

EU SHARK RALLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 3



MAKE TIME FOR MAKOS

There are just **5 days to go** until the ICCAT Parties submit their mako management proposal for discussion ahead of the July intersessional meeting! Thank you again to all of you who have made time for makos. - **Let's not stop now!**

Events and activities have been inspired by the Rally, and we've been keen to hear what you've been up to. If you've been rallying for makos, please shout it out on social media, tagging in the Ministers in your country. Check out the Rally4Makos microsite for templates, resources, and ideas.

One such event is happening on May 11 - *Make or Break for Makos* - is a **free webinar** arranged by the Humane Society International/Europe, and hosted by Portuguese MEP Francisco Guerreiro. We're delighted to have been invited to present the issues to the delegates and contribute to a panel discussion and Q&A. With the EU's Head of Delegation for ICCAT, Anders Jessen, also on the panel we're looking forward to a lively debate!

Please **keep up the pressure**, and show the European Commission why they should #MakeTime4Makos!



Ali Hood
Director of Conservation
The Shark Trust

THE EU & MAKOS

The EU has the highest mako landings in the world. Its major role in North Atlantic mako depletion brings responsibility to take the lead in reversing declines.

In June 2019, ICCAT scientists warned that shortfin makos in this ocean basin will continue to decline for the next fifteen years and that catches need to be cut by an order of magnitude from recent levels just to have a decent chance of rebuilding by 2050. Hence, they recommend a **complete prohibition on retention and measures to minimize incidental mortality**.

It is vital that the EU heed scientific advice, and secure immediate, domestic and international bans on North Atlantic mako fishing.

MAY TOP 3 ACTIONS

1. Click to Tweet and use **#Rally4Makos** in your social posts to join the online conversation

 **Click to tweet**

2. **Keep the pressure on!** Click to send an email to Government Officials from the Fisheries Ministry in your home country

 **Click to send an email**

3. **Add your logo** to the growing list of #Rally4Makos participants





Sonja Fordham

President of Shark Advocates
International - Shark League Partner

“Vocal, sustained support for shark conservation from the public is not only truly meaningful; it's essential for creating a brighter future for these extraordinary animals.”

What's the situation in a nutshell?

North Atlantic shortfin makos are in dangerous decline due to overfishing by multiple countries.

Continued landings from the endangered population:

- Run counter to scientific advice for a non-retention policy “without exception”
- Create incentive for irresponsible fishing practices that cause stress and ensure mortality, and
- Further delay a multidecadal recovery.

Is banning the retention of a shark species a big step for ICCAT?

Prohibiting retention is by far the most common, species-specific shark conservation measure adopted by the world's Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs). Starting in 2009, ICCAT has banned retention of bigeye thresher, oceanic whitetip, silky, and several species of hammerhead sharks. ICCAT took these actions based on significantly less information than is available for shortfin makos.

NGO TEMPLATE LETTER

Not contacted your Ministry yet? Download the template Letter to share your concern about the European's lead role in the continuing depletion of shortfin mako sharks or **contact info@sharkleague.org to sign on to the Rally4Makos Letter.**

[Download Now](#)

