

W. ATLANTIC OCEAN DISTRIBUTION

Widespread in continental warm waters from Massachusetts to S. Brazil, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean, migrates north seasonally as far as Cape Cod and is common year round in the Southeast U.S. ^{i, v}

SPECIES CHARACTERISTICS

IDENTIFICATION

- 1 No dorsal ridge
- 2 2nd dorsal fin origin over or behind anal fin origin
- 3 Pointed snout
- 4 Black tips on pectoral fins and tail, distinct Z-line on sides
- 5 No black tip on anal fin
- 6 Snout length same or shorter than mouth width ^{ii, iii}

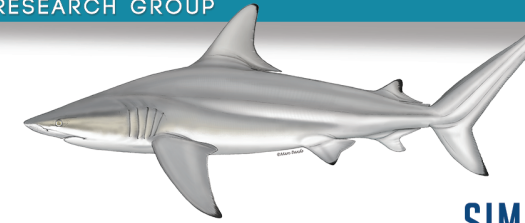
MAXIMUM SIZE

Females up to 6.3 feet (1.93 m) and males up to 5.7 feet (1.75 m) ⁱⁱⁱ

HABITAT

Nearshore and offshore in loose aggregations up to 30 m depth, off beaches and river mouths, in bays and estuaries, and over coral reefs. ^{i, iii}

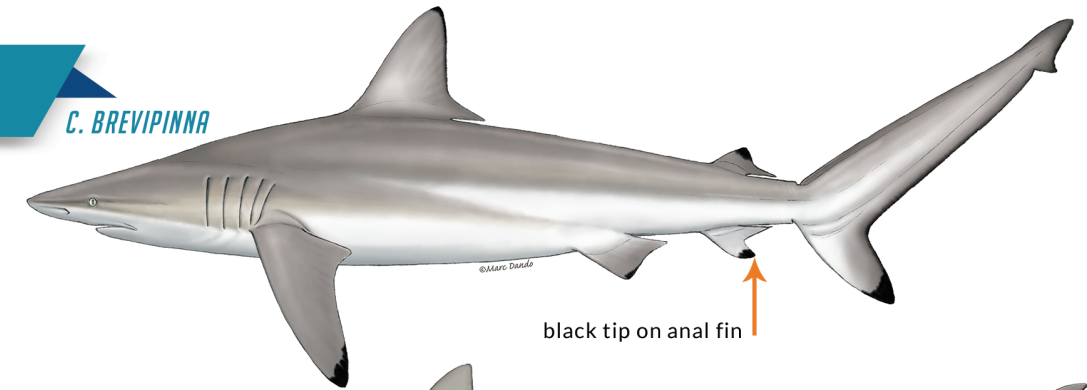
FOR MORE INFORMATION



SIMILAR SPECIES ^{III, IV}

SPINNER SHARK

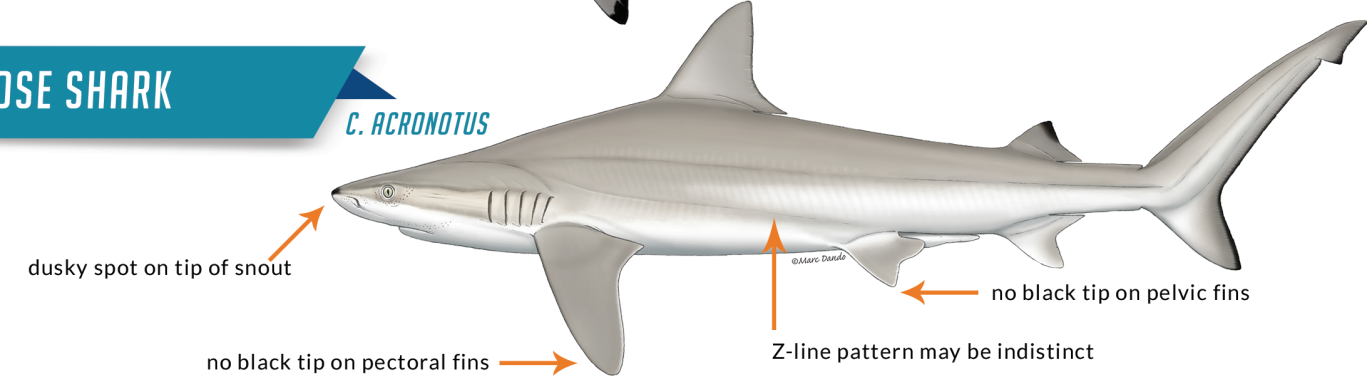
C. BREVIPINNA



black tip on anal fin

BLACKNOSE SHARK

C. ACRONOTUS



dusky spot on tip of snout

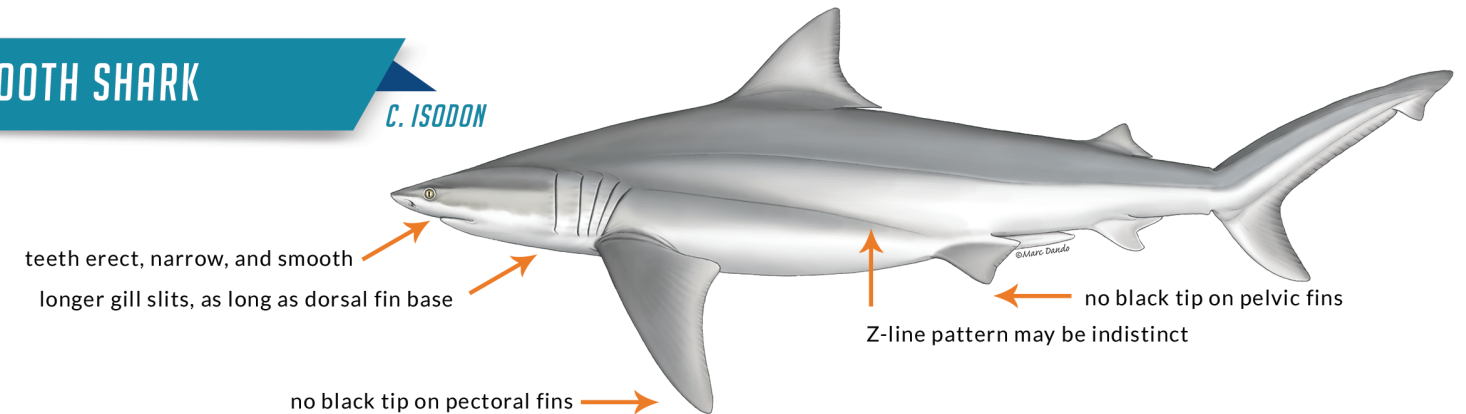
no black tip on pectoral fins

no black tip on pelvic fins

Z-line pattern may be indistinct

FINETOOTH SHARK

C. ISODON



teeth erect, narrow, and smooth

longer gill slits, as long as dorsal fin base

no black tip on pectoral fins

no black tip on pelvic fins

Z-line pattern may be indistinct

REFERENCES

- i. Burgess, G. H. & S. Branstetter. 2009. *Carcharhinus limbatus*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2009: e.T3851A10124862. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2009-2.RLTS.T3851A10124862.en>. Downloaded on 29 June 2017.
- ii. Burgess, G.H. 2017. Field Key to Sharks Encountered in the U.S. Atlantic Bottom Longline Shark Fishery and by Recreational Anglers, Florida Museum-University of Florida. www.floridamuseum.ufl.edu/fish/discover/sharks/id-key-sharks/
- iii. Compagno, L.J.V. 1984. FAO species catalogue. Vol. 4. Sharks of the world. An annotated and illustrated catalogue of shark species known to date. Part 2. Carcharhiniformes. FAO Fish. Synop., (125) Vol. 4, Pt. 2: 251-655.
- iv. Driggers, W. B. III, E. R. Hoffmayer, J. I. Castro, K. S. Davis, M. Clark, and P. Cooper. 2016 National Marine Fisheries Service. <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms>
- v. Kaschner, K., K. Kesner-Reyes, C. Garilao, J. Rius-Barile, T. Rees, and R. Froese. 2016 AquaMaps: Predicted range maps for aquatic species. World Wide Web electronic publication, www.aquamaps.org. Version 08/2016.

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