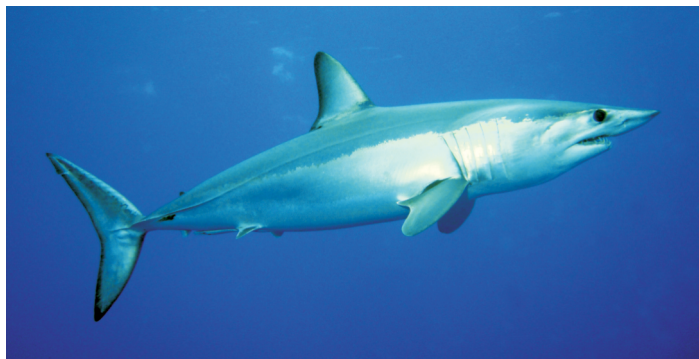


Shortfin Mako

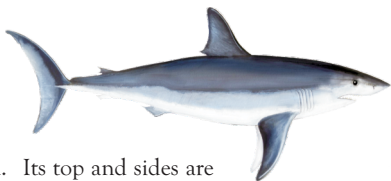
Isurus oxyrinchus



© PATRICK DOLL

Species Description

The Shortfin Mako shark reaches 3.5 m in length and is thickest in the middle (spindle shaped). It has bottom teeth that are visible even when the mouth is closed. Its top and sides are metallic indigo blue and the underside of its snout, pectoral fins, and undersides are white. It has two dorsal fins (the first is large, triangular and rounded and the second very small), slightly curved, pointed pectoral fins and a crescent-shaped tail (caudal fin). A distinct caudal keel is on the base of the caudal fin.



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Key ID Features: * distinct, single caudal keel * no white patch on dorsal fin

STATUS



Threatened COSEWIC

Not Listed

SARA

Highly migratory. Found offshore in tropical and temperate seas throughout the world. In the western North Atlantic, it is found from Bermuda to waters off Newfoundland. Typically visits Atlantic Canadian waters in the late summer and fall.

Population Range



147

Interesting Points

- Can undergo long migrations (more than 500 km) and sometime crosses oceans!
- The fastest sharks in the world and can maintain constant speeds of 35km/hr.



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Threats

- Mortality from direct and incidental fishing practices, including being caught as bycatch on longline fishing vessels (targeting tuna, swordfish, etc). Longline fishing has greatly increased over the last 60 years.



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Shortfin Mako teeth

Shortfin Mako release while testing bycatch mitigation gear with longline fishermen.

Learn how you can help on page 135.

Contacts, Information, Sighting Reports & Stewardship Opportunities

Contact: DFO Species at Risk 1-866-891-0771 or xmarsara@mar.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Info: Canadian Shark Research Lab: www.bio.gc.ca/sharks, www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes

Sighting Reports: Shark Identification Network: <http://sharkidnetwork.com>

Stewardship: ShARCC: <http://atlanticsharks.org>