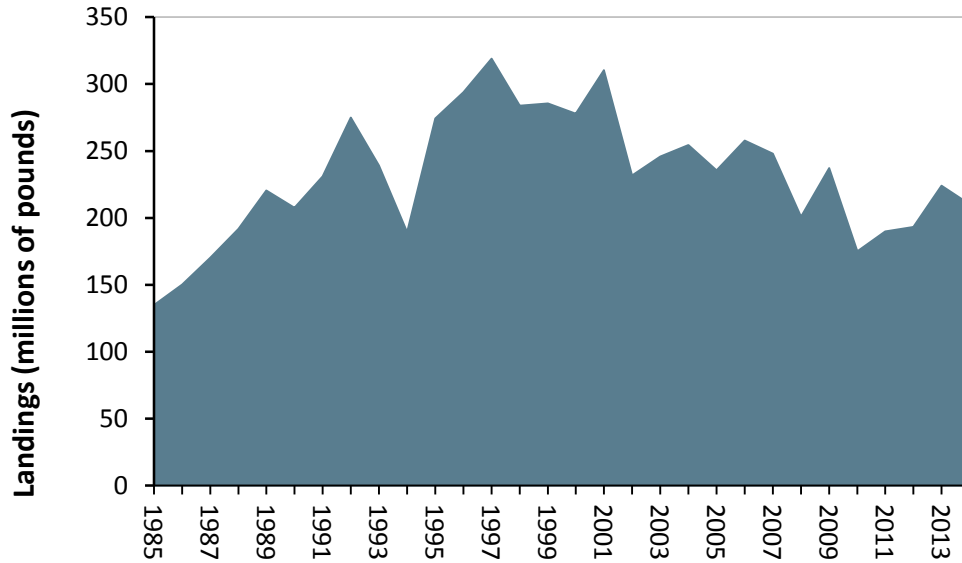


Overview of Stock Status Atlantic Herring, *Clupea Harengus*

Atlantic Herring Commerical Landings

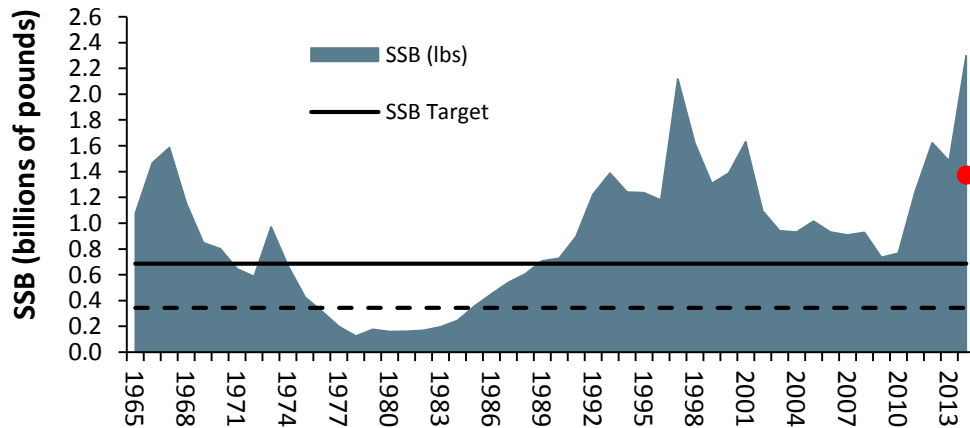
Source: ACCSP Data Warehouse, 2015



Atlantic Herring Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB)

Source: Northeast Regional Stock Assessment Update, 2015

The red dot represents the 2014 retrospective adjusted value, retrospective adjustments are not applied to the entire time series.



Management Considerations:

Condition: Not overfished and overfishing is not occurring. SSB rebuilt.

FMP Reference Points and Current Values:

SSB Target = 311,145 (685 million lbs)

SSB Threshold = 155,573 mt (342 million lbs)

2014 SSB = 623,000 mt

Fishing Mortality Threshold (F_{MSY}) = 0.24

2014 F = 0.16

FMP Status:

Amendment 2 was developed to achieve optimum yield on a continuing basis for the US fishery and to prevent overfishing of the Atlantic herring resource. Technical Addendum I clarifies zero tolerance spawning closures. Addendum I gives the Section the flexibility to distribute the Area 1A quota seasonally. Addendum II modified the process to set specifications and the definitions used to set the specifications. Addendum V refined and clarified the spawning regulations through a comprehensive addendum. Addendum VI complemented the federal Atlantic Herring FMP's Framework 2 by allowing consistent measures for the four management areas: seasonal splitting of annual catch limit sub-components, up to 10% carry-over of unused sub-ACLs, triggers to close directed fisheries, and using the specifications process to set triggers. Section has initiated development of Amendment 3 to address spawning area boundaries and closures in Area 1A, a fixed gear set-aside rollover provision, declaration of fishing gear and a requirement for a vessel's hold to be emptied of fish before a fishing trip departure.

Primary Management Measures:

Annual total allowable catch is determined based on the optimum yield of the coastal stock complex and divided between 4 management areas. Effort is controlled by selecting 'days out' of the fishery, on which fishermen cannot land more than a bycatch allowance of 2,000 lbs; area closures during spawning events; and closure of a directed fishery when 92% of the sub-quota is projected to be reached, and when 95% of the stockwide ACL is projected to be reached. The Section set specifications for the 2016-2018 fishing seasons through consultation with NEFMC.