



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

NMFS Announces a Delay in the Effective Date of Federal Atlantic Smoothhound Shark Management Measures

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is providing updated information on the effective date for federal Atlantic smoothhound shark (including smooth dogfish and the Florida smoothhound) fishery management measures. Previously, NMFS anticipated the measures to be effective prior to the 2012 fishing season, on or around April 1, 2012. However, NMFS no longer anticipates that management measures will be effective before the 2012 fishing season. Instead, the effective date will be the same as the forthcoming final rule to implement the smoothhound shark provisions in the 2010 Shark Conservation Act and only after the required Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation is completed.

This notice is a courtesy to the HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about your fishery. For further information on anticipated effectiveness date, contact Steve Durkee at 202-670-6637 or Karyl Brewster-Geisz at 301-427-8503. The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms>.

Alan Risenhoover
Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries

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Date

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