



## Atlantic Swordfish Landings Update: Commercial and Recreational 2011 Fishing Year

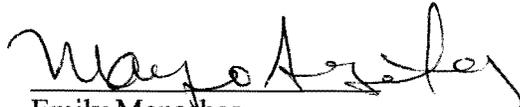
The table below provides preliminary landings estimates and remaining quotas as of May 31, 2011, in pounds (lb) and metric tons (mt) dressed weight (dw) for the Atlantic swordfish fisheries for the 2011 fishing year. Landings are estimated using commercial dealer reports and reports by anglers in the 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. As specified in § 635.27(c)(i)(B), all recreational landings are counted against the incidental quota. The 2011 annual directed landings quota seen below has not been adjusted for 2010 underharvests. On June 23, 2011, NMFS published a proposed rule (76 FR 36892) to adjust the 2011 base quota for these underharvests. The comment period for the proposed rule closes on July 25, 2011. Of additional interest to the swordfish-fishing community, NMFS recently published two proposed rules that are currently open for public comment. The first is a proposed rule considering an electronic reporting requirement for Atlantic HMS dealers (76 FR 37750) with a comment period closing date of August 12, 2011. The second is a proposed rule considering modifications to vessel monitoring system (VMS) requirements in Atlantic HMS fisheries (76 FR 38598) with a comment period closing date of August 1, 2011. Additional information can be obtained on the Atlantic HMS Management Division website (<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/>) or by contacting the HMS Management Division at 301-427-8503.

	Baseline Quota mt dw		Landings	Percent of Baseline Quota Taken
			mt dw (lb dw)	
<b>NORTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH</b>				
Directed Fishery First Season (Jan 1, 2011 – June 30, 2011)	1,094.8	Commercial Landings	533.0 (1,174,981)	48.7%
Directed Fishery Second Season (July 1, 2011 - Dec 31, 2011)	1,094.8	Commercial Landings	0.0 (0)	0.0%
Incidental Fishery (annual quota)	300	Commercial Landings	0.1 (292)	1.3%
		Recreational Landings	3.8 (8,392)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,937.6*</b>		<b>536.9 (1,183,665)</b>	<b>18.3%</b>
<b>SOUTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH</b>				
Directed Fishery (annual quota)	75.2	Commercial Landings	0.0 (0)	0.0%

\*Includes 429.3 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/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.

  
for Emily Menashes  
Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

7/8/2011  
Date

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