



Take Reduction Plan Fact Sheet for Atlantic Fisheries



Q: What are take reduction plans?

A: Take Reduction Plans (TRPs) are plans developed by teams of stakeholders, including commercial fishermen, to assist in the recovery or to prevent the depletion of marine mammals that are incidentally seriously injured or killed in Category I or II fisheries. They may include regulations and are often accompanied by non-regulatory conservation measures.

Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan (ALWTRP)

ALWTRP regulations are intended to reduce the risk of serious injury & mortality of large whales in commercial fishing gear, & have previously regulated American lobster trap/pot & gillnet gear. However, in 2007 the ALWTRP was modified, which amongst other measures, implemented regulations for other trap/pot fisheries including, but not limited to, those targeting conch/whelk, hagfish, red crab, scup, black sea bass, tautog, & Jonah crab. NOAA Fisheries Service also finalized additional requirements for lobster trap/pot & gillnet gear. **Although most requirements will be effective April 5, 2008, some regulations will become effective November 5, 2007, & a broad-based sinking &/or neutrally buoyant groundline requirement will become effective October 5, 2008.** Participants in these fisheries should have received a permit holder letter summarizing these modifications.



For more information about the current ALWTRP, as well as the recent modification to the ALWTRP, contact the ALWTRP Coordinator, Diane Borggaard, at (978) 281-9300, ext. 6503 or visit the ALWTRP web page at www.nero.noaa.gov/whaletrp. If you have questions about specific gear modifications, please contact the industry liaison for your area: John Higgins (207-677-2316) in New England or Glenn Salvador (757-414-0128) in the Mid-Atlantic.



Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan (HPTRP)

The Gulf of Maine & Mid-Atlantic components of the HPTRP remain in effect from Maine through North Carolina for Northeast sink gillnet & Mid-Atlantic gillnet fisheries. NOAA Fisheries Service recently launched a HPTRP Outreach & Education effort to remind gillnetters of the HPTRP requirements, provide pinger certification training &/or pinger refresher course for New England gillnetters, & update gillnetters on the status of the HPTRP. For more information, contact the HPTRP Coordinator, Amanda Johnson at (978) 281-9300, ext. 6513 or visit the HPTRP web page at www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/porptrp/. You may also contact the industry liaison for your area (listed above under ALWTRP) with specific questions about gear requirements.

Atlantic Trawl Gear Take Reduction Plan (ATGTRP)

NOAA Fisheries Service convened a take reduction team in 2006 to develop consensus recommendations for a take reduction plan to reduce the serious injury and mortality of pilot whales, common dolphins, & Atlantic white-sided dolphins from interactions with trawl fisheries. The team has met twice & is developing a Research Plan & an Education Plan as a part of efforts to reduce interactions between trawl fisheries & marine mammals. For more information, contact the ATGTRP Coordinator, Mark Minton at (978) 281-9300, ext. 6534 or visit the ATGTRP web page at www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/atgtrp.



Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Plan (BDTRP)

NOAA Fisheries Service convened a take reduction team in 2001 to address the serious injury & mortality of the Western North Atlantic coastal bottlenose dolphin stock incidental to nine Category I and II fisheries from New Jersey through the east coast of Florida. The final BDTRP was published on April 26, 2006 (71 FR 24776), with an effective date of May 26, 2006. For more information, contact the BDTRP Coordinator, Stacey Carlson at (727) 824-5312; contact the Southeast

Region Fishery Liaison, David Hilton (252)-928-9092, or visit the BTRP web page at www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/trt/bdtrp.htm.

Pelagic Longline Take Reduction Plan (PLTRP)

In June 2006, NMFS convened a take reduction team to develop consensus recommendations on a plan to reduce the serious injury and mortality of short-finned pilot whales, long-finned pilot whales, and Risso's dolphins in interactions with the Mid-Atlantic portion of the Atlantic pelagic longline fishery to insignificant levels. For more information, contact Laura Engleby: (727) 824-5312 or Kristy Long: (301) 713-2322, or visit the PLTRP web page at www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/trt/pl-trt.htm.



Q: *What Atlantic fisheries are impacted by Take Reduction Plans?*

A: The following table summarizes which Atlantic fisheries are affected by take reduction plans:

| Atlantic Fisheries Affected by Take Reduction Plans | |
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| <p>Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction 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 gillnet¹ Northeast drift gillnet¹ Atlantic blue crab trap/pot¹ Atlantic mixed species trap/pot¹</p> <p>Atlantic Trawl Gear Take Reduction Plan Mid-Atlantic Mid-Water Trawl (Including Pair Trawl) Mid-Atlantic Bottom Trawl Northeast Mid-Water Trawl (Including Pair Trawl) Mid-Atlantic Bottom Trawl Northeast Mid-Water Trawl (Including Pair Trawl) Northeast Bottom Trawl</p> | <p>Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction 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</p> <p>Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan Northeast sink gillnet Mid-Atlantic gillnet</p> <p>Pelagic Longline Take Reduction Plan Atlantic Pelagic Longline</p> |
| <p>¹Affected by Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan</p> | |

For more information on marine mammal & fisheries interactions visit NOAA Fisheries website
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/>