



NOAA Fisheries Service

Marine Mammal Protection Act

List of Fisheries

The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requires that every U.S. commercial fishery be placed in one of three categories, depending on the frequency of serious injury or mortality of marine mammals incidental to fishing operations.

Fisheries that have high levels of incidental serious injury/mortality of marine mammals are designated as Category I fisheries. Fisheries that have occasional marine mammal serious injury/mortality interactions are designated as Category II fisheries. Finally, those fisheries that have a remote or NO likelihood of serious injury/mortality of marine mammals are placed in Category III.

Together, the lists of fisheries in each category comprise the MMPA List of Fisheries. NOAA Fisheries Service reviews the best available information on marine mammal bycatch in U.S. fisheries for all coasts and publishes an official List of Fisheries in the *Federal Register* each year.

Depending on what category a fishery is placed in, participating fishermen must comply with different regulations designed to recover and sustain marine mammal populations. Fishermen participating in Category I and II fisheries must comply with applicable take reduction plans. For more information about fishery classification criteria as well as other information about the List of Fisheries, including the List of Fisheries publications from 1996 to the present, visit the NOAA Fisheries Service web page at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/lof/>. For more information on take reduction plans and regulations, contact NOAA Fisheries Service at 978-281-9300 ext 6505 (Northeast Region) or 727- 824-5312 (Southeast Region).

Atlantic, Caribbean & Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Affected by Take Reduction Teams and/or Plans

Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team & Plan

- Northeast sink gillnet
- Mid-Atlantic gillnet
- Southeast Atlantic gillnet
- Southeastern U.S. Atlantic shark gillnet
- Northeast/Mid-Atlantic American lobster trap/pot
- Northeast anchored float gillnet
- Northeast drift gillnet
- Atlantic blue crab trap/pot
- Atlantic mixed species trap/pot

Atlantic Trawl Gear Take Reduction Team

- Mid-Atlantic mid-water trawl (including pair trawl)
- Northeast mid-water trawl (including pair trawl)
- Mid-Atlantic bottom trawl
- Northeast bottom trawl

Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Team & Plan

- Atlantic blue crab trap/pot
- Mid-Atlantic gillnet
- North Carolina inshore gillnet
- Southeast Atlantic gillnet
- Southeastern U.S. Atlantic shark gillnet
- Mid-Atlantic haul/beach seine
- North Carolina long haul seine
- North Carolina roe mullet stop net
- Virginia pound net

Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Team & Plan

- Northeast sink gillnet
- Mid-Atlantic gillnet

Pelagic Longline Take Reduction Team & Plan

- Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean and Gulf of Mexico large pelagics longline