



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

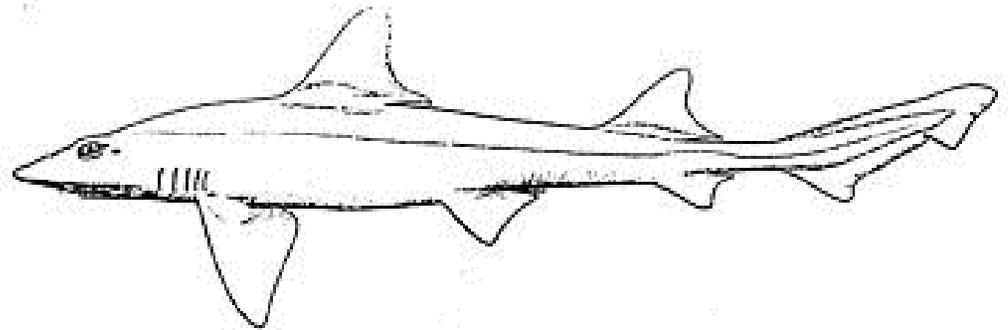
Amendment 9 to the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP

Summary of Measures
and
Smoothhound Shark Quota
Calculation Methodology

March 2016

Outline

- SEDAR 39 Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico smoothhound shark stock assessment results
- Overview of Amendment 9 measures
- Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico smoothhound shark quota calculation
- Notable Dates



SEDAR 39 Smoothhound Shark Stock Assessments

- Completed March 2015
- Assessed smoothhound sharks as 2 separate stocks:
 - Atlantic: smooth dogfish only
 - Gulf of Mexico: smooth dogfish, Florida smoothhound, Gulf smoothhound
- Both stocks are not overfished and are not experiencing overfishing
- Recent harvest levels likely sustainable
- Projections:
 - Atlantic: TAC of 550,000 sharks has at least a 70 % probability of maintaining SSF above SSF_{MSY} during the years 2013-2022
 - 2012 commercial catch was 414,963 fish
 - Gulf of Mexico: 2012 catch (99,167 fish) could be doubled (or more) and still maintain a 70 % probability of avoiding overfishing

Summary of Amendment 9 Final Measures

- Effective date for the smoothhound shark measures in Amendment 3 to the 2006 Consolidated Atlantic HMS FMP (Amendment 3) and the 2011 Final Rule Incidentally-Caught HMS in Atlantic Trawl Fisheries (HMS Trawl Rule)
- Smooth dogfish-specific provision of the Shark Conservation Act (SCA) of 2010 to allow the at-sea removal of smooth dogfish fins
- Regional smoothhound shark quotas based on recent stock assessments
- Sink and drift gillnet requirements to comply with the 2012 Shark Biological Opinion (BiOp)
- Modifications to Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) requirements in the directed shark gillnet fishery

Amendment 3 measures

- A research set-aside quota
- An accountability measure (AM) that closes the fishery when smoothhound shark landings reach, or are expected to reach, 80 percent of the quota
- Smoothhound shark permit requirement for commercial and recreational fishing and retention
- No recreational size or retention limits for smoothhound sharks at this time

Amendment 3 measures, continued

- Vessels fishing for smoothhound sharks must carry an observer, if selected
- Vessels fishing for smoothhound sharks must comply with applicable Take Reduction Plans pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act
- Dealers must have a federal shark dealer permit to purchase smoothhound sharks (weekly reporting and workshop requirements)
- Commercial vessels can sell catch only to federally-permitted shark dealers

2011 HMS Trawl Rule

Allows for the retention of smoothhound sharks caught incidentally with trawl gear, provided that total smoothhound shark catch on board or offloaded does not exceed 25 percent of the total catch by weight

Smooth dogfish-specific provision of the SCA to allow the at-sea removal of smooth dogfish fins.

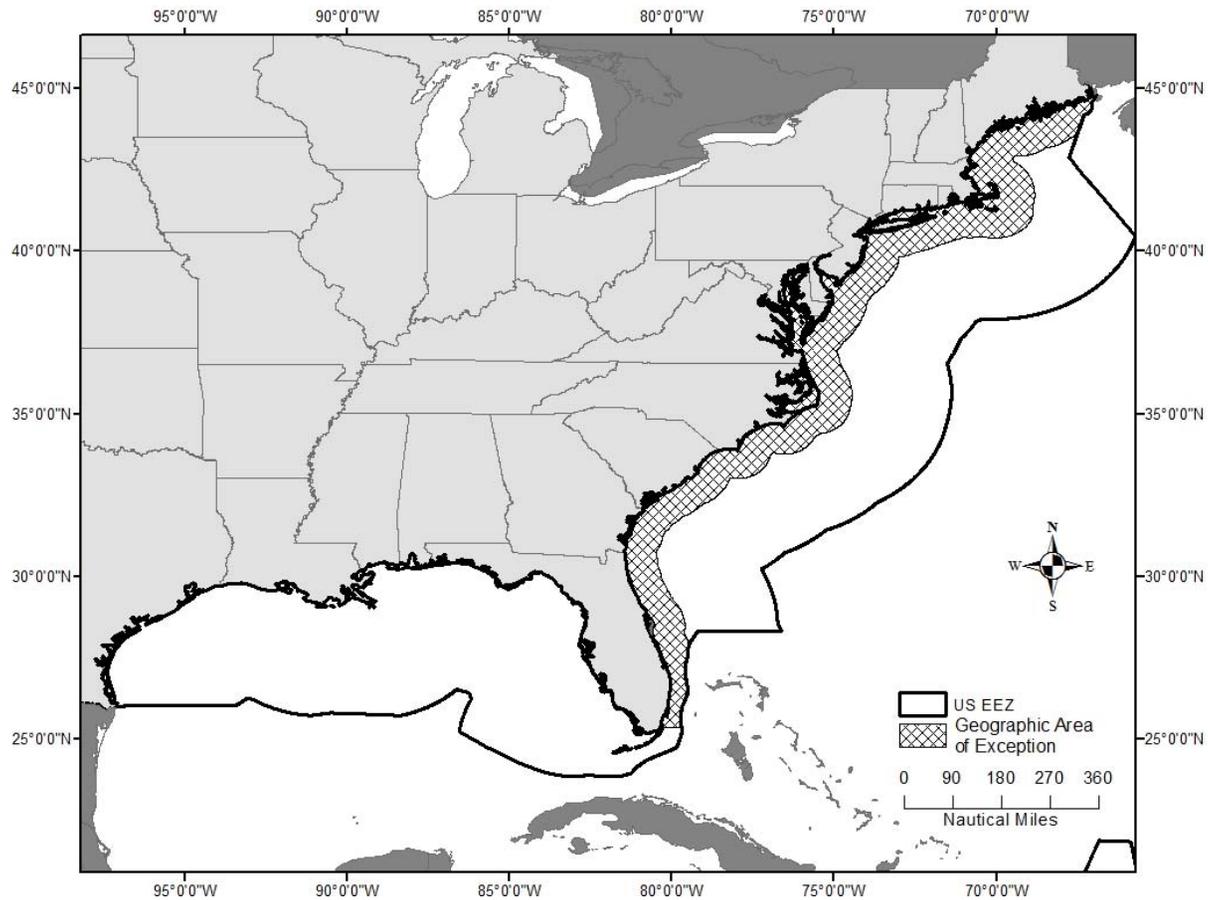
Fishermen who meet five criteria may remove smooth dogfish fins at sea:

1. 25 percent of retained catch on board the vessel must be smooth dogfish (other shark species can also be on board)
2. In addition to a federal smoothhound permit, a State commercial fishing license
3. Catch occurs within 50 nm of shore (see next slide)
4. Catch occurs along the Atlantic coast from Maine through the east coast of Florida (see next slide)
5. The fin-to-carcass ratio does not exceed 12 percent



Photo Credit: New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Geographic Applicability for the Smooth Dogfish Specific Provision of the SCA



Smoothhound Shark Quotas

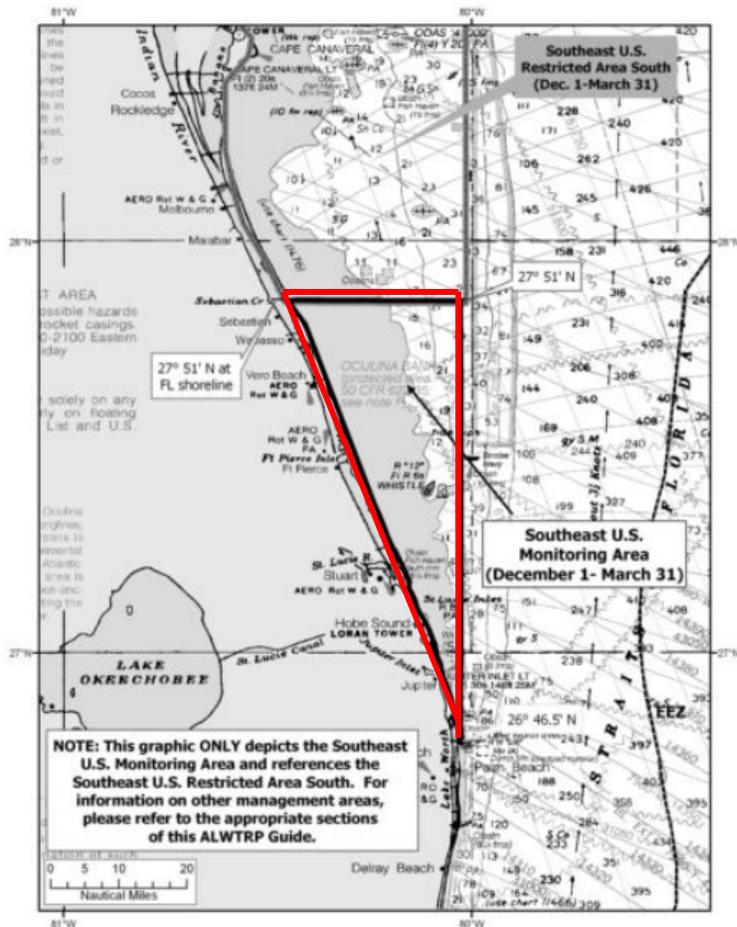
As of March 15, 2016, the commercial quotas for the smoothhound shark fisheries are:

- 1,201.7 mt dw in the Atlantic region, and
- 336.4 mt dw in the Gulf of Mexico region
- AM: fisheries will close once 80% of the quota is harvested or projected to be harvested

New Measures for Drift and Sink Gillnets

- Atlantic shark and smoothhound shark fishermen using gillnet gear must:
 - limit soak times to 24 hours when using sink gillnet gear
 - conduct a net check at least every 2 hours when using drift gillnet gear
- Sink gillnet - gillnet that is designed to be or is fished on or near the bottom of the water column by means of a weight line or enough weights and/or anchors that the bottom of the gillnet sinks to, on, or near the ocean bottom
- Drift gillnet - gillnet that is floating unattached to the ocean bottom and not anchored, secured, or weighted to the ocean bottom

New VMS requirements



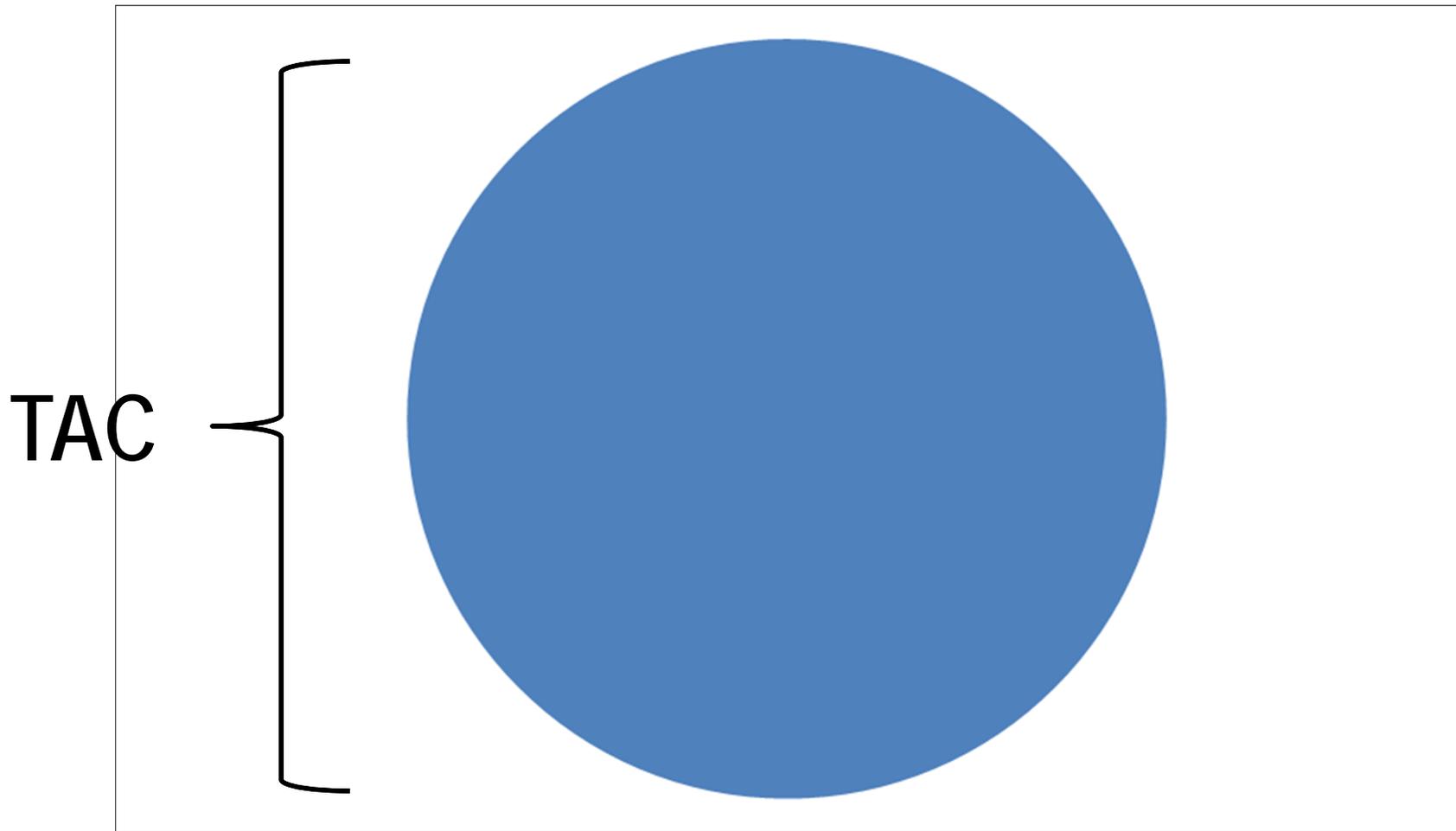
From December 1st through March 31st, fishermen with a federal directed Atlantic shark limited access permit and gillnet gear on board are now required to use a vessel monitoring system only in the vicinity of the Southeast U.S. Monitoring Area



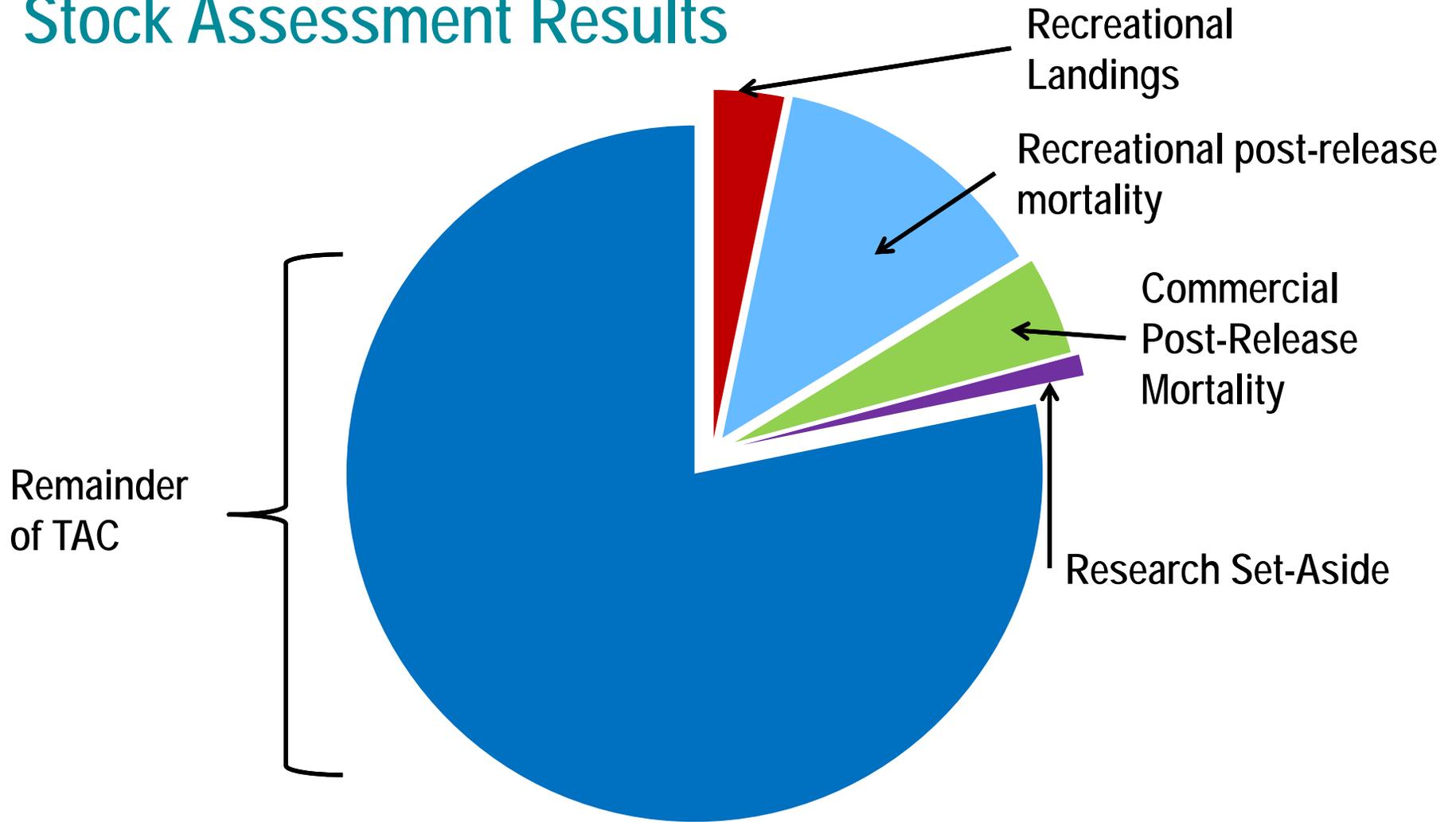
NOAA
FISHERIES

Smoothhound Shark Quota Calculation Methodology

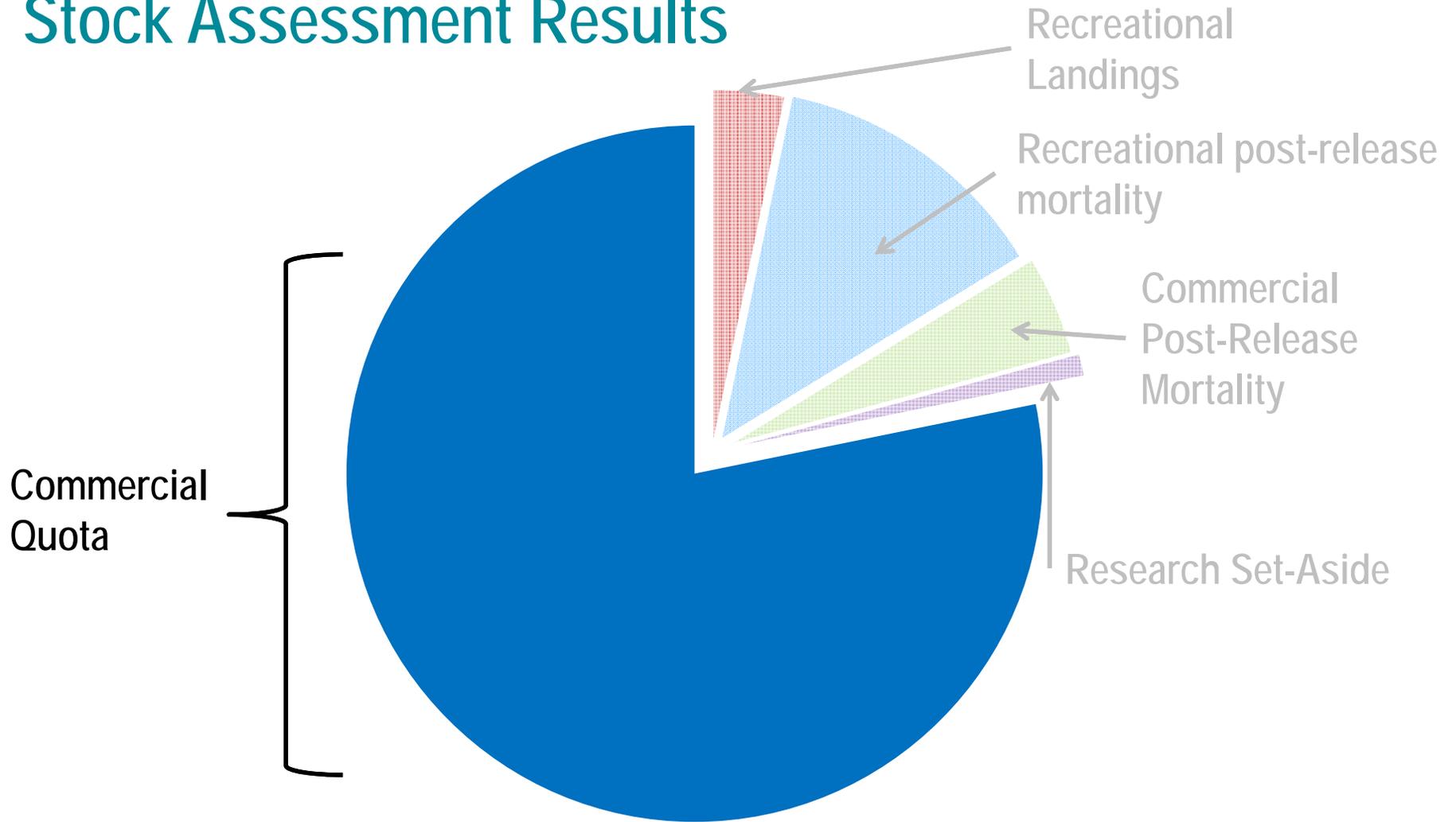
Quota Calculation Methodology Based on Shark Stock Assessment Results



Quota Calculation Methodology Based on Shark Stock Assessment Results



Quota Calculation Methodology Based on Shark Stock Assessment Results





NOAA
FISHERIES

Atlantic Smoothhound Shark Quota Calculation



SEDAR 39 - Atlantic Smooth Dogfish Data Inputs and Results

- TAC = 550,000 sharks = 1,430.6 mt dw
 - TAC associated with 70 % probability of maintaining a healthy stock
 - Average weight of smooth dogfish sharks = 8.2 lb ww
 - Conversion factor = 1.43 Conversion factor ACCSP uses for smooth dogfish
- 550,000 sharks * 8.2 lb ww = 4,510,000 lb ww
- 4,510,000 lb ww/1.43 = 3,153,846.1 lb dw
- 3,153,846 lb dw/2204.6 lb/mt = 1,430.6 mt dw



SEDAR 39 - Atlantic Smooth Dogfish Data Inputs and Results

- Commercial post-release mortality = **39.1 mt dw**
 - Average annual estimate from 2008-2012
- Recreational landings = **23.5 mt dw**
 - Average annual landings from 2008-2012
- Recreational post-release mortality = **164.9 mt dw**
 - Average annual estimate from 2008-2012
- Research set-aside = **1.4 mt dw**
 - Amendment 3 to the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP established a 4.2 mt dw research set aside, covering both the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. The Atlantic's share of the research set-aside, 1.4 mt dw, is based on the proportion of mortality occurring under exempted fishing permits in the Atlantic from 2008-2012

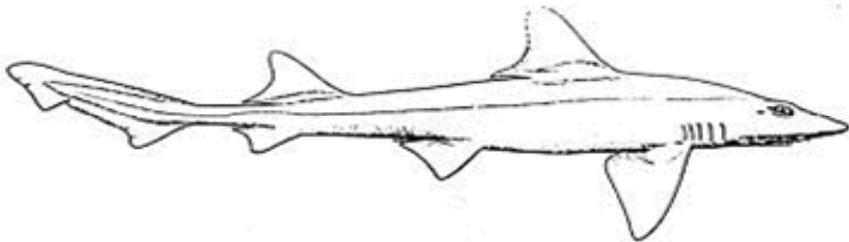
SEDAR 39 - Atlantic Smooth Dogfish Data Inputs and Results

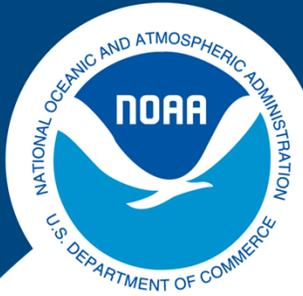
- The Atlantic smoothhound shark commercial quota is **1,201.7 mt dw**.

1,430.6 mt dw (Atlantic smoothhound shark TAC)

- 39.1 mt dw (commercial Atlantic smoothhound post-release mortality)
- 23.5 mt dw (recreational Atlantic smoothhound shark landings)
- 164.9 mt dw (recreational Atlantic smoothhound post-release mortality)
- 1.4 mt dw (research set-aside)

= **1,201.7 mt dw** (Atlantic commercial smoothhound shark quota)





NOAA
FISHERIES

Gulf of Mexico Smoothhound Shark Quota Calculation



SEDAR 39 – Gulf of Mexico Smoothhound Shark Data Inputs and Results

- TAC = 297,471 sharks = 509.6 mt dw
 - TAC associated with 70 % probability of maintaining a healthy stock = 3 x 2012 catch levels (99,157 sharks)
 - Average weight of smoothhound sharks = 5.4 lb ww; average weight of smoothhound sharks discarded in the GOM trawl fishery
 - Conversion factor = 1.43. Conversion factor ACCSP uses for smooth dogfish
- $297,471 \text{ sharks} * 5.4 \text{ lb ww} = 1,606,343 \text{ lb ww}$
- $1,606,343 \text{ lb ww} / 1.43 = 1,123,317 \text{ lb dw}$
- $1,123,317 \text{ lb dw} / 2204.6 \text{ lb/mt} = 509.6 \text{ mt dw}$



SEDAR 39 – Gulf of Mexico Smoothhound Shark

Data Inputs and Results

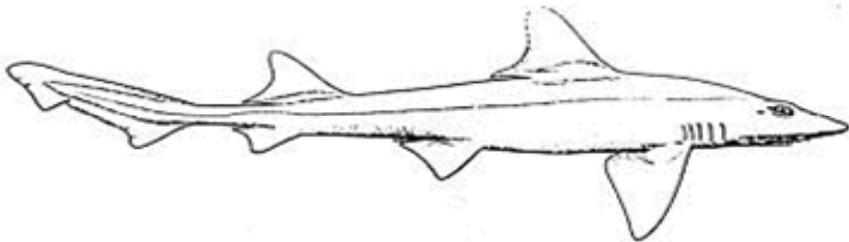
- Commercial post-release mortality = **2.4 mt dw**
 - Average annual estimate from 2008-2012
- Recreational landings = **0.6 mt dw**
 - Average annual landings from 2008-2012
- Commercial dead discards = **167.4 mt dw**
 - Average annual estimate from 2008-2012
 - Includes discards from the trawl and longline fisheries
- Research set-aside = **2.8 mt dw**
 - Amendment 3 to the 2006 Consolidated HMS FMP established a 4.2 mt dw research set aside, covering both the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. The Gulf of Mexico's share of the research set-aside is based on the proportion of mortality occurring under EFPs in the Gulf of Mexico from 2008-2012

SEDAR 39 – Gulf of Mexico Smoothhound Shark Data Inputs and Results

- The Gulf of Mexico smoothhound shark commercial quota is **336.4 mt dw**.

509.6 mt dw (Gulf of Mexico smoothhound TAC)

- 2.4 mt dw (commercial GOM smoothhound post-release mortality)
- 0.6 mt dw (recreational GOM smoothhound landings)
- 167.4 mt dw (commercial GOM smoothhound dead discards)
- 2.8 mt dw (research set-aside)
- = **336.4 mt dw** (GOM commercial smoothhound shark quota)



Notable Dates

- November 24, 2015: Final Rule published (80 FR 73128)
- December 10, 2015, January 14, February 11, and March 17, 2016: Atlantic Shark Identification Workshops
- December 10, 2015: OMB approval of smoothhound permit collection-of-information requirement
 - Smoothhound permit application now available
- March 15, 2016: Effective date for all Amendment 9 measures including:
 - Vessel permit requirement
 - Dealer permit requirement
 - At-sea fin removal conditions
 - Observer requirements
 - Changes to VMS

Permits

- Commercial smoothhound shark permits and shark dealer permits are available through the Southeast Regional Office Permit Office at 877-376-4877 or go to the following website for an application:

http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/operations_management_information_services/constituency_services_branch/permits/permit_apps/

- HMS Angling or HMS Charter/Headboat recreational permit required for retention of recreationally-caught smoothhound sharks. Permits can be obtained at the following website:

<https://hmspermits.noaa.gov>



**NOAA
FISHERIES**