



Atlantic Shark Commercial Fishery Update

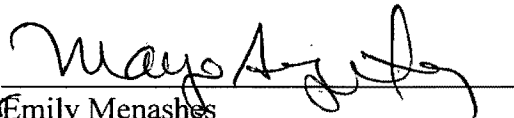
Below are the preliminary landings estimates in metric tons (mt) and pounds (lb) dressed weight (dw) for the Atlantic Shark commercial fisheries from **January 1, 2011, through April 30, 2011**. Most of these preliminary landings estimates include landing reports received through April 30, 2011; shark research fishery estimates include landing reports received through May 13, 2011. The landings presented below are total landings reported through the Pelagic Dealer Compliance (PDC), and the Accumulated Landings System (ALS). Landings within the shark research fishery were determined from trip tickets provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) by scientific observers. The estimates include landings by state-only permitted vessels, federally permitted vessels, and the 2011 shark research fishery participants. **NMFS encourages fishermen to avoid blacknose shark catch in order to keep the non-blacknose SCS fishery open as long as possible.**

Species Group	Region	Season Opening Dates	2011 Quota	Estimated Landings	% of Quota
Non-Sandbar Large Coastal Sharks	Gulf of Mexico	March 1	351.9 mt dw (775,740 lb dw)	219.3 mt dw (483,421 lb dw)	62%
	Atlantic	July 15	190.4 mt dw (419,756 lb dw)	0.3 mt dw (699 lb dw)	<1%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Non-Sandbar LCS)	No regional quotas	January 1	37.5 mt dw (82,673 lb dw)	19.1 mt dw (41,999 lb dw)	51%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Sandbar only)		January 1	87.9 mt dw (193,784 lb dw)	Inside SRF 22.9 mt dw (50,411 lb dw) Outside SRF * 2.5 mt dw (5,480 lb dw)	29%
Non-Blacknose Small Coastal Sharks	No regional quotas	January 1	314.4 mt dw (693,257 lb dw)	41.6 mt dw (91,780 lb dw)	13%
Blacknose Sharks		January 1	19.9 mt dw (43,872 lb dw)	7.2 mt dw (15,820 lb dw)	36%
Blue Sharks	No regional quotas	January 1	273 mt dw (601,856 lb dw)	5.6 mt dw (12,335 lb dw)	2%
Porbeagle Sharks		January 1	1.6 mt dw (3,479 lb dw)	0.05 mt dw (118 lb dw)	3%
Pelagic Sharks Other Than Porbeagle or Blue		January 1	488 mt dw (1,075,856 lb dw)	40.7 mt dw (89,628 lb dw)	8%

* These landings are from state landings, unverified landings and/or unclassified sharks.



This notice is a courtesy to the HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about your fishery. For further information on this landings update or the closure, contact Karyl Brewster-Geisz or Guý DuBeck at 301-713-2347. The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms>.



Emily Menashes
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

MAY 18 2011

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Atlantic Swordfish Landings Update: Commercial and Recreational 2011 Fishing Year

The table below provides preliminary landings estimates and remaining quotas as of March 31, 2011, in pounds (lb) and metric tons (mt) dressed weight (dw) for the Atlantic swordfish fisheries for the 2011 fishing year. Landings are estimated using commercial dealer reports and reports by anglers in the HMS Non-Tournament Recreational Swordfish and Billfish Landings Database and the Recreational Billfish Survey. Please note that these estimates are subject to late reporting and do not include discards. As specified in § 635.27(c)(i)(B), all recreational landings are counted against the incidental quota. The 2011 annual directed landings quota seen below has not been adjusted for 2010 underharvests; NMFS is currently working on a proposed rule to adjust the 2011 base quota for these underharvests.

	Baseline Quota mt dw		Landings mt dw (lb dw)	Percent of Baseline Quota Taken
NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH				
Directed Fishery First Season (Jan 1, 2011 – June 30, 2011)	1,094.8	Commercial Landings	306.1 (674,934)	28.0%
Directed Fishery Second Season (July 1, 2011 - Dec 31, 2011)	1,094.8	Commercial Landings	0.0 (0)	0.0%
Incidental Fishery (annual quota)	300	Commercial Landings	0.0 (0)	0.5%
		Recreational Landings	1.6 (3,515)	
Total	2,937.6*		307.7 (678,449)	10.5%
SOUTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH				
Directed Fishery (annual quota)	75.2	Commercial Landings	0.0 (0)	0.0%

*Includes 429.3 mt dw allocated to the reserve; 150.4 mt dw North Atlantic swordfish quota may be caught between 5 degrees North latitude and 5 degrees South latitude

This notice is a courtesy to Atlantic swordfish fishery interests to keep you informed about your fishery. Official notice of federal fishery actions is made through filing such notice with the Office of the Federal Register. To view catch statistics from previous months, please visit http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/hmsdocument_files/SWORDFISH.htm#Landings or contact Steve Durkee at (202) 670-6637.

Emily Menashes

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Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

MAY 11 2011

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Commercial North Atlantic Swordfish landings in dressed weight (pounds) for fish from North of 35N and South of 35N. All Swordfish are from North of 5N.

		Directed						Incidental			Monthly Total
Area	Month	Longline	Harpoon	Hand Line	Rod & Reel	Buoy Gear	Total	OtterTrawl	Other	Total	
N of 35N	Jan-11	574	0	0	0	0	574	0	0	0	574
N of 35N	Feb-11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
N of 35N	Mar-11	16,081	0	0	0	0	16,081	0	0	0	16,081
N of 35N	Apr-11										
N of 35N	May-11										
N of 35N	Jun-11										
S of 35N	Jan-11	226,803	0	0	812	1,992	229,607	0	0	0	229,607
S of 35N	Feb-11	218,573	0	0	1,686	3,653	223,912	0	0	0	223,912
S of 35N	Mar-11	198,262	0	0	2,062	4,436	204,760	0	0	0	204,760
S of 35N	Apr-11										
S of 35N	May-11										
S of 35N	Jun-11										
Gear Total		660,293	0	0	4,560	10,081	674,934	0	0	0	674,934
											Six Month Total

		Directed						Incidental			Monthly Total
Area	Month	Longline	Harpoon	Hand Line	Rod & Reel	Buoy Gear	Total	Otter Trawl	Other	Total	
N of 35N	Jul-11										0
N of 35N	Aug-11										0
N of 35N	Sep-11										0
N of 35N	Oct-11										0
N of 35N	Nov-11										0
N of 35N	Dec-11										0
S of 35N	Jul-11										0
S of 35N	Aug-11										0
S of 35N	Sep-11										0
S of 35N	Oct-11										0
S of 35N	Nov-11										0
S of 35N	Dec-11										0
Gear Total		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
											Six Month Total

674,934
Yearly Directed

0	674,934
Yearly Incidental	Yearly Total

Commercial South Atlantic Swordfish landings in dressed weight (pounds). All Swordfish are from South of 5N.

	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11
Directed	0	0	0									

0
Yearly Total

Unadjusted 2011 Fishing Year Quota (unadjusted for underharvest in 2010)

North Atlantic Swordfish Directed Quota:	1 Jan, 2011 -30 June, 2011	2,413,596
	1 July, 2011 - 31 Dec, 2011	2,413,596
	Annual Total	4,827,192
North Atlantic Swordfish Incidental Quota:	Annual Total	661,380
South Atlantic Swordfish Directed Quota:	Annual Total	165,786



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

NMFS Adjusts General Category Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Retention Limit for June-August 2011, Effective Friday, June 3, 2011

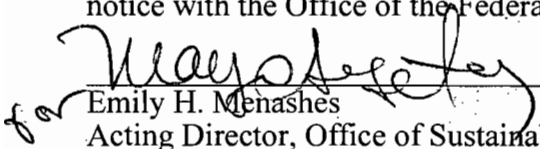
The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) adjusts the General category daily Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT) retention limit to **three** large medium or giant BFT per vessel per day/trip effective June 3 through August 31, 2011. The commercial General category fishery will reopen on June 1. The default retention limit of **one** large medium or giant BFT per vessel per day/trip will apply June 1 and June 2. NMFS takes this action after consideration of the regulatory determination criteria at § 635.27(a)(8) regarding inseason adjustments.

The General category daily retention limit applies to vessels permitted in the commercial Atlantic tunas General category and the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Charter/Headboat category *while fishing commercially*. These limits are effective for all areas except for the Gulf of Mexico, which is designated as spawning grounds for BFT and where NMFS does not allow targeted fishing. Regardless of the duration of a fishing trip, the daily retention limit applies upon landing. For example, whether a vessel fishing under the General category limit takes a two-day trip or makes two trips in one day, the daily limit of three fish may not be exceeded upon landing.

NMFS regulations at 50 CFR 635.21(a)(1) require that all BFT that are released be handled in a manner that will maximize survivability, and without removing the fish from the water. For additional information on safe handling, see the Careful Catch and Release brochure available at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/>.

This notice is a courtesy to BFT fishery permit holders to help keep you informed about the fishery. For additional information, call (888) 872-8862 or (978) 281-9260, or go to www.hmspermits.gov. Official notice of Federal fishery actions is made through filing such notice with the Office of the Federal Register.

MAY 31 2011


Emily H. Menashes
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

Date

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