




UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Silver Spring, MD 20910

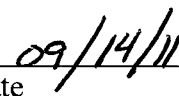
NMFS ANNOUNCES THE FINAL RULE TO ADJUST THE 2011 NORTH AND SOUTH ATLANTIC SWORDFISH QUOTAS

This final rule establishes the North and South Atlantic swordfish quotas for the 2011 fishing year (January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2011) to account for underharvests in 2010, and to transfer 18.8 metric tons (mt) dressed weight (dw) to Canada per the 2006, 2009, and 2010 International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) Recommendations 10-02 and 09-03. The 2011 North Atlantic swordfish baseline quota is 2,937.6 mt dw, and the final 2011 North Atlantic adjusted quota is 4,406.4 mt dw. The 2011 South Atlantic swordfish baseline quota is 75.0 mt dw; 75.2 mt dw of 2010 available underharvest in the South Atlantic were transferred to Côte d'Ivoire, Namibia, and Belize. Details of the adjustment can be found in Table 1 and in the final rule.

This notice is a courtesy to the HMS fishery participants to help keep you informed about the fishery. Official notice of Federal actions is made through filing such notice with the Office of Federal Register. For further information on this final rule and its requirements, contact Jennifer Cudney or Karyl Brewster-Geisz at 301-427-8503. Copies of the final rule and supporting documents are available upon request from the Highly Migratory Species Management Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (phone: 301-427-8503, fax: 301-713-1917). The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/>.



Fol Emily Menashes, Acting Director
Office of Sustainable Fisheries



Date

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Table 1 – Landings and Quotas for the Atlantic U.S. Swordfish Fisheries (2007 – 2011). Values are in metric tons of dressed weight (dw).

North Atlantic Swordfish Quota (mt dw)		2007	2008	2009	2010**	2011
Baseline Quota		2,937.6	2,937.6	2,937.6	2,937.6	2,937.6
Quota Carried Over		1,468.8	1,468.8	1,468.8	1,468.8	1,468.8
Adjusted quota		4,406.4	4,406.4	4,406.4	4,406.4	4,406.4
Quota Allocation	Directed Category	3,601.9	3,620.7	3,639.5	3,658.3	3,677.1
	Incidental Category	300.0	300.0	300.0	300.0	300.0
	Reserve Category	504.5	485.7	466.9	448.1	429.3
Utilized Quota	Landings	1,907.3	1,752.7	2,027.0	2,035.8**	TBD
	Reserve Transfer to Canada	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8	18.8
Total Underharvest		2,480.3	2,634.9	2,360.6	2,370.6**	TBD
Dead Discards		109.8	149.8	106.8	98.3	TBD
Carryover Available ⁺		1,468.8	1,468.8	1,468.8	1,468.8	TBD
South Atlantic Swordfish Quota (mt dw)		2007	2008	2009	2010**	2011
Baseline Quota		75.2	75.2	75.2	75.2	75.2
Quota Carried Over		75.2	75.2	75.2	0.0*	-0.2*
Adjusted quota		150.4	150.4	75.2	75.2	75.0
Landings		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2**	TBD
Carryover Available		75.2	75.2	75.2	75.0	TBD

+Underharvest is capped at 50 percent of the baseline quota allocation for the North Atlantic and 75.2 dw (100 mt ww) for the South Atlantic.

* Under 09-03, 100 mt ww of the U.S. underharvest and base quota, as necessary, was transferred to Namibia (37.6 mt dw, 50 mt ww), Côte d'Ivoire (18.8 mt dw, 25 mt ww), and Belize (18.8 mt dw, 25 mt ww).

** 2010 landings information is preliminary and is subject to change based on the 2011 ICCAT National Report.