

Blue lines indicate the area meeting the ISRA Criteria; dashed lines indicate the suggested buffer for use in the development of appropriate place-based conservation measures

## HANNAFORE ISRA

### European Atlantic Region

#### SUMMARY

Hannafore is located near Looe Island, Cornwall, on the southern coast of England, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This area is characterised by a coarse sandy beach, a rocky reef, and seagrass beds. It is influenced by freshwater input from a nearby estuary, causing variation in nutrients. Within this area there are: **threatened species** and **reproductive areas** (Nursehound *Scyliorhinus stellaris*).

#### CRITERIA

##### Criterion A - Vulnerability; Sub-criterion C1 - Reproductive Areas

— —  
**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND**  
 — —

**0-30 metres**  
 — —

**0.41 km<sup>2</sup>**  
 — —





## DESCRIPTION OF HABITAT

Hannafore is located near Looe Island, Cornwall, on the southern coast of England, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. This area is characterised by a coarse sandy beach, a rocky reef, and seagrass beds (Parry-Wilson et al. 2024; Cornwall Wildlife Trust 2025). It is influenced by freshwater input from a nearby estuary, causing variation in nutrients.

This Important Shark and Ray Area is benthic and pelagic and is delineated from inshore and surface waters (0 m) to 30 m based on observations of the Qualifying Species.

## ISRA CRITERIA

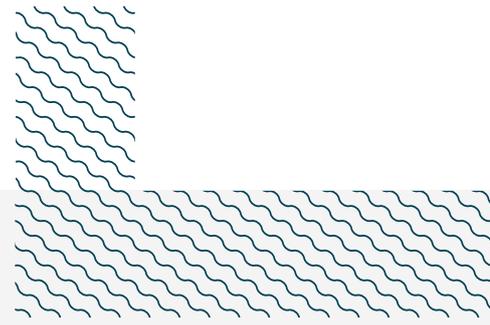
### CRITERION A - VULNERABILITY

One Qualifying Species considered threatened with extinction according to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species regularly occurs in the area. This is the Vulnerable Nursehound (Finucci et al. 2021).

### SUB-CRITERION C1 - REPRODUCTIVE AREAS

Hannafore is an important reproductive area for one shark species.

Opportunistic sightings of Nursehound egg cases are regularly and predictably reported from this area by citizen scientists undertaking recreational snorkelling and diving activities, although no specific surveys dedicated to this purpose have been undertaken at this site (Shark Trust unpubl. data. 2025). These reports are compiled into a dedicated database, and egg case identification is confirmed through species-specific guides (Shark Trust unpubl. data. 2025). Overall, 79 in-situ egg cases of Nursehound have been reported from 19 observations. These observations were recorded in 2015 (n = 4 observations; n = 6 egg cases), 2016 (n = 3; n = 4 egg cases), 2017 (n = 3; n = 5 egg cases), 2018 (n = 4; n = 40 egg cases), and 2019 (n = 5; n = 24 egg cases) (Shark Trust unpubl. data. 2025). There is no apparent seasonality to these observations. Records are associated with the rocky reef habitat in the area. This is one of the largest known regular and predictable clusters of observations of in situ egg cases of this species within the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.



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### **Acknowledgments**

Harriet Allen (Shark Trust), Ali Hood (Shark Trust), and Ryan Charles (IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group - ISRA Project) contributed and consolidated information included in this factsheet. We thank all participants of the 2025 ISRA Region 02 - European Atlantic workshop for their contributions to this process.

This factsheet has undergone review by the ISRA Independent Review Panel prior to its publication.

This project was funded by the Shark Conservation Fund, a philanthropic collaborative pooling expertise and resources to meet the threats facing the world's sharks and rays. The Shark Conservation Fund is a project of Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors.

### **Suggested citation**

**IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group. 2025.** Hannafore ISRA Factsheet. Dubai: IUCN SSC Shark Specialist Group.

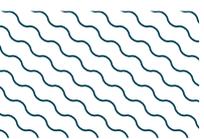
## QUALIFYING SPECIES

Scientific Name	Common Name	IUCN Red List Category	Global Depth Range (m)	ISRA Criteria/Sub-criteria Met									
				A	B	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	D1	D2	
<b>SHARKS</b>													
<i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i>	Nursehound	VU	0-380	X		X							

## SUPPORTING SPECIES

Scientific Name	Common Name	IUCN Red List Category
<b>SHARKS</b>		
<i>Scyliorhinus canicula</i>	Smallspotted Catshark	LC

*IUCN Red List of Threatened Species Categories are available by searching species names at [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org) Abbreviations refer to: CR, Critically Endangered; EN, Endangered; VU, Vulnerable; NT, Near Threatened; LC, Least Concern; DD, Data Deficient.*





## REFERENCES

**Cornwall Wildlife Trust. 2025.** Looe Bay Super Seagrass. Available at: <https://www.cornwallwildlifetrust.org.uk/news/looe-bay-super-seagrass> Accessed May 2025.

**Finucci B, Derrick D, Pacoureau N. 2021.** *Scyliorhinus stellaris*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* 2021: e.T161484A124493465. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2021-2.RLTS.T161484A124493465.en>

**Parry-Wilson HM, Fenberg PB, Hawkins SJ, Mieszkowska N. 2024.** Lethal and sub-lethal responses of rocky shore gastropods to extreme temperatures. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology* 579: 152044. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jembe.2024.152044>