Documentation for the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries catch rate series (NC#)

Originally presented as part of the Report of the Shark Evaluation Workshop Appendix 1994

North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries Data

North Carolina, Division of Marine Fisheries, conducted a fishery dependent survey of directed shark longline trips from March 1988 through April 1992. The survey data have 53 observations (trips) and consist of total weight (kg), number of sharks, total fin weight (kg), days fished, number of sets, number of hooks, miles per set, soak time, location, depth, and discard information. Data were collected from 6 vessels. These data are presented at the end of this report.

A General Linear Model Procedure was performed upon the data testing for year, wave (2 month periods), miles per set, and hooks per mile of longline set. CPUE was computed either as kg or number of fish per 10,000 hook hours. One observation (trip) was omitted due to inconsistent gear and methods used in fishing. Results of these analyses are presented at the end of this Appendix. The indices resulting were believed to represent the large coastal shark complex fished by these vessels. For the index based on kg, the estimated mean catch rate in 1989 was greater than in other years. For the index based on number of fish, the 1989 value was again higher than subsequent years; in addition, the 1988 value was higher than 1990-1992. In this analysis, there appeared some tendency for an increase in the number of fish caught per unit effort over the last years of the time period (1990-92), although the catch rate values were not statistically different from one another. A result similar to this (constant biomass/effort and increasing numbers/effort) could be consistent with a tendency to land more small sharks in 1992 compared to 1990.

- From Per Properties - From Per Properties Report of the Shark Evaluation Workshop - Appendix March 14-18, 1994

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