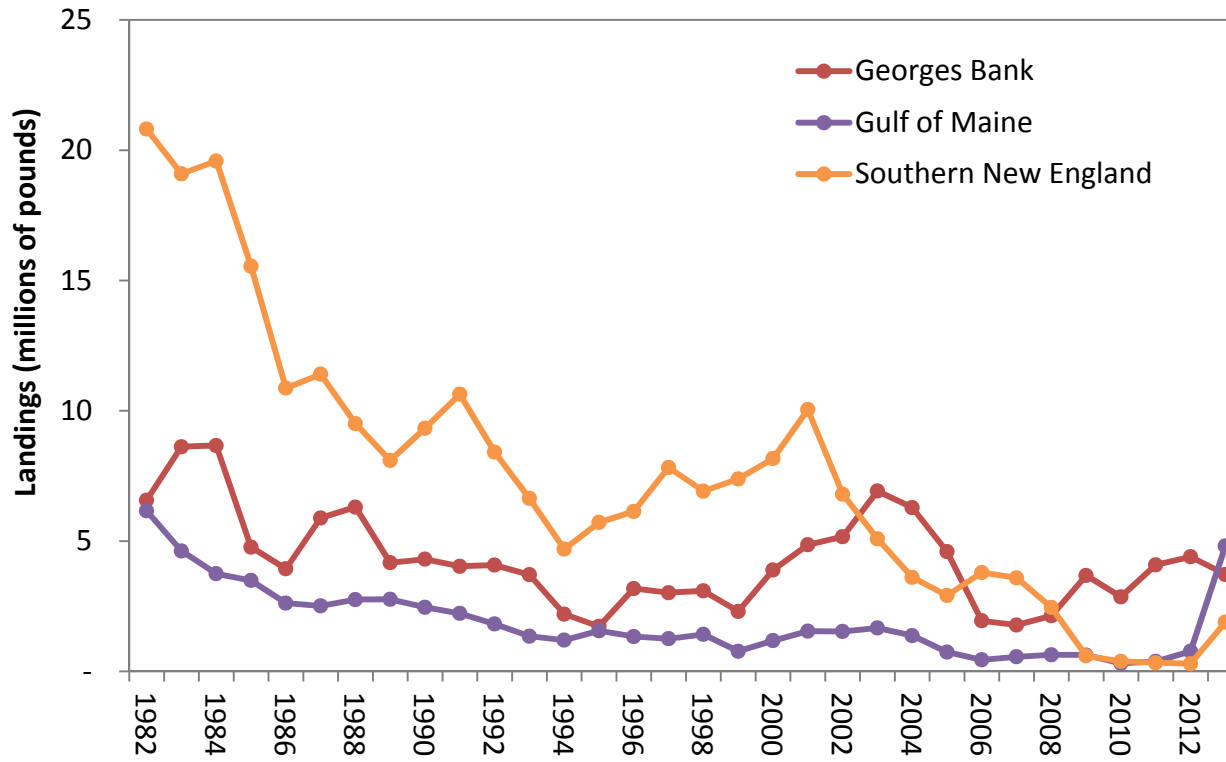


Overview of Stock Status
Winter Flounder, *Pseudopleuronectes americanus*
Winter Flounder Commercial Landings by Management Area
 Northeast Fisheries Science Center, 2014



SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND/MID-ATLANTIC STOCK

Management Considerations:

Condition: Overfished and overfishing is not occurring. Stock is at 16% of target SSB.

FMP Stock Rebuilding Goals:

F Target (75%FMSY) = 0.217 SSB Target (BMSY) = 96.2 mil.lbs (43,661 mt)

F Threshold (FMSY) = 0.29 SSB Threshold (½SSBMSY) = 48.1 mil.lbs (21,831 mt)

GULF OF MAINE STOCK

Management Considerations:

Condition: Overfished status is unknown and overfishing is not occurring*

FMP Stock Rebuilding Goals:

* The SAW/SARC GOM analytical assessment model was not accepted, BMSY and FMSY are unknown, and consequently the F and SSB targets could not be generated. A proxy F Threshold was derived from a length-based yield per recruit analysis. The overfishing status is based on the ratio of 2010 catch to survey based swept area estimate of biomass exceeding 30 cm in length.

FMP Status:

FMP & Addendum I (1992); Addendum II (1998); Amendment 1 (2005); Addendum I (2009); Addendum II (2012); Addendum III (2013)

Primary Management Measures:

Winter flounder are managed as two separate stocks in state waters: Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic (SNE/MA) and Gulf of Maine (GOM), with commercial and recreational specifications set annually by the management board (Addendum III, 2013). In 2014, the Board maintained commercial and recreational management measures for the GOM and SNE/MA stock, with an extension to the SNE/MA recreational season to be open from March 1 through December 31. Currently, the possession limit for non-federally permitted commercial fishermen is 500 lbs per trip in the GOM (Addendum II, 2012) and 50 lbs or 38 fish in SNE/MA. Gear requirements mandate use of a minimum 6.5" square or diamond mesh in the cod-end. Recreational measures include possession limits and seasons. For the SNE/MA, there is a two fish recreational bag limit with a 12-inch size limit. In GOM, the recreational measures are an eight-fish bag limit and 12-inch size limit.