



# Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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## MEMORANDUM

July 8, 2016

**TO: Coastal Sharks Management Board, Advisory Panel, and Technical Committee**

**FROM: Ashton Harp, FMP Coordinator**

**RE: Aggregated Large Coastal Shark and Hammerhead Shark Management Groups Increased to 45 Sharks per Trip**

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has increased the retention limit for the commercial aggregated large coastal shark and hammerhead shark management groups (Appendix 1) for directed shark limited access permit holders in the Atlantic region from 3 to 45 sharks per vessel per trip as of July 15, 2016. As agreed upon by the Commission's Coastal Sharks Management Board (in December 2015), the Commission will follow NMFS for in-season changes to the retention limit, therefore, no more than 45 sharks per vessel per trip may be retained from the aggregated large coastal and hammerhead management groups by a state licensed fishermen as of July 15, 2016.

The retention limit for the large coastal shark and hammerhead shark management groups will remain at 45 sharks per vessel per trip in the Atlantic region (federal and state waters) through the remainder of the 2016 fishing season or until NMFS announces via the Federal Register that another adjustment to the retention limit or a fishery closure is warranted. This adjustment is intended to promote equitable fishing opportunities in the Atlantic region.

The Federal Register commercial retention limit notification can be found at: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2016-16299>. Shark landings can be found at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/species/sharks/Landings/index.html>

Please contact Ashton Harp, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at (703) 842-0740 or [aharp@asmfc.org](mailto:aharp@asmfc.org) if you have questions.

M16-59

## Appendix 1

The list of the species within the aggregated large coastal shark and hammerhead management groups.

<b>Aggregated Large Coastal</b>	
Silky	<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>
Tiger	<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>
Blacktip	<i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i>
Spinner	<i>Carcharhinus brevipinna</i>
Bull	<i>Carcharhinus leucas</i>
Lemon	<i>Negaprion brevirostris</i>
Nurse	<i>Ginglymostoma cirratum</i>
<b>Hammerhead</b>	
Scalloped hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>
Great hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna mokarran</i>
Smooth hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna zygaena</i>