



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

NMFS Encourages the Live Release of North Atlantic Shortfin Mako Sharks and Announces a new Shortfin Mako Shark Interactive Web Map

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) encourages the live release of North Atlantic shortfin mako sharks (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) due to overfishing occurring on the population. Because the majority of domestic Atlantic shortfin mako sharks landed are sexually immature, NMFS is promoting their live release to help mitigate the effects of overfishing on the stock.

In order to promote the live release of shortfin mako sharks, NMFS has developed a web page where commercial and recreational fishermen can contribute information about shortfin mako shark releases and populate an interactive web map. The shortfin mako live release web page contains current information on shortfin mako stock status and regulations, along with details on tagging programs and safe handling and release guidelines. The interactive web map provides a means for fishermen to volunteer information on their shortfin mako shark releases and allows them to make their mark on the map. You can find the main shortfin mako live release webpage and web map at the following links.

Main Page: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/shortfinmako/index.htm>

Web Map: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/shortfinmako/Map/index.htm>

For further information on the web page, or to request outreach materials, please contact the Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Management Division by phone at 301-713-2347, or by email at shortfinmako@noaa.gov

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Emily H. Menashes

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Date

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