



Serial No. N7221

NAFO/COM Doc. 21-11  
[Adopted]

**43<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF NAFO - SEPTEMBER 2021**

**Observer Data Collection**

Article 30.14(j) requires NAFO observers to “record the number, estimated weight, length (estimated if measured length is not possible) sex, and catch disposition (alive, dead, unknown) for each individual Greenland shark per haul or set.” Modifications to Annex II.M, Standardized Observer Report Template, were made at the 2019 NAFO Annual Meeting to accurately collect this required information on Greenland shark. Com. Doc. 19-19.

Currently, extensive auditing is required to allow Scientific Council members to use the Greenland shark catch data collected by NAFO observers due to incorrect reporting, including not reporting the data in English. To improve the quality of these data and to expedite the use of such data by the NAFO Scientific Council, we propose the following modifications to Article 30 and Annex II.M. An example of correct data reporting of individual Greenland shark catches is shown below for three hauls/sets.

***Article 30 – Observer Program***

***Duties of the Observer***

*14. Each Contracting Party shall ensure that observers assigned to their vessels shall, at a minimum, perform the duties listed below:*

*(a) record for each haul/set, in the format indicated in Annex II.M, hereafter referred to as the observer trip report:*



**Annex II.M Standardized Observer Report Template**

**Part 5. Catch of Greenland Shark Information by Haul** *Data for Each Greenland Shark Caught per Haul*

Tow/Set Number	Total Number of Greenland Sharks in <u>Haul/Tow/Set</u>	Shark Number	Estimated Weight (kg live weight)	<i>Total</i> Length (cm, from tip of snout to tip of tail fin)	Length Measured (M) or Estimated (E)?	Sex (M if male, F if female, U if unknown)	Catch Disposition (A if alive, D if dead, U if unknown)	Comments (in English to the extent possible)
1	3	1	200	152	M	M	D	calcified claspers
1	3	2	400	170	E	U	U	not brought onboard vessel
1	3	3	600	286	M	F	D	
2	1	1	1,000	317	M	F	D	
3	1	2	600	291	M	M	A	
3	2	2	700	299	M	M	D	badly entangled in net

