

Albion Committed to Offering Sustainable Items, No Longer Selling Shark

As part of our ongoing commitment to our Living Goals and Seafood Sustainability Procurement Policy, we have decided to no longer offer Shark at Albion. In the past we have sold Mako and Thresher Shark but data now shows shark populations to be on the decline. For this reason and the reasons outlined below, Albion Fisheries will no longer offer Fresh or Frozen Shark until a sustainable fishery is developed.

- 1.** Sharks are overfished, and there has been a drastic decline in shark populations to an estimated 10 per cent of biomass since the beginning of industrial fishing. Porbeagle is listed as vulnerable on the IUCN red list. Shortfin Mako is designated as threatened under COSEWIC
- 2.** Half of all the sharks killed each year are caught accidentally in fishing gear intended for other fish. Some shark species are caught by illegal (pirate) fishing. Bycatch is the primary cause of death for Shortfin Mako in the North Atlantic.
- 3.** Sharks are caught by a variety of destructive fishing methods such as long lining and bottom trawling. These methods are associated with high unintentional catch (bycatch) of other fish species, as well as endangered turtles, marine mammals, and seabirds.

As a leader in offering Sustainable options to our customer base, we will continue to look at all un-sustainable products we offer and continue to search for viable alternatives that we can support.

We hope everyone is proud of the initiative we are taking as it's these types of decisions that will ultimately insure our long-term viability. We are committed to creating a company culture that is not only focused on our company's obligation to profitability, customer service, product quality and employee health and welfare, but also on creating an organization purposefully committed to long term sustainability and corporate social responsibility.