



## 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 from **January 1, 2011, through November 30, 2011**. The estimates include landings by state-only permitted vessels, federally permitted vessels, and the 2011 shark research fishery participants. Most of these preliminary landings estimates include landing reports received through November 30, 2011; shark research fishery estimates include landing reports received through December 16, 2011. The landings presented below are total landings reported through the Pelagic Dealer Compliance (PDC) and the Accumulated Landings System (ALS). Landings within the shark research fishery were determined from trip tickets provided to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) by scientific observers. **NMFS published a proposed rule (76 FR 67121; October 31, 2011) that would establish the quotas and seasons for all shark fisheries in 2012. NMFS expects the final rule will publish in early January. As a reminder, each shark species/complex closes on December 31, 2011, and will not open again until the effective dates specified in the 2012 shark quotas and seasons final rule.**

Species Group	Region	Season Opening Dates	2011 Quota	Estimated Landings	% of Quota
Non-Sandbar Large Coastal Sharks	Gulf of Mexico	March 1 (Closed: July 17) <sup>1</sup>	351.9 mt dw (775,740 lb dw)	327.0 mt dw (720,917 lb dw)	93%
	Atlantic	July 15 (Closed: Nov 15) <sup>2</sup>	190.4 mt dw (419,756 lb dw)	154.7 mt dw (341,017 lb dw)	81%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Non-Sandbar LCS)	No regional quotas	January 1 (Closed: July 26) <sup>3</sup>	37.5 mt dw (82,673 lb dw)	37.0 mt dw (81,627 lb dw)	99%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Sandbar only)		January 1	87.9 mt dw (193,784 lb dw)	Inside SRF 55.2 mt dw (121,793 lb dw)  Outside SRF * 5.5 mt dw (12,014 lb dw)	69%
Non-Blacknose Small Coastal Sharks	No regional quotas	January 1	314.4 mt dw (693,257 lb dw)	197.3 mt dw (435,017 lb dw)	63%
Blacknose Sharks		January 1	19.9 mt dw (43,872 lb dw)	14.3 mt dw (31,604 lb dw)	72%
Blue Sharks	No regional quotas	January 1	273 mt dw (601,856 lb dw)	7.2 mt dw (15,968 lb dw)	2%
Porbeagle Sharks		January 1 (Closed: Aug 29) <sup>4</sup>	1.6 mt dw (3,479 lb dw)	2.6 mt dw (5,759 lb dw)	166%
Pelagic Sharks Other Than Porbeagle or Blue		January 1	488 mt dw (1,075,856 lb dw)	106.3 mt dw (234,405 lb dw)	22%

<sup>1</sup> Fishery closed at 11:30 p.m. local time on July 17, 2011 (76 FR 41723).

<sup>2</sup> Fishery closed at 11:30 p.m. local time on November 15, 2011 (76 FR 39169).

<sup>3</sup> Fishery closed at 11:30 p.m. local time on July 26, 2011 (76 FR 44501).

<sup>4</sup> Fishery closed at 11:30 p.m. local time on August 29, 2011 (76 FR 53343).

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



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 or Guý DuBeck at 301-427-8503. The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms>.



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Date

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