

COMISION INTERAMERICANA DEL ATUN TROPICAL (CIAT)
INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION (IATTC)

IATTC REPORTING TEMPLATE. COMPLIANCE WITH RESOLUTION [C-23-07](#)
C-23-07 ON THE PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF SHARKS.

INSTRUCTIONS In the area of implementation there is 3 options to respond. Please consider the following options to respond in the selected option as following: YES.- <i>Where appropriate, responses should provide information on what or how measures are implemented through laws and/or regulations (including relevant licensing conditions) and how compliance is monitored and enforced. Please indicate the relevant dates of regulations entering into force and hyperlinks to relevant laws and regulations where available.</i> NO.- <i>Provide information to explain why the relevant obligation or recommendation has not been implemented, including any relevant plans or timelines for future implementation and a description of any barriers of challenges to implementation and how those might be overcome.</i> N/A.- <i>Provide a rationale as to why this obligation or recommendation is not applicable.</i>

Reporting CPC:	Date:
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REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
PAR. 3. <i>Members and Cooperating Non-Members (“CPCs”) should establish and implement a national plan of action for conservation and management of sharks, in accordance with the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks</i>
Has the CPC <u>established</u> a national plan of action (NPOA) for conservation and management of sharks, in accordance with FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
If the CPC has established and NPOA for sharks, has it been fully <u>implemented</u> ?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
PAR. 4. <i>CPCs shall take the necessary measures to require that their fishers fully utilize all retained catches of sharks, with the exception of those species for which a retention ban has been adopted by the IATTC.</i>
Has the CPC implemented measures to require fishers fully utilize all retained catch of sharks, with the exception of those species for which a retention ban has been adopted?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
If implemented, please describe how the CPC ensures compliance with this obligation, including monitoring or inspection efforts?

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Are all retained sharks fully utilized? Please describe the levels of compliance as estimated from the monitoring procedures described in the previous question.
PAR. 5. CPCs shall prohibit shark finning
Does the CPC prohibit shark finning, as defined in the Resolution?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
If “yes”, how does the CPC ensure compliance with this prohibition? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs.
Have you encountered any instances of non-compliance with this obligation? Please describe the levels of compliance as estimated from the monitoring procedures described in the previous question.
PAR 6. CPCs shall ensure that all sharks are landed with all fins naturally attached to the body. In order to facilitate on-board storage, shark fins may be partially sliced through and folded against the shark carcass as appropriate but shall remain naturally attached to the carcass until the first point of landing (see Annex 2).
Has the CPC implemented measures to ensure sharks are landed with fins naturally attached until the first point of landing?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
If “yes”, how does the CPC ensure compliance with this requirement? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs.
What percentage of shark landings does the CPC estimate that they inspect or otherwise monitor? Please describe the level of compliance observed (e.g. number or percent of sharks were landed with their fins naturally attached during the previous year).
PAR. 7. Until the end of 2026, notwithstanding paragraphs 6, and other provisions in this Resolution, CPCs may take alternative measures to ensure that individual shark carcasses and their corresponding fins can be easily identified on board the vessel at any time, using one of the following methods: (i) each individual shark carcass and its corresponding fins are stored in the same bag, preferably a biodegradable one (ii) each individual shark carcass is bound to the corresponding shark fins using rope or wire; or,

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(iii)	the shark fins and the corresponding shark are identically, uniquely, and numerically tagged in a manner that an authorized inspector can readily identify the matching of the shark fins to the corresponding shark.
Does the CPC allow the utilization of the alternative measures consistent with paragraph 7 of the Resolution?	
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.	
If “yes”, how does the CPC ensure compliance with these alternative measures? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs.	
Which of the three alternatives did the CPC allow during this reporting period? Describe how many vessels utilized the allowed alternatives during this reporting period (both in terms of absolute numbers and relative percent)?	
If the CPC allows the use of alternative measures to the “fins naturally attached” (FNA) requirement of paragraph 6 of the Resolution, please describe why implementing FNA during the reporting period was not possible. Please also describe the anticipated timeline for implementation of FNA, along with any barriers and challenges to implementing FNA and possible solutions.	
Par. 8. Fishing vessels are prohibited from retaining on board, transshipping, landing or trading of any fins harvested or that have been removed on board in contravention of this Resolution	
Has the CPC implemented a prohibition on the retention, transshipment, landing or trade of fins that harvested or removed in contravention of this measure?	
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.	
If “yes”, how does the CPC ensure compliance with this requirement? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs.	
PAR. 10. CPCs shall prohibit vessels targeting tuna and/or swordfish from using buoy lines.	
Has the CPC implemented measures to prohibit the use of buoy lines in tuna and swordfish target fisheries?	
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.	
If “yes”, how does the CPC ensure compliance with this requirement? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs.	
PAR. 11. CPCs shall require their vessels to promptly release unharmed all sharks (alive or dead) that are not retained, the extent practicable, as soon as they are seen on the line, entangled in the net, or brailled on the deck, taking due consideration the safety of any person on board, using the following	

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procedures when seen entangled in the net, disentangle the sharks and release them into the ocean as soon as possible sharks brailed on deck must be returned to the water as soon as possible, either utilizing a ramp from the deck connecting to an opening on the side of the vessel, or through escape hatches. If ramps or escape hatches are not available, the sharks must be lowered with a sling or cargo net, using a crane or similar equipment, or as indicated in Annex 3 or any future revisions, as identified pursuant to paragraph 12 prohibit the use of gaffs, hooks, or similar instruments for the handling of sharks prohibit the lifting of sharks by the head, tail, gill slits, or spiracles, or by using bind wire against or inserted through the body. Prohibit the punching of holes through the bodies of sharks (e.g., to pass a cable through for lifting the shark) prohibit the lifting of whale sharks (Rhincodon typus) onboard the vessel and prohibit the towing of whale sharks out of a purse-seine net, e.g., using towing ropes. leave the shark in the water, where possible use a line cutter to cut the branchline as close to the hook as possible, and so that less than 1 meter remains on the animal, to the extent practicable

Has the CPC implemented measures contained in paragraph 11 of the Resolution to require the prompt release of sharks not retained?

Answer **YES, NO, or N/A** and explain as indicated in the instructions.

Does the CPC provide training or other materials to crew regarding the safe handling and release of sharks? If “yes”, please describe.

How many sharks does the CPC estimate were released during this reporting period? Please segregate by gear type.

PURSE SEINE VESSELS:
How does the CPC ensure compliance with paragraph 11 with respect to purse-seine vessels? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs.

Answer **YES, NO, or N/A** and explain as indicated in the instructions.

PURSE SEINE VESSELS:
Do the CPC’s Purse-seine vessels use ramps connected to an opening on the side of the vessel, escape hatches, or a sling, or cargo net with a crane to facilitate release?

Answer **YES, NO, or N/A** and explain as indicated in the instructions.

PURSE SEINE VESSELS:
Does the CPC prohibit the use of gaff, hooks, or similar instruments for the handling of sharks on purse-seine vessels?

Answer **YES, NO, or N/A** and explain as indicated in the instructions.

If “yes”, how does the CPC ensure compliance with this prohibition? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs.

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LONGLINE VESSELS: How does the CPC ensure compliance with paragraph 11 with respect to longline vessels? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs.
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
LONGLINE VESSELS: Does the CPC require longline vessels to carry a line cutter?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
LONGLINE VESSELS: If “yes”, how does the CPC ensure compliance with this requirement? Please include descriptions of relevant monitoring and enforcement mechanisms and programs
PAR. 12. CPCs may elect to use the safe handling and release guidelines described in Annex 3 and as appropriate, the tools identified in Annex 3.1 of this Resolution.
Has the CPC elected to use the safe handling and release guidelines described in Annex 3 and the tools identified in Annex 3.1?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
PAR. 18. By 2027, CPCs will undertake, where possible, in cooperation with the IATTC scientific staff, actions to: a. identify ways to make fishing gears more selective, where appropriate, including research into alternative measures to wire leaders; b. improve knowledge of key biological and ecological parameters, life-history and behavioral traits, and migration patterns of key shark species; c. identify key shark mating, pupping, and nursery areas; and d. improve handling practices for live sharks to maximize their post-release survival
Please describe any actions the CPC has taken to implement paragraph 18 of the Resolution.

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PAR. 19. The Commission shall consider appropriate assistance to developing CPCs for the identification of shark species/groups and the collection of data on their shark catches
Does the CPC require capacity building assistance for the identification of shark species/groups and data collection on shark catches?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
PAR. 20. Each CPC shall annually report data for catches, effort by gear type landing and trade of sharks, by species where possible, in accordance with IATTC reporting procedures, including available historical data, of the fisheries under the purview of the Commission
Has the CPC reported catch and effort data by gear type, landings and trade data, consistent with paragraph 20, for fisheries under the purview of the Commission? Is reporting by species possible? Please include a description of any barriers or challenges to any elements of these reporting requirements.
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
Have you reported all relevant historical data described in paragraph 20?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
PAR. 21. CPCs are encouraged to provide aggregated information on trade, as available
Does the CPC provide to IATTC any aggregated data regarding trade of sharks or shark products?
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.
PAR. 22. CPCs shall also provide to the IATTC, through observer programs, electronic monitoring programs or other means, the species identification, the number and status (dead/alive) of all sharks caught, in accordance with applicable monitoring requirements, including those caught incidentally and/or released by purse seine vessels of all capacity classes and longline vessels.
Does the CPC provide the information described in paragraph 22 to the IATTC??
Answer YES, NO, or N/A and explain as indicated in the instructions.

Please send the completed form to compliance@iattc.org

IATTC 2025 Data Reporting

Date: 17th March 2025

Report	Resolution	Response
Management of Sharks species	C-23-07	Belize did not have any fishing vessels operating in the EPO during 2024. No data to report.

From: Delice Pinkard <delice.pinkard@bhsfu.gov.bz>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 1:54 PM
To: Monica Galvan <mgalvan@iattc.org>; Marisol Aguilar <maguilar@iattc.org>; Director <director@iattc.org>
Cc: Valerie Lanza <Valerie.Lanza@bhsfu.gov.bz>; Robert Robinson <robert.robinson@bhsfu.gov.bz>; Ernie Howe <ernie.howe@bhsfu.gov.bz>; Charles O. Coc <charles.coc@bhsfu.gov.bz>; Ian Constantino <Ian.Constantino@bhsfu.gov.bz>
Subject: Reporting Requirements for IATTC - 2024

Dear IATTC,

Greetings from Belize!

Regarding the IATTC reporting requirements for 2024, please kindly find the below report.

Reporting requirements	Resolution	Belize's Response
Shark Conservation Measures	C-05-03	Belize did not have any fishing vessels operating in the IATTC region in 2023. No information to report.

Your kind acknowledgment of receipt of this email will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

With kindest regards,



(Ms.) Delice S. Pinkard
Compliance and Enforcement Manager

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C-05-03	Conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries in the EPO	Annually by 1 May	Belize had no active fleet operating in the Convention area in 2022. All historical data on shark catches have been reported to the Secretariat.
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REF: COMPLIANCE WITH RESOLUTION C-05-03

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Resolution C-05-03, Belize adopted on 12th March 2015 its National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks on the High Seas in accordance with the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks.

This plan details Belize's high seas shark fisheries, its management system both institutional and legal structure and Belize's management measures and strategies for the effective management of sharks caught by Belize flagged fishing vessels.

Prior to the adoption of our NPOA-Sharks and thereafter, Belize has been proactive in passing specific shark-friendly legislation by first protecting the whale shark in 2003 and the Nurse Shark in 2011. The wasteful practice of finning, whereby the shark's fins are cut off and the animal discarded – often alive has been banned in Belize and throughout for Belize-registered high seas vessels in accordance with our High Seas Fishing Act, 2013. We also supported the resolution prohibiting the export of great and scalloped hammerhead products (*Sphyrna* spp) with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).

Belize has also issued legally binding circulars in respect to Whitetip shark consistent with IATTC Resolution on this specie, on Silky Sharks consistent with ICCAT Regulations and Hammerhead sharks consistent with all relevant RFMO regulations on this specie. All CITES endangered shark species are also prohibited from being targeted by Belize flagged vessels.

Belize has always ensured timely submissions of catch and effort data of sharks by gear type, species and landings. The current EPO fleet targets mainly Blue Sharks.

B E L I Z E

Report on the Implementation of Resolution C-05-03 and C-16-04

14 May 2018

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Resolution C-05-03, Belize is pleased to advise that on 12th March 2015 we adopted our National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks on the High Seas in accordance with the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks.

This plan explicitly details Belize's high seas shark fisheries, Belize's management system both the institutional and legal structure and Belize's management measures and strategies for the effective management of sharks caught by Belize flagged fishing vessels.

Prior to the adoption of our NPOA-Sharks, Belize has been proactive in passing specific shark-friendly legislation by first protecting the whale shark in 2003 and the Nurse Shark in 2011. The wasteful practice of finning, whereby the shark's fins are cut off and the animal discarded – often alive has been banned in Belize and throughout for Belize-registered high seas vessels in accordance with our new High Seas Fishing Act, 2013. Belize also proposed the finning-ban, the move to land sharks with fins partially attached and supported the resolution prohibiting the export of great and scalloped hammerhead products (*Sphyrna* spp) with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). Belize has also issued legally binding circulars in respect to Whitetip shark consistent with IATTC Resolution on this specie, on Silky Sharks consistent with ICCAT

Regulations on this specie and Hammerhead sharks consistent with all relevant RFMO regulations on this specie. All CITES endangered shark species are also prohibited from being targeted by Belize flagged vessels.

Belize has always ensured timely submissions of catch and effort data of sharks by gear type, species and landings. Silky sharks and blue sharks are mostly targeted by Belize vessels operating in the IATTC area and consist of small long line vessels of between 55-125 gt. Reports of our 2017 catches have already been submitted to IATTC prior to its due date.

BELIZE

Report on the Implementation of Resolution C-05-03 and C-16-04

12 July 2017

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of Resolution C-05-03, Belize is pleased to advise that on 12th March 2015 we adopted our National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks on the High Seas in accordance with the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks.

This plan explicitly details Belize's high seas shark fisheries, Belize's management system both the institutional and legal structure and Belize's management measures and strategies for the effective management of sharks caught by Belize flagged fishing vessels.

Prior to the adoption of our NPOA-Sharks, Belize has been proactive in passing specific shark-friendly legislation by first protecting the whale shark in 2003 and the Nurse Shark in 2011. The wasteful practice of finning, whereby the shark's fins are cut off and the animal discarded – often alive has been banned in Belize and throughout for Belize-registered high seas vessels in accordance with our new High Seas Fishing Act, 2013. Belize also proposed the finning-ban, the move to land sharks with fins partially attached and supported the resolution prohibiting the export of great and scalloped hammerhead products (*Sphyrna* spp) with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). Belize has also issued legally binding circulars in respect to Whitetip shark consistent with IATTC Resolution on this specie, on Silky Sharks consistent with ICCAT Regulations on this specie and Hammerhead sharks consistent with all relevant

RFMO regulations on this specie. All CITES endangered shark species are also prohibited from being targeted by Belize flagged vessels.

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