



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

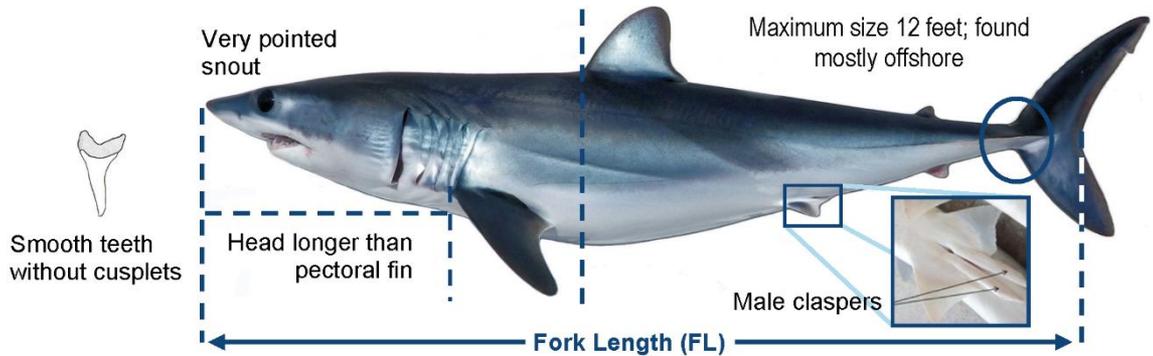
Amendment 11: Shortfin Mako Shark Issues and Options

Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel Meeting
Spring 2018

Outline

- Purpose

- Background

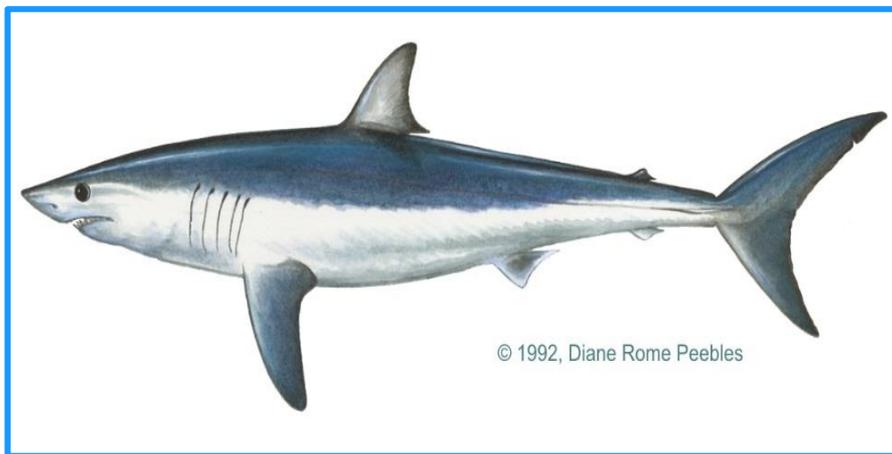


- Potential Management Options

- Feedback

Purpose

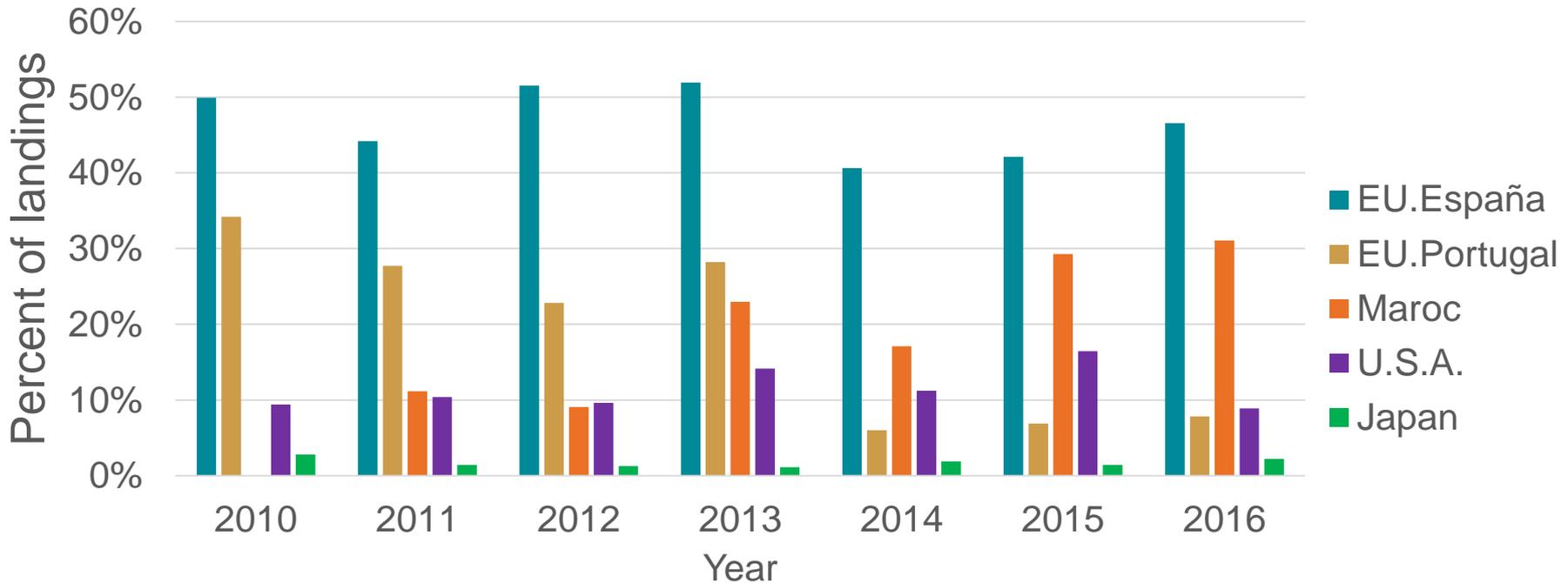
Implement management measures to address overfishing and help rebuild the North Atlantic shortfin mako shark stock



Background

- Valued component of U.S. commercial and recreational shark fisheries.
- U.S. catch represents approximately 11 percent of the species total catch in the North Atlantic.
- U.S. commercial and recreational harvest are evenly split.

North Atlantic Shortfin Mako Shark Harvest by Country



Background

ICCAT 2017 Stock Assessment

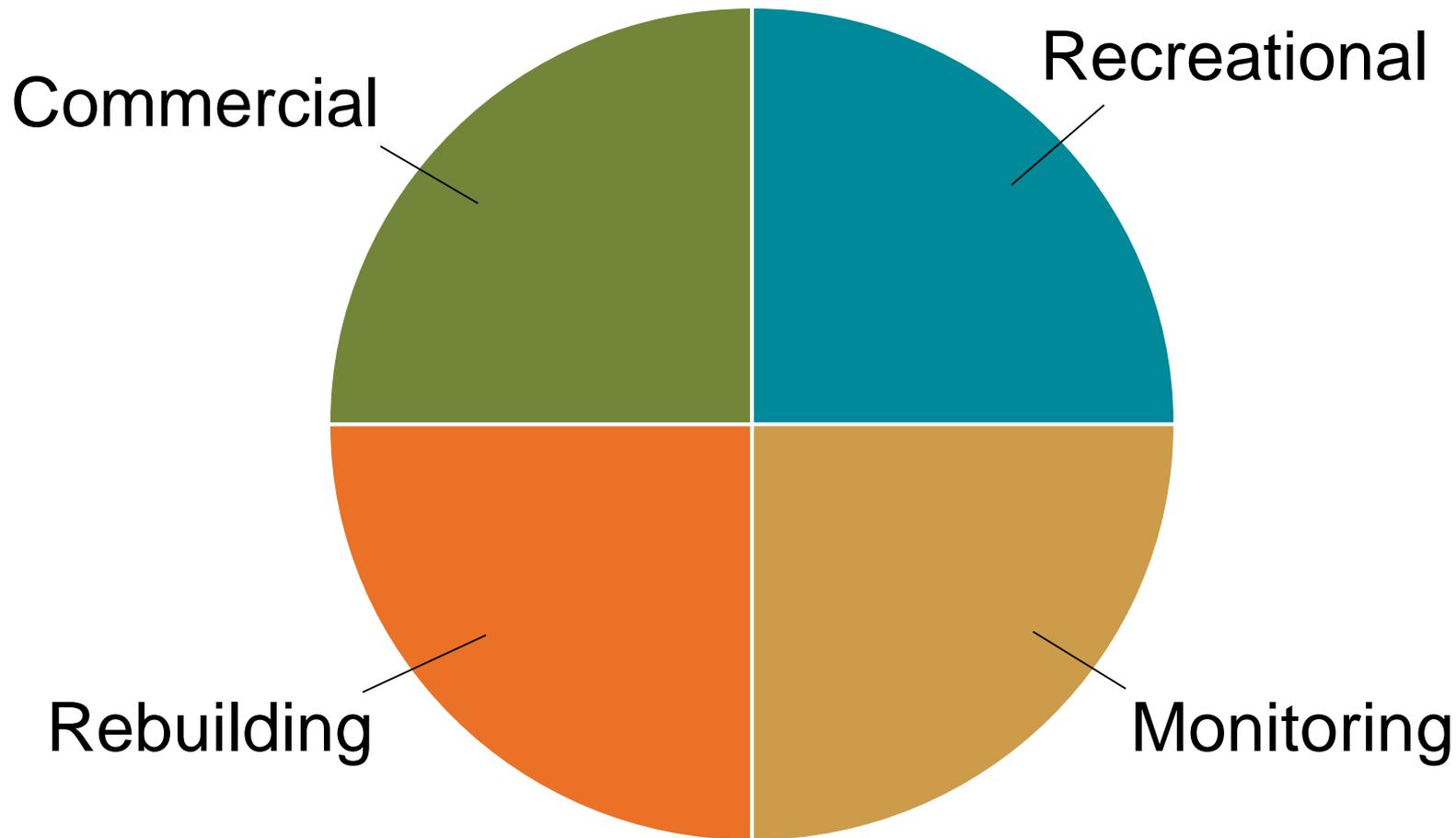
- Stock is overfished with overfishing occurring
- Recent catches (all nations) are 3,600 – 4,750 mt per year
- Catches should be reduced below 1,000 mt (72-79% reductions) to prevent further population declines
- A total allowable catch of 0 mt would be necessary to rebuild the stock by 2040

Background

ICCAT Recommendation 17-08

- Maximize live releases
- Allowed retention under limited circumstances
 - If dead at haulback (requires observer and/or EM)
 - Minimum Size Limits: 180 cm FL male, 210 cm FL female
- Review first six months of 2018 catches on November 2018
- Evaluation by SCRS of measure effectiveness, establish rebuilding plan in 2019
- U.S. implements ICCAT measures as necessary and appropriate under the Atlantic Tunas Convention Act

Range of Potential Options



Commercial Options

Option 1	No Action. Keep current regulations for shortfin mako sharks.
Option 2	Require live release of shortfin mako sharks in the commercial pelagic longline fishery.
Option 3 *	Allow retention of a shortfin mako sharks by persons with a directed or incidental shark limited access permit only if it is dead at haulback, caught incidentally with pelagic longline gear during fishing for other species, and there is a functional electronic monitoring system on board the vessel.
Option 4 *	Prohibit the landing of all shortfin sharks caught on non-pelagic longline gear (e.g., bottom longline, gillnet, handgear, etc).

* Option is from the interim final rule for shortfin mako sharks

Commercial Options, cont.

Option 5	Remove shortfin mako sharks from pelagic shark quota; use recent landings to both establish a shortfin mako shark quota and adjust the pelagic shark quota.
Option 6	Allow retention of shortfin mako sharks greater than 83 inches FL by persons with a directed or incidental shark limited access permit caught on non-pelagic longline gear (e.g., bottom longline, gillnet, handgear, etc).
Option 7	Allow retention of shortfin mako sharks, that are dead at haulback, by persons with a directed or incidental shark limited access permit caught on non-pelagic longline gear (e.g., bottom longline, gillnet, handgear, etc.) only if an observer is on board.
Option 8	Prohibit the commercial landing of all shortfin mako sharks, live or dead.

Recreational Options

Option 1	No Action. Keep current regulations for shortfin mako sharks.
Option 2	Prohibit landing of shortfin mako sharks in the HMS recreational fishery (catch and release only).
Option 3	Increase the minimum size limit for the retention of shortfin mako sharks from 54 inches FL to 71 inches FL (180 cm FL) for male and 83 inches FL (210 cm FL) for female shortfin mako sharks.
Option 4 *	Increase the minimum size of all shortfin mako sharks from 54 inches FL to 83 inches (210 cm) FL.

* Option is from the interim final rule for shortfin mako sharks.

Recreational Options, cont.

Option 5	Increase the minimum size of all shortfin mako sharks to 83 inches FL and allow retention in registered HMS tournaments only
Option 6	Establish a tagging or lottery program to land shortfin mako sharks greater than 83 inches FL recreationally
Option 7	Require use of circle hooks for recreational shark fishing in all areas (remove the current management line established for dusky sharks near Chatham, MA)
Option 8	Establish a minimum size limit for the retention of shortfin mako sharks that is greater than 83 inches FL
Option 9	Establish a variable inseason minimum size limit for shortfin mako sharks

Monitoring Options

Option 1	No Action. Do not require reporting of shortfin mako sharks outside of current reporting systems.
Option 2	Establish mandatory reporting of shortfin mako catches (landings and discards) on VMS.
Option 3	Implement mandatory reporting of shortfin mako shark landings and discards in registered HMS tournaments (ATR).
Option 4	Implement mandatory reporting of all recreationally landed and discarded shortfin mako sharks (e.g., app, website, Vessel Trip Reports).

Rebuilding Plan Options

Option 1	No Action. Do not establish a rebuilding plan for shortfin mako.
Option 2	Establish a domestic rebuilding plan for shortfin mako sharks unilaterally (i.e., without ICCAT).
Option 3	Establish the foundation for developing an international rebuilding program for shortfin mako sharks.

Request for Public Comments

Comment period closes on:

May 7, 2018

Please submit comments to:

<http://www.regulations.gov>

Keyword - "NOAA-NMFS-2018-0011"

Comments can also be submitted via mail: Attn: Guy DuBeck
NMFS SF1, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Please identify comments with NOAA-NMFS-2018-0011

For more information go to: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/> or contact
Guy DuBeck Guy.DuBeck@noaa.gov or Karyl Brewster-Geisz
karyl.brewster-geisz@noaa.gov at (301) 427-8503.

Next Steps

- May 7, 2018 Comment Public Period Ends
- End of July 2018 – Proposed Rule publishes (60 day comment period)
- March 2019 – Final Rule

ICCAT will evaluate measures in November 2018

Public Hearings / Webinars

Venue	Date and Time	Location
AP Meeting	March 7	Silver Spring, Maryland
Public Hearing	March 15 – 4 to 8 pm	Panama City, FL 32408
Public Hearing	March 21 – 4 to 8 pm	Manteo, NC
Conference call / Webinar	April 4 – 2 to 4 pm	To participate in the conference call, call: (800) 779-3136 Passcode: 9421185 To participate in the webinar, RSVP at: https://noaaevents2.webex.com/noaaevents2/onstage/g.php?MTID=e0e45a6863a2dec162452b2b6240ef3e3 , A confirmation email with webinar log-in information will be sent after RSVP is registered.
Public Hearing	April 12 – 4 to 8 pm	Manahawkin, NJ
Public Hearing	April 19 – 5 to 8 pm	Gloucester, MA

NMFS has requested to present to the five Atlantic Regional Fishery Management Councils (the New England, Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils) and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions during the public comment period.



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Your questions and thoughts are important to us; please share them



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