



NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
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NOAA finds federal protection of northeastern Pacific Ocean white shark not warranted at this time

NOAA Fisheries today issued a final determination that the northeastern Pacific Ocean white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*) population is not in danger of extinction and does not warrant listing under the Endangered Species Act.

NOAA Fisheries reviewed the status of this white shark population in response to two separate petitions submitted last year to list the species under the act. The requests contained enough information for NOAA Fisheries to convene a biological review team to more fully assess the status of the population.

The team, composed of eight federal research scientists, found this white shark population meets the criteria to qualify as a distinct population segment or DPS under the act, which allows the species or sub-species to be considered for listing. The known range of the northeastern Pacific white shark DPS extends from the Bering Sea to Mexico along the West Coast of North America and westward to the Hawaiian Islands. (See Map Below)

However, based on the information compiled by the team and a careful look at the best available science, NOAA Fisheries determined that this white shark population has a low to very low risk of extinction now and in the foreseeable future. The extinction risk analysis was based on a review of threats to the population, direct and indirect indicators of population abundance trends, information on population abundance, and population modeling aimed at analyzing the impact of fisheries bycatch in the U.S. and Mexico.

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How species are listed under the Endangered Species Act: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/listing/>