

## 1.0 DEFINITIONS

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Atlantic EEZ means the U.S. East Coast Exclusive Economic Zone, which includes Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean waters.

Atlantic Ocean means the waters off the U.S. East Coast, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Caribbean Sea.

Charter Vessel means a vessel whose operator is licensed by the U.S. Coast Guard to carry six or fewer paying passengers and whose passengers fish for a fee.

Commercial Fisherman means a person who derives income by catching and selling fish or shellfish taken from inland or marine waters.

Dealer means the person who first receives fish from a commercial fisherman by way of purchase, trade, or barter.

Directed Fishery means the commercial and recreational fishery for which shark is the principal species targeted.

Director means the Director, Office of Fisheries Conservation and Management, National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA), 1335 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Telephone (301) 713-2334, or a designee.

Discard means fish that have been caught and then thrown back into the water either dead or impaired to the point where death is imminent.

EIS; EA; DEIS; FEIS; SEIS means an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) required under the National Environmental Policy Act; EA is an Environmental Assessment; DEIS is a draft EIS; FEIS is a final EIS; SEIS is a supplemental EIS.

Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) means the area adjacent to the United States that, except where modified to accommodate international boundaries, encompasses all waters from the seaward boundary of each of the coastal states to a line on which each point is 200 nautical miles from the baseline from which the territorial sea of the United States is measured.

Finning means the practice of removing only the fins from sharks and discarding the remainder of the shark into the sea.

Fishing means any activity, other than scientific research conducted on a scientific research vessel, which involves:

- (a) The catching, taking, or harvesting of fish;

- (b) The attempted catching, taking, or harvesting of fish;
- (c) Any other activity which can reasonably be expected to result in the catching, taking, or harvesting of fish; or
- (d) Any operations at sea in support of, or in preparation for, any activity described in paragraphs (a), (b), or (c) of this definition.

Fishery Management Plan (FMP) means a plan prepared by a Regional Fishery Management Council (Councils) or by NMFS (if a Secretarial plan) to manage a particular fishery, as directed by the Magnuson Act.

Fishing Vessel means any vessel, boat, ship, or other craft, including aircraft, which is used or equipped to be used for, or of a type which is normally used for:

- (a) Fishing; or
- (b) Aiding or assisting one or more vessels at sea in the performance of any activity relating to fishing; including, but not limited to, preparation, supply, storage, refrigeration, spotting, transportation, or processing.

Fork Length means the straight-line measurement from the tip of the head (snout) to the center of the tail (caudal fin).

Headboat means a vessel whose operator is licensed by the U.S. Coast Guard to carry seven or more paying passengers and whose passengers fish for a fee.

Incidental Catch means catch of other than the target species; also called bycatch.

Inshore means ocean waters from shore to the inner boundary of the EEZ.

Longline means fishing line that has baited hooks in a series, and is anchored, floating, or attached to a vessel, or one or more buoys.

Magnuson Act means the Magnuson Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, as Amended.

Management Unit refers to the 39 shark species found in the Western North Atlantic Ocean that are regulated by this management plan.

Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) is an estimate of the largest average annual catch or yield that can be taken over a significant period of time from each stock under prevailing

ecological and environmental conditions.

National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is the component of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce, responsible for conservation and management of living marine resources.

Net means any net, including but not limited to purse seines, gillnets, paired trawls, and any other type of encircling or entanglement gear.

Nondirected or Indirect Fishery means any fishery that targets a species other than shark, but does land some sharks, or throws sharks back into the water dead or alive.

Offshore means ocean waters seaward of the inner boundary of the EEZ.

Optimum Yield (OY), as defined by the Magnuson Act, means the amount of fish that can be taken from a fishery that will provide the greatest overall benefit to the Nation with particular reference to food production and recreational opportunities, and which is prescribed as such on the basis of the MSY from each fishery, as modified by any relevant economic, social or ecological factor.

Recreational Fisherman means an angler who does not sell his/her catch.

Recruitment Overfishing means the harvesting of a stock to the point that reproduction by the remaining reproductive stock is inadequate to produce as many fish as the habitat can support.

Regulatory Impact Review (RIR) means an assessment of the ability of the proposed measures to achieve the overall objectives through analysis of the associated economic, social, biological, and ecological impacts.

Secretary means the Secretary of Commerce or a designee.

Shark Tournament means any fishing contest in which shark is a targeted species for which prizes are awarded, or its status as a gamefish is otherwise recognized.

State Waters means waters seaward of the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured to a distance of three nautical miles, except in the case of Texas, Puerto Rico, and the West Coast of Florida where it is nine nautical miles.

Total Allowable Level of Foreign Fishing (TALFF) means the portion of the Optimum Yield on an annual basis which will not be harvested by U.S. vessels.

Trip means fishing trip, regardless of number of days duration, which begins with departure from a dock, berth, beach, seawall, or ramp and which terminates with return to such structures.

U.S. Waters means all water shoreward of the outer boundary of the EEZ to the baseline from which the territorial sea is measured.