



Atlantic Shark Commercial Fishery Landings Update January 1 – September 17, 2012

Below are the preliminary landings estimates in metric tons (mt) and pounds (lb) dressed weight (dw) for the Atlantic shark commercial fisheries. These preliminary estimates are based on dealer reports and other information received from January 1 through August 22, 2012. The estimates include landings by state-only permitted vessels, federally permitted vessels, and the 2012 shark research fishery participants.

Species Group	Region	2012 Season Opening Date	2012 Quota	Estimated Landings in 2012	% of 2012 Quota
Non-Sandbar Large Coastal Sharks	Gulf of Mexico	February 15 (Closed: July 6) ²	392.8 mt dw (866,063 lb dw)	371.2 mt dw (818,271 lb dw)	95%
	Atlantic	July 15, 2012	183.2 mt dw (403,889 lb dw)	63.6 mt dw (140,291 lb dw)	35%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Non-Sandbar LCS)	No regional quotas	January 24	37.5 mt dw (82,673 lb dw)	9.4 mt dw (20,664 lb dw)	25%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Sandbar only)		January 24	87.9 mt dw (193,784 lb dw)	Inside SRF 21.8 mt dw (48,169 lb dw) Outside SRF * 0.6 mt dw (1,329 lb dw)	26%
Non-Blacknose Small Coastal Sharks	No regional quotas	January 24	332.4 mt dw (732,808 lb dw)	148.9 mt dw (328,207 lb dw)	45%
Blacknose Sharks		January 24	19.9 mt dw (43,872 lb dw)	12.6 mt dw (27,717 lb dw)	63%
Blue Sharks	No regional quotas	January 24	273.0 mt dw (601,856 lb dw)	8.6 mt dw (18,908 lb dw)	3%
Porbeagle Sharks		January 24 (Closed: May 31) ¹	0.7 mt dw (1,585 lb dw)	1.9 mt dw (4,199 lb dw)	265%
Pelagic Sharks Other Than Porbeagle or Blue		January 24	488 mt dw (1,075,856 lb dw)	106.2 mt dw (234,101 lb dw)	22%

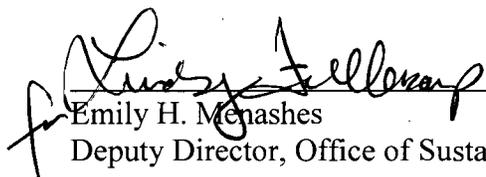
* These landings are from state landings, unverified landings and/or unclassified sharks.

¹ Fishery closed at 11:30 p.m. local time on May 31, 2012 (77 FR 32036).

² Fishery closed at 11:30 p.m. local time on July 6, 2012 (77 FR 39648).



This notice is a courtesy to the HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about the 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>.


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9/24/12
Date

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