

Rare landing of Longfin mako shark

Mako sharks are fast-swimming pelagic sharks that migrate through tropical and temperate seas of the world. The shortfin Mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) and longfin Mako (*Isurus paucus*) are the two species that represent the genus *Isurus* belonging to Lamnidae family. Mako sharks are targeted mainly by commercial long-line and hook and line fisheries in the offshore deeper regions of the oceans, throughout their distribution range. Globally, the Mako sharks are assessed as Endangered according to the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. In 2008, they were also listed in Appendix II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) as a step towards regional scale conservation of these species. Sporadic occurrences along the west and east



coasts, as a bycatch in mechanized drift gillnet-cum-longliners and trawlers are reported from India. *Isurus paucus* looks similar to *I. oxyrinchus*, but can be differentiated by the longer pectoral fins which are as long as head or even longer, relatively broad-tipped in young and adults. On 18th November 2021, a female longfin mako shark (123 cm total length, TL, 11 kg, immature) caught by

an offshore long-liner fishing unit was landed in Beypore Fisheries Harbour. Morphological characteristics viz, long pectoral fins (head to pectoral fin ratio, 1: 1.1) with relatively broad-tipped or short, bluntly pointed snout confirmed the specimen as *Isurus paucus*.

V. Mahesh*, K. Vinod, P.K. Asokan, Ramya Abhijith, M. Vijisha, T. Rajeshbabu and P.V. Gopalan | Calicut Regional Station of ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute.