Order CARCHARHINIFORMES

Requiem Sharks

Family CARCHARHINIDAE

Jordan & Evermann 1896

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**Carcharhinus**

Blainville 1816

tkaros (Gr.), sharp or jagged; rhinus, an ancient name for sharks, from rhine (Gr.), rasp, both words alluding to a shark's jagged, rasp-like skin

**Carcharhinus acaretnus** Moreno & Hoyos 1983

- (Gr.), not; carenat- tus, alternate spelling of carinatus (L.), keeled or carinate, referring to absence of dermal fold (dorsal ridge) between the dorsal fins [treated as a junior synonym of C. brachyurus by some workers]

**Carcharhinus acronotus** (Poey 1860)

acro-, from akron (Gr.), top, summit or peak; notus, from notos (Gr.), back, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to “raised” (translation) back at first dorsal fin

**Carcharhinus albimarginatus** (Rüppell 1837)

albus (L.), white; margin- atus (L.), bordered, referring to white fin tips

**Carcharhinus altimus** (Springer 1950)

Latin for highest, allusion not explained nor evident

**Carcharhinus amblorhynchoidea** (Whitley 1934)

-o-ides, Greek suffix meaning like, resembling, having the form of: similar to C. amblorhynchos, to which it had previously been identified

**Carcharhinus amblorhynchos** (Bleeker 1856)

ambly (Gr.), blunt; rhyn- chos (Gr.), snout, referring to its long, broadly rounded snout

**Carcharhinus amboinensis** ( Müller & Henle 1839)

-ensis, Latin suffix denoting place: Ambon Island, Moluccas Islands, Indonesia, type locality

**Carcharhinus borneensis** (Bleeker 1858)

-ensis, Latin suffix denoting place: Borneo, Indonesia, where type locality (off Singkawang, West Kalimantan) is situated

**Carcharhinus brachyurus** (Günther 1870)

brachys (Gr.), short; urus (Latinized Gr.), tailed, a probable misnomer since caudal fin is not short (%TL) and type specimens were described from mounted skins and embryos (some sources indicate name means “short-bodied”)

**Carcharhinus brevipinna** (Müller & Henle 1839)

brevi (L.), short; pinna (L.) fin, referring to small pectoral and first dorsal fins

**Carcharhinus coatesi** (Whiteley 1839)

in honor of angler, artist and illustrator George Coates (d. 1980), who captured many elasmobranchs in North Queensland, Australia, including holotype of this one

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**Carcharhinus cautus** (Whitley 1945)

Latin for nervous or wary, the “Nervous Shark” mentioned in Whitley (1940), referring to how the “slightest splashing” in shallow water caused this shark to “dash away at great speed into deep water”1

**Carcharhinus cerdale Gilbert 1898** from kerdaleos (Gr.), wary, crafty or fox-like, allusion not explained (but see entries for C. caetus, above, and Alopias, Alopiidae)

**Carcharhinus dussumieri** (Valenciennes 1839)

in honor of Jean-Jacques Dussumier (1792-1833), French voyager and merchant, who collected some of the type material off Bombay (Mumbai) [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes’ description]

**Carcharhinus falciformis** (Bibron 1839)

falc (L.), scythe or sicle; forma (L.), shape or form, referring to sickle-like shape of pectoral fins [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Bibron’s description]

**Carcharhinus fitzroyensis** (Whitley 1943)

-ensis, Latin suffix denoting place: Fitzroy River, Queensland, type locality

**Carcharhinus galapagensis** (Snodgrass & Heller 1905)

-ensis, Latin suffix denoting place: Galapagos Islands, type locality

**Carcharhinus hemiodon** (Müller & Henle 1839)

hemi-, from hemisys (Gr.), half; odon (Gr.), tooth, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to how teeth on upper jaw are serrated basally and smooth distally

**Carcharhinus humani White & Weigmann 2014** in honor of the late Brett A. Human (d. 2011), Australian marine biologist, Western Australian Museum (Perth), for “important contributions to shark taxonomy in South Africa and Oman in the western Indian Ocean region, and who is sorely missed by his colleagues”

**Carcharhinus isodon** (Valenciennes 1839)

-iso-, from isos (Gr.), equal; odon (Gr.), tooth, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to how its teeth are similar in shape and size in both jaws [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes’ description]

**Carcharhinus leiodon** Garrick 1985

leios (Gr.), smooth; odon (Gr.) tooth, referring to smooth-edged teeth on upper jaw

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Carcharhinus leucas (Valenciennes 1839) from leukos (Gr.), white, referring to its body color, usually grayish with white underside [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes’ description]

Carcharhinus limbatus (Valenciennes 1839) Latin for edged or bordered, referring to black-edged fins [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes’ description]

Carcharhinus longimanus (Poey 1861) longus (L.), long; manus (L.) hand, referring to its long paddle-like pectoral fins

Carcharhinus macloti (Müller & Henle 1839) in honor of German naturalist Heinrich Christian Maclot (1799–1832, Latinized as M aclot), who collected holotype in New Guinea

Carcharhinus melanopterus (Quoy & Gaimard 1824) melanos (Gr.), black; pterus, from pteron (Gr.), fin, referring to its black-tipped fins

Carcharhinus obscurus (Lesueur 1818) Latin for dark, probably referring to its darkish blue-gray body color

Carcharhinus obsoletus White, Kyne & Harris 2019 Latin for extinct, referring to fact that it has not been recorded since 1934 [originally spelled obsolurus, a misspelling based on incorrect optical character recognition results at several online English-Latin translation sites]

Carcharhinus perezi (Poey 1876) in honor of Poey’s companion and friend Laureano Perez Arcas (1824–1894), University of Madrid, whose textbook Elementos de Zoología Poey used at the University of Havana

Carcharhinus plumbeus (Nardo 1827) Latin for “of lead,” i.e., lead-colored, referring to its gray-brown coloration above

Carcharhinus porosus (Ranzani 1839) Latin for pored or full of holes, probably referring to large and conspicuous pores behind eye

Carcharhinus sealei (Pietschmann 1913) in honor of American ichthyologist Alvin Seale (1871–1958), Stanford University, who described this shark in 1910 but used a preoccupied name (C. bennornesi)

Carcharhinus signatus (Poey 1868) Latin for marked, probably referring to indentation on outer margins of upper teeth (described from jaws only)

Carcharhinus sorrah (Valenciennes 1839) Tamil (Indian subcontinent) word for shark [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes’ description]

Carcharhinus tilstoni (Whitley 1950) in honor of Richard Tilston, naturalist-surgeon at Port Essington, Northern Territory, near where holotype was collected in the 1840s

Carcharhinus tuitjot (Bleeker 1852) Indonesian word for shark (pronounced choo-choot)

Carcharhinus wheeleri Garrick 1982 in honor of British zoologist John Francis George Wheeler (1900–1979), former Director of the East African Marine Fisheries Research Organization, whose 1953 account of this shark, as C. ambyrhyncos, is the first definitive Record of this species [treated as a junior synonym of C. ambyrhyncos by some workers]

Glyphis Agassiz 1843

Glyphis gangeticus (Müller & Henle 1839) -icus (L.), belonging to: Ganges River, India, where Müller and Henle mistakenly thought it occurred

Glyphis garricki Compagno, White & Last 2008 in honor of New Zealand shark biologist J. A. F. (Jack) Garrick (1928–2018), for his revisions of the requiem shark family, and “who discovered this species in the form of two newborn males from Papua New Guinea and supplied radiographs, morphometrics, drawings and other details of these specimens (since lost) to the senior author”

Glyphis glyphis (Müller & Henle 1839) Greek for knife, referring to how anterior lower teeth are serrated and flare outward, arrowhead-like, before coming to a sharp point

Isogomphodon Gill 1862

iso-, from isos (Gr.), equal; gomphos (Gr.), nail; odon (Gr.), tooth, referring to how teeth are equally fastened, i.e., clawform and straight in both jaws

Isogomphodon oxyrhynchus (Valenciennes 1839) oxys (Gr.), sharp; rhynchus (Latinized Gr.), snouted, referring to its elongated, pointed and narrow snout [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes’ description]

Lamiopsis Gill 1862

etymology not explained nor evident, perhaps Gill thought L. temminckii resembled -opsis, Greek for appearance) members of the family Lamnidae (Lamia =Lamna)

Lamiopsis temminckii (Müller & Henle 1839) in honor of Coenraad Jacob Temminck (1778–1858), director of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie (Leiden, Netherlands), who “unlocked the treasures” (translation) of the museum during the authors’ visit in 1837

Lamiopsis tephrodes (Fowler 1905) -oides, Greek suffix meaning like, resembling, having the form of: tephritis (L.), an ash-colored precious stone, referring to its “more or less uniform gray” coloration in alcohol


Loxodon Müller & Henle 1838

loxos (Gr.), slanting; odon (Gr.), tooth, probably referring to oblique teeth cusps [name first published with no included species; species added by Müller & Henle in 1839]

Loxodon macro rhinus Müller & Henle 1839 macro-, from makros (Gr.), long; rhinos (Gr.), nose, probably referring to its long, narrow snout

Nasolamia
Compagno & Garrick 1983
nasus (L.), nose, referring to large, traverse nostrils and narrow conical snout; lamia, Greek for a shark-like fish

Nasolamia velox (Gilbert 1898) Latin for swift or speedy, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to its swimming velocity inferred by its slender form


Rhizoprionodon
Whitney 1840
negatus Gr., to deny; prion Gr., saw, referring to lack of saw-like serrations on teeth cusps

Rhizoprionodon acutidens (Rüppell 1837) acutus L., sharp or pointed; dens, from dentis L., tooth, probably referring to pyramid-like teeth (Gr.) - nen spitzen Pyramiden)

Rhizoprionodon brevirostris (Poe 1868) brevis L., short; rostrum L., snout, referring to short, flat and broadly rounded snout

Rhizoprionodon fronto (Jordan & Gilbert 1882) Latin for having a wide forehead, referring to very broad, depressed head [treated as a junior synonym of N. brevirostris by some workers]

Rhizoprionodon
Springer 1964 per Springer, Greek for “short furrow,” referring to short upper labial furrow

Rhizoprionodon oligolinx (a male, presumably mature at 76.2 cm long), much smaller than its presumed congeners in Carcharias (original genus)

Rhizoprionodon longurio (Jordan & Gilbert 1882) Latin for a tall person, or a “slender youth or stripling” per Jordan & Evermann (1896), allusion not explained, perhaps referring to small, slim body of holotype (a male, presumably mature at 76.2 cm long), much smaller than its presumed congeners in Carcharias (original genus)

Rhizoprionodon lalandii (Valenciennes 1839) in honor of naturalist and explorer Pierre Antoine Delalande (1787–1823), who collected holotype [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes’ description]

Rhizoprionodon taylori (Jordan & Gilbert 1886) Taylor (1886–1945), Institute of Tropical Medicine, Townsville, Queensland, Australia, who collected holotype

Rhizoprionodon porosus (Poey 1861) Loxodon macrorhinus, holotype, embryo, ca. 315 mm TL. From: Müller & Henle 1837

Rhizoprionodon taylori (Jordan & Gilbert 1882) Latin for pored or full of holes, referring to enlarged hyomandibular pores on both sides of head

Rhizoprionodon taylori (Ogilby 1915) in honor of entomologist Frank Henry Taylor (1886–1945), Institute of Tropical Medicine, Townsville, North Queensland, Australia, who collected holotype

Rhizoprionodon terraeovae (Richardson 1836) of terra (L.), earth or land, and novus (L.), new, i.e., Newfoundland, Canada, where Richardson erroneously thought this shark occurred

Scoliodon
Müller & Henle 1837
scolio-, from skelos (Gr.), oblique; odon (Gr.), tooth, referring to oblique teeth pointing towards sides of mouth


Rhizoprionodon lalandii (Valenciennes 1839) in honor of naturalist and explorer Pierre Antoine Delalande (1787–1823), who collected holotype [authorship often attributed to Müller & Henle, who published Valenciennes’ description]
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Scoliodon laticaudus

Müller & Henle 1838

latus (L.), wide or broad; cauda (L.), tail, allusion not explained, perhaps referring to width of upper caudal-fin lobe

Scoliodon macrorhynchos

Bleeker 1852

macro-, from makros (Gr.), long; rhynchos (Gr.), snout, referring to its long (and extremely flattened) snout

Triaenodon

Müller & Henle 1837

triaeno, from triaina (Gr.), trident (having three points); odon (Gr.), tooth, referring to each having a cusp and two cusplets

Triaenodon obesus (Rüppell 1837)

Latin for fat or stout, referring to its blunt head, said to give the shark a plump appearance

Triaenodon obesus