




Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

1050 N. Highland Street • Suite 200A-N • Arlington, VA 22201
703.842.0740 • 703.842.0741 (fax) • www.asmfc.org

MEMORANDUM

June 24, 2019

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

FROM: Toni Kerns, ISFMP Director 

RE: Retention Limit of Aggregated Large Coastal Shark and Hammerhead Shark Management Groups increase to 36 Sharks per Trip

NOAA Fisheries has increased the retention limit for the commercial aggregated large coastal shark and hammerhead shark management groups (Appendix 1, next page) for directed shark limited access permit holders in the Atlantic region from 3 to 36 sharks per vessel per trip effective June 25, 2019. The retention limit will remain at 36 LCS, other than sandbar sharks, per vessel per trip in the Atlantic region through the rest of the 2019 fishing season or until NOAA Fisheries announces another adjustment to the retention limit or a fishery closure via the Federal Register.

As agreed upon by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Coastal Sharks Management Board in December 2015, the Commission will follow NOAA Fisheries for in-season changes to the commercial retention limit, therefore, no more than 36 sharks per vessel per trip may be retained from the aggregated large coastal and hammerhead shark management groups by **state licensed fishermen** effective June 25, 2019.

The Federal Register regarding the change to the commercial retention limit will be published on June 25 at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2019/06/25/2019-13483/atlantic-highly-migratory-species-commercial-aggregated-large-coastal-shark-and-hammerhead-shark>. Shark landings can be found at: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/atlantic-highly-migratory-species/2019-atlantic-shark-commercial-fishery-landings-and-retention>.

Please contact Kirby Rootes-Murdy, Senior Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at 703.842.0740 or krootes-murdy@asmfc.org if you have questions.

M19-48

Appendix 1

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

Aggregated Large Coastal	
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>
Hammerhead	
Scalloped hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>
Great hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna mokarran</i>
Smooth hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna zygaena</i>