

**RESOLUTION 12/09****ON THE CONSERVATION OF THRESHER SHARKS (FAMILY ALOPIIDAE) CAUGHT IN ASSOCIATION WITH FISHERIES IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE**

APPLICABLE TO



CPC FLAG STATE



CPC COASTAL STATE

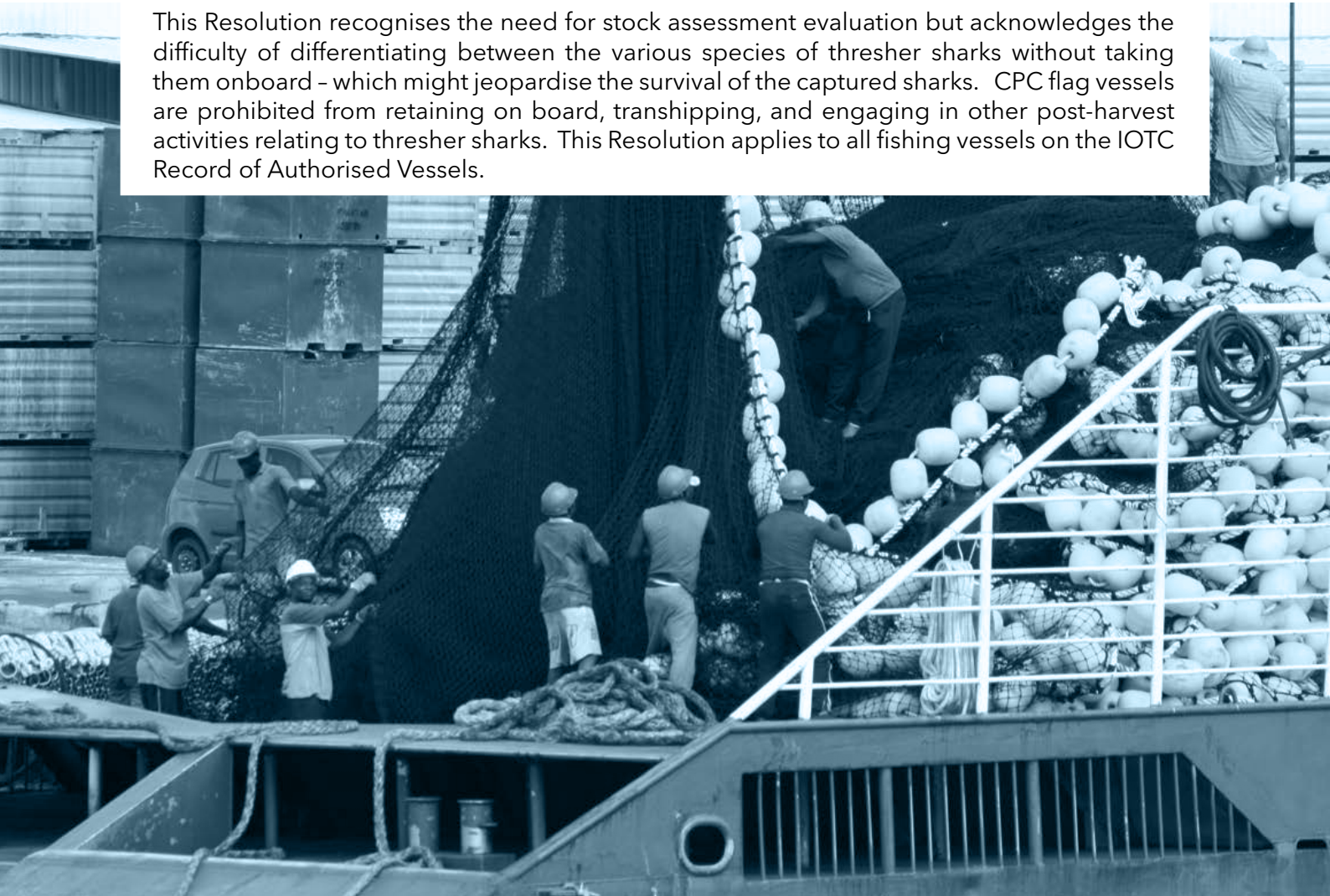


CPC PORT STATE



CPC MARKET STATE

This Resolution recognises the need for stock assessment evaluation but acknowledges the difficulty of differentiating between the various species of thresher sharks without taking them onboard - which might jeopardise the survival of the captured sharks. CPC flag vessels are prohibited from retaining on board, transshipping, and engaging in other post-harvest activities relating to thresher sharks. This Resolution applies to all fishing vessels on the IOTC Record of Authorised Vessels.

**REPORTING REQUIREMENTS**

This Resolution provides a limited number of technical and reporting requirements, most of which are directed to the flag State.

There is a data reporting requirement for CPCs whose vessels or fishermen catch thresher sharks. The requirement covers catch statistics and the applicable deadline for the reporting requirement is in Resolution 15/02 on Mandatory Statistical Requirements for IOTC CPCs.

The first reporting requirement below reflects the duty of CPC flag States to “encourage their fishers to record and report incidental catches as well as live releases”, and data is to be kept at the IOTC Secretariat. This is only a discretionary duty but in cases where reports are made, the information should be included in the national Scientific Report.

## WHO

CPC FLAG STATES

## WHAT

Report incidental catches, live releases of thresher sharks if reported by industry

CPCs, especially those directing fishing activities for sharks, to submit data for sharks as required by IOTC data reporting procedures (which include nominal catch, catch and effort and size frequency data)

## WHEN

### DEADLINE

15 days before the meeting of the Scientific Committee annually

### DEADLINE

To submit yearly data by 30 June annually

## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: FORMAT AND CONTENT

The content is taken from requirements that CPCs should encourage their fishers to record incidental catches and live releases of thresher sharks (para 4 and para 5 for recreational and sport fishers). More generally, data must be submitted by CPCs, especially those directing fishing activities for sharks, as required by IOTC data reporting procedures.

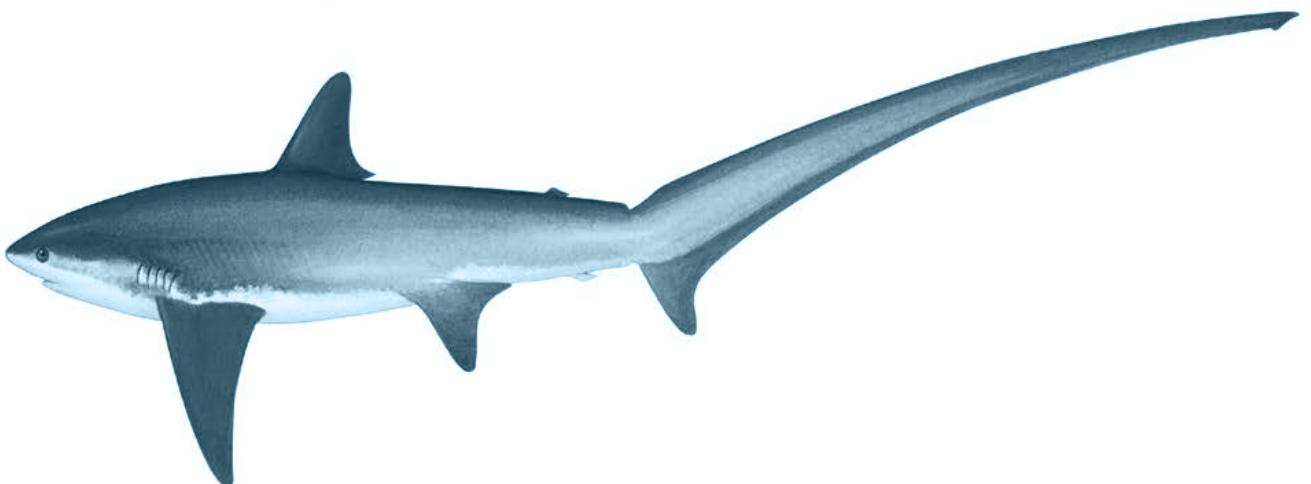
Detailed template reporting forms also covering shark catches have been developed by the Secretariat and Scientific Committee in Excel format. These forms cover data reporting requirements under resolution 15/02 on Mandatory Statistical Requirements and accommodate the reporting needs under this Resolution.

### REPORTING REQUIREMENT 1:

REPORT TO THE IOTC SECRETARIAT THE INCIDENTAL CATCHES AND LIVE RELEASES OF THRESHER SHARK BY FLAG VESSELS, IF REPORTED BY INDUSTRY. (PARA 4)

#### IMPLEMENTATION

- How to report: Reports on incidental catch, live releases of thresher shark data as may be provided by industry must be made under T9 in the National Scientific Report.
- Reporting format: Data must be submitted in specified file format. The National Scientific report form can be accessed under <https://www.iotc.org/science>
- Where to send the information: The data report should be sent to [iotc-secretariat@fao.org](mailto:iotc-secretariat@fao.org)



## REPORTING REQUIREMENT 2:

CPCS, ESPECIALLY THOSE DIRECTING FISHING ACTIVITIES FOR SHARKS, MUST SUBMIT DATA FOR SHARKS TO THE IOTC SECRETARIAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE IOTC DATA REPORTING PROCEDURES (WHICH INCLUDE REPORTING ON CATCHES, CATCH AND EFFORT AND SIZE FREQUENCY). (PARA 8)

### IMPLEMENTATION

- How to report: The specific data recording and submission guidelines, as provided within the applicable template forms should be followed.
- Reporting format: Data must be submitted in specified file format. The template spread-sheet form can be accessed under <http://www.iotc.org/data/requested-statistics-and-submission-forms> (forms 1RC, 3CE, 3AR, 4SF and 1DI)
- Where to send the information: The data report should be sent to [iotc-secretariat@fao.org](mailto:iotc-secretariat@fao.org)



## TRANSPOSITION INTO NATIONAL LAW

### PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

TO CONSERVE THRESHER SHARKS BY PROHIBITING RETENTION ON BOARD, ETC OF THEIR CARCASS AND REQUIRING THEIR RELEASE WHEN BROAD ALONGSIDE THE VESSEL AND TO RECORD INCIDENTAL CATCHES AND RELEASES (PARAS 2 AND 3)

- 1) The operator of any [country] registered vessel, including those used within or in areas beyond national jurisdiction [or any foreign fishing vessel in [country] waters]<sup>1</sup> shall:
  - a. not retain on board, tranship, land, store, sell or offer for sale any part or whole carcass of any thresher shark of all of the species of the family *alopiidae*, except for purposes of collection by scientific observers of biological samples from thresher sharks dead at haulback under a project approved by the IOTC Scientific Committee;
  - b. ensure that thresher sharks are promptly released unharmed, to the extent practicable, when brought along side for taking on board the vessel; and
  - c. record, or cause to be recorded incidental catches as well as releases of thresher sharks.

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<sup>1</sup> Optional and where country's waters are within the IOTC area.



## COOPERATION REQUIREMENTS

None in this Resolution.

## OBLIGATIONS OF THE INDUSTRY

CPCs must encourage industry to report details on incidental catches and live releases of thresher sharks to their flag State authorities.

## OBLIGATIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT

The data on incidental catches and live releases of thresher sharks is to be kept at the IOTC Secretariat.

## OBLIGATIONS OF THE COMMISSION & BODIES

None in this Resolution.



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