



ATLANTIC SHARPNOSE

Rhizoprionodon terraenovae

A small coastal shark with a long-pointed snout and large eyes.

Grey-brown in colour, they have white edges on their fins. Older sharks also have small pale spots. Underneath they are white. This counter shading is common in sharks and helps to conceal them from predators, and prey, from both above and below.

Often found close to the surf-zone off sandy beaches. They can also be found in marine-brackish estuaries, enclosed bays and sounds.

They migrate seasonally, moving into deeper offshore waters in winter. In spring they return to inshore waters, where they give birth.

Females give birth every year, between May and July, to litters of 1-7 pups. These are born around 29-37cm.

These sharks reach sexual maturity between 2-4 years. And are thought to live at least 10 years.

FAST FACTS

SIZE:

Matures at:

♀ 85-90cm

♂ 80-85cm

Max: 110cm

DIET:

Mainly small fish.

RANGE:

Northwest Atlantic:
Canada to Gulf of
Mexico.

HABITAT:

Found off sandy
beaches, in estuaries,
bays & sounds. Depths
of 10-280m.

STATUS:

Least Concern

ATLANTIC SHARPNOSE THREATS

This abundant shark has a moderately high reproductive rate. So, they can withstand higher levels of fishing pressure than many other shark species. Because of this they're considered to have a low risk of extinction.

Yet, the amount of time they spend inshore makes them vulnerable to exploitation and habitat degradation.

- **FISHERIES** – In US waters they're fished for their meat and used as bait to lure larger sharks. Many are also caught as bycatch in nets intended for other species.
- **HABITAT DETRUCTION** – Caused by coastal developments and pollution.

SHARK*partners*



We're proud to be working with Shark SUPs to create positive change for sharks.

www.sharksups.com

3 WAYS TO HELP SHARKS

1. Sign up to our newsletter - keep up to date with all the latest news and campaign updates.
2. If you see a shark, record your sighting on our Sightings Database.
3. Join us in safeguarding the future of sharks by becoming a Shark Trust member.

Safeguarding the future of sharks - www.sharktrust.org