



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 through December 31, 2011**. The estimates include landings by state-only permitted vessels, federally permitted vessels, and the 2011 shark research fishery participants. The preliminary landings estimates include landing reports received through December 31, 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 final rule (77 FR 3393; January 24, 2012) that establishes the quotas and opening dates for all shark fisheries in 2012.**

The preliminary 2011 commercial shark fishing season landings.

Species Group	Region	2011 Quota	Estimated Landings	% of Quota
Non-Sandbar Large Coastal Sharks	Gulf of Mexico	351.9 mt dw (775,740 lb dw)	330.7 mt dw (729,099 lb dw)	94%
	Atlantic	190.4 mt dw (419,756 lb dw)	156.5 mt dw (345,070 lb dw)	82%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Non-Sandbar LCS)	No regional quotas	37.5 mt dw (82,673 lb dw)	37.0 mt dw (81,627 lb dw)	99%
Shark Research Fishery Quota (Sandbar only)		87.9 mt dw (193,784 lb dw)	Inside SRF 62.0 mt dw (136,569 lb dw) Outside SRF * 8.7 mt dw (19,145 lb dw)	80%
Non-Blacknose Small Coastal Sharks	No regional quotas	314.4 mt dw (693,257 lb dw)	229.7 mt dw (506,439 lb dw)	73%
Blacknose Sharks		19.9 mt dw (43,872 lb dw)	15.0 mt dw (32,878 lb dw)	75%
Blue Sharks	No regional quotas	273 mt dw (601,856 lb dw)	7.2 mt dw (15,968 lb dw)	2%
Porbeagle Sharks		1.6 mt dw (3,479 lb dw)	2.6 mt dw (5,657 lb dw)	163%
Pelagic Sharks Other Than Porbeagle or Blue		488 mt dw (1,075,856 lb dw)	118.4 mt dw (261,073 lb dw)	24%

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



FOR
Carrie D. Selberg
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01/26/12
Date

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