

## Measures for shark and ray conservation and management adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organizations

Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) regularly adopt binding and non-binding Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs). Those relevant to sharks and rays taken as a bycatch in RFMO tuna fisheries are listed below, with hyperlinks to sources.

### [Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna \(CCSBT\)](#)

[Recommendation to Mitigate the Impact on Ecologically Related Species of Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna \(Updated at the Eighteenth Annual Meeting – October 2011\).](#)

CCSBT Members and Cooperating Non-Members are required to comply with all current binding and recommendatory measures aimed at the protection of ecologically related species from fishing adopted by the **Indian Ocean Tuna Commission**, the **Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission**, and the **International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas**, when fishing in their respective Convention Areas, irrespective of whether the Member or Cooperating Non-Member concerned is a member of the relevant Commission or otherwise cooperates with it. The shark and ray CMMs for these three RFMOs are listed below.

### [Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission \(IATTC\)](#)

The text of [all resolutions and recommendations](#) adopted by IATTC between 1998 and 2016 is available here. Those of relevance for sharks and rays are as follows:

[C-2016-01 Amendment of Resolution c-15-03 on the collection and analyses of data on fish aggregating devices.](#)

[C-2016-04 Amendment to Resolution c-05-03 on the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.](#)

[C-2016-05 Resolution on the management of shark species.](#)

[C-2016-06 Conservation measures for shark species, with special emphasis on the silky shark \(\*Carcharhinus falciformis\*\), for the years 2017, 2018, and 2019.](#)

[C-2015-04 Resolution on the conservation of mobulid rays caught in association with fisheries in the IATTC Convention Area.](#)

[C-2011-10 Resolution on the conservation of oceanic whitetip sharks caught in association with fisheries in the Antigua Convention Area.](#)

[C-2005-03 Resolution on the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.](#)

### **International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)**

ICCAT adopts Recommendations and Resolutions on the basis of scientific evidence provided by its Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (SCRS) and/or other relevant information. Those relevant to shark bycatch, up to and including 2015 (the next Commission meeting takes place in November 2016), are listed below. The full list of all active ICCAT Recommendations and Resolutions is available as a [Compendium](#). (See also GFCM on page 4.)

[2015-06 Recommendation on Porbeagle caught in association with ICCAT Fisheries.](#)

[2015-02 Recommendation to establish an ad hoc working group on fish aggregating devices \(FADs\)](#)

[2014-06 Recommendation on Shortfin Mako caught in association with ICCAT Fisheries.](#)

[2013-10 Recommendation on biological sampling of prohibited shark species by scientific observers.](#)

[2012-05 Recommendation by ICCAT on compliance with existing measures on shark conservation and management.](#)

[2011-10 Recommendation on information collection and harmonization of data on bycatch and discards in ICCAT fisheries.](#)

[2011-08 Recommendation on the conservation of Silky Sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries.](#)

[2010-08 Recommendation on hammerhead sharks \(Family Sphyrnidae\) caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT.](#)

[2010-07 Recommendation on the conservation of Oceanic Whitetip Shark caught in association with fisheries in the ICCAT convention area.](#)

[2010-06 Recommendation on Atlantic Shortfin Mako Sharks caught in association with ICCAT fisheries.](#)

- [2009-07 Recommendation on the conservation of Thresher Sharks caught in association with fisheries in the ICCAT Convention Area.](#)
- [2007-06 Supplemental Recommendation concerning Sharks.](#)
- [2004-10 Recommendation concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT.](#)
- [2003-10 Resolution on the shark fishery.](#)
- [1995-02 Resolution on cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(FAO\) with regard to study on the status of stocks and by-catches of shark species.](#)

### **Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)**

At each Session of the Commission, Members may adopt Conservation and Management Measures concerning the management of tuna and tuna-like species under the IOTC mandate as well as the fisheries that target them. These decisions are passed in the form of either Resolutions (binding) or Recommendations (voluntary). See [Compendium of Active Conservation and Management Measures for the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission](#). The last (19<sup>th</sup>) Session of the Commission was held in 2015. The 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission is not yet scheduled.

- [2015-09 Resolution on a Fish Aggregating Devices \(FADs\) Working Group.](#)
- [2015-08 Procedures on a fish aggregating devices \(FADs\) management plan, including a limitation on the number of FADs, more detailed specification of catch reporting from FAD sets, and the development of improved FAD designs to reduce the incidence of entanglement of non-target species.](#)
- [2014-06 Resolution on establishing a programme for transshipment by large-scale fishing vessels.](#)
- [2013-06 Resolution on a scientific and management framework on the conservation of shark species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries.](#)
- [2013-05 Resolution on the conservation of whale sharks \(\*Rhincodon typus\*\).](#)
- [2012-12 Resolution to prohibit the use of large-scale driftnets on the high seas in the IOTC area.](#)
- [2012-09 Resolution on the Conservation of Thresher Sharks \(Family Alopiidae\) caught in Association with Fisheries in the IOTC area of competence.](#)

[2005-05 Resolution concerning the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC.](#)

### **Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission**

[2014-05 Conservation and Management Measures for Sharks](#)

[2013-08 Conservation and Management Measure for Silky Sharks.](#)

[2012-04 Conservation and Management Measure for Whale Sharks.](#)

[2011-04 Conservation and Management Measure for Oceanic Whitetip Shark.](#)

[2010-07 Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks.](#)

[2008-04 Conservation and Management Measure to Prohibit the Use of Large Sale Driftnets on the High Seas in the Convention Area.](#)

### **General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM)**

The GFCM generally adopts all ICCAT CMMs (see page 2). The following decision specifically concerns GFCM fisheries in the Mediterranean.

[2012-03 Recommendation GFCM/36/2012/3 on fisheries management measures for conservation of sharks and rays in the GFCM area.](#)