

APPENDIX 3

STATE RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES, AS OF 6/19/2003.

Note that state regulations are subject to change. Contact the appropriate state personnel to ensure that the regulations listed below remain current.

State	HMS Rules and Regulations				Cite Reference	Regulatory Details	Contact Information
	Regulations						
	Tuna	Swords	Billfish	Sharks			
ME	✓			✓	Tuna -ME Rev. Stat. Ann. tit. 12, §§ 6001, 6502, and 6551 Sharks - Code ME R. 13-188 § 50.02	Tuna - Retention limit - 1 tuna/year - non resident special tuna permit holder; Unlawful to fish for tuna with gear other than harpoon or hook and line or possess tuna taken in unlawful manner Sharks - Regulations apply to Spiny dogfish only	ME Department of Marine Resources George Lapointe Phone: 207/624-6553 Fax: 207/624-6024
NH	✗		✓	✓	Tuna - FIS 603.10 (REPEALED) Billfish - FIS 603.13 Sharks - FIS 603.19	Billfish - Possession limit - 1 billfish/trip; Minimum size - Blue marlin - 99"; White marlin - 66"; Sailfish - 57"; May be taken by hook and line only; Unlawful to sell billfish Sharks - Regulations apply to Spiny dogfish only	NH Fish and Game Clare McBane Phone: 603/868-1095 Fax: 603/868-3305
MA	✓		✓	✓	Tuna - MA Regs. Code tit. 322 § 6.04 Billfish - MA Regs. Code tit. 322, § 6.11 Sharks - www.state.ma.us/defwele/dmf.CommercialFishing/regulations.htm ; MA Marine Fisheries Regulation Summaries 2002	Tuna - Reference to ATCA and Federal regulations Billfish - Possession limit - 1 fish/trip; Recreational minimum size - Blue marlin - 86"; Sailfish - 57"; White marlin - 62"; Billfish may be taken by hook and line only; spearing, netting, snagging are prohibited; Sale of billfish is prohibited Sharks - Regulations apply to Spiny dogfish only	MA Division of Marine Fisheries David Pierce Phone: 617/626-1530 Fax: 617/626-1509
RI				✓	Sharks - RIMFC Regulations § 7.15	Sharks - Regulations apply to Spiny dogfish only	RI Department of Environment Management Brian Murphy Phone: 401/783-2304

- ✓ = Regulation in effect
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- FL = Fork Length
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- TL = Total Length

- LJFL = Lower Jaw Fork Length
- CFL = Curved Fork Length
- DW = Dressed Weight
- SCS = Small Coastal Sharks
- LCS = Large Coastal Sharks

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	Tuna	Swords	Billfish			
CT				✓*		Sharks - Regulations apply to Spiny dogfish only; New regulations are anticipated shortly to implement ASMFC spiny dogfish plan CT Department of Environmental Protection Eric Smith Phone: 860/434-6043 Fax: 860/434-6150
NY			✓	✓	Billfish -NY Environmental Conservation § 13-0339 (5) Sharks - NY Environmental Conservation § 13-0338; State of New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (Section 40.1)	Billfish - Blue marlin, White marlin, Sailfish, and Longbill spearfish shall not be bought, sold or offered for sale; Striped marlin, Black marlin, Shortbill spearfish shall not be bought, sold or offered for sale Sharks - Shark finning prohibited; Reference to the Federal regulations 50 CFR part 635; Prohibited sharks listed NY Department of Environmental Conservation Byron Young Phone: 631/444-0435 Fax:631/444-0449
NJ				✓	Sharks -NJ Administrative Code tit. 7, §§ 25-18.1 - 25- 18.2	Sharks - Commercial/Recreational possession limit - 2 fish/vessel; Finning prohibited; May be eviscerated dorsal fin to pre-caudal pit must be at least 23" in length; Total length must be 48" in length NJ Fish, Game and Wildlife Bruce Freeman Phone: 609/292-2083
DE	✓	✓	✓	✓	Billfish - DE Code Ann. tit. 7, § 1310 Sharks - DE Code Regulations 70 200 004.	Tuna/Swordfish/Billfish/Sharks - Reference to Federal regulations; Prohibition on sale of Atl. Sailfish and Blue/White/Striped marlin Sharks - Creel limit on regulated sharks 1 fish/day; Creel limit for sharpnose is 2/day; Minimum size on regulated sharks - 54 in FL DE Division of Fish and Wildlife Roy Miller Phone: 302/739-5295

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MD	✓	✓	✓	✓	Tuna - Code of Maryland Regulations tit. 8, § 02.12.01 and tit. 8, § 02.05.23 Swordfish - Code of Maryland Regulations tit. 8, § 02.12.01 and tit. 8, § 02.05.27 Billfish - Code of Maryland Regulations tit. 8, § 02.12.01 and tit. 8, § 02.05.26 Sharks - Code of Maryland Regulations tit 8, § 02.05.17	Tuna - Reference to listing Bluefin Tuna as “in need of conservation”; Reference to Federal regulations and recreational catch required to be tagged Swordfish - Reference to listing Swordfish as “in need of conservation”; Reference to Federal regulations and recreational catch required to be tagged Billfish - Reference to listing Billfish as “in need of conservation”; Reference to Federal regulations and recreational catch required to be tagged Sharks - Minimum size - 58" FL; 31" carcass; Reference to prohibition on finning and Federal regulations; Recreational catch limit - 1 fish/person/day; Commercial catch limit - 4,000 lbs/day; Reference to 50 CFR 635	MD Department of Natural Resources Harley Speir Phone: 410/260-8303
VA			✓	✓	Billfish - 4 VA Administrative Code 20-350 Sharks - 4 VA Administrative Code 20-490	Billfish - Prohibition on sale of billfish Sharks - Possession limit - 1 fish/person; 1 fish for each person on board boat with common hold; Minimum size - 58" FL (Commercial Only); 31" CL (Commercial Only); 7500 lb/vessel/day limit; 200 lb limit on shark carcasses less than 31" minimum CL taken within VA state waters; Finning prohibited	VA Marine Resources Commission Jack Travelstead Phone: 757/247-2247 Fax: 757/247-2020
NC			✓	✓	Billfish -NC Administrative Code tit. 15A, r.3M.0507 Sharks -NC Administrative Code tit. 15A, r.3M.0505	Billfish - Recreational possession limit - 1 Blue or White marlin/vessel/trip; 1 Sailfish/person/day; Minimum size - Blue marlin - 99"; White marlin - 66"; Sailfish - 63"; unlawful to sell or offer for sale Blue or White marlin and Sailfish Sharks - Director may impose restrictions for size, seasons, areas, quantity, etc.; Proclamations consistent with closures for LCS, SCS, and Pelagics	NC Division of Marine Fisheries Preston Pate Phone: 252/726-7021 Fax: 252/726-0254

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SC	✓		✓	✓	Tuna -SC Code Ann. § 50-5-2730 Billfish - SC Code Ann. § 50-5-1700 Sharks -SC Code Ann. § 50-5-2725	Tuna - Reference to ATCA and MSA regulations for Tuna Billfish - Unlawful to sell billfish; hook and line gear only; unlawful to possess while transporting gillnets, seines, or other commercial gear Sharks - Retention limit - 2 Atlantic sharpnose/per/day and 1 Bonnethead/person/day; No minimum size for recreationally caught bonnethead sharks; No need for Federal recreational angler permit to fish for shark in state waters; Reference to Federal commercial regulations and closures	SC Department of Natural Resources David Cupka Phone: 843/953-9050 Fax: 912/262-2318
GA			✓	✓	Gear Restrictions - GA Code Ann. § 27-4-7; Billfish - GA Code Ann. § 27-4-130.2; GA Comp. R. & Regs. § 391-2-4-.04 Sharks - GA Code Ann. § 27-4-130.1; GA Comp. R. & Regs. § 391-2-4-.04	Gear Restrictions - Use of gillnets prohibited in state waters for harvest of Sailfish, Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Sand Tiger shark, Small Composite shark, and shark in general Billfish -Possession prohibited in state waters Sharks - Daily limit 2; Possession limit 2 person/vessel (whichever less); Minimum size 48"; Limit 1 shark less than 84"; Sand tiger sharks daily/possession limit none; Closed season for Sand Tiger shark January 1-December 31; Small composite sharks daily limit 2 person/vessel (whichever less); Possession limit 2; Minimum size 30"; Reference to Federal creel and possession limits, minimum sizes, commercial quotas and permits.	GA Department of Natural Resources Henry Ansley Phone: 912/264-7218 Fax: 912/262-3143

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FL		✓	✓	✓	Sharks -FL Administrative Code Ann. r.68B-44.003 and -44.005; FL Administrative Cod Ann. r. 68B-33.0034	Billfish - Retention limit (Blue Marlin/White Marlin/Sailfish - Aggregate bag limit of 1fish/person/day; gear restriction (hook and line only); Minimum size limits (Blue Marlin - 99 in LJFL; White Marlin - 66 in LJFL; Sailfish - 63 in LJFL); Any Sailfish, Blue Marlin, or White Marlin caught in state waters must be reported to NOAA within 24 hours Swordfish - Minimum size - 47 in LJFL; Possession limit 1 fish/person/day or 3 fish/vessel/day; Sale prohibited Sharks - Retention limit - 1 shark/person/day; Maximum of 2 sharks/vessel (with two or more persons on board); Reference to Federal regulations regarding commercial season, closures, and prohibition on sale; Finning prohibited	FL Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Robert Kramer Phone: 850/488-6058 Fax: 850/488-7152
AL	✓	✓	✓	✓	Sharks - AL Administrative Code r. 220-2-.46, r.220-3-.30, r.220-3-.37	Tuna/Swordfish/Billfish/Sharks - Reference to Federal regulations Sharks - Recreational daily bag limit - 2 sharpnose/person/day; all other species - 1 fish/person/day; Recreational minimum size all sharks (except sharpnose) - 54" FL; Reference to shark commercial season and bycatch provisions	AL Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Major Jenkins

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LA	✓	✓	✓	✓	Tuna -LA Administrative Code tit. 76, § 361 Swords/Billfish - LA Administrative Code tit. 76, § 355 Sharks - LA Administrative Code tit. 76, § 357	Tuna - Recreational bag and possession limit Yellowfin (3 fish/person); Rec/Commercial minimum size -Yellowfin, Bigeye and Bluefin (27 in CFL) Billfish/Swordfish - Minimum size - Blue marlin (99 in LJFL), White marlin (66" LJFL), Sailfish (63 in LJFL), Swordfish (29 in carcass length or 33 lbs dw); Recreational creel limit - 5 swordfish/vessel/trip Sharks - Minimum size - 54" except sharpnose; Possession limit - 1 fish/vessel/trip; Trip limit 4,000 lbs dw LCS; Reference to Federal regulations	LA Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Randy Pausina Phone: 225/765-2889
MS	✓		✓	✓	Tuna/Billfish/Sharks - MS Code R. 43 000 040, Ord. 7.025	Tuna - Minimum size - Bigeye (27 in CFL); Yellowfin (27 in CFL); Bag limit none in commercial; Bag limit of 3 yellowfin tuna/person in recreational Billfish - No take provisions for commercially harvested Blue and White marlin and Sailfish; Recreational minimum size - Blue marlin (99 in LJFL); White marlin (66 in LJFL); Sailfish (63 in LJFL) Sharks - Recreational minimum size - LCS/Pelagics (37 in TL); SCS (25 in TL); Recreational bag limit - LCS/Pelagics (1/person up to 3/vessel); SCS (4/person)	MS Department of Marine Resources

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TX		✓	✓	✓	Billfish/Sharks - TX Administrative Code tit. 31, § 65.72	Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Sailfish, Sharks, Longbill spearfish, and Broadbill swordfish are gamefish and may only be taken with pole and line (including rod and reel) Blue Marlin, White Marlin, Sailfish, and Longbill spearfish may not be sold for any purpose Billfish - Bag limit none; Minimum size (Blue Marlin - 131 in TL; White Marlin - 86 in TL; Sailfish - 84 in TL) Sharks - Recreational retention limit 1 fish/person/day; Commercial/Recreational possession limit is twice the daily bag limit (i.e., 1 fish/person/day); Commercial/Recreational minimum size 24 in TL	TX Parks & Wildlife Randy Blankinship Phone: 956/350-4490 Fax: 956/350-3470

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