

DOGFISH ARE SHARKS TOO

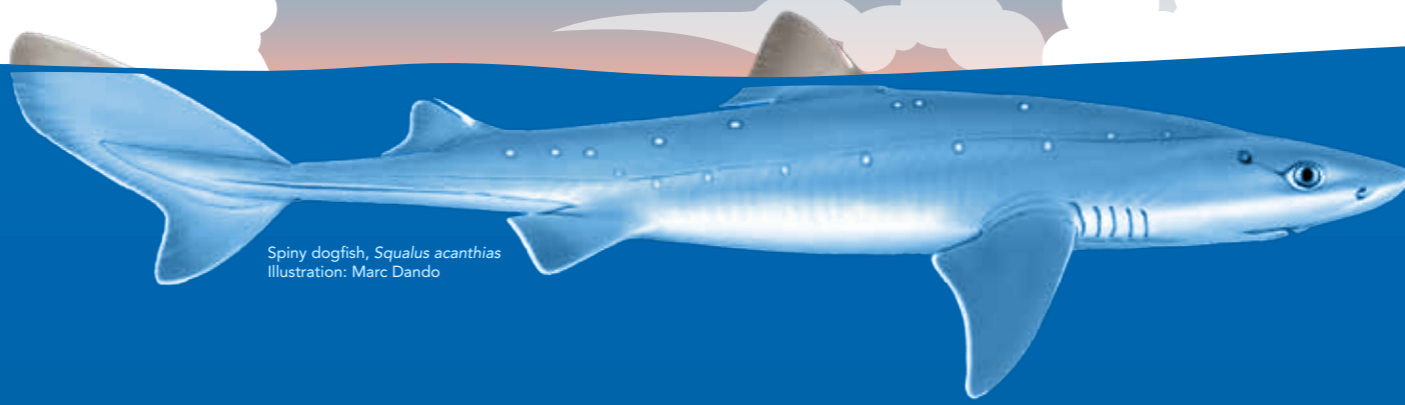


Coastal species often called "dogfish" need sound conservation policies and strict finning bans, just like bigger sharks.

Spiny and smooth "dogfishes" are among the world's **MOST HEAVILY FISHED** sharks.

Smooth dogfish are actually in the **SMOOTHHOUND** genus (*Mustelus*), not true dogfishes (Family Squalidae).

Smoothhound fisheries are managed in some places, but **UNREGULATED** in the US and EU as catches rise.



Spiny dogfish, *Squalus acanthias*
Illustration: Marc Dando

EU spiny dogfish fisheries have been closed due to serious DEPLETION.

UK shark catches are made up of mostly dogfishes (including smoothhounds)* which are sold as "rock salmon" in fish and chip shops.

Smoothhounds rank 4th in EU shark catches*, but are UNREGULATED.

Studies of Hong Kong fin trade auctions found that 39% of FINS by weight were from small, undifferentiated sharks, including dogfish.³

Spiny dogfish and smoothhound FINS retail for \$160/kg in Singapore markets.²

Most sharks taken in New Zealand fisheries are smoothhounds or spiny dogfish, and are managed with quotas*.

Australian fisheries for smoothhounds (also called "gummy shark" and "flake") are SUSTAINABLE thanks to strict management.

South Africa exports substantial, UNLIMITED amounts of smoothhounds to Australia for fish and chips.¹

Smoothhounds are commercially important in Argentina, ranked 5th in global shark catch*.

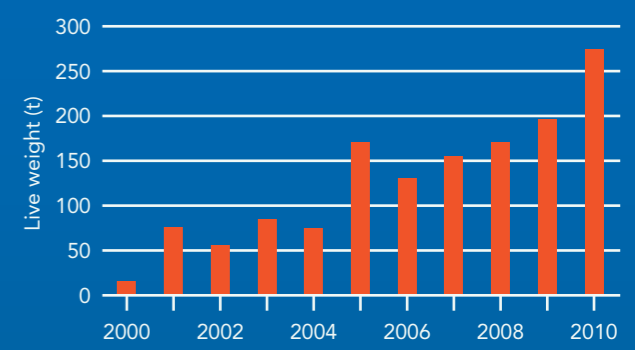
The US Shark Conservation Act singles out smooth dogfish for potential exceptions.

US Atlantic coastwise state ban on removing shark fins at sea EXCLUDES smooth dogfish.

US Atlantic spiny dogfish quotas have doubled in the time it takes the species to produce pups (TWO YEARS).

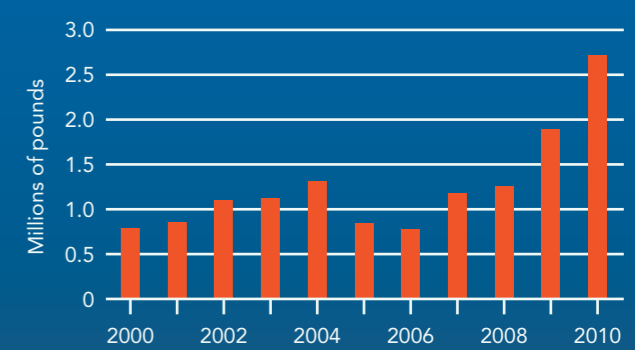
The smooth dogfish is the ONLY US Atlantic species that is targeted in commercial fisheries without fishing limits.

SMOOTHHOUND LANDINGS BY UK >10M VESSELS



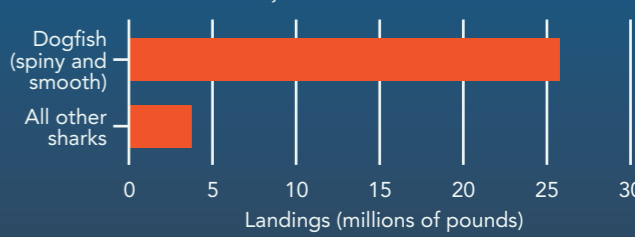
Source: Marine Management Organisations (UK)

US ATLANTIC SMOOTH DOGFISH (SMOOTHHOUND) LANDINGS

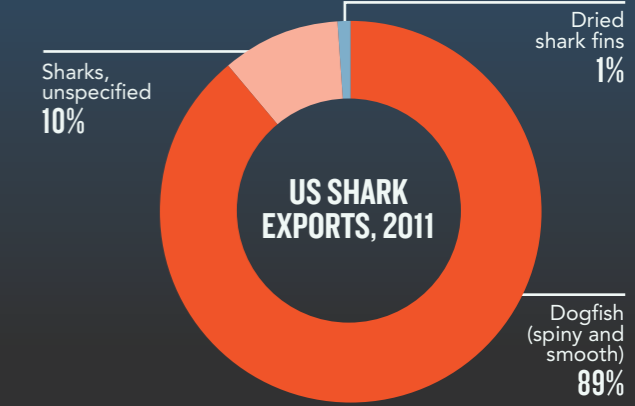


Source: Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program

US SHARK LANDINGS, 2011



Source: NMFS



Source: US NMFS Fisheries Statistics & Economics Division



Dusky smoothhound shark, also known as smooth dogfish, *Mustelus canis*.

Follow our efforts on Twitter by using **#dogfishRsharks2**

*See: Fischer, J., Erikstein, K., D'Offay, B., Guggisberg, S. & Barone, M. 2012. Review of the Implementation of the International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks. FAO Fisheries and Aquaculture Circular No. 1076. Rome, FAO.
¹ Da Silva, C and Burgener, M. 2007. "South Africa's Demersal Shark Meat Harvest". In: TRAFFIC Bulletin. TRAFFIC International. Cambridge UK.
² Clarke, S. 2005. Trade in Shark Products in Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand. Southeast Asian Development Center and ASEAN, Singapore.
³ Clarke, S., unpublished data.
 Learn more about dogfishes of all kinds at www.iucnredlist.org