



## Atlantic Swordfish Landings Update: Commercial and Recreational January 1 – July 31, 2012

The table below provides preliminary landings estimates and remaining quotas as of July 31, 2012, in pounds (lb) and metric tons (mt) dressed weight (dw) for the Atlantic swordfish fisheries for the 2012 fishing year. We estimate landings 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.

On July 31, 2012, we published a final rule (77 FR 45273) to adjust the 2012 base quotas for 2011 underharvests and to deduct the 112.8 mt dw quota transfer to Morocco pursuant to International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas Recommendation 11-02. Additionally, the adjusted quota reflects a 50 mt dw allocation to the reserve category. The table below provides both the baseline and adjusted 2012 quotas.

	2012 Baseline Quota (mt dw)	2012 Adjusted Quota (mt dw)		2012 Landings	Percent of 2012 Baseline Quota Taken	Percent of 2012 Adjusted Quota Taken
				mt dw (lb dw)		
<b>NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH</b>						
Directed Fishery First Season (Jan 1 – June 30)	1,318.8	1,604.6	Commercial Landings	956.6 (2,108,830)	72.5%	59.6%
Directed Fishery Second Season (July 1 - Dec 31)	1,318.8	1,604.6	Commercial Landings	108.9 (240,106)	8.3%	6.8%
Incidental Fishery (annual quota)	300	300	Commercial Landings	1.2 (2,694)	4.0%	4.0%
			Recreational Landings	10.7 (23,672)		
Total	2,937.6	3,559.2*		1077.4 (2,375,302)	36.7%	30.3%
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH</b>						
Directed Fishery (annual quota)	75.2	75.2	Commercial Landings	0.0 (0)	0.0%	0.0%

\* The adjusted quota is calculated by subtracting the 112.8 mt dw quota transfer to Morocco from the baseline quota and adding the available underharvest from the previous year (734.4 mt dw). The adjusted quota is then allocated among the directed, incidental, and reserve categories (3,209.2 mt dw, 300 mt dw, and 50 mt dw, respectively). The reserve category contains 50 mt dw for research purposes and is not listed in the table.



This notice is a courtesy to Atlantic swordfish fishery interests to keep you informed about the 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](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/hmsdocument_files/SWORDFISH.htm#Landings) or contact Steve Durkee at (202) 670-6637.

  
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9/12/12  
Date

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