



NOAA
FISHERIES

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel

HMS Management Overview

March 10, 2015

Goal of Presentation

- Brief update of recent actions
- Updates on previous AP recommendations
- Defer issues to be discussed later in meeting:
 - Bluefin tuna Amendment 7 final rule & implementation
 - Swordfish 2015 specifications proposed rule
 - HMS Essential Fish Habitat Draft 5-Year Review
 - Shark/smoothhound management Draft Amendment 9
 - Shark management Draft Amendment 6
 - Dusky shark updates
 - MSA National Standard 1 Guidelines
 - NMFS HMS research overview

Rulemaking/Operations

Since the September 2014 AP meeting:

- Published three final rules on BFT Final Amendment 7, 2015 Shark Specs, and ICCAT MCS rule
- Published two proposed rules on Shark Draft Amendment 6 and 2015 Swordfish specs
- Published Draft Essential Fish Habitat 5-Year Review and Final HMS Management-Based Research Priorities
- Supported 2014 ICCAT meeting
- Oversaw 16 workshops

In 2015, so far:

- Issued 5 EFPs, SRPs, & LOAs
- Issued 7 shark research fishery permits; some changes this year
- Registered 78 HMS tournaments
- ~5,279 people receiving Atlantic HMS News

ICCAT 2014

- Several measures to further combat IUU fishing
- Multi-year TAC levels for bluefin tuna
- Tropical tunas amendment and FAD working group
- Sharks – Shortfin mako: improve domestic data collection and provide additional info to ICCAT but no TAC level set; Porbeagle and fins attached – no consensus
- Terms of reference for 2nd scientist-manager dialogue meeting; to be held with 3rd WBFT dialogue meeting



ICCAT 2014 continued

- Western bluefin tuna – increased overall TAC from 1,750 mt to 2,000 mt
 - U.S. quota increased from 948.7 mt to 1,083.8 mt
 - Proposed rule should publish in spring with target effective date of June 1
- Eastern Atlantic/Mediterranean bluefin TAC was set at 16,142 t for 2015; 19,296 t for 2016; and 23,155 t for 2017; Turkey has objected
- Continued progress on electronic Bluefin Catch Document system (eBCD)



ICCAT MCS Rule

- Final rule published December 8, 2014 (79 FR 72557)
- Notified owners of commercial HMS vessels ≥ 20 m. (65' 7") of the need to obtain an International Maritime Organization/Lloyd's Registry (IMO/LR) number by no later than January 1, 2016 (ICCAT Rec. 13-13)
- Requirement affects ~ 253 commercial HMS vessels
 - ~113 vessels already have IMO/LR number
 - ~140 vessels do not have IMO/LR number
- IMO/LR numbers are available from IHS/Fairplay free of charge at:
<http://www.imonumbers.lrfairplay.com/>
- Next steps include notifying vessel owners of this new requirement and determining procedures for incorporating IMO # in reports to ICCAT

Required Data

- Current Ship Name
- Shipyard ID
- Original Name
- Flag
- Official Number
- Fishing Number
- Vessel Specifications
- Shipbuilder
- Place of Build
- Date of Completion
- Hull Number
- Owner Information
- Company Information



Print Form

IHS Maritime
Sentinel House, 163 Brighton Road
Coudsdon, Surrey CR5 2YH
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 3253 2100
Fax: +44 (0) 3253 2102
Email: ship.imo@ihs.com

REQUEST FOR IMO SHIP IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

TO ENABLE UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION OF SHIPS FOR ASSIGNMENT OF AN IMO NUMBER IN ACCORDANCE WITH IMO RESOLUTION A.600 (15), SOLAS XI 1/3 and I/5, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS IN CAPITALS:-

Note: Shipbuilding details are essential to issue an IMO Ship Number for Newbuildings prior to completion

CURRENT SHIP NAME / SHIPYARD ID*

FORMER NAME(S)

ORIGINAL NAME*

FLAG* PORT OF REGISTRY CALL SIGN

MMSI OFFICIAL NUMBER* DATE OF FLAG REGISTRATION

TONNAGE (69 CONVENTION) YES NO FISHING NUMBER+

GROSS* NET* DEADWEIGHT

LENGTH OVERALL* LENGTH B.P.

EXTREME BREADTH* MOULDED BREADTH

MOULDED BREADTH DRAUGHT

DATE OF KEEL LAYING DATE OF LAUNCH DATE OF COMPLETION*

SHIPBUILDER* PLACE OF BUILD* HULL No.*

SUB-CONTRACTOR BUILDER (if applicable) HULL No.

SHIP TYPE DESCRIPTION HULL MATERIAL

MARPOL requirements for OIL TANKERS

The ship complies with regulation 13F(3) (double-hull)

The ship complies with regulations 13 and 13E (SBT/PL)

Other (please specify)

The ship is subject to CAS requirements of regulation 13G(7)

REGISTERED OWNER & ADDRESS****
(Including Fax, Tel & Email)

MANAGER & ADDRESS****
(Including Fax, Tel, Email & Website)

NUMBER OF MAIN ENGINES ENGINE TYPE MANUFACTURER

CURRENT CLASS SOCIETY TOTAL BHP NUMBER OF PROPELLERS

COMPANY REQUESTING IMO NUMBER

COMPANY NAME * CONTACT NAME *

SENDER'S EMAIL * SENDER'S FAX NUMBER *

[* Required Fields - all SHIPS] [** Required Fields - Ships in service only]

Note: We cannot issue an IMO Ship No. without the above fields

[+ Distinctive Number or Letters for Fishing Vessels]

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE RECEIVED IMO REF. NO. REFERRED TO BY

ACTIONED BY DATE IMO NUMBER

LRF (10/06)



NOAA FISHERIES

Bluefin Tuna 2014-2015 Inseason Actions

Retention Limits:

General category (large medium/giant):

- Sept 1-Dec 31, 2014 = 4; Jan 1, 2015 = 3

Angling category daily retention limits (in effect through Dec 31)

- Private vessels: 1 school + 1 large school/small medium
- HMS CHB: 2 school + 1 large school/small medium

Transfer:

87.4 mt from Purse Seine category to Reserve category based on Amendment 7 formula: Feb 10, 2015

Bluefin Tuna Purse Seine 2014 EFP

- The purpose was to gather data regarding the discards of bluefin tuna measuring 73” to less than 81” in the purse seine fishery
- Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) issued with specific terms and conditions for August 1, 2014, to December 31, 2014
- Results: 37.6 mt landed, 4.2 mt discarded
(a 9.5-mt or 69% reduction in dead discards from 2013, with similar effort)
- A request has been submitted for 2015 with the same conditions

2014 BFT Fishing Year Summary

Quota category	Landings - No. of Fish	Landings - Weight (mt)	2014 Base Quota (mt)	2014 Adjusted ² Quota (mt)	% Base Quota Taken	% Adjusted Quota Taken
General	2,073	411.8	435.1	435.1	94.6	94.6
Harpoon	186	34.5	36.0	51.0³	95.8	67.6
Longline (incl NED)	392	82.5	99.8	124.2	82.7	66.4
NED	15	3.8	25.0	25.0	15.2	15.2
North	193	38.2	29.9	39.7	127.8	96.2
South	184	40.5	44.9	59.5	90.2	68.1
Trap	0	0.0	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Purse seine	270	37.6	171.8	171.8	21.9	21.9
Angling	3,513	111.8	182.0	182.0	61.4	61.4
School	1,872	29.1	94.9	94.9	30.7	30.7
Lg Sch/Sm med	1,615	77.6	82.9	82.9	93.6	93.6
Trophy	26	5.1	4.2	4.2	121.4	121.4
Reserve	n/a	n/a	23.1	8.1³	n/a	n/a
Total (landings only)	6,434	678.2	923.7	948.1	73.4	71.5
Total (landings + dead discards)¹		838.8	923.7	948.1	90.8	88.5



Shark 2015 Specifications

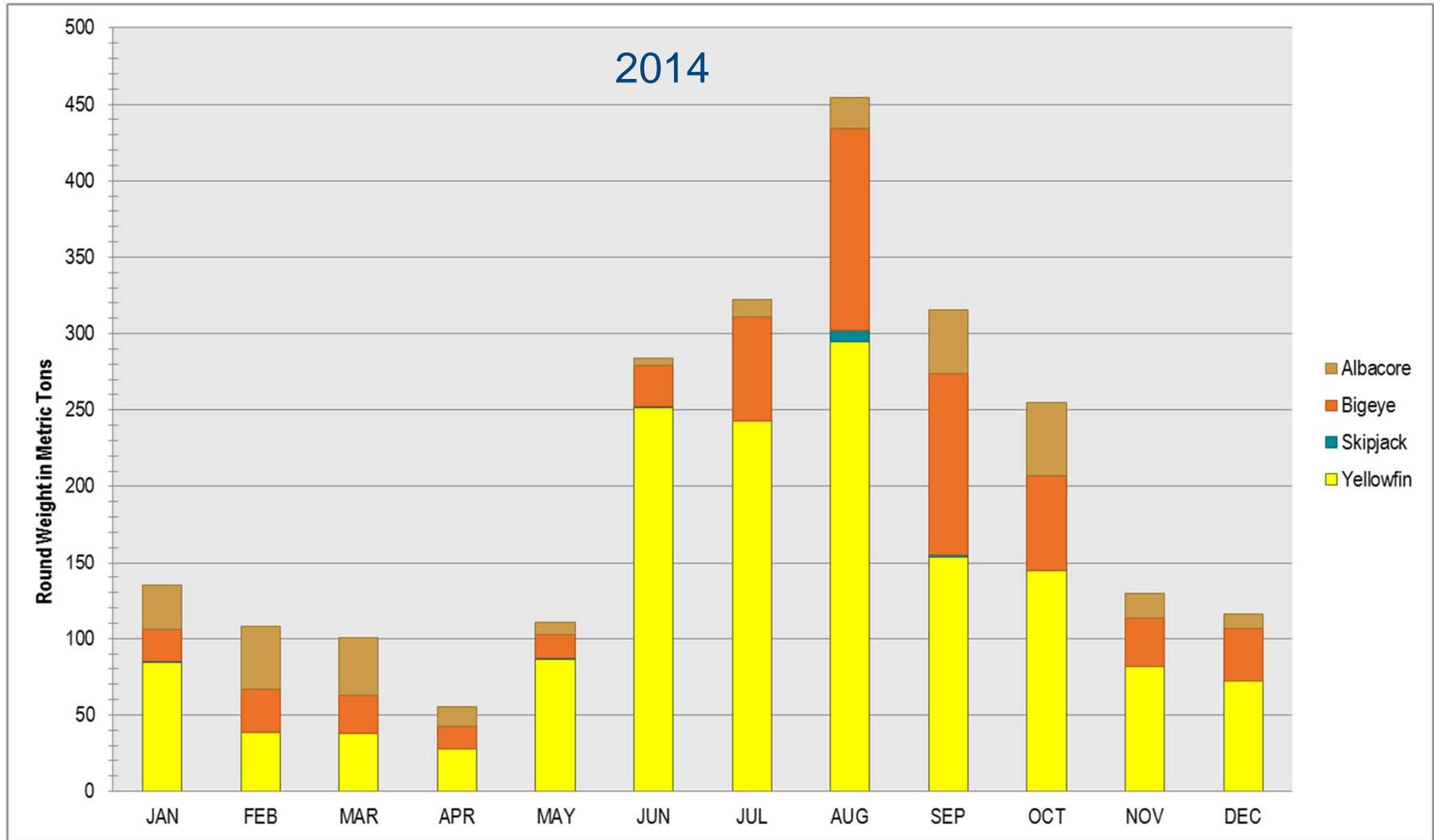
- Final rule published Dec 2, 2014 (79 FR 71331)
 - Opened all shark management groups, except the aggregated LCS and hammerhead shark management groups in the Atlantic region, on January 1, 2015
 - Opens the aggregated LCS and hammerhead shark management groups in the Atlantic region on July 1, 2015
 - Adjusted the Gulf of Mexico blacktip shark management group quota based on underharvest in 2014
 - Adjusted the Gulf of Mexico aggregated LCS management group quota based on overharvest from 2014
 - Continues to adjust the regional blacknose shark management group quotas over a five-year timeframe based on an overharvest in 2012

Shark Inseason Actions

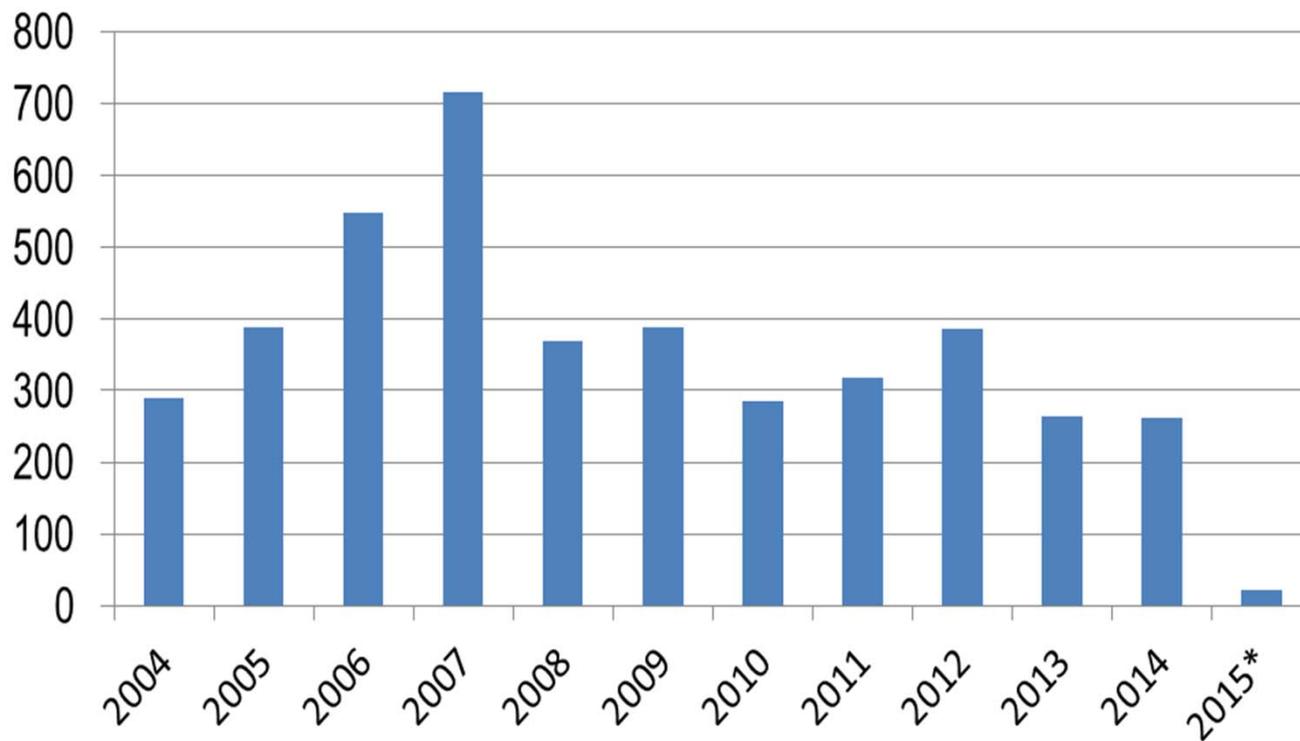
2014 Inseason Actions:

- Closed the Atlantic Aggregated LCS and Hammerhead shark fisheries on November 30 (79 FR 71331)
- Closed the Porbeagle shark fishery on December 17, and will remain closed for the 2015 shark fishing season (79 FR 75068)

Bigeye, Albacore, Yellowfin, & Skipjack (BAYS) Tuna Landings

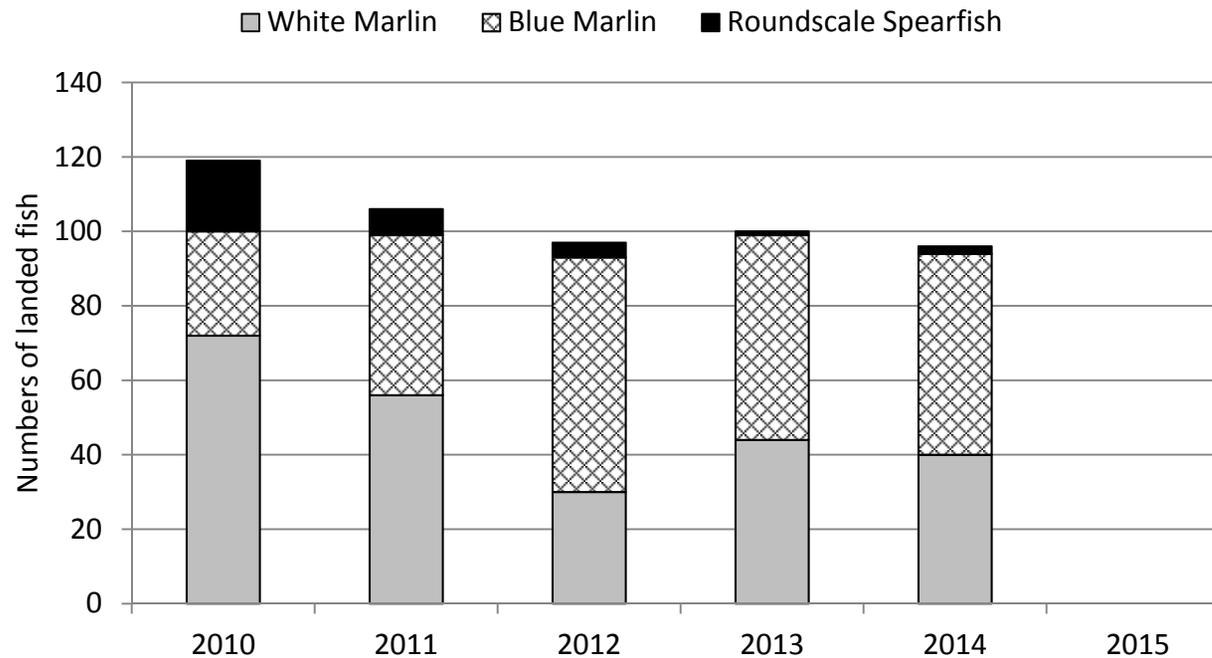


Recreational Swordfish Landings



Year	Non-tournament Landings (number)
2004	290
2005	388
2006	549
2007	716
2008	369
2009	389
2010	285
2011	318
2012	386
2013	264
2014	261
2015	21*

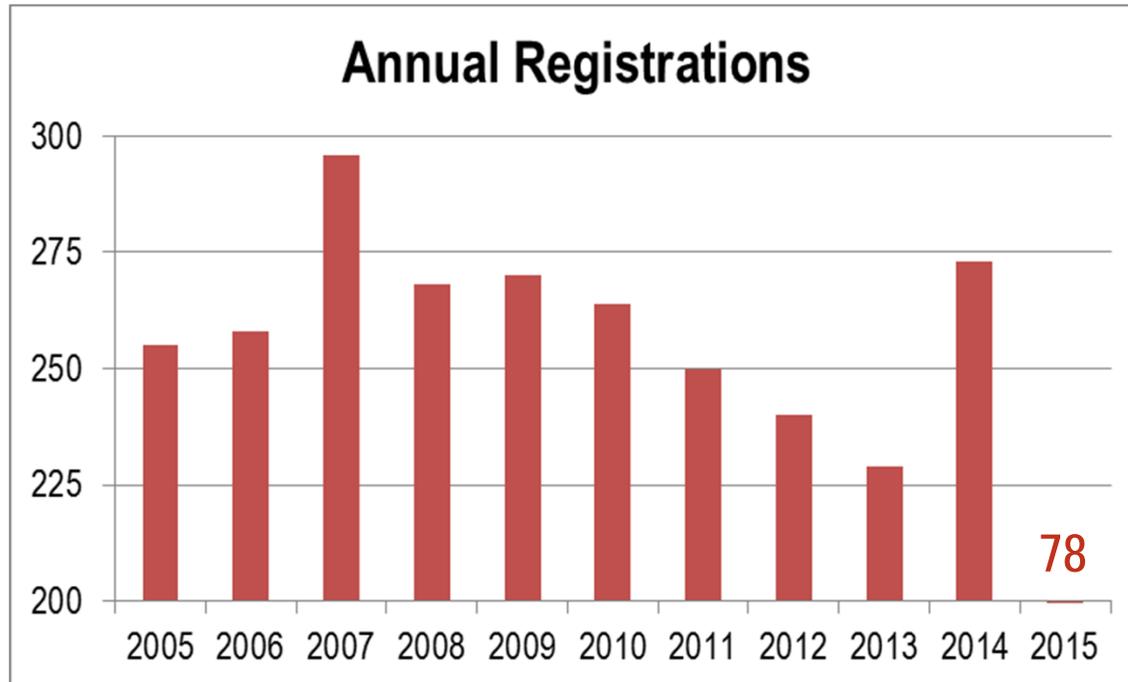
Recreational Billfish Landings



	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 [^]	2015 [*]
Blue Marlin	28	43	63	55	54	0
White Marlin	72	56	30	44	40	0
Roundscale Spearfish	19	7	4	1	2	0
Sailfish	185	166	159	169	118	16

*Preliminary [^]HMS 2014 Q4 Landings Report *Source: Recreational (non-tournament) Database*

Tournaments Update



IGFA Tournament Operator Meeting in Dania Beach, FL – Sept. 25, 2014

- Discussed registration, reporting, permitting, and circle hook requirements
- Roundscale spearfish ID demonstration
- Discussed ideas with IGFA technical developers for online reporting

Tournaments Update

Program Improvements

- Step 1 (near completion): Merging HMS and Recreational Billfish Survey databases
- Step 2 (internal beta testing): Online Registration Portal



NOAA FISHERIES
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION



Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Tournaments

OMB Control # 0648-0323
 Expiration date 01/31/2016

Register a Tournament

Tournament Name:	
Start Date:	<input type="text"/>
End Date:	<input type="text"/>
Director Name:	
Tournament Type:	UNKNOWN ▼
CPUE Category:	UNKNOWN ▼
Director Address 1:	
Director Address 2:	
Director City:	
Director State:	OTHER ▼ <small>FILL IN IF OTHER</small>
Director Zip:	
Director Country:	UNITED STATES ▼
Phone:	
Fax:	
Mobile:	
Mail:	
Web Site:	
Summary Report:	NO ▼
Hook Restriction:	NONE ▼
Bait Restriction:	NONE ▼
Registration Date:	<input type="text"/>
Comments:	

Has this tournament registered with NOAA Fisheries before? _____ * Year? _____

Billfish & Swordfish

- Blue Marlin
- White Marlin
- Sailfish
- Longbill Spearfish
- RoundScale Spearfish
- Swordfish

Tunas

- Bluefin Tuna
- Yellowfin Tuna
- Bigeye Tuna
- Albacore
- Blackfin
- Skipjack Tuna

Sharks

- Ridgeback Shark
- Non-Ridgeback Shark
- Small Coastal Shark
- Pelagic Shark

Number of regulation booklets and other outreach materials requested for tournament participants: _____


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ESA Updates

- On August 27, 2014, NMFS published a final rule to list 20 coral species as threatened under the ESA; 7 of these species are distributed in U.S. Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean waters
- NMFS reinitiated ESA consultation on these coral species, as well as the newly listed Western and Central Atlantic DPS of scalloped hammerhead for all HMS fisheries (including pelagic longline fishery for which consultation had already been reinitiated) on October 30
- Consultation ongoing now for all HMS fisheries

ESA Updates continued – Shark Petitions

- Dusky Sharks - Northwest Atlantic population
 - 12-month finding that listing under the ESA as threatened or endangered is not warranted (12/15/14)
- Common Thresher Sharks - Worldwide
 - Positive 90-day finding that the petition presents substantial information that listing may be warranted (3/3/15); status review initiated
- Porbeagle Sharks – Full range of populations
 - The original negative 90-day finding was remanded by the court; NMFS is drafting a new 90-day finding, which is expected to publish in March



Compendium Update –

Objective: Summarize the history of and rationale behind existing management measures for Atlantic HMS

Organization:

- Subdivided into 15 sections -
 - (1) Introduction;
 - (2) Stock Status and Status Determination Criteria;
 - (3) General Provisions;
 - (4) Essential Fish Habitat;
 - (5) Protected Resources;
 - (6) Gear Type by Descriptions and Specific Management Measures;
 - (7) Commercial Management Measures by Species Complex;
 - (8) Recreational Management Measures by Species Complex;
 - (9) Charter/Headboat Management Measures by Species Complex;
 - (10) Dealers;
 - (11) Tournaments;
 - (12) Permits for Specially Authorized Activities;
 - (13) International Considerations;
 - (14) Enforcement Provisions;
 - (15) Appendices

Next Step - Draft available for public review

Please e-mail Alexis.Jackson@noaa.gov with comments on content

Operations/Other

- Continued coordination with Councils & Commissions; ASMFC for sharks
- Louisiana greenstick gear study continuing in FY15
- ICCAT monthly submissions: BFT landings, 20m & BET/YFT vessel lists
- ICCAT electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document (e-BCD) system in progress; provisions no longer part of ITDS proposed rule – separate rulemaking pending
- Caribbean Council closures – Abrir la Sierra, Bajo de Sico, Tourmaline Bank
- Atlantic HMS Electronic Dealer Reporting system ~active 453 HMS dealers submit all landings data or weekly negative reports; weekly compliance monitoring; monthly shark and swordfish commercial landings reports
- Online Individual Bluefin Quota system with accounts for 253 Atlantic tuna longline permit holders and 424 dealers with tuna permits



Other National Rules

- **National Vessel Monitoring System Final Rule**
 - Codified type-approval standards, specifications, procedures, and responsibilities applicable to commercial Enhanced Mobile Transceiver Unit vendors and mobile communications service providers. Effective 1/23/2015
- **Billfish Conservation Act of 2012 Proposed Rule**
 - To codify the prohibition of possessing billfish (marlins, spearfish, sailfish) for sale including exemptions for Hawaii or Pacific Insular Areas per the Act
- **Shark Conservation Act of 2010**
 - To implement national fins-attached requirement in all shark fisheries, with a limited exception for smooth dogfish to be implemented via Amendment 9

Looking Ahead – 2015

- ICCAT support – Spring Advisory Committee meeting (April), Annual meeting (November)
 - Measures for bigeye tuna, blue sharks, eBCD, others?
- Upcoming Proposed Rules:
 - Bluefin tuna quota
 - eBCD implementation
- Upcoming Final Rules/Actions:
 - Shark management Amendment 6
 - Shark/smoothhound management Amendment 9
 - 2015 Swordfish specifications
 - EFH 5-Year Final Review

Communication Goal: No Surprises

- Goals for All
 - Advisors/Public aware, informed, and engaged
 - Agency aware, informed, and engaged
- AP Member Role
 - Listen and Engage in Discussions
 - Share with Your Constituents
 - Bring Ideas to and Advise Agency
- Agency Role
 - Ensure compliance with all domestic & int'l requirements
 - Raise Issues and Inform AP and Public
 - Listen and Engage in Discussions
 - Make Decisions Considering Feedback

Conclusion/Looking Forward

In conclusion,

- We are covering a lot of ground at this meeting
- Operational activities require substantial agency resources

Looking forward,

- We value your input & want your input on priorities & potential solutions

Questions?

Thank you!

ESA Update – Pelagic Longline

Pelagic Longline Biological Opinion

- NMFS has requested re-initiation of Section 7 consultation under ESA
- While the mortality rate measure needs to be re-evaluated, overall ability of the RPA to avoid jeopardy was not affected
- During consultation, NMFS will increase education efforts with PLL fishery through protected species handling & release workshops and other outreach, including HMS Advisory Panel, to further reduce sea turtle interactions,
- Through these education efforts, NMFS encourages PLL fishers to:
 - Use whole finfish for bait
 - Avoid threading baits on hooks (putting hook through bait more than once)
 - Use larger hooks (>18/0) as much as possible
 - Avoid fishing with PLL in water $\geq 68^{\circ}$ F when possible

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¹2014 Dead discard estimates are not yet available, so a revised 2013 estimate of 160.6 mt (4.2 mt observed purse seine + 156.4 mt estimated longline) was used. The United States accounts for dead discards annually in the quota specifications and reports them to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). The final 2013 estimate and preliminary 2014 estimate will be available in June 2015.

²The final 2014 Atlantic bluefin tuna specifications (79 FR 38255, July 7, 2014) adjusted the 2014 base quota and subquotas to account for 2013 underharvest and to address anticipated dead discards for 2014.

³NMFS transferred 15 mt from the Reserve to the Harpoon category, effective August 8, 2014 (79 FR 47381, August 13, 2014).

