

W. ATLANTIC OCEAN DISTRIBUTION

Circumglobal populations in coastal warm temperate to tropical waters from Nova Scotia to S. Brazil and the Gulf of Mexico and Caribbean. Migrate north in summer in general but also offshore as adults. ^{i, v}

SPECIES CHARACTERISTICS

IDENTIFICATION

- 1 No dorsal ridge
- 2 Crescent-shaped tail
- 3 Head hammer-shaped and may be convex or straight
- 4 Strong indentation at tip of snout
- 5 1st dorsal fin broadly triangular with straight or slightly falcate rear margin
- 6 Pelvic fin weakly falcate ^{ii, v}

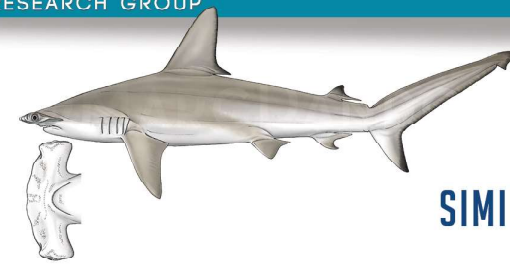
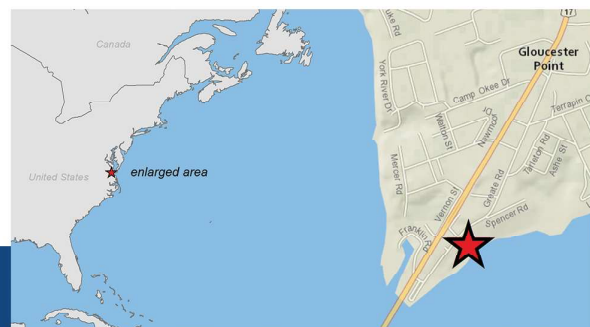
MAXIMUM SIZE

Females up to 10.1 feet (3.1 m) and males up to 9.7 feet (3.0 m) ⁱⁱⁱ

HABITAT

Inhabits coastal and semi-pelagic waters over continental shelves and in deep waters from the intertidal down to 275 m depths. Juveniles occur in high concentrations in bays and estuaries during summer and adults form large schools to migrate. ^{i, iii}

FOR MORE INFORMATION



SIMILAR SPECIES ^{III, IV}

SMOOTH HAMMERHEAD

S. ZYGAEWA

head broadly convex →

GREAT HAMMERHEAD

S. MOKARRAN

1st dorsal fin tall and narrowly pointed, strongly falcate

pelvic fin strongly falcate

BONNETHEAD

S. TIBURO

head broadly rounded, not hammer shaped →

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