



**NMFS ANNOUNCES ADJUSTMENTS
 TO THE NORTH AND SOUTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH QUOTAS**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announces an adjustment to the 2005 North and South Atlantic swordfish quotas based on updated information for the 2003 fishing year and to account for the underharvest in the 2004 fishing year. The adjusted 2005 North Atlantic swordfish directed fishery quota (5,953.4 mt dw) has been divided equally between two semiannual periods (June 1 - November 30 and December 1 - May 31). The adjusted 2005 South Atlantic swordfish quota is 409.5 mt dw. Additionally, NMFS extends the 2005 North Atlantic swordfish management measures pursuant to the 2004 ICCAT recommendation (04-02). Therefore, the North Atlantic swordfish baseline commercial quota is 2,937.6 mt dw for the 2006 fishing year.

Landings and Quotas for the Atlantic Swordfish Fisheries (2003 - 2006).

| North Atlantic Swordfish Quota (mt dw) | | 2003 preliminary | 2003 final | 2004 preliminary | 2005 preliminary | 2006 preliminary |
|--|----------------------------|------------------|------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Baseline Quota | | 2,915.0 | 2,915.0 | 2,937.6 | 2,937.6 | 2,937.6 |
| Quota Carried Over | | 1,348.6 | 1,348.6 | 2,275.1 | 3,398.5 | TBD |
| Total Quota | | 4,263.6 | 4,263.6 | 5,212.7 | 6,336.1 | 2,937.6 |
| Quota Allocation | Directed Category | 3,824.5 | 3,824.5 | 4,792.4 | 5,934.6 | 2,554.9 |
| | Incidental Category | 300.0 | 300.0 | 300.0 | 300.0 | 300.0 |
| | Reserve Category | 139.1 | 139.1 | 120.3 | 101.5 | 82.7 |
| Utilized Quota | Landings | 1,509.0 | 1,822.5 | 1,475.0 | TBD | TBD |
| | Reserve Transfer to Canada | 18.8 | 18.8 | 18.8 | 18.8 | 18.8 |
| Total Underharvest | | 2,735.8 | 2,422.3 | 3,718.9 | TBD | TBD |
| Dead Discards | Allowance | 60.0 | 60.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| | Actual Harvest | 278.0 | 207.2 | 320.4 | TBD | TBD |
| | Difference | -218.0 | -147.2 | -320.4 | TBD | TBD |
| Carryover Available | | 2,517.8 | 2,275.1 | 3,398.5 | TBD | TBD |
| South Atlantic Swordfish Quota (mt dw) | | 2003 preliminary | 2003 final | 2004 preliminary | 2005 preliminary | 2006 preliminary |
| Baseline Quota | | 75.2 | 75.2 | 75.2 | 75.2 | 90.2 |
| Quota Carried Over | | 195.2 | 195.2 | 259.1 | 334.3 | TBD |
| Total Quota | | 270.4 | 270.4 | 334.3 | 409.5 | 90.2 |
| Landings | | 11.3 | 11.3 | 0.0 | TBD | TBD |
| Carryover Available | | 259.1 | 259.1 | 334.3 | TBD | TBD |

For further information, please contact Megan Caldwell at 301-713-2347. Copies of the final rule, Environment Assessment, and Regulatory Impact Review are available upon request from the Highly Migratory Species Management Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (phone: 301-713-2347, fax: 301-713-1917). The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/>.

This FAX notice is a courtesy to HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about your fishery. Official notice of Federal fishing actions is made through filing such notice with the Office of Federal Register.

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 for _____
 Alan D. Risenhoover, Acting Director
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Date

