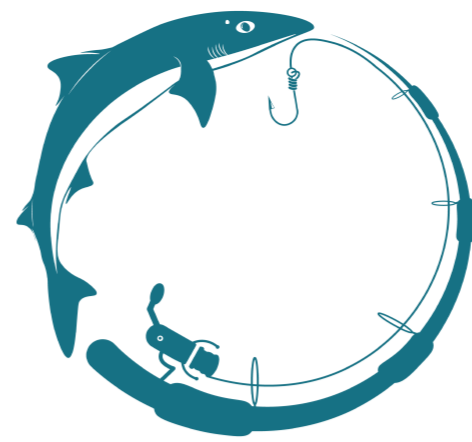


SPURDOG HANDLING GUIDE

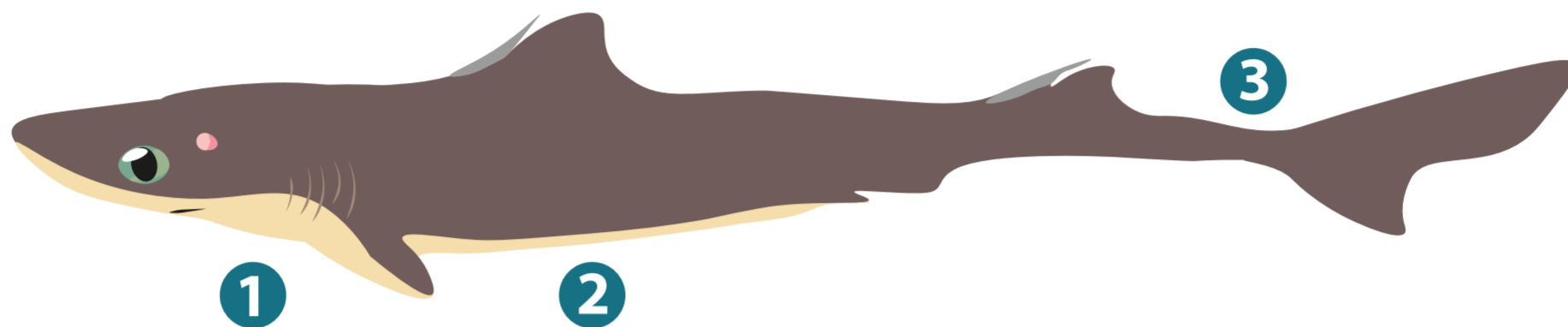


AWARE PREPARE TAKE CARE

Developed by Spurwatch UK www.spurwatch.co.uk

AWARE

BE AWARE OF THE RISKS YOU IMPOSE ON SPURDOG BY TARGETTING THEM
If treated with care, spurdog have high post-capture survival rates



- 1 No hard gill covers** = easily damaged breathing apparatus
- 2 No ribcage** = vulnerable to organ damage during landing
- 3 High muscle mass and no hard skeleton** = organs and connective tissue vulnerable to crushing and tearing out of water

PREPARE



PLANNING

- 1 Plan every stage**
From hooks to unhooking
- 2 Plan for worst case scenarios**
e.g. entanglement, deep hooking, or an unresponsive fish



EQUIPMENT

- 1 Invest in suitable tackle**
Buy quality and spares
- 2 Prepare equipment before fishing**
Unhooking and photography equipment should be ready to use

For specific tackle & unhooking advice consult the Shark Best Practice Guides by the Sportfishing Club of the British Isles and Shark Angling Club of Great Britain

TAKE CARE

Handle spurdog with both hands horizontally to avoid tissue damage
Limit time out of water as much as possible to avoid unnecessary stress

✗ Never hold by the gills or snout

✗ Never use a gaff



! Avoid venomous dorsal spines

✓ Use one hand to support under the pectoral fins

✓ Support tail and body with other hand

If you need to put a fish on the ground/deck, place it onto a damp mat