

Identification Guide

Dusky Whaler vs. Bronze Whaler shark species



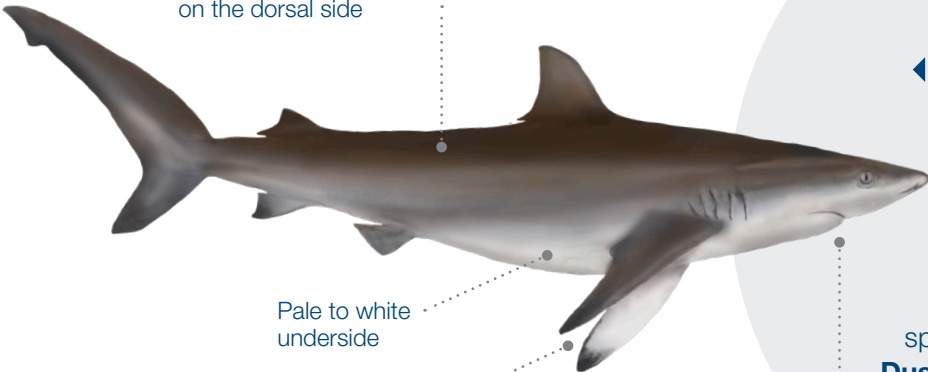
Dusky Whaler

Garcharhinus obscurus



Dusky Whaler colour variants

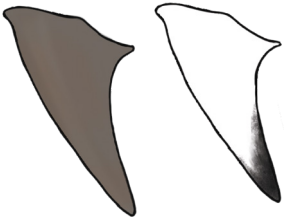
Look for - Dark brown to grey colour on the dorsal side



Pale to white underside

Pectoral fins

Charcoal to black tips on the underside of most fins particularly in juveniles



Upper teeth: triangular with broader serrations;

Lower teeth: narrow pointed and serrated.



Identifying the differences

This identification guide can assist fishers in quickly spotting the differences between **Dusky Whaler** and **Bronze Whaler** shark species, who are very similar in appearance.

Bronze Whaler

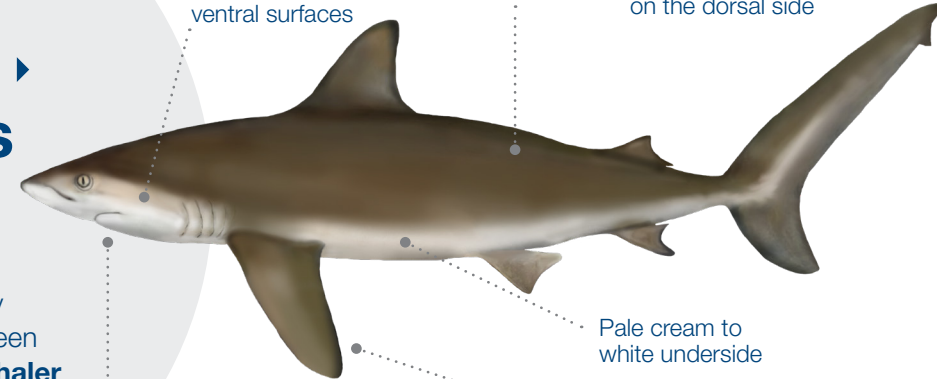
Carcharhinus brachyurus



Bronze Whaler colour variants

Creamy yellow stripe between dorsal and ventral surfaces

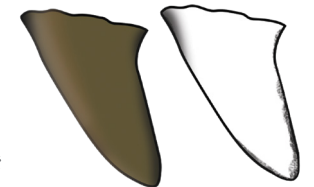
Look for - Bronze or copper colour on the dorsal side



Pale cream to white underside

Pectoral fins

Bronze or copper colour with a white underside



Upper teeth: hook shaped, lightly serrated, narrowly pointed;

Lower teeth: narrow, pointed, finely serrated.



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Dusky Whaler vs. Bronze Whaler shark species



Dusky Whaler

Garcharhinus obscurus

! Some Dusky Whaler sharks have a slimy coating covering the upper side of their body

Nose - A short, broadly rounded snout

Dusky Whaler sharks feed on:

- fish
- squid
- other sharks and rays
- a wide variety of invertebrates
- marine mammals (infrequently)

Characteristics
Distinct ridge running between the two dorsal fins on their back towards their tail.

Tail
Long upper tail lobes

Size Range: Up to 3.2m

Identifying the differences



Fishwatch
1800 065 522

To report suspicious or illegal fishing activity call Fishwatch on 1800 065 522

Bronze Whaler

Carcharhinus brachyurus

Nose - A short, broadly rounded snout

Bronze Whaler sharks feed on:

- fish
- squid
- small bodied sharks and rays

Characteristics
Smooth back, no ridge between the two dorsal fins.

Tail
Long upper tail lobes

Size Range: Up to 3m