



NDFs for CITES-listed shark species harvested in U.S. waters of the Atlantic Ocean

U.S. Atlantic shark fisheries have been federally managed since 1993, when the first fishery management plan for sharks of the Atlantic Ocean was finalized (58 FR 21931, April 26, 1993). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Scientific Authority consults closely with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) when making NDFs for CITES-listed sharks. This example illustrates the value of long-term population monitoring for adaptive management and robust NDFs and highlights the critical importance of collaboration between national CITES and fisheries authorities when making NDFs for migratory species.



Scan for more info

FWS - U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

MA - Management Authority

SA - Scientific Authority

NOAA Fisheries - National Oceanic and

Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service

IFS - Introduction from the Sea

EEZ – Exclusive Economic Zone

HMS - Highly Migratory Species

ICCAT - International Commission for the

Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

CITES permit application for shark import/export/re-export/IFS

> U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service CITES Authorities

Legal acquisition finding (MA) and nondetriment finding (SA)

Consultation with **NOAA Fisheries**

Issuance or denial of CITES permit or certificate

NOAA Fisheries has regulatory and stewardship authority for U.S. federal fisheries and protected resources that extends beyond the **U.S. EEZ to international** waters through various international agreements.

For the Export of specimens of CITES-listed sharks caught in the U.S. waters of the Atlantic Ocean and IFS of sharks caught on the high seas by U.S. vessels, FWS uses science-based management measures put in place by NOAA Fisheries, which include the following:

- Permits are required for U.S. fishers and dealers.
- Reporting of catch is required.
- Commercial and recreational quotas, retention limits, and other restrictions are established.
- As needed based on scientific information, time-area closures or species prohibitions are put in place.
- Sharks must be landed with their fins naturally attached for proper species identification, accurate reporting, and enforcement.
- Commercial federal shark permit holders may only sell sharks to a federal Atlantic shark dealer and only when the fishery for that species/management group is open.
- Federal shark dealers must attend shark identification workshops and must report purchases.

2006 Consolidated **Atlantic HMS Fishery**

Contains a range of management measures for Atlantic HMS species - tunas, swordfish, billfish, and sharks

U.S. Atlantic Shark Fishery Management and **Scientific Assessment**

Management Plan

Regulates and manages shark fisheries Maine. Note, federally-permitted shark

Research and Statistics

ICCAT Standing

Committee on



Conducts stock assessments for some CITES-listed pelagic sharks, including the blue shark.

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Interstate Fisheries Management Plan for **Atlantic Coastal Sharks**



operating in state waters from Florida to fishermen must follow federal regulations in all waters unless state regulations are stricter.

Atlantic Tunas Convention Act



Requires NOAA Fisheries to implement ICCAT's binding measures for the conservation and management of some requiem sharks species caught in association with ICCAT fisheries through domestic regulations.

SouthEast Data, **Assessment, and Review** (SEDAR) Process



Collaborative process to assess Atlantic shark stocks. Managed by the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Regional Fishery Management Councils in coordination with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions.