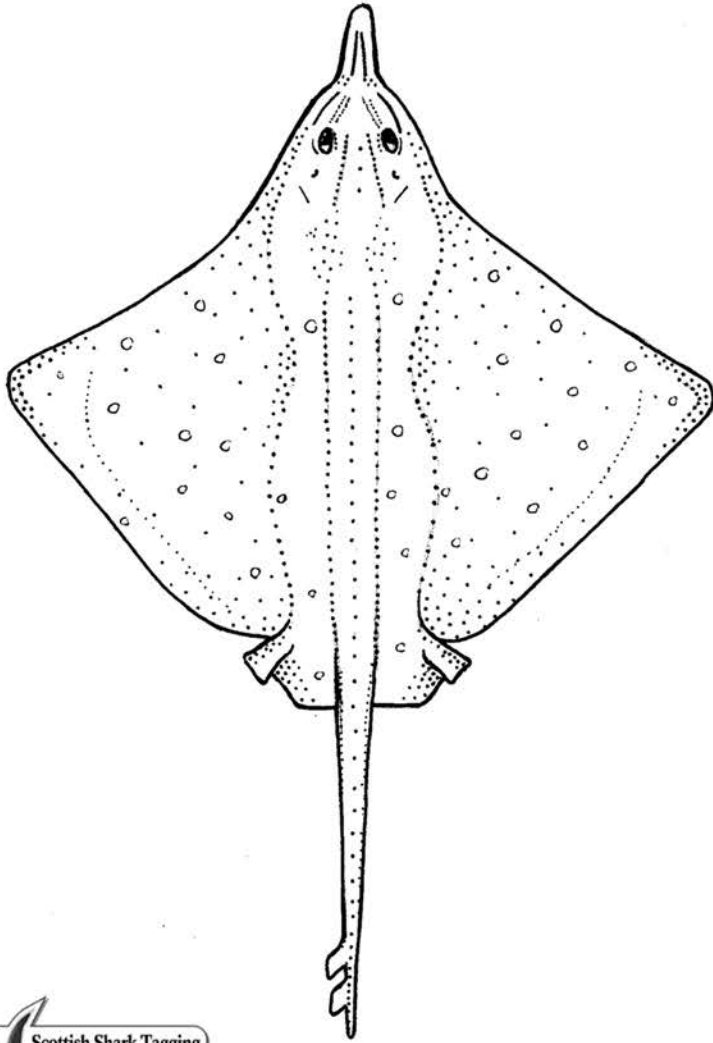


COMMON SKATE



- The Common Skate is the largest species of skate in the world.
- Now considered two separate species, the flapper skate and blue skate.
- Native to the northeast Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea. Drastic decline in numbers has led to this species being limited to the deep waters of the west coast of Scotland and the Celtic Sea. More sporadic reporting has occurred elsewhere.
- Bottom, opportunistic feeders, preying upon mollusks, crustaceans, cephalopods, fish, and small sharks and rays.
- Generally, grey-brown (olive) in color with small spots and often two rows of thorns along the tail. Their ventral side is pale grey-white.
- Listed as "Critically Endangered" on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

