



Atlantic Swordfish Landings Update: Commercial and Recreational 2009 Fishing Year

The table below provides preliminary landings estimates and remaining quotas as of December 31, 2009, in pounds (lb) and metric tons (mt) dressed weight (dw) for the Atlantic swordfish fisheries for the 2009 fishing year. Please note that these estimates are subject to late reporting and do not include discards. On December 16, 2009, NMFS published a final rule (74 FR 66585) to adjust the 2009 base quota for these underharvests. The 2009 annual directed landings quota seen below has been adjusted for 2008 underharvests.

Recreational landing estimates are reported by anglers in the HMS Non-Tournament Recreational Swordfish and Billfish Landings Database and the Recreational Billfish Survey. Reported lengths are converted to pounds dressed weight using standard International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas' (ICCAT) formulas (formulas can be found at <http://www.iccat.int/main.htm>). As specified in § 635.27(c)(i)(B), all recreational landings are counted against the incidental quota.

| | Adjusted Quota mt dw | | Landings | Remaining Adjusted Quota | Percent of Adjusted Quota Taken |
|---|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | | mt dw (lb dw) | mt dw (lb dw) | |
| NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH | | | | | |
| Directed Fishery First Season (Jan 1, 2009 – June 30, 2009) | 1,819.8 | Commercial Landings | 696.8 (1,536,271) | 1123.0 (2,475,660) | 38.3% |
| Directed Fishery Second Season (July 1, 2009 - Dec 31, 2009) | 1,819.8 | Commercial Landings | 1121.1 (2,471,507) | 698.7 (1,540,424) | 61.6% |
| Incidental Fishery (annual quota) | 300 | Commercial Landings | 15.6 (34,478) | 264.6 (583,260) | 11.8% |
| | | Recreational Landings | 19.8 (43,642) | | |
| Total | 4,406.4* | | 1853.4 (4,085,898) | 2,553.1 (5,628,672) | 42.1% |
| SOUTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH | | | | | |
| Directed Fishery (annual quota) | 75.2 | Commercial Landings | 0 | 75.2 (165,786) | 0.0% |

*Includes 466.9 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/swordfish_quotas/swordfish_catch_statistics.htm or contact Steve Durkee at (301) 713-2347.

for 
Alan D. Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

2/23/2010
Date

SIGN UP FOR ATLANTIC HMS NEWS
-- An electronic newsletter informing you of the latest HMS-related actions --
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/newslist/>