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

Atlantic Shark Commercial Fishery Update

Below are the preliminary landings estimates in metric tons (mt) and pounds (lb) dressed weight (dw) for the Atlantic Shark commercial fisheries January 1, 2009, through March 31, 2009. Most of these preliminary landings estimates include landing reports received through March 31, 2009; some estimates include landing reports received through April 15, 2009, including the shark research fishery. The landings presented below are total landings reported through the Pelagic Dealer Compliance (PDC) (previously known as the Quota Monitoring System), and the Accumulated Landings System (ALS) (previously known as the general canvass). Landings within the shark research fishery were determined from trip tickets provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) by scientific observers. The estimates include landings by state-only permitted vessels, federally permitted vessels, and the 2009 shark research fishery participants. Due to the privacy regulations of North Carolina (NC), NMFS is unable to remove all instances where NC dealers report in both the PDC and ALS. As a result, some NC landings may be inflated. NMFS reminds fishermen and dealers that they are required to identify all landed sharks to species.

Species Group	Region	2009 Quota	Estimated Landings	% of Quota
Non-Sandbar Large Coastal Sharks	Gulf of Mexico	390.5 mt dw (860,896 lb dw)	253 mt dw (557,793 lb dw	65%
	Atlantic	187.8 mt dw (414,024 lb dw)	69.6 mt dw (153,335 lb dw)	37%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Non-Sandbar LCS)	No regional quotas	37.5 mt dw (82,673 lb dw)	17 mt dw (37,495 lb dw)	45%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Sandbar only)		87.9 mt dw (193,784 lb dw)	Inside SRF 28.5 mt dw (62,923 lb dw)	34%
			Outside SRF * 1.6 mt dw (3,450 lb dw)	
Small Coastal Sharks	No regional quotas	454 mt dw (1,000,888 lb dw)	14 mt dw † (30,838 lb dw)	3%
Blue Sharks	No regional quotas	273 mt dw (601,856 lb dw)	0.8 mt dw (1,855 lb dw)	<1%
Porbeagle Sharks		1.4 (3,147 lb dw)	0 mt dw (0 lb dw)	0%
Pelagic Sharks Other Than Porbeagle or Blue		488 mt dw (1,075,856 lb dw)	21.3 mt dw (46,994 lb dw)	4%

* These landings are from state landings.
† Landings decreased since last landings update due to the inclusion of some 2008 landings in the last landings update

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This notice is a courtesy to the HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about your fishery. For further information on this landings update or the closure, contact Karyl Brewster-Geisz at 301-713-2347 or Jackie Wilson at 240-338-3936. The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms.

Alan D. Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

4.23.09
Date

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