The "National Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, Rays and Related Species in Mexico" (2004) includes a set of guidelines and permanent research programs, regulation, monitoring and education, to organize and optimize forms of utilization and conservation of the species in national waters.

**FISHERIES AND TRADE**

**Capture Fisheries Production**

- **National waters**
  - C. longimanus
  - Sphyrna spp.
- **International waters**
- **Industrial**
- **Small-scale**
- **Target** (95%)
- **By-catch** (5%)
- **Ecotourism**

**Target Specie (95%)**

- **C. longimanus**
- **Sphyrna spp.**

**Temporal Restrictions**

- NOM-029-PESC-2006 includes gear regulations and defines specific gear restrictions and gear prohibitions applicable to small, medium and large-scale fisheries for sharks by specific regions.
- NOM-023-SAG-PESC-2014 and NOM-001-SAG-PESC-2013 defines specific restrictions applicable to Tuna fisheries, where shark by-catch occurs.

**Product Form Restrictions**

- Finning as the main use of shark is prohibited, as well as landing fins without the bodies (NOM-029-PESC-2006).
- Finning of shark by-catch in longline tuna fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean Sea is also prohibited (NOM-023-SAG-PESC-2014).

**Participatory Restrictions**

- Licenses and authorizations are required for all types of fisheries and specific licenses are needed for fishing sharks and rays, all authorized fishing gears must comply with the NOM 029 (NOM-029-PESC-2006).

**Spatial Restrictions**

- Areas considered as shark and manta refugees, as well as areas banned in certain periods are defined in the NOM-029-PESC-2006, in the Pacific and Gulf of Mexico.

**Fishing Capacity**

- According to the NOM-029-PESC-2006 and the National Fisheries Charts (DOF/2000-2012) the total fishing effort authorized for the capture of sharks and rays should not increase.

**Other**

- The "National Action Plan for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, Rays and Related Species in Mexico" (2004) includes a set of guidelines and permanent research programs, regulation, monitoring and education, to organize and optimize forms of utilization and conservation of the species in national waters.

**Fish Trade and Commodity**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commodity (average 2006-2014)</th>
<th>Annual Average Export</th>
<th>Annual Average Import</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total sharks</td>
<td>Tonnes USD'000</td>
<td>Tonnes USD'000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>691</td>
<td>12 074</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4 139</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>7 559</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Management Measures**

**Capture Fisheries**

- Capture and retention of dead or alive Whale shark (Rhincodon typus), Basking shark (Cetorhinus maximus), Great white shark (Carcharodon carcharias) and Manta rays (Manta birostris, Mobula japonica, M. thurstoni, M. manxina, M. napostrata y M. tarapacana) are prohibited (NOM-029-PESC-2006).
- Total ban of Great white shark (Carcharodon carcharias) within all federal marine territory (DOF 27/01/2014).
- Catch, retention, transport and landing of Oceanic white tip shark (Carcharhinus longimanus) by Tuna fisheries is prohibited (NOM-001-SAG-PESC-2013).
- Retention of protected sharks and rays or within ban season and also an annual 20% by-catch limit for longline tuna fishing in the Gulf of Mexico for the following species as a group: Atlantic bluefin tuna, billfishes and sharks (NOM-023-SAG-PESC-2014).

**Finning of Shark**

- Prohibited (NOM-029-PESC-2006).

**Spaial Restrictions**

- Specific areas and periods, according with the available information provided by INAPESCA (ex. DOF 11/07/12; DOF 23/07/13; DOF 15/05/2014).

**Implementation Appendix II Listings**

- **CONAPESCA** (National Commission of Aquaculture and Fishing) is implementing a National Observers Program with certified scientific observers monitoring medium and large (industrial) fleet in the Pacific Ocean;
- August 2014, CONAPESCA notified to the main shark traders about new regulations for exporting specimens of Sphyra spp. included in the CITES Appendix II;
- October-November 2014, CONAPESCA made workshops in states of the Gulf of Mexico about applicable regulations, both nationally and internationally;
- December 2014 to April 2015, CONAPESCA made eight training courses in eight coastal states about applicable regulations and shark identification, to 270 rural fishermen;
- July 2015, CONABIO (National Commission for the Knowledge and Use of Biodiversity) as CITES Scientific Authority, carried out a national workshop ("Workshop to Evaluate Productivity, Susceptibility and Management on Mexican sharks listed on Appendix II of CITES"), as outcome, improved information to formulate NDF is available;
- Up to July 2015, CONABIO (CITES-SA) had issued 47 NDF (16 for S. lewini, 20 for S. mokarran and 11 for S. zygaena);
- July 2015 CITES Enforcement Authority (PROFEPA) are testing National ID Guides as well as the SharkFin software;
- CITES Enforcement Authority are sharing DNA samples as part of a pilot test of the Barcode of Life Project coordinated by UNAM and MEXBOL.

**Needs**

- Updated information on population size and trend of sharks populations in all Mexican coasts: Pacific and Atlantic;
- Capacity building on shark fin identification.

**Disclaimer:** The information, findings and conclusions in this poster are those provided by the relevant shark experts and CITES representatives in the country and do not necessarily reflect the views of the CITES Secretariat, the European Union, or UN.

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