

GREENBACK STINGAREE

GREENBACK STINGAREE FACTS

What you see is what you get. Its Latin name 'viridis' means 'green', the colour of its dorsal (back) side.

It's found nowhere else in the world except in Australia, ranging from southern Queensland to Victoria and Tasmania. It lives in the deep (20-300m) waters of the continental shelf.

Scientists estimate that its population has fallen by at least 30% in just the last 30 years and scientists worry it may soon be 'endangered'.

It mainly eats marine worms and crustaceans.

Max size of 51cm



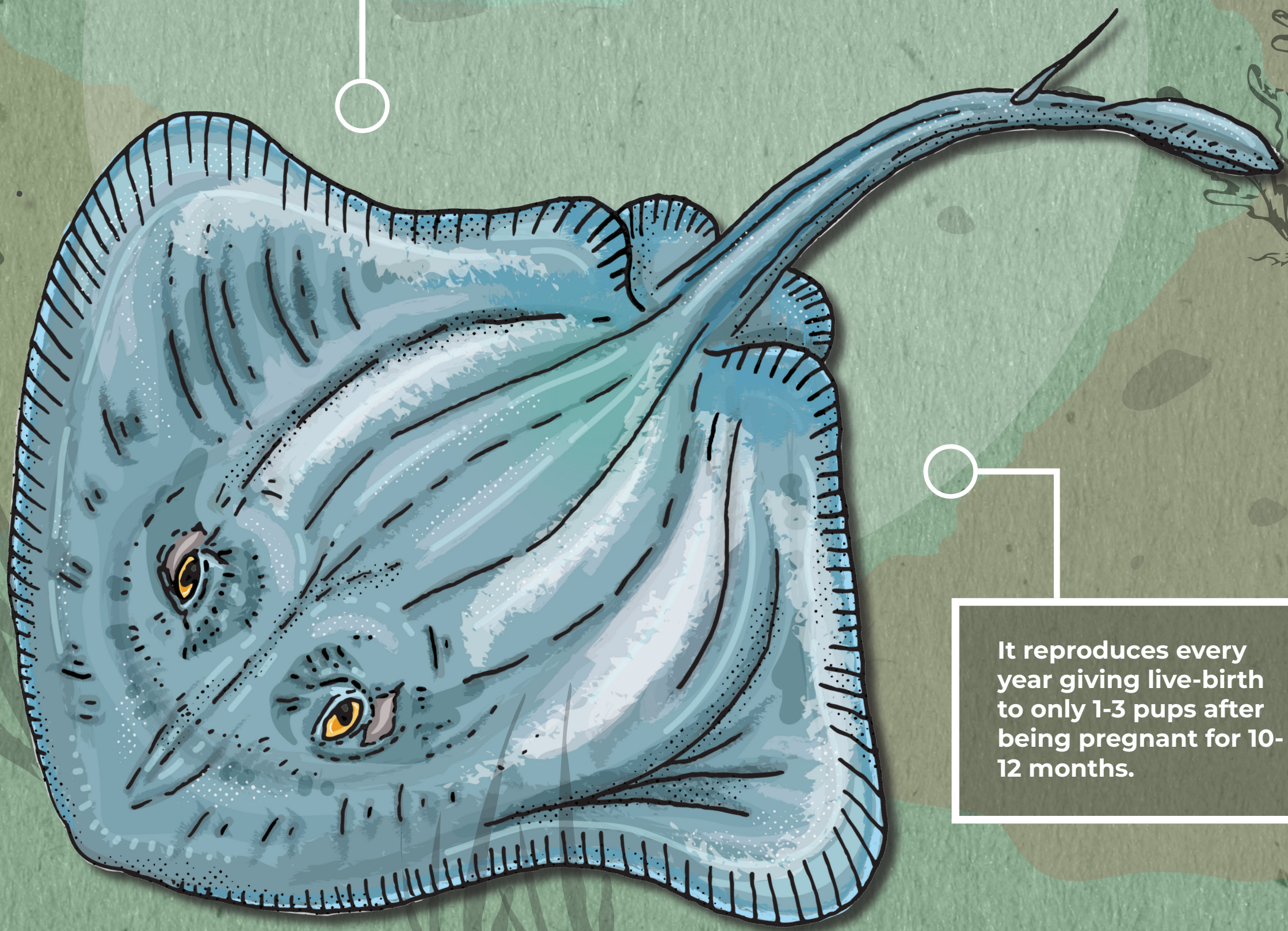
GREENBACK STINGAREE

Urolophus viridis

Vulnerable



GREENBACK STINGAREE AUSTRALIAN DISTRIBUTION



It reproduces every year giving live-birth to only 1-3 pups after being pregnant for 10-12 months.



THREATS & SOLUTIONS



THREAT: Trawl fishing. It lives mostly on the seafloor where it can be 'scooped' up.

SOLUTION: Close off critical habitats to trawling to halt the decline in their population.



THREAT: Capture stress. Although it may survive capture, pregnant females often abort their unborn pups because of the stress experienced during trawling.

SOLUTION: Close off critical habitats to trawling to help breeding females reproduce and the population recover.

References:
IUCN Red List: Greenback stingaree www.iucnredlist.org/species/60105/68650230

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