks can easily be differentiated from Bronze Whalers by their distinct ridge running between the two dorsal fins on their back towards their tail.

Sometimes the ridge also has small wavy lines running away from it. Some Dusky Sharks are covered in a distinct, slimy coating on the upper side of their body. Dusky Sharks feed on a wide variety of invertebrates, fish, squid, other sharks and rays, and marine mammals. Like the Bronze Whaler, tracking shows

Dusky Sharks are highly migratory and large juveniles move between South Australia and Western Australia in autumn. Dusky Sharks are characterised by:

- dark brown to grey in colour on the dorsal side
 - pale to white underside
- charcoal to black tips on the underside of most fins
 - short, broadly rounded snout
 - long upper tail lobes
 - triangular, serrated teeth.