



## Atlantic Swordfish Landings Update: Commercial and Recreational January 1 – April 13, 2013

Beginning this month, we have a new format for the monthly swordfish landings update. The table below provides preliminary landings estimates and remaining quotas as of April 13, 2013, for the Atlantic swordfish fisheries for the 2013 fishing year. We estimate landings using commercial dealer reports and reports by anglers in the HMS Non-Tournament Recreational Swordfish and Billfish Landings Database and the Recreational Billfish Survey. Please note that these estimates are subject to late reporting and do not include discards.

The 2013 annual North and South Atlantic landings quotas seen below have not been adjusted for 2012 underharvests and do not include the reserve category allocation or international quota transfer. We recently published a proposed rule (78 FR 12705) that would adjust the 2013 baseline quotas for these factors based on International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Recommendations 11-02 and 12-01, respectively. The comment period for this proposed rule closed on March 27, 2013, and a final rule is expected shortly.

### North Atlantic Swordfish

		2013 LANDINGS (mt dw)	PERCENT OF 2013 BASELINE QUOTA TAKEN (2013 BASELINE QUOTA)	PERCENT OF 2013 ADJUSTED QUOTA TAKEN (2013 ADJUSTED QUOTA) <sup>3</sup>	2012 LANDINGS DURING THE SAME TIME PERIOD (mt dw)
DIRECTED FISHERY <sup>1</sup>	JAN 1 – JUNE 30	601.7	45.6% (1,318.8 mt dw)	N/A	558.5
	JULY 1 - DEC 31	0.0	0.0% (1,318.8 mt dw)	N/A	0.0
INCIDENTAL FISHERY <sup>2</sup>	COMMERCIAL LANDINGS	24.7	8.7% (300 mt dw)	N/A	0.1
	RECREATIONAL LANDINGS	1.4			3.6
TOTAL		626.4	21.3% (2,937.6 mt dw)	N/A	561.9

1. Annual directed quota split equally into two 6 month seasons (baseline: 1,318.8 mt dw per season; adjusted: 1,604.6 mt dw); contains landings reported by vessels with directed or handgear swordfish limited access permits.
2. Recreational landings and commercial landings by incidental swordfish limited access and incidental HMS squid trawl permit holders count toward the annual incidental quota.
3. Adjusted quota does not include the 50 mt dw allocation to the reserve category

### South Atlantic Swordfish

	2013 LANDINGS (mt dw)	PERCENT OF 2013 BASELINE QUOTA TAKEN (2013 BASELINE QUOTA)	PERCENT OF 2013 ADJUSTED QUOTA TAKEN (2013 ADJUSTED QUOTA)	2012 LANDINGS DURING THE SAME TIME PERIOD (MT DW)
DIRECTED FISHERY (ANNUAL QUOTA)	0.1	0.0% (75.2 mt dw)	N/A	0.0

This notice is a courtesy to Atlantic swordfish fishery interests to keep you informed about the fishery. Official notice of federal fishery actions is made through filing such notice with the Office of the Federal Register. To view catch statistics from previous months, please visit [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/hmsdocument\\_files/SWORDFISH.htm#Landings](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/hmsdocument_files/SWORDFISH.htm#Landings) or contact Steve Durkee at (202) 670-6637.

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