## ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION

## REVIEW OF THE INTERSTATE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN

FOR ATLANTIC STRIPED BASS
(Morone saxatilis)

## 2010 FISHING YEAR



Prepared by the Plan Review Team
Approved by the Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board

## Executive Summary

Atlantic striped bass from Maine through North Carolina are managed under Amendment 6 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan, and Addendum I to Amendment 6. Addendum to the plan is currently being considered.

Stock status was estimated in 2011. The stock was not overfished and overfishing was not occurring in 2010, although total striped bass population abundance declined 37 percent from 2004. A benchmark assessment is planned and will undergo peer review in June 2013. The review of the juvenile abundance indices did not trigger any recommendations for management action. This was the first review based on the new definition of recruitment failure, as approved in Addendum II. The new definition of recruitment failure is defined as a value that is below $75 \%$ of all values in a fixed time series appropriate to each juvenile abundance index

Total striped bass harvest in 2010 is estimated at 2.9 million fish or 28.32 million pounds, which was similar in both number and weight to 2009. Recreational anglers harvested 1.9 million fish ( 21.34 million pounds) in 2010, while commercial fishermen harvested 1.03 million fish ( 6.98 million pounds). Dead discards from the recreational fishery are estimated at 0.6 million fish; commercial dead discards in 2010 are estimated at 0.2 million fish.

All states have implemented management programs consistent with Amendment 6. Management changes occurred for two commercial fisheries in 2010: Rhode Island eliminated the split season for the trap fishery and North Carolina required commercial fishing license holders to declare which of the three fisheries (beach seine, gill net, or trawl) they will be participating in for 2009/2010 quota season and remain in for the next three years. Two states exceeded their coastal commercial quotas in 2010, requiring reduced 2011 quotas. The Chesapeake Bay quota in 2010 was 9.48 million pounds and was not exceeded.

All states have implemented monitoring programs consistent with Amendment 6. Requirements vary by state, and may include monitoring commercial and/or recreational catch, effort, and catch composition, and performing juvenile abundance surveys, spawning stock surveys, and tagging programs.

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## I. Status of the Fishery Management Plan

Date of FMP Approval:<br>Amendments:<br>Management Unit:<br>States With Declared Interest:<br>Additional Jurisdictions:

Original FMP - 1981
Amendment 1 - 1984
Amendment 2 - 1984
Amendment 3 - 1985
Amendment 4 - 1989; Addendum I - 1991, Addendum II 1992, Addendum III - 1993, Addendum IV - 1994
Amendment 5 - 1995; Addendum I - 1997, Addendum II 1997, Addendum III - 1998, Addendum IV - 1999, Addendum V - 2000
Amendment 6 - 2003; Addendum I - 2007, Addendum II 2010

Active Boards/Committees:

Migratory stocks of Atlantic striped bass from Maine through North Carolina
Maine - North Carolina, including Pennsylvania
District of Columbia, Potomac River Fisheries
Commission, National Marine Fisheries Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board, Advisory Panel, Technical Committee, Stock Assessment Subcommittee, Tagging Subcommittee, Plan Review Team, and Plan Development Team

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) developed a fisheries management plan (FMP) for Atlantic striped bass in 1981 in response to declining juvenile recruitment and landings. The FMP recommended increased restrictions on commercial and recreational fisheries, such as minimum size limits and harvest closures on spawning grounds. Two amendments were passed in 1984 recommending additional management measures to reduce fishing mortality. To strengthen the management response, the Atlantic Striped Bass Conservation Act (P.L. 98-613) was passed in late 1984, which mandated the implementation of striped bass regulations passed by the Commission.

The first enforceable plan, Amendment 3, was approved in 1985, and required size regulations to protect the 1982 year class, which was the first modest size cohort since the previous decade. The objective was to increase size limits to allow at least $95 \%$ of the females in the cohort to spawn at least once. Smaller size limits were permitted in producer areas than along the coast. Several states, beginning with Maryland in 1985, opted for a more conservative approach and imposed a total moratorium on striped bass landings for several years. The amendment contained a trigger mechanism to reopen the fisheries when the 3-year moving average of the Maryland juvenile abundance index (JAI) exceeded an arithmetic mean of 8.0. That level was attained with the recruitment of the 1989 year class.

Consequently, Amendment 4 was adopted to allow state fisheries to reopen in 1990 under a target fishing mortality ( F ) of 0.25 , which was half the estimated F needed to achieve maximum
sustainable yield (MSY). The amendment allowed an increase in the target F once spawning stock biomass (SSB) was restored to levels estimated during the late 1960s and early 1970s. The dual size limit concept was maintained, and a recreational trip limit and commercial season implemented to reduce the harvest to $20 \%$ of that in the historic period of 1972-1979. The amendment and its four addenda aimed to rebuild the resource, rather than maximize yield.

In 1995, coastal striped bass were declared restored by the Commission, and Amendment 5 was adopted to increase the target F to 0.33 , midway between the existing F target ( 0.25 ) and $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{MSY}}$, which was revised to 0.40 . Regulations were developed to allow $70 \%$ of the historic harvest and achieve the target F , although states were allowed to submit proposals for alternative regulations that were conservationally equivalent. From 1997-2000, a series of five addenda were implemented to respond to the latest stock status information.

In 2003, Amendment 6 was adopted to address five limitations within the management program: 1) potential inability to prevent the Amendment 5 exploitation target from being exceeded; 2) perceived decrease in availability or abundance of large striped bass in the coastal migratory population; 3) a lack of management direction with respect to target and threshold biomass levels; 4) inequitable effects of regulations on the recreational and commercial fisheries, and coastal and producer area sectors; 5) and excessively frequent changes to the management program. Amendment 6 was fully implemented by January 1, 2004, and completely replaced all previous Commission plans for Atlantic striped bass.

The goal of Amendment 6 is to perpetuate, through cooperative interstate management, migratory stocks of striped bass; to allow commercial and recreational fisheries consistent with the long-term maintenance of a broad age structure, a self-sustaining spawning stock; and also to provide for the restoration and maintenance of their essential habitat. In support of this goal, the following objectives are included:

- Manage striped bass fisheries under a control rule designed to maintain stock size at or above the target female spawning stock biomass level and a level of fishing mortality at or below the target exploitation rate.
- Manage fishing mortality to maintain an age structure that provides adequate spawning potential to sustain long-term abundance of striped bass populations.
- Provide a management plan that strives, to the extent practical, to maintain coastwide consistency of implemented measures, while allowing the States defined flexibility to implement alternative strategies that accomplish the objectives of the FMP.
- Foster quality and economically viable recreational, for-hire, and commercial fisheries.
- Maximize cost effectiveness of current information gathering and prioritize state obligations in order to minimize costs of monitoring and management.
- Adopt a long-term management regime that minimizes or eliminates the need to make annual changes or modifications to management measures.
- Establish a fishing mortality target that will result in a net increase in the abundance (pounds) of age 15 and older striped bass in the population, relative to the 2000 estimate.

Amendment 6 modified the F targets and thresholds, and introduced a new set of biological reference points (BRPs) based on females spawning stock biomass (SSB), as well as a list of management triggers based on the BRPs. (The targets and thresholds were updated in 2008; see Sections II and IV for more information.) The coastal commercial quotas for striped bass were restored to $100 \%$ of the states' average landings during the 1972-1979 historical period, except for Delaware's coastal commercial quota, which remained at the level allocated in 2002. In the recreational fisheries, all states were required to implement a two fish bag limit with a minimum size limit of 28 inches, except for the Chesapeake Bay fisheries, Albemarle/Roanoke fisheries, and states with approved alternative regulations. The Chesapeake Bay and Albemarle/Roanoke regulatory programs are predicated on a more conservative F target than the coastal migratory stock, which allows these jurisdictions to implement separate seasons, harvest caps, and size and bag limits as long as they remain under that F target. No minimum size limit can be less than 18 inches. The same minimum size standards regulate the commercial fisheries as the recreational fisheries, except for a minimum 20 inch size limit in the Delaware Bay spring gillnet fishery.

States are permitted the flexibility to deviate from these standards by submitting proposals for review by the Striped Bass Technical Committee, Advisory Panel, and Plan Review Team and contingent upon the approval of the Management Board. A state may request a change only if it can demonstrate that the action is "conservationally equivalent" to the management standards or will not contribute to the overfishing of the resource. This practice has resulted in a variety of regulations among states (see Tables 1 and 2). In 2007, Addendum I was implemented to establish a bycatch monitoring and research program to increase the accuracy of data on striped bass discards and also recommend development of a web-based angler education program. In 2010, Addendum II modified the definition of recruitment failure from a value that is below $90 \%$ of all values in a fixed time series appropriate to each juvenile abundance index to a value that is below $75 \%$ of all values in a fixed time series appropriate to each juvenile abundance index.

The Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) has been closed to the harvest and possession of striped bass since 1990, with the exception of a defined route to and from Block Island in Rhode Island. A recommendation was made in Amendment 6, and submitted to the Secretary of Commerce, to re-open federal waters to commercial and recreational fisheries. Starting in July 2003 and continuing for several years, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) took steps in the rulemaking process to consider the proposal. In September 2006, NMFS concluded that it would be imprudent to open the EEZ to striped bass fishing and chose not to proceed further in its rulemaking. Specifically, NMFS concluded that: 1) it could not be certain, especially after taking into account the overwhelming public perception that large trophy sized fish congregate in the EEZ, that opening the EEZ would not increase effort and lead to an increase in mortality that would exceed the threshold, and 2) both the Commission's and NMFS' ability to immediately respond to an overfishing and/or overfished situation is a potential issue, particularly given the timeframe within which Amendment 6 was created, and given the lag time in which a given year's data is available to management (71 FR 54261-54262).

Additionally, in October 2007, President George W. Bush issued an executive order prohibiting the sale of striped bass (and red drum) caught within the EEZ. The Order also requires the Secretary of Commerce to encourage management for conservation of the resources, including State designation as gamefish where the State determines appropriate under applicable law, and
to periodically review the status of the populations within US jurisdictional waters. The most recent report to Congress on the status of the striped bass population was submitted in 2010 (NOAA 2010).

## II. Status of the Stocks

The most recent striped bass stock assessment was conducted by the Striped Bass Technical Committee, Stock Assessment Subcommittee, and Tagging Subcommittee in 2011 and includes data through 2010 (ASMFC 2011). Two models were included to assess stock status: an agebased statistical catch-at-age (SCA) model, and a tag-based catch equation (CE) model. Based on the results of both models and comparison to the biological reference points, below, Atlantic striped bass are not overfished and are not experiencing overfishing.

|  | Female Spawning Stock Biomass | Fully-Recruited Fishing Mortality |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Threshold | $\mathrm{SSB}_{1995}=30,000$ metric tons | $\mathrm{F}_{\mathrm{msy}}=0.34$ |
| Target | $\mathrm{SSB}_{\text {threshold }} \times 1.25=37,500$ metric tons | 0.30 |

The SCA model estimated that the resource remains at a high level with female spawning stock biomass (SSB) at 50,548 metric tons (mt), or $168 \%$ of the threshold and $134 \%$ of the target (Figure 1). The 2010 estimate of SSB was a decrease from the 2008 estimate of $55,500 \mathrm{mt}$ and SSB estimates continue to be less than the time series maximum of $63,588 \mathrm{mt}$ in 2004. Recruitment estimated in the SCA model as age-1 abundance averaged 13.5 million fish from 1994-2004 (Figure 2). The 2003 cohort (age 1 in 2004) remains the second largest year-class since 1982 at 20.8 million fish. The 2009 and 2010 estimates ( 7.1 million and 9.1 million, respectively) were near the average recruitment observed during 2005-2010 (8.1 million fish), but well below the 1994-2004 average. The SCA model estimated the 2010 fishing mortality rate ( F ) on age $8-11$ fish to be $\mathrm{F}=0.23$, which is well below the fishing mortality threshold and target (Figure 3).

Overall, the conclusion is that stock abundance has declined since the assessment time series high of 2004. The decrease in abundance is reflected in a decline in coastwide catch in 2009 and 2010, particularly in recreational discards comprised of smaller fish. The decline is more prevalent in areas largely dependent on contributions from the Chesapeake stocks (such as Maine) than areas such as New York that are dominated by the Hudson stock (Waldman et al 1990). Despite the decline in abundance, the spawning stock in 2010 remained relatively high due to the growth and maturation of the 2003 year class and the accumulation of spawning biomass from year classes prior to 1996.

Because Amendment 6 implemented distinct management programs for the Chesapeake Bay and Albemarle/Sound area with a fishing mortality target of 0.27 , separate estimates of fishing mortality for the areas are required. The 2011 stock assessment includes the estimates for the Chesapeake Bay. Based on application of Maryland and Virginia tagging data to the CE model, Chesapeake Bay F estimates for fish 18 - 28 inches ranged from 0.01 to 0.15 throughout the time series (1987-2010), and was estimated at 0.16 for 2010.

In March 2010, the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries used the Age Structured Assessment Program (NOAA Fisheries Toolbox 2008a) to determine stock status (data through 2008). Currently, the stock is not experiencing overfishing. Fishing mortality on ages 4-6 striped bass has declined steadily since 2004 and was estimated at 0.10 in 2008. The JAI continues to fluctuate around the average observed since the stock was declared recovered in 1997. The age structure of the stock continues to expand, with an overall increase in abundance of age 9+ fish in the population. The current maximum age observed on the spawning grounds is 17 (captured during the 2008 sampling season). Estimated abundance of age 4-6 striped bass in the stock increased steadily and peaked in 2000 at about 550,000 fish. Age 4-6 abundance declined slightly and varied without trend at about 470,000 fish through 2006, and has since fallen to an estimated 336,000 fish in 2008. The low abundance of age $4-6$ fish in 2008 is due to poor recruitment from the 2003 and 2004 year classes.

## III. Status of the Fishery

Total striped bass harvest in 2010 (excluding Albemarle Sound/Roanoke River Management Area) is estimated at 2.9 million fish or 28.32 million pounds (Tables 3-6, Figure 6). The commercial and recreational fisheries harvested 34 and 66 percent by number and 25 and 75 percent by weight, respectively. Total harvest by number and weight decreased since 2009.

The commercial fishery landed an estimated 1.03 million fish ( 6.97 million pounds) in 2010, similar to 2009 landings of 1.04 million fish ( 7.2 million pounds; Tables 3 and 4; Figure 4). The Chesapeake Bay jurisdictions dominated the 2010 commercial landings; by pounds, Maryland landed 30.8\%, Virginia landed 20.5\%, and PRFC landed 9.75\%. The 2010 commercial baywide landings of 4.1 million pounds in 2010 represent a slight decrease from the 2009 landings of 4.4 million pounds. Elsewhere along the coast, Massachusetts landed 17.5\% and New York 11.2\% of the total commercial landings, in pounds, and North Carolina, Delaware, and Rhode Island each landed less than $4 \%$. The 2010 coastal commercial landings amount to 2.89 million pounds, a fractional increase from the 2009 coastal landings of 2.82 million pounds. Estimates of commercial dead discards in 2010 are 242,900 fish, representing $8.6 \%$ of the total fishery removals (Figure 4). The coastal commercial fishing year is from January 1 to December 31 in all jurisdictions except North Carolina, which operates on a December 1 to November 30 fishing year.

In 2010, the recreational fishery landed an estimated 1.9 million fish ( 21.33 million pounds), similar to the 2009 landings by number ( 1.91 million fish), but a fractional decrease in the 2009 landings by weight ( 21.46 million pounds; Tables 5 and 6 ). Recreational releases decreased for the fourth consecutive year to 6.42 million fish; releases peaked in 2006 at 25.88 million fish (Table 7). The 2010 recreational catch estimate of 8.37 million fish is the lowest on record since 1995, and represents a 70\% decline from the peak in 2006 (Figure 5). Anglers are keeping more of the fish they catch in recent years or catching fewer sub-legal fish. The proportion of catch that is released declined to $76 \%$ in 2009, the lowest since 1986 (Figure 5). Using a 9\% release mortality rate, recreational dead discards are estimated to be 0.578 million fish in 2010 (Table 7). Total recreational removals (landings and dead discards combined) in 2010 ( 2.53 million fish) was similar to the previous year. New York landed the largest percent of the coastwide recreational landings in number of fish (25.6\%), followed by Maryland (23.9\%), Massachusetts
(18.1\%), and New Jersey (16.1\%). The remaining states each landed less than 5\% of the 2010 recreational landings by number of fish. The recreational fishing year is from January 1 to December 31 in all jurisdictions.

See Figure 4 for the number of fish removed from the population by commercial and recreational harvest and discarding from 1982 to 2010.

## IV. Status of Assessment Advice

The 2011 Atlantic striped bass stock assessment is an update to the 2007 benchmark stock assessment (NEFSC 2008a, NEFSC 2008b). The benchmark assessment was favorably peer reviewed at the $46^{\text {th }}$ Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW). The Stock Assessment Review Committee (SARC) identified several topics deserving special attention or improvement in future assessments, including: examining sensitivity of assessment results to discard estimates and improving those estimates; age determination for striped bass older than about age 10 ; extracting more information out of the young-of-year indices; employing better methods of averaging multiple survey indices; using regional surveys to get direct information about differences in recruitment levels for the sub-stocks of the fishery; and better standardization of state surveys (NEFSC 2008a). The SARC found that the SCA model "best estimated parameters that could be judged against the current biological benchmarks."

The SARC also advised the assessment team to re-estimate the F threshold (Fmsy) based on data and stock estimates from the SCA model, and link the female SSB target and threshold to the SCA model's 1995 SSB estimate. The assessment team undertook this work and in August 2008 the Board approved updated Amendment 6 BRPs (see Section II).

The next benchmark assessment is scheduled for peer review in June 2013 at the $56{ }^{\text {th }}$ SAW.

## V. Status of Research and Monitoring

The management plan requires certain jurisdictions to implement fishery-dependent monitoring programs for striped bass. All jurisdictions with commercial fisheries or substantial recreational fisheries are required to define the catch composition of these fisheries. Jurisdictions with substantial commercial fisheries and those agencies monitoring recreational fisheries are required to gather representative catch and effort data for these fisheries.

The management plan also requires certain states to monitor the striped bass population independent of the fishery. Juvenile abundance indices are required from Maine (Kennebec River), New York (Hudson River), New Jersey (Delaware River), Maryland (Chesapeake Bay tributaries), Virginia (Chesapeake Bay tributaries), and North Carolina (Albemarle Sound). Spawning stock sampling is mandatory for New York (Hudson River), Pennsylvania (Delaware River), Delaware (Delaware River), Maryland (Upper Chesapeake Bay and Potomac River), Virginia (Rappahannock River and James River), and North Carolina (Roanoke River and Albemarle Sound). Amendment 6 requires NOAA Fisheries, USFWS, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina to continue their tagging programs, which provide data used to determine survivorship and migration patterns.

## VI. Status of Management Measures and Issues

## Status of Amendment 6

Amendment 6 and Addendum I to Amendment 6 provided the regulatory measures in 2009. Management requirements include size limits, bag limits, coastal commercial quotas, and regulatory measures in the Chesapeake Bay and Albemarle Sound/Roanoke River set to not exceed target fishing mortality rates.

In May 2009, the Management Board initiated the development of an addendum to consider options to roll over unused coastal commercial quota up to fifty percent, and approved sending the draft addendum out for public comment in August 2009. In November 2009, the Board voted for status quo management in regards to unused quota rollover.

In February 2010, the Management Board initiated the development of an addendum to consider options to increase the coastal commercial quota. The Board approved the draft addendum for public comment in May 2010, with the addition of an option to consider adopting a Technical Committee recommendation to revise the JAI management trigger. Adopting the Technical Committee recommendation would modify the definition of recruitment failure, such that each index would have a fixed numerical value indicating failure, rather than one that changes from year to year. The Board approved the revised JAI management triggers. The new definition of recruitment failure is a value that is below $75 \%$ of all values in a fixed time series appropriate to each juvenile abundance index.

## Coastal Commercial Quota

Table 8 shows a history of coastal commercial quotas and harvests since the implementation of Amendment 6. In 2010, four states had coastal commercial quotas lower than their Amendment 6 allocation due to quota overages in 2009 and/or conservation equivalencies related to minimum size limits: Massachusetts (overage), Rhode Island (overage and size limit), New York (size limit), and Maryland (size limit).

In 2010, two states exceeded their coastal commercial quotas and should have their 2010 quotas reduced accordingly (Table 8). Massachusetts exceeded its adjusted coastal commercial quota by 86,616 pounds, resulting in an adjusted 2011 quota of 1,073,134 pounds. Rhode Island exceeded its adjusted coastal commercial quota by 10,651 pounds, for an adjusted 2011 quota of 232,974 pounds.

## Chesapeake Bay Quota

Amendment 6 includes a separate management program for the Chesapeake Bay due to the size availability of striped bass in this area. Based on a target fishing mortality rate of $\mathrm{F}=0.27$, Maryland, Virginia, and the Potomac River Fisheries Commission (PRFC) annually establish a bay-wide quota for resident fish using the Harvest Control Model. In 2010, the bay-wide quota was $9,489,794$ pounds. Shares are allocated to Maryland, the PRFC, and Virginia based on historical harvest, and each jurisdiction then allocates portions of the quota to its recreational and commercial fisheries (Table 9). In 2010, the bay-wide harvest was 2.2 million pounds less than the quota. The Bay quota was the same in 2011.

## Chesapeake Bay Spring Trophy Fishery

Recreational fishermen in the Chesapeake Bay are permitted to take adult migrant fish during a limited seasonal fishery, commonly referred to as the Spring Trophy Fishery. Starting in 1993, the fishery has been controlled by a Board-approved harvest cap: 3,000 fish in 1993, 5,000 fish in 1994, 25,000 fish in 1995, and 30,000 fish in 1996-2003. From 2004 to 2006, quotas were based on the number of age $8+$ striped bass in the population ( $0.95 \%$ ), as determined by virtual population analysis (VPA), minus any overage from the previous year. For the 2007 season, the Board approved a target harvest of 30,000 fish (VPA calculated quota minus the 2006 overage, to be no less than 30,000 fish). In 2008, the Board approved non-quota management for the 2008 season, and in 2009, extending non-quota management until stock assessment indicates that corrective action is necessary to reduce F on the coastal stock. After several years of varying size limits in Maryland and the Potomac River to account for quota overages, a 28 inch size limit has been in place since 2008; Virginia’s trophy fish size limit has been higher at 32 inches. The trophy season in Virginia is also shorter.

In 2010, the estimate of migrant fish harvested during the trophy season is 19,901 fish (19,765 fish in Maryland and 136 fish in Virginia [state compliance reports 2011]) and represents a 78\% decrease from 2009. In pounds of fish, the estimate is $338,286 \mathrm{lbs}$ total ( $336,246 \mathrm{lbs}$ in Maryland and $2,040 \mathrm{lbs}$ in Virginia). This is the smallest spring migrant harvest since 2002; see Table 10 for a history of spring trophy fishery quotas and harvests. In Maryland, the break down between private angler and charter boat harvest is 7,261 fish to 12,504 fish, respectively.

## Wave-1 Recreational Harvest Estimates

Anecdotal evidence suggests that North Carolina, Virginia, and possibly other states have had sizeable wave-1 (January/February) recreational striped bass fisheries beginning in 1996 (NEFSC 2008b). The Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS) has sampled for striped bass in North Carolina during wave-1 since 2004. Other states are not currently covered during wave-1. The Striped Bass Technical Committee estimated North Carolina wave-1 harvest for 1996 - 2003 and Virginia wave-1 harvest for 1996 - 2008 for the 2009 update assessment. Table 11 provides these estimates, and is updated with the 2010 and 2011 wave- 1 harvest estimates in North Carolina from the MRFSS. For this report, the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) also provided preliminary estimates for wave-1 harvest in Virginia for 2009 and 2010 that are developed with the use of tag return data in Virginia and North Carolina.

## Law Enforcement

The ASMFC Law Enforcement Committee provided the following report.
Striped bass enforcement along the Atlantic Coast continues to have mixed results. Some areas have generally good compliance with regulations and easy enforcement while enforcement is more difficult in other areas. Maine is an example where there is generally high compliance and regulations are easily enforced. Striped bass fishing in Maine is exclusively recreational with one set of regulations. However, the Maine/New Hampshire border continues to be difficult to enforce with different regulations in each state. A differing regulation between border states continues to cause confusion between anglers, reduces support for fisheries management plans, and creates difficult enforcement situations for law enforcement officers in some areas.

Other areas have improved compliance through extensive enforcement efforts that include auditing commercial records, covert operations, and high visibility patrols. The Chesapeake Bay region is one area that has seen improved compliance in the commercial fishery and some successes in specific areas of recreational fisheries. The impacts from high profile enforcement activities are historically of short to medium duration (a few years) unless backfilled with improved monitoring and correction of regulatory deficiencies. It is doubtful that there will be significant increases in enforcement presence in the near future and member states’ ability to conduct covert operations or auditing of commercial records is limited at this time. At least one state still does not require tagging of commercially caught striped bass and several states that require tagging allow dealers to be the monitor of tags and fish with little to no auditing. Maryland recently passed new regulations clarifying and improving enforcement officers’ authority to inspect striped bass dealers, their vehicles, and storage areas, as well as imposing significant administrative penalties for refusing to allow inspection. This language is also in the checking station and dealers license agreements that are signed by the business operators. Another improvement is the revamped fine schedule and revised point system which has already resulted in significant license suspensions for chronic violators.

The other major enforcement issue is the uncontrolled targeting of striped bass in the EEZ during the migration of spawning stock up and down the coast. Major efforts to reduce this fishery have not yielded sufficient results to provide effective deterrence. In August 2011 the LEC recommended the Policy Board request NOAA General Counsel to revisit the penalty schedule to explore increased penalty amounts and permit sanctions across any fisheries the violator may participate in. Additionally the LEC recommend the Policy Board request that NOAA General Counsel refer appropriate striped bass cases to USCG for consideration of USCG license suspension or revocation. NOAA Summary Settlement Fines have been doubled but are often considered just the cost of fishing. Although there may be significant cases in the future that originate in the EEZ with heavy fines and other sanctions, it is doubtful that this will have a significant long-term effect on compliance.

In summary, law enforcement efforts on striped bass remain a priority along the Atlantic Coast. Obtaining high compliance has been problematic in certain areas. Estimates of an illegal harvest of less than $10 \%$ may be well below the actual illegal harvest according to most states. Enforcement effort has been relatively constant each year even with increasing budget constraints.

## Juvenile Abundance Indices

In response to the suite of management triggers introduced in Amendment 6, the Technical Committee annually examines the trends in all required JAI surveys. The Technical Committee is to recommend appropriate action to the Management Board if any JAI shows recruitment failure for three consecutive years. Recruitment failure is defined as a JAI lower than 75\% of all other values in the dataset. (This definition is proposed for modification as part of Draft Addendum II; see Section VI - Status of Amendment 6.) The geometric mean is the preferred index of young-of-year striped bass abundance to model stock status.

For the 2011 review of the JAIs, the trigger analysis was performed with the 2008, 2008, and 2010 index values. Three consecutive years of recruitment failure did not occur in any of the
surveyed areas, thus no action is triggered. Single years of recruitment failure did occur in Maine (2010), Maryland (2008), and North Carolina (2009).

## Albemarle/Roanoke Striped Bass FMP

The Interstate FMP for Atlantic Striped Bass requires North Carolina to inform the Commission of changes to striped bass management in the Albemarle Sound/Roanoke River (A/R) System. North Carolina must adhere to the compliance criteria in Amendment 6. After a Technical Committee review, the PRT previously determined that North Carolina's FMP complies with the mandatory components of Amendment 6.

The A/R System is managed jointly for striped bass by the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Marine Fisheries, which manages the Albemarle Sound Management Area (ASMA), and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Division of Inland Fisheries, which manages the Roanoke River Management Area (RRMA). The 2004 FMP, which updated the 1994 FMP, set a target fishing mortality rate equal to 0.22 and threshold spawning stock biomass equal to 400,000 pounds for the A/R System. The annual total allowable catch (TAC) of 550,000 pounds is allocated evenly between the recreational and commercial fisheries, with $25 \%$ for the RRMA recreational fishery, $25 \%$ for the ASMA recreational fishery, and 50\% for the ASMA commercial fishery.

Total 2010 harvest in the A/R System was estimated at 283,326 pounds, an increase from the 203,028 pounds harvested in 2009, but still 266,674 pounds below the 2010 TAC. Each sector harvested within its quota allocation.

A peer-reviewed statistical catch at age stock assessment model was completed in 2010 (see Section II for more results), at which time a Plan Development Team and Advisory Committee were convened to review the 2004 NC Estuarine Striped Bass FMP. The draft Amendment I NC Estuarine Striped Bass FMP was approved to go out for public comment by the NC Marine Fisheries Commission in September 2011.

## VII. Annual State Compliance

Based on the annual state compliance reports, the Plan Review Team determines that each state/jurisdiction implemented a management program for 2010 that was approved by the Striped Bass Management Board and was consistent with the requirements of Amendment 6. Refer to Tables 1 and 2 for state-by-state regulations.

The following regulatory changes for 2010 were documented in the 2011 compliance reports:

- Rhode Island revised the opening date for the general category’s first sub-period from June 1 to June 6 and eliminated the split season for the trap fishery that set aside 10,000 pounds of the gear's quota for the last few months of the year. Instead, the gear's whole quota is allowed during January 1 to December 31. The rule implementing a 500 pound limit per fish trap license per calendar day once eighty percent (80\%) of the seasonal allocation is projected to be harvested remains in place.
- Maryland implemented new regulations to control pre-season catch and release effort in all areas during the pre-spawn season period of March 1 through the third Friday in April.

The regulation prohibits the use of stinger hooks, requires barbless hooks to be used when trolling, requires the use of circle hooks or J hooks with a gap less than $1 / 2$ " when using bait, and restricts boats to the use of no more than six lines when trolling, regardless of the number of individuals on board the vessel.

- North Carolina implemented a new Atlantic Ocean commercial fishery regulation requiring commercial fishing license holders to declare which of the three fisheries (beach seine, gill net, or trawl) they will be participating in for 2009/2010 quota season. Once declared, they must remain in that fishery for the next three years. Bag limits will be set based on number of participants. The seasons will be opened and closed by proclamation.

The following regulatory changes for 2011 were documented in the 2011 compliance reports:

- Current management regulations in Maine prohibit commercial fishing and sale of striped bass caught in Maine waters. Changes to state law in 2011 now prohibit the sale of any recreationally or commercially caught striped bass from waters outside the State of Maine. This change closes a loophole that existed in state law for several years, though it is unclear how many individuals sold striped bass caught recreationally caught in other states.
- Massachusetts decreased the 2011 commercial quota to account for overage in 2010.
- Rhode Island decreased the 2011 commercial quota to account for overage in 2010. Additionally, allocation of the general category quota between the sub-periods will change to $80 / 20$ (originally $75 / 25$ ).
- The State of Connecticut began a spring (May 1 to June 30, 2011) striped bass recreational fishery in the Connecticut River under a slot limit (22.0 to 27.9 in.) using the State's unused annual commercial quota ( 23,750 pounds). The quota of 4,025 fish (average weight in the slot $=5.90$ pounds) will be monitored weekly by a voucher system.
- Maryland Chesapeake Bay recreational and commercial quotas were reduced in response to decreased estimates of coastal stock size. Additionally, the Maryland Chesapeake Bay commercial quota was further reduced to account for overage in 2010.
- As of January 1, 2011, all pound nets in the Potomac River must have at least six PRFC approved fish cull panels properly installed in each pound net to help release undersize fish. These fish cull panels were being used by some pound netters on a voluntary basis prior to 2011.

Following the first full year of implementation of an alternative management program approved by the Management Board, the PRT is responsible for evaluating the effects of the program. The Management Board approved a conservation equivalency proposal from New Jersey in May 2010 that would permit anglers to take 1 fish at 24 inches or greater and 1 fish at 32 inches or greater (rather than 2 fish at 28 inches or greater). The state has not implemented this proposal to date. The Management Board requested that the Technical Committee re-evaluate the conservation equivalency of the alternative measure three years post-implementation. Information was not available to evaluate the striped bass recreational fishing program in the Connecticut River at this time.

Amendment 6 includes compliance requirements for monitoring programs (summarized in Section V). Compliance with these requirements is summarized in Table 12. The PRT found that all states carried out the required monitoring programs in the 2010 fishing year.

The following monitoring program changes were documented in the 2011 compliance reports or provided via personal communication:

- New York: Reporting on Hudson River shad fishery bycatch data was discontinued due to the closure of the fishery in 2010. NYSDEC recently closed the commercial gill net fishery in the river due to the poor condition of the Hudson River American shad stock. In order to continue to monitor striped bass bycatch in the Hudson River, we will now be compiling information on the reported number of striped bass taken in the bait (primarily river herring) gill net fishery.
- New Jersey: In 2010, New Jersey instituted new protocols for biological sampling in order to streamline the collection process and eliminate duplicate data or data not being used for the coastal assessment. A recent decrease in sample sizes necessitated a change in the methods used to collect samples resulting in the development of a new long-term plan. By targeting fishing tournaments and party/charter boats in the fall, New Jersey collected 275 scale samples and 33 otolith samples during two party boat trips and six tournaments. The size range of these fish was 21 to 50 inches with a mean size of 34.6 inches. New Jersey plans to continue this sampling in 2011 and hopes to expand sample size with data collection in the spring.
- North Carolina: Sampling was conducted five days a week throughout the season. Total samples collected ( $\mathrm{n}=1,362$ ) were well below the target sample size ( $\mathrm{n}=2,208$ ). In prior years, an average of 1,930 samples were collected with lost samples typically caused by inclement weather, damage to nets from boats, and nets fishing improperly due to floating grass or debris. Although sample size was lower in 2010, samples were collected throughout the season and the catch rates should be reflective of striped bass abundance in the sample area during this period.
- North Carolina: Due to funding cuts there were no harvest estimates for Recreational Commercial Gear License holders in 2010. Harvest estimates from 2002 - 2007 averaged ~2,000 pounds.
- Cooperative Winter Tagging Cruise: While NMFS continues to provide logistical support, sampling gear and administrative support, NOAA's historic provision of direct vessel support, or funding for vessel charter, was not forthcoming during 2011. The North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries enabled charter of a sportfishing vessel to conduct pilot tagging of striped bass using hook and line. The single trip conducted was successful; however, further studies are needed to compare the survival rate of tagged striped bass captured by trawl with those captured by hook and line gear, preferably during multiple years. A more stable and dependable source of funding is needed to support vessel charter costs for conducting the Cruise and maintaining the data flow, which supports the Commission and members states’ striped bass (and Atlantic sturgeon and spiny dogfish) management program.

Amendment 6 requires that all state programs include law enforcement capabilities adequate for successfully implementing state striped bass regulations. The adequacy of a state's enforcement
activity is monitored annually by reports of the ASMFC Law Enforcement Committee. The Law Enforcement Report is provided in Section VI.

## VIII. Recommendations

## Management Recommendations

- None


## Research Recommendations

## STOCK ASSESSMENT AND POPULATION DYNAMICS

## High Priority

- Develop method to integrate catch-at-age and tagging models to produce a single estimate of F and stock status.
- Develop a spatial and temporal catch at age model incorporating tag-based movement information.
- Develop methods for combining tag results from programs releasing fish from different areas on different dates.
- Examine potential biases associated with the number of tagged individuals, such as gearspecific mortality (associated with trawls, pound nets, gill nets, and electrofishing), taginduced mortality, and tag loss.
- Continue improvements to statistical catch-at-age model as recommended by $46{ }^{\text {th }}$ SARC (e.g., include error from catch estimates, fit each sector of removals individually, run additional diagnostics, account for spatial differences in indices, incorporate stockrecruitment relationship).
- Review model averaging approach to estimate annual fishing mortality with tag-based models; review validity and sensitivity to year groupings.
- Evaluate to what extent rising natural mortality (M) among Chesapeake Bay stripers affects the existing F and SSB thresholds, which are based on a fixed M assumption ( $\mathrm{M}=0.15$ ).


## Medium Priority

- Improve methods for determining population sex ratio for use in estimates of spawning stock biomass and biological reference points.
- Evaluate the overfishing definition relative to uncertainty in biological parameters.
- Develop studies to provide information on gear-specific discard morality rates and to determine the magnitude of bycatch mortality (ongoing, G. Nelson).
- Develop refined and cost-efficient fisheries-independent coastal population index for striped bass stocks.
- Examine methods to estimate annual variation in natural mortality (ongoing, Striped Bass Tagging Subcommittee).
- Examine causes of different tag-based survival estimates among programs estimating similar segments of the population.
- Evaluate truncated matrices and covariate-based tagging models.
- Develop reliable estimates of poaching loss from striped bass fisheries.
- Develop maturity ogive applicable to coastal migratory stock.
- Improve estimates of striped bass harvest removals in coastal areas during wave 1 and in inland waters of all jurisdictions year-round.
- Develop tag-based reference points.


## Low Priority

- Develop simulation models to look at the implications of overfishing definitions relative to development of a striped bass population that will provide "quality" fishing. Quality fishing must first be defined.
- Examine issues with time saturated tagging models for the $\geq 18$ inch length group.


## RESEARCH AND DATA NEEDS

High Priority

- Continue in-depth analysis of migrations, stock compositions, etc. using mark-recapture data Continue evaluation of striped bass dietary needs and relation to health condition.
- Continue analysis to determine linkages between the mycobacteriosis outbreak in Chesapeake Bay and sex ratio of Chesapeake spawning stock, Chesapeake juvenile production, and recruitment success into coastal fisheries.
- Develop field or modeling studies to aid in estimation of natural mortality or other factors affecting the tag return rate.


## Medium Priority

- Continue to conduct research to determine limiting factors affecting recruitment and possible density implications.
- Evaluate the percentage of fishermen using circle hooks.
- Conduct study to calculate the emigration rates from producer areas now that population levels are high and conduct multi-year study to determine inter-annual variation in emigration rates.
- Examine the potential public health trade-offs between the continued reliance on the use of high minimum size limits (28 inches) on coastal recreational anglers and its long-term effects on enhanced PCB contamination among recreational stakeholders.


## Low Priority

- Determine inherent viability of eggs and larvae.
- Conduct additional research to determine the pathogenicity of the IPN virus isolated from striped bass to other warm water marine species, such as flounder, menhaden, shad, and largemouth bass.


## Habitat Recommendations

A comprehensive list of habitat research, conservation, and restoration recommendations is provided in Greene et al. (2009).

## IX. References

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National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). 2010. 2009 Biennial Report to Congress on the Progress and Findings of Studies on Striped Bass Populations. Washington (DC): US Department of Congress, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service. 30 p.

## X. Figures

Figure 1. Striped bass spawning stock biomass (SSB) estimates and biological reference points Source: ASMFC 2011


Figure 2. Striped bass abundance and recruitment estimates.
Source: ASMFC 2011


Figure 3. Striped bass fishing mortality (F) estimates from the statistical-catch-at-age (SCA) model and biological reference points
Source: ASMFC 2011


Figure 4. Commercial and recreational landings and dead discards, 1982-2010 Sources: ASMFC 2011.


Figure 5. Recreational catch and the proportion of fish released, 1982-2010
Source: personal communication with NMFS Fisheries Statistics Division, Silver Spring, MD


Figure 6. 2010 Striped Bass Total Catch (in numbers)
Source: 2010 state compliance reports


## XI. Tables

Table 1. Summary of Atlantic Striped Bass Commercial Regulations in 2011

| STATE | SIZE LIMITS | SEASONAL QUOTA | OPEN SEASON |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ME | Commercial fishing prohibited |  |  |
| NH | Commercial fishing prohibited |  |  |
| MA | 34 " min. | $1,159,750 \mathrm{lb}$. (minus any overage from previous year) <br> Hook \& line only | 7.12 until quota reached; 5 fish/day on Sun; 30 fish/day Tues-Thurs |
| RI | Floating fish trap: 26" min. <br> General category (mostly rod \& reel): 34" min. | Total: 239,963 lb. (minus any overage from previous year) <br> Split 39:61 between trap and general category. <br> Gill netting prohibited. | Trap: 1.1 until quota reached; if $80 \%$ quota harvested before 8.26 , a $500 \mathrm{lb} /$ trap/day limit is imposed; from 8.27-12.31, $10,000 \mathrm{lb}$. quota set-aside available. General Category: 6.1-8.31 or 75\% quota; 9.13-12.31 or $100 \%$ quota; 5 fish/day Sun-Thu. |
| CT | Commercial fishing prohibited |  |  |
| NY | $24-36 "$ <br> Ocean only <br> (Hudson River closed to commercial harvest) | $828,293 \mathrm{lb}$. (minus any overage from previous year). Pound nets, gill nets (68"stretched mesh), hook \& line. | $7.1-12.15$ <br> Gill nets $<6$ or $>8$ ", 7 fish/trip; trawls 21 fish/trip. Gill nets prohibited in Great South, South Oyster, and Hempstead Bays. |
| NJ | Commercial fishing prohibited |  |  |
| PA | Commercial fishing prohibited |  |  |
| DE | 28" minimum except 20" <br> spring gillnet in DE <br> Bay/River \& Nanticoke River (5.5" max mesh \& 0.28 mm max twine) | 193,447 lb. (minus any overage from previous year) | Gillnet: 2.15-5.31 (3.1-31 for Nanticoke) \& 11.1512.31; drift nets only $2.15-28$ \& 5.1-31; no fixed nets in DE River <br> Hook and Line: 4.1-12.31 <br> Except 4.1-5.31 closed spawning areas |
| MD | Bay and Rivers: 1836" <br> Ocean: 24" | Bay and River: 2,254,831 lbs (part of Baywide quota) Gear specific quotas and landing limits <br> Ocean: $126,396 \mathrm{lb}$. (minus any overage from previous year) | Bay Pound Net: 6.1-11.30, Mon-Sat <br> Bay Haul Seine: 6.7-11.30, Mon-Fri <br> Bay Hook \& Line: 6.7-11.30, Mon-Thu <br> Bay Drift Gill Net: 1.1-2.28, 12.1-12.31, Mon-Fri <br> Ocean Drift Gill Net \& Trawl: 1.1-4.30, 11.1-12.31, <br> Mon-Fri |

(Table 1 continued - Summary of commercial regulations in 2011)

| STATE | SIZE LIMITS | SEASONAL QUOTA | OPEN SEASON |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
| PRFC | $18 "$ min all year <br> $36 " ~ m a x ~ 2.15-3.25 ~$ | 835,960 lbs (part of Baywide quota) | Hook \& line: 2.15-3.25, 6.1-12.31 <br> Pound Net \& Other: 2.15-3.25, 6.1-12.15 <br> Gill Net: 1.1-3.25 |  |
| DC | Commercial fishing prohibited |  |  |  |
| VA | Bay and Rivers: 18" min, <br>  <br> complimentary gill net <br> mesh size limit 3.26-6.15 <br> Ocean: 28" minimum | Bay and Rivers: 1,538,022 lbs in 2010 <br> (part of Baywide quota) <br> Ocean: 184,853 lb. (minus any overage <br> from previous year) | Bay and Rivers: 2.1-12.31 |  |
| NC | Albemarle Sound: 18" 2.1-12.31 |  |  |  |
| Ocean: 28" | Albemarle Sound: 275,000 lb <br> Ocean: 480,480 lb. (minus any overage <br> from previous year) split 160,160 lbs each <br> to beach seine, gill net \& trawl | Albemarle Sound: 1.1-4.30, 10.1-12.31; daily trip <br> limit ranging from 5 to 15 fish; striped bass cannot <br> exceed 50\% by weight of total finfish harvest; season <br> and daily trip limits set by proclamation. |  |  |
| Ocean: gear requirements; open days and trip limits |  |  |  |  |
| for beach seine, gill net, and trawl set via proclamation |  |  |  |  |

Table 2. Summary of Atlantic Striped Bass Recreational Regulations in 2011

| STATE | SIZE LIMITS | BAG LIMIT | OTHER | OPEN SEASON |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ME | $20-26^{\prime \prime}$ OR $\geq 40$ " | 1 fish | Hook \& line only | All year, except spawning areas are closed $12.1-4.30$ and catch and release only 5.1 $-6.30$ |
| NH | 1 fish 28-40" \& 1 fish >28" | 2 fish | No netting; no gaffing; must be landed with head and tail intact; no culling | All year |
| MA | $28^{\prime \prime}$ min | 2 fish | Hook \& line only | All year |
| RI | $28^{\prime \prime}$ min | 2 fish |  | All year |
| CT | 28" min, except Connecticut River Bonus Program: 22-28" | 2 fish, except CR Bonus: 1 fish | CR Bonus Quota: 4,025 fish | All year, except CR Bonus 5.4-6.30 (limited to I-95 bridge to MA border) |
| NY | Ocean Private: 1 fish 28-40" \& 1 fish > 40" <br> Ocean Charter: 28" min Hudson River: 18" min DE River: 28" min | Ocean: 2 fish <br> Hudson R.: 1 fish DE River: 2 fish | Angling or spearing only | Ocean: 4.15-12.15 <br> Hudson River: 3.16-11.30 <br> Delaware River: All year |
| NJ | 28" min | 2 fish, plus 1 additional through Bonus Program | Bonus program quota: $321,750 \mathrm{lb}$. <br> No netting. Non-offset circle hooks required 4.1-5.31 in DE River if using natural bait. | All year except 1.1-2.28 in intra-coastal waters plus 4.1-5.31 in lower DE River |
| PA | Non-tidal DE River: 28" min; Delaware Estuary: 28" min. except 20-26" from 4.1-5.31 | 2 fish |  | Year round |
| DE | 28 " min. except 20-26" from 7.1-8.31 in Del. River, Bay \& tributaries | 2 fish | Hook \& line, spear (for divers) only. Circle hooks required in spawning season. | All year except 4.1-5.31 in spawning grounds (catch \& release allowed) |

(Table 2 continued - Summary of recreational regulations in 2011)

| STATE | SIZE LIMITS | BAG LIMIT | OTHER | OPEN SEASON |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MD | Susquehanna Flats (SF): 18-26" <br> Chesapeake Bay Trophy: 28" min <br> Chesapeake Bay Regular: $18 "$ min with 1 fish $>28$ " Ocean: 28" min | SF: 1 fish <br> Chesapeake Bay <br> Trophy: 1 fish Chesapeake Bay Regular: 2 fish <br> Ocean: 2 fish | SF: non-off set circle hook if baited hooks \& gap>0.5" <br> Chesapeake Bay Quota: <br> 2,956,463 lbs (part of <br> Baywide quota; includes Susquehanna Flats harvest, excludes trophy harvest) | SF: 3.1-5.31; catch \& release only 3.1-5.3 <br> Chesapeake Bay Trophy: 4.18-5.15 (most tribs closed) <br> Chesapeake Bay Regular: 5.16-12.15 (most tribs closed until 6.1) <br> Ocean: All year |
| PRFC | Trophy: 28" <br> Regular: 18" min with 1 fish $>28 "$ | Trophy: 1 fish Regular: 2 fish | Quota: 683,967 lbs. (part of Baywide quota; excludes trophy harvest) | Trophy: 4.18-5.15 <br> Regular: 5.16-12.31 |
| DC | 18 " min with 1 fish > 28" | 2 fish | Hook \& line only | 5.16-12.31 |
| VA | Bay/Coastal Trophy: 32" min (28" Potomac tribs) CB Spring: 18-28"; 1 fish >32" <br> CB Fall: 18-28"; 1 fish >34" <br> Potomac Tribs: 18-28"; 1 fish $>28$ " <br> Ocean: 28" | Bay/Coastal Trophy: 1 fish <br> CB Spring: 2 fish <br> CB Fall: 2 fish Potomac Tribs: 2 fish Ocean: 2 fish | Hook \& line, rod \& reel, hand line only <br> Chesapeake Bay Quota: 1,538,022 lbs in 2010 (part of Baywide quota; excludes trophy harvest) | Bay Trophy: 5.1-6.15 (open 4.18 Potomac tribs) <br> Coastal Trophy: 5.1-5.15 <br> CB Spring: 5.16-6.15 (no fish >32" in spawning areas) <br> CB Fall: 10.4-12.31 <br> Potomac Tribs: 5.16-12.31 <br> Ocean: 1.1-3.31, 5.16-12.31 |
| NC | Roanoke River: 2 fish 1822" OR 1 fish $18-22$ " and 1 fish $>27$ " Albemarle Sound: 18" min. <br> Ocean: 28" min | Roanoke River: 2 fish <br> Albemarle Sound: 3 fish Ocean: 2 fish | Roanoke River quota: 137,500 lb. <br> Albemarle Sound quota: 137,500 lb. | Roanoke River: 3.1-4.30 (single barbless hook required 3.1-6.30 from Roanoke Rapids dam downstream to US 258 bridge) Albemarle Sound: Spring 1.1-4.30; Fall 10.1-12.31 <br> Ocean: All year |

Table 3. Commercial harvest (pounds) of migratory striped bass by state, 1982-2010
Source: 2011 State Compliance Reports

| Year | ME | NH | MA | RI | CT | NY | NJ | DE | MD | PRFC | VA | NC | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1982 |  |  | 643,100 | 270,300 | 6,000 | 470,900 |  | 25,700 | 478,000 | 136,053 | 53,683 | 92,462 | 2,176,198 |
| 1983 |  |  | 224,000 | 196,400 | 2,200 | 309,500 |  | 6,800 | 379,000 | 164,245 | 54,349 | 52,796 | 1,389,290 |
| 1984 |  |  | 107,200 | 54,500 | 2,000 | 595,300 |  |  | 816,000 | 783,140 | 15,351 | 14,501 | 2,387,992 |
| 1985 | 1,414 |  | 118,800 | 61,200 | 5,500 | 469,040 |  |  |  | 222,196 | 59,577 |  | 937,727 |
| 1986 |  |  | 97,300 | 11,100 |  | 1,100 |  |  |  | 29,370 | 1,205 |  | 140,075 |
| 1987 |  |  | 78,600 | 500 |  |  |  |  |  | 57,945 | 2,178 |  | 139,223 |
| 1988 |  |  | 79,553 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 115,251 | 62,095 |  | 256,899 |
| 1989 |  |  | 199,900 |  |  | 300 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 200,200 |
| 1990 |  | 37 | 148,000 | 4,000 |  | 81,870 |  | 6,509 | 2,887 | 169,060 | 267,735 | 9,797 | 689,895 |
| 1991 |  |  | 235,000 | 28,000 |  | 105,163 |  | 21,079 | 191,066 | 216,755 | 668,454 | 6,186 | 1,471,703 |
| 1992 |  |  | 239,200 | 39,000 |  | 226,611 |  | 17,795 | 552,451 | 127,398 | 204,338 | 27,702 | 1,434,495 |
| 1993 |  |  | 262,600 | 40,000 |  | 109,362 |  | 28,032 | 916,764 | 142,742 | 213,665 | 36,463 | 1,749,628 |
| 1994 |  |  | 199,600 | 39,810 |  | 171,279 |  | 33,897 | 884,970 | 149,891 | 204,124 | 92,605 | 1,776,176 |
| 1995 |  |  | 782,000 | 113,461 |  | 500,784 |  | 38,198 | 856,568 | 198,478 | 557,741 | 343,707 | 3,390,937 |
| 1996 |  |  | 696,815 | 122,562 |  | 504,350 |  | 117,560 | 1,523,293 | 346,834 |  | 55,771 | 3,367,185 |
| 1997 |  |  | 785,942 | 96,519 |  | 460,762 |  | 165,978 | 2,030,061 | 731,114 | 1,153,743 | 458,524 | 5,882,643 |
| 1998 |  |  | 822,000 | 94,663 |  | 484,900 |  | 163,169 | 2,368,393 | 726,179 | 1,476,502 | 308,068 | 6,443,874 |
| 1999 |  | 33 | 788,171 | 119,679 |  | 491,790 |  | 187,096 | 2,377,393 | 653,266 | 1,538,220 | 389,454 | 6,545,102 |
| 2000 |  |  | 779,736 | 111,812 |  | 542,659 |  | 140,634 | 2,411,554 | 666,001 | 1,883,856 | 162,736 | 6,698,988 |
| 2001 |  |  | 815,054 | 129,654 |  | 633,095 |  | 198,802 | 1,774,758 | 658,676 | 1,675,469 | 350,280 | 6,235,788 |
| 2002 |  |  | 924,870 | 129,172 |  | 518,573 |  | 160,560 | 1,852,634 | 521,048 | 1,592,910 | 299,508 | 5,999,275 |
| 2003 |  |  | 1,055,439 | 246,312 |  | 753,261 |  | 188,419 | 1,813,727 | 676,574 | 1,856,831 | 482,123 | 7,072,686 |
| 2004 |  | 203 | 1,206,305 | 245,204 |  | 741,668 |  | 181,974 | 1,899,539 | 772,333 | 1,668,307 | 604,824 | 7,320,357 |
| 2005 |  |  | 1,104,737 | 242,303 |  | 689,821 |  | 173,815 | 2,055,558 | 533,456 | 1,746,247 | 588,601 | 7,134,538 |
| 2006 |  |  | 1,312,168 | 238,797 |  | 688,446 |  | 185,987 | 2,207,350 | 673,508 | 1,413,914 | 63,458 | 6,783,628 |
| 2007 |  |  | 1,040,328 | 240,627 |  | 729,743 |  | 188,668 | 2,336,886 | 599,261 | 1,534,799 | 380,380 | 7,050,692 |
| 2008 |  |  | 1,160,122 | 245,988 |  | 653,100 |  | 188,719 | 2,326,023 | 611,789 | 1,714,564 | 288,410 | 7,188,715 |
| 2009 |  |  | 1,138,291 | 234,368 |  | 789,891 |  | 192,311 | 2,394,620 | 727,197 | 1,549,145 | 189,995 | 7,215,818 |
| 2010 |  |  | 1,224,356 | 249,520 |  | 782,402 |  | 185,410 | 2,150,577 | 680,496 | 1,434,219 | 272,632 | 6,979,612 |

Notes: All harvests are based on the calendar year. MD and VA harvests include Chesapeake Bay harvest. NC is Atlantic Ocean only.

Table 4. Commercial harvest (numbers) of migratory striped bass by state, 1982-2010, and annual dead discard estimates Sources: 2011 State compliance reports (landings); ASMFC 2011 (dead discards)

| Year | ME | NH | MA | RI | CT | NY | NJ | DE | MD | PRFC | VA | NC | Total | Dead Discards |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1982 |  |  | 26,183 | 52,896 | 207 | 74,935 |  | 12,794 | 189,089 | 54,421 | 14,905 | 3,200 | 428,630 | 57,624 |
| 1983 |  |  | 9,528 | 48,173 | 83 | 66,334 |  | 5,806 | 147,079 | 63,171 | 15,962 | 1,405 | 357,541 | 40,127 |
| 1984 |  |  | 5,838 | 8,878 | 192 | 70,472 |  | 12,832 | 392,696 | 372,924 | 6,507 | 532 | 870,871 | 65,639 |
| 1985 | 90 |  | 7,601 | 7,173 | 350 | 52,048 |  | 1,359 |  | 82,550 | 23,450 |  | 174,621 | 62,734 |
| 1986 |  |  | 3,797 | 2,668 |  |  |  |  |  | 10,965 | 251 |  | 17,681 | 174,024 |
| 1987 |  |  | 3,284 | 23 |  |  |  |  |  | 9,884 | 361 |  | 13,552 | 125,066 |
| 1988 |  |  | 3,388 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 19,334 | 10,588 |  | 33,310 | 245,552 |
| 1989 |  |  | 7,402 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 7,402 | 338,827 |
| 1990 |  |  | 5,927 | 784 |  | 11,784 |  | 698 | 534 | 38,884 | 56,222 | 803 | 115,636 | 510,011 |
| 1991 |  |  | 9,901 | 3,596 |  | 15,426 |  | 3,091 | 31,880 | 44,521 | 44,970 | 413 | 153,798 | 327,167 |
| 1992 |  |  | 11,532 | 9,095 |  | 20,150 |  | 2,703 | 119,286 | 23,291 | 42,912 | 1,745 | 230,714 | 186,601 |
| 1993 |  |  | 13,099 | 6,294 |  | 11,181 |  | 4,273 | 211,089 | 24,451 | 39,059 | 3,414 | 312,860 | 347,839 |
| 1994 |  |  | 11,066 | 4,512 |  | 15,212 |  | 4,886 | 208,914 | 25,196 | 32,382 | 5,275 | 307,443 | 359,518 |
| 1995 |  |  | 44,965 | 19,722 |  | 43,704 |  | 5,565 | 280,051 | 29,308 | 88,274 | 23,325 | 534,914 | 515,454 |
| 1996 |  |  | 38,354 | 18,570 |  | 39,707 |  | 20,660 | 415,272 | 46,309 | 184,495 | 3,151 | 766,518 | 394,824 |
| 1997 |  |  | 44,841 | 7,061 |  | 37,852 |  | 33,223 | 656,416 | 87,643 | 165,583 | 25,562 | 1,058,181 | 216,743 |
| 1998 |  |  | 43,315 | 8,835 |  | 45,149 |  | 31,386 | 780,893 | 93,299 | 204,911 | 16,040 | 1,223,828 | 326,031 |
| 1999 |  |  | 40,838 | 11,559 |  | 49,795 |  | 34,841 | 650,022 | 90,575 | 205,143 | 21,010 | 1,103,783 | 236,620 |
| 2000 |  |  | 40,256 | 9,418 |  | 54,894 |  | 25,188 | 627,777 | 91,471 | 202,227 | 6,480 | 1,057,711 | 666,996 |
| 2001 |  |  | 40,248 | 10,917 |  | 58,296 |  | 34,373 | 538,808 | 87,809 | 148,346 | 22,936 | 941,733 | 310,900 |
| 2002 |  |  | 44,897 | 11,653 |  | 47,142 |  | 30,440 | 296,635 | 80,300 | 127,211 | 15,784 | 654,062 | 168,201 |
| 2003 |  |  | 55,433 | 15,497 |  | 68,354 |  | 31,530 | 439,482 | 83,090 | 161,778 | 13,823 | 868,987 | 262,078 |
| 2004 |  |  | 60,632 | 16,040 |  | 70,367 |  | 28,406 | 461,064 | 91,980 | 147,998 | 31,014 | 907,501 | 518,847 |
| 2005 |  |  | 59,966 | 14,949 |  | 70,560 |  | 26,336 | 569,964 | 80,615 | 119,244 | 26,572 | 968,206 | 776,951 |
| 2006 |  |  | 69,986 | 15,429 |  | 73,528 |  | 30,212 | 655,951 | 92,288 | 109,395 | 2,798 | 1,049,587 | 216,753 |
| 2007 |  |  | 54,265 | 12,205 |  | 78,287 |  | 30,717 | 598,495 | 86,695 | 140,602 | 16,621 | 1,017,887 | 726,700 |
| 2008 |  |  | 61,076 | 16,616 |  | 73,263 |  | 31,866 | 594,655 | 81,720 | 134,603 | 12,903 | 1,006,702 | 395,400 |
| 2009 |  |  | 59,258 | 16,800 |  | 82,574 |  | 21,590 | 618,076 | 89,693 | 138,304 | 9,032 | 1,035,327 | 558,255 |
| 2010 |  |  | 67,802 | 17,256 |  | 81,896 |  | 18,562 | 584,554 | 90,258 | 160,595 | 12,670 | 1,033,592 | 242,962 |

[^0]Table 5. Recreational harvest (pounds) of migratory striped bass by state, 1982-2010
Source: personal communication with NMFS. Note: All harvests based on the calendar year. MD and VA harvests include Chesapeake Bay. NC is Atlantic Ocean only.

| Year | ME | NH | MA | RI | CT | NY | NJ | DE | MD | VA | NC | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1982 | 2,663 |  | 2,003,948 | 16,012 | 110,964 | 61,438 | 327,024 |  |  |  |  | 2,522,049 |
| 1983 | 13,031 | 7,061 | 248,917 | 16,340 | 310,798 | 275,033 | 1,662,403 | 29 | 149,351 |  |  | 2,682,963 |
| 1984 |  |  | 33,697 | 12,879 | 91,705 | 896,770 | 58,616 | 139,626 | 44,262 |  |  | 1,277,555 |
| 1985 | 140,951 |  | 224,788 |  | 41,144 | 210,815 | 190,555 |  | 8,825 | 3,585 |  | 820,663 |
| 1986 |  |  | 298,816 | 97,961 | 21,537 | 33,115 | 644,394 |  | 3,104 | 5,362 |  | 1,104,289 |
| 1987 |  | 2,987 | 269,459 | 69,793 | 13,307 | 278,578 | 159,556 |  | 40,818 | 19,976 |  | 854,474 |
| 1988 |  | 13,549 | 421,317 | 108,182 | 47,536 | 348,920 | 136,374 |  | 1,058 | 178,626 | 972 | 1,256,534 |
| 1989 | 15,221 |  | 295,227 | 59,346 | 100,688 | 236,730 | 25,520 |  |  |  |  | 732,732 |
| 1990 | 60,483 | 11,363 | 319,092 | 73,349 | 193,011 | 505,440 | 588,974 | 18,115 | 12,967 | 443,751 |  | 2,226,545 |
| 1991 | 58,177 | 6,731 | 440,605 | 496,723 | 125,309 | 1,053,589 | 643,571 | 25,501 | 456,954 | 333,743 | 3,882 | 3,644,785 |
| 1992 | 107,693 | 44,612 | 972,116 | 203,108 | 196,278 | 921,201 | 746,343 | 25,677 | 613,174 | 187,852 | 16,197 | 4,034,251 |
| 1993 | 11,953 | 28,115 | 1,113,446 | 292,429 | 400,067 | 1,575,938 | 874,296 | 52,540 | 794,853 | 505,742 | 3,029 | 5,652,408 |
| 1994 | 66,451 | 66,017 | 1,686,049 | 109,818 | 355,829 | 1,974,759 | 438,080 | 63,832 | 1,096,409 | 870,140 | 71,195 | 6,798,579 |
| 1995 | 45,933 | 67,992 | 1,504,390 | 436,061 | 671,647 | 3,296,025 | 3,141,222 | 175,347 | 2,057,450 | 955,822 | 158,096 | 12,509,985 |
| 1996 | 44,802 | 102,271 | 1,291,706 | 950,978 | 915,418 | 4,809,381 | 1,736,508 | 281,481 | 1,560,389 | 1,340,414 | 199,675 | 13,233,023 |
| 1997 | 185,178 | 206,904 | 2,891,970 | 927,921 | 920,465 | 4,449,564 | 821,784 | 232,186 | 1,962,947 | 2,813,471 | 607,978 | 16,020,368 |
| 1998 | 178,584 | 114,342 | 2,973,456 | 671,847 | 989,923 | 2,318,291 | 1,333,329 | 236,926 | 1,908,344 | 1,581,560 | 415,585 | 12,722,187 |
| 1999 | 98,623 | 84,255 | 1,822,818 | 886,668 | 824,031 | 3,171,344 | 3,342,372 | 100,541 | 1,137,940 | 1,741,857 | 556,922 | 13,767,371 |
| 2000 | 269,325 | 71,370 | 2,618,216 | 1,160,305 | 515,962 | 4,050,569 | 4,286,040 | 369,030 | 2,100,854 | 2,005,721 | 187,276 | 17,634,668 |
| 2001 | 290,233 | 223,072 | 3,644,561 | 1,138,978 | 628,044 | 2,996,805 | 5,341,867 | 382,498 | 2,072,943 | 2,140,713 | 608,617 | 19,468,331 |
| 2002 | 383,270 | 152,342 | 4,304,883 | 1,192,296 | 600,482 | 2,813,596 | 4,133,678 | 266,920 | 1,423,515 | 2,648,115 | 602,586 | 18,521,683 |
| 2003 | 253,910 | 281,549 | 4,889,036 | 1,502,455 | 1,251,538 | 3,409,573 | 4,258,557 | 292,167 | 2,808,923 | 2,789,745 | 848,416 | 22,585,869 |
| 2004 | 171,741 | 121,566 | 5,466,059 | 1,169,587 | 921,737 | 2,388,825 | 5,458,534 | 311,025 | 2,333,042 | 3,101,870 | 5,574,787 | 27,018,773 |
| 2005 | 322,996 | 291,662 | 5,093,748 | 1,590,072 | 1,643,946 | 3,936,227 | 3,793,471 | 254,018 | 3,533,652 | 2,655,119 | 2,195,043 | 25,309,954 |
| 2006 | 385,598 | 212,012 | 4,907,270 | 873,965 | 1,388,296 | 4,820,089 | 6,623,538 | 206,432 | 3,541,582 | 4,133,292 | 2,153,231 | 29,245,305 |
| 2007 | 316,331 | 73,283 | 4,784,948 | 1,407,549 | 1,718,924 | 5,767,505 | 2,441,469 | 112,071 | 3,178,237 | 1,729,112 | 1,048,581 | 22,578,010 |
| 2008 | 238,452 | 92,179 | 5,516,183 | 732,564 | 1,799,097 | 7,009,424 | 4,743,038 | 209,995 | 2,637,998 | 1,767,646 | 938,703 | 25,685,279 |
| 2009 | 288,741 | 146,004 | 4,525,166 | 1,093,321 | 877,614 | 4,380,891 | 3,807,088 | 313,296 | 4,558,773 | 1,259,314 | 209,856 | 21,460,064 |
| 2010 | 109,531 | 53,962 | 4,062,205 | 1,037,147 | 1,050,820 | 6,480,208 | 4,693,882 | 193,723 | 2,552,257 | 389,775 | 714,145 | 21,337,655 |

Table 6. Recreational harvest (numbers) of migratory striped bass by state, 1982-2009
Source: personal communication with NMFS. Note: All harvests based on the calendar year. MD and VA harvests include Chesapeake Bay. NC is Atlantic Ocean only. Values for North Carolina (1996-2003) and Virginia (1996-2008) include Technical Committee estimates of wave 1 harvest.

| Year | ME | NH | MA | RI | CT | NY | NJ | DE | MD | VA | NC | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1982 | 929 |  | 83,933 | 1,757 | 50,081 | 21,278 | 58,294 |  | 984 |  |  | 217,256 |
| 1983 | 7,212 | 4,576 | 39,316 | 1,990 | 42,826 | 43,731 | 127,912 | 135 | 31,746 |  |  | 299,444 |
| 1984 |  |  | 3,481 | 1,230 | 5,678 | 57,089 | 13,625 | 16,571 | 16,789 |  |  | 114,463 |
| 1985 | 11,862 |  | 66,019 | 670 | 15,350 | 23,107 | 13,145 |  | 2,965 | 404 |  | 133,522 |
| 1986 |  |  | 29,434 | 3,291 | 1,760 | 27,477 | 36,999 |  | 14,077 | 1,585 |  | 114,623 |
| 1987 |  | 90 | 10,807 | 2,399 | 522 | 14,191 | 9,279 |  | 4,025 | 2,442 |  | 43,755 |
| 1988 |  | 647 | 21,050 | 5,226 | 2,672 | 20,230 | 12,141 |  | 133 | 24,259 | 347 | 86,705 |
| 1989 | 738 |  | 13,044 | 4,303 | 5,777 | 12,388 | 1,312 |  |  |  |  | 37,562 |
| 1990 | 2,912 | 617 | 20,515 | 4,677 | 6,082 | 24,799 | 44,878 | 2,009 | 736 | 56,017 |  | 163,242 |
| 1991 | 3,265 | 274 | 20,799 | 17,193 | 4,907 | 54,502 | 38,300 | 2,741 | 77,873 | 42,224 | 391 | 262,469 |
| 1992 | 6,357 | 2,213 | 57,084 | 14,945 | 9,154 | 45,162 | 41,426 | 2,400 | 99,354 | 21,118 | 967 | 300,180 |
| 1993 | 612 | 1,540 | 58,511 | 17,826 | 19,253 | 78,560 | 64,935 | 4,055 | 104,682 | 78,481 | 264 | 428,719 |
| 1994 | 3,771 | 3,023 | 74,538 | 5,915 | 16,929 | 87,225 | 34,877 | 4,140 | 199,378 | 127,945 | 7,426 | 565,167 |
| 1995 | 2,189 | 3,902 | 73,806 | 29,997 | 38,261 | 155,821 | 254,055 | 15,361 | 355,237 | 149,103 | 11,450 | 1,089,182 |
| 1996 | 1,893 | 6,461 | 68,300 | 60,074 | 62,840 | 225,428 | 127,952 | 22,867 | 337,415 | 250,731 | 35,996 | 1,199,957 |
| 1997 | 35,259 | 13,546 | 199,373 | 62,162 | 64,639 | 236,902 | 67,800 | 19,706 | 334,068 | 518,483 | 96,189 | 1,648,127 |
| 1998 | 38,094 | 5,929 | 207,952 | 44,890 | 64,215 | 166,868 | 88,973 | 18,758 | 391,824 | 383,786 | 45,768 | 1,457,057 |
| 1999 | 21,102 | 4,641 | 126,755 | 56,320 | 55,805 | 195,261 | 237,010 | 8,772 | 263,191 | 411,873 | 65,658 | 1,446,388 |
| 2000 | 62,186 | 4,262 | 181,295 | 95,496 | 53,191 | 270,798 | 402,302 | 39,543 | 506,462 | 389,126 | 20,452 | 2,025,113 |
| 2001 | 59,947 | 15,291 | 288,032 | 80,125 | 54,165 | 189,714 | 560,208 | 41,195 | 382,557 | 355,020 | 58,876 | 2,085,130 |
| 2002 | 71,907 | 12,857 | 308,749 | 78,190 | 51,060 | 202,075 | 416,455 | 29,149 | 282,429 | 411,248 | 109,052 | 1,973,171 |
| 2003 | 57,765 | 24,878 | 407,100 | 115,471 | 95,983 | 313,761 | 391,842 | 29,522 | 525,191 | 455,812 | 127,727 | 2,545,052 |
| 2004 | 36,886 | 10,359 | 400,252 | 84,814 | 75,244 | 242,623 | 448,524 | 25,178 | 380,461 | 633,018 | 278,270 | 2,615,629 |
| 2005 | 68,638 | 26,026 | 368,422 | 112,918 | 114,965 | 298,387 | 327,016 | 19,955 | 490,275 | 403,792 | 104,997 | 2,335,391 |
| 2006 | 72,827 | 14,748 | 339,994 | 73,650 | 83,390 | 313,464 | 489,319 | 19,076 | 648,644 | 607,344 | 90,753 | 2,753,209 |
| 2007 | 71,443 | 7,070 | 347,102 | 102,112 | 109,856 | 370,722 | 206,275 | 10,095 | 679,024 | 366,964 | 45,502 | 2,316,165 |
| 2008 | 49,172 | 6,642 | 343,347 | 56,056 | 112,972 | 448,271 | 318,115 | 16,994 | 442,280 | 396,950 | 44,890 | 2,235,689 |
| 2009 | 52,997 | 10,761 | 336,470 | 75,051 | 72,901 | 329,402 | 269,162 | 21,762 | 530,395 | 213,406 | 7,375 | 1,919,682 |
| 2010 | 18,749 | 5,089 | 354,157 | 79,450 | 87,557 | 501,728 | 314,698 | 14,838 | 469,161 | 71,175 | 39,971 | 1,956,573 |

Table 7. Recreational releases (numbers) of migratory striped bass by state, 1982-2009, and annual dead discard estimates
Source: personal communication with NMFS. Note: All harvests based on the calendar year. MD and VA harvests include Chesapeake Bay. NC is Atlantic Ocean only.

| Year | ME | NH | MA | RI | CT | NY | NJ | DE | MD | VA | NC | Total | Dead Discards^ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1982 | 687 |  | 6,441 | 2,551 | 643,187 | 12,297 | 87,648 |  | 30,376 |  |  | 783,187 | 70,487 |
| 1983 |  |  | 34,018 | 5,444 |  | 1,469 | 117,807 |  | 213,487 | 11,997 |  | 384,222 | 34,580 |
| 1984 | 1,887 |  | 98,405 | 85,135 | 31,176 | 40,469 | 52,930 |  | 104,095 | 8,775 |  | 422,872 | 38,058 |
| 1985 | 81,153 | 93 | 12,360 | 40,567 | 26,946 | 57,540 | 5,524 | 702 | 147,103 | 2,598 |  | 374,586 | 33,713 |
| 1986 | 4,379 |  | 442,298 | 2,014 | 10,494 | 123,842 |  |  | 390,063 | 7,528 |  | 980,618 | 88,256 |
| 1987 | 18,106 | 435 | 93,660 | 63,849 | 78,434 | 253,986 | 56,697 | 16,988 | 118,395 | 7,611 |  | 708,161 | 63,734 |
| 1988 | 4,528 | 6,699 | 209,632 | 23,347 | 25,532 | 92,611 | 486,306 | 2,455 | 132,250 | 5,631 |  | 988,991 | 89,009 |
| 1989 | 16,028 | 4,822 | 193,067 | 38,007 | 125,370 | 365,712 | 265,958 | 4,807 | 114,269 | 72,766 |  | 1,200,806 | 108,073 |
| 1990 | 12,542 | 15,518 | 339,511 | 67,509 | 89,490 | 265,099 | 254,384 | 14,411 | 420,084 | 175,046 |  | 1,653,594 | 148,823 |
| 1991 | 67,490 | 6,559 | 448,735 | 30,975 | 301,476 | 756,663 | 166,198 | 38,334 | 1,036,011 | 208,350 | 256 | 3,061,047 | 275,494 |
| 1992 | 31,177 | 27,613 | 779,814 | 120,410 | 292,259 | 799,149 | 413,506 | 36,932 | 749,959 | 115,899 | 679 | 3,367,397 | 303,066 |
| 1993 | 373,064 | 14,979 | 833,566 | 100,993 | 271,318 | 694,107 | 308,253 | 89,543 | 1,556,848 | 100,374 | 1,524 | 4,344,569 | 391,011 |
| 1994 | 363,703 | 43,501 | 2,102,514 | 138,989 | 489,967 | 1,132,707 | 568,047 | 103,992 | 2,785,392 | 197,022 | 5,005 | 7,930,839 | 713,776 |
| 1995 | 505,758 | 285,486 | 3,280,882 | 356,324 | 507,124 | 1,209,585 | 694,889 | 115,363 | 2,401,277 | 370,949 | 16,225 | 9,743,862 | 876,948 |
| 1996 | 1,626,705 | 292,820 | 3,269,746 | 314,336 | 1,051,612 | 1,436,091 | 776,165 | 99,372 | 2,545,238 | 759,916 | 116,667 | 12,288,668 | 1,105,980 |
| 1997 | 1,417,976 | 279,298 | 5,417,751 | 606,746 | 722,708 | 1,018,892 | 736,734 | 130,073 | 4,019,987 | 1,232,323 | 135,853 | 15,718,341 | 1,414,651 |
| 1998 | 691,378 | 243,301 | 7,184,358 | 613,421 | 1,026,192 | 884,626 | 488,319 | 185,016 | 2,641,680 | 796,372 | 173,704 | 14,928,367 | 1,343,553 |
| 1999 | 649,816 | 145,730 | 4,576,208 | 360,121 | 704,025 | 1,228,628 | 1,152,682 | 105,696 | 2,387,615 | 940,755 | 263,445 | 12,514,721 | 1,126,325 |
| 2000 | 942,593 | 209,606 | 7,382,031 | 541,516 | 926,367 | 1,373,069 | 885,289 | 151,838 | 3,244,731 | 1,022,040 | 129,729 | 16,808,809 | 1,512,793 |
| 2001 | 870,522 | 164,336 | 5,410,899 | 377,474 | 1,107,707 | 824,278 | 965,650 | 162,677 | 2,890,054 | 620,947 | 49,953 | 13,444,497 | 1,210,005 |
| 2002 | 1,392,200 | 238,003 | 5,718,984 | 530,402 | 696,976 | 588,155 | 715,099 | 114,650 | 2,928,589 | 706,729 | 63,269 | 13,693,056 | 1,232,375 |
| 2003 | 846,708 | 260,167 | 4,361,710 | 448,707 | 843,037 | 1,083,808 | 925,885 | 169,012 | 4,652,800 | 970,554 | 48,945 | 14,611,333 | 1,315,020 |
| 2004 | 748,388 | 196,806 | 5,891,661 | 669,975 | 1,079,304 | 1,492,703 | 1,323,535 | 151,179 | 3,738,523 | 1,767,596 | 230,356 | 17,290,026 | 1,556,102 |
| 2005 | 3,024,291 | 512,771 | 4,839,752 | 741,022 | 1,713,541 | 1,348,377 | 1,197,440 | 224,841 | 3,753,328 | 1,484,540 | 109,535 | 18,949,438 | 1,705,449 |
| 2006 | 4,062,579 | 567,892 | 8,657,473 | 1,356,245 | 1,682,372 | 1,578,167 | 2,101,816 | 245,682 | 3,895,798 | 1,689,642 | 37,713 | 25,875,379 | 2,328,784 |
| 2007 | 1,105,347 | 288,985 | 5,772,100 | 740,941 | 1,831,899 | 1,456,055 | 1,494,572 | 251,074 | 2,998,085 | 913,849 | 16,195 | 16,869,102 | 1,518,219 |
| 2008 | 470,237 | 83,533 | 3,641,258 | 435,629 | 2,372,205 | 1,277,102 | 1,452,248 | 260,733 | 1,405,613 | 442,048 | 14,002 | 11,854,608 | 1,066,915 |
| 2009 | 247,157 | 65,587 | 2,490,380 | 358,484 | 1,281,439 | 922,277 | 719,181 | 152,557 | 1,218,342 | 355,140 | 3,666 | 7,814,210 | 703,279 |
| 2010 | 191,442 | 44,424 | 1,922,058 | 211,940 | 777,433 | 1,097,322 | 506,745 | 78,767 | 1,445,550 | 123,022 | 21,097 | 6,419,800 | 577,782 |

[^1]Table 8. Coastal commercial quotas and harvests (pounds)

|  | Am 6 <br> Allocation | $\begin{gathered} 2003 \\ \text { Quota^ }^{\wedge} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 2003 \\ \text { Harvest } \end{gathered}$ | $2003$ <br> Difference | 2004 <br> Quota | $2004$ <br> Harvest | $2004$ <br> Difference | $2005$ <br> Quota | $2005$ <br> Harvest | $2005$ <br> Difference | 2006 <br> Quota | $2006$ <br> Harvest | $2006$ <br> Difference |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MA | 1,159,750 | 1,036,880 | 1,055,439 | 18,559 | 1,141,191 | 1,206,305 | 65,114 | 1,094,636 | 1,104,737 | 10,101 | 1,149,649 | 1,312,168 | 162,519 |
| RI | 243,625 | 242,159 | 246,312 | 4,153 | 239,472 | 245,204 | 5,732 | 237,893 | 242,303 | 4,410 | 239,215 | 238,797 | -418 |
| NY | 1,061,060 | 828,293 | 753,261 | -75,032 | 828,293 | 741,668 | -86,625 | 828,293 | 689,821 | -138,472 | 828,293 | 688,446 | -139,847 |
| NJ+ | 321,750 | 321,750 | 121,410 | -200,340 | 321,750 | 81,870 | -239,880 | 321,750 | 29,866 | -291,884 | 321,750 | 23,656 | -298,094 |
| DE | 193,447 | 193,447 | 188,419 | -5,028 | 193,447 | 181,974 | -11,473 | 193,447 | 173,815 | -19,632 | 193,447 | 185,987 | -7,460 |
| MD | 131,560 | 126,396 | 98,149 | -28,247 | 126,396 | 115,453 | -10,943 | 126,396 | 46,871 | -79,525 | 126,396 | 91,093 | -35,303 |
| VA | 184,853 | 184,853 | 159,786 | -25,067 | 184,853 | 160,301 | -24,552 | 184,853 | 184,734 | -119 | 184,853 | 194,934 | 10,081 |
| NC~ | 480,480 | 480,480 | 434,369 | -46,111 | 480,480 | 421,645 | -58,835 | 480,480 | 454,521 | -25,959 | 480,480 | 352,036 | -128,444 |


|  | $\begin{gathered} 2007 \\ \text { Quota* } \end{gathered}$ | 2007 <br> Harvest | $2007$ <br> Difference | $2008$ Quota | $\begin{gathered} 2008 \\ \text { Harvest } \end{gathered}$ | $2008$ <br> Difference | $\begin{gathered} 2009 \\ \text { Quota } \end{gathered}$ | 2009 <br> Harvest | $2009$ <br> Difference | 2010 Quota | $2010$ <br> Harvest | $2010$ <br> Difference | 2011 <br> Quota |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MA | 997,231 | 1,040,328 | 43,097 | 1,116,653 | 1,160,122 | 43,469 | 1,116,281 | 1,138,291 | 22,010 | 1,137,740 | 1,224,356 | 86,616 | 1,073,134 |
| RI | 239,963 | 240,627 | 664 | 239,299 | 245,988 | 6,689 | 233,274 | 234,368 | 1,094 | 238,869 | 249,520 | 10,651 | 232,974 |
| NY | 828,293 | 729,743 | -98,550 | 828,293 | 653,100 | -175,193 | 828,293 | 789,891 | -38,402 | 828,293 | 782,402 | -45,891 | 828,293 |
| NJ+ | 321,750 | 13,615 | -308,135 | 321,750 | 7,345 | -314,405 | 321,750 | 10,330 | -311,420 | 321,750 | 12,833 | -308,917 | 321,750 |
| DE | 193,447 | 188,668 | -4,779 | 193,447 | 188,719 | -4,728 | 193,447 | 192,311 | -1,136 | 193,447 | 185,410 | -8,037 | 193,447 |
| MD | 126,396 | 96,301 | -30,095 | 126,396 | 118,005 | -8,391 | 126,396 | 127,327 | 931 | 125,465 | 44,802 | -80,663 | 126,396 |
| VA | 174,772 | 165,587 | -9,185 | 184,853 | 164,400 | -20,453 | 184,853 | 140,420 | -44,433 | 184,853 | 127,836 | -57,017 | 184,853 |
| NC~ | 480,480 | 424,723 | -55,757 | 480,480 | 299,162 | -181,318 | 480,480 | 189,995 | -290,485 | 480,480 | 272,632 | -207,848 | 480,480 |

$\wedge$ Beginning in 2003, NY and MD quotas reduced due to conservation equivalency; MA and RI quotas reduced in 2003 due to quota overages in
previous year.

* Beginning in 2007, RI quota reduced due to conservation equivalency.
+ NJ quota applied to recreational bonus fish program
~ NC harvests and quotas are for the December 1 to November 30 fishing year

Table 9. Chesapeake Bay Quotas and Harvests (pounds), 2010

| Year: 2010 | Jurisdiction | Quota | Harvest |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Commercial <br> Fisheries | Maryland | $2,098,863$ | $2,105,775$ |
|  | PRFC | 794,727 | 680,496 |
|  | Virginia | $1,538,022$ | $1,306,383$ |
| Subtotal | $\mathbf{4 , 4 3 1 , 6 1 2}$ | $\mathbf{4 , 0 9 2 , 6 5 4}$ |  |
|  | Maryland | $2,857,054$ | $2,783,515$ |
|  | PRFC | 650,232 | $*$ |
|  | Virginia | $1,538,022$ | 389,775 |
| Subtotal |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{5 , 0 4 5 , 3 0 8}$ |  |  | $\mathbf{3 , 1 7 3 , 2 9 0}$ |

Notes: Maryland and Virginia recreational harvested are MRFSS estimates of Bay harvest; in the case of Maryland, the estimate of migratory fish harvested during the spring trophy season from Horne et al. (2009) is subtracted. Recreational harvest in the Potomac River is included in Maryland and Virginia harvest estimates. The PRFC recreational quota includes the charter boat quota of 72,248 pounds.

Table 10. Chesapeake Bay Spring Trophy Fishery Quotas and Harvests (numbers of fish) (Source: Horne et al. 2009, except the 2009 harvest estimate, which includes an updated estimate of Virginia’s harvest from that state’s 2010 compliance report.)

| Year | Quota | Harvest |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1992 | NA | 1,013 |
| 1993 | 3,000 | 2,719 |
| 1994 | 5,000 | 3,672 |
| 1995 | 25,000 | 42,634 |
| 1996 | 30,000 | 11,613 |
| 1997 | 30,000 | 21,222 |
| 1998 | 30,000 | 10,021 |
| 1999 | 30,000 | 17,051 |
| 2000 | 30,000 | 26,748 |
| 2001 | 30,000 | 25,728 |
| 2002 | 30,000 | 14,839 |
| 2003 | 30,000 | 43,900 |
| 2004 | 40,624 | 31,404 |
| 2005 | 40,624 | 65,664 |
| 2006 | 41,488 | 67,771 |
| 2007 | $30,000 *$ | 36,328 |
| 2008 | NA | 36,166 |
| 2009 | NA | 90,782 |
| 2010 | NA | 19,901 |

[^2]Table 11. Estimated wave-1 recreational harvest (numbers of fish) in North Carolina and Virginia for use in striped bass stock assessments
(Yellow shading indicates estimates developed by the Striped Bass Technical Committee; green shading indicates estimates from the MRFSS (with PSE in parentheses); grey shading indicates estimates developed by the VMRC; and an asterisk (*) indicates preliminary estimates and NA = not available.)

| Year | North Carolina | Virginia |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1996 | 18,860 | 5,985 |
| 1997 | 49,037 | 83,793 |
| 1998 | 15,088 | 89,778 |
| 1999 | 18,860 | 107,734 |
| 2000 | 7,544 | 53,867 |
| 2001 | 18,860 | 53,867 |
| 2002 | 75,442 | 89,778 |
| 2003 | 79,214 | 53,867 |
| 2004 | $139,528(31.7)$ | 155,616 |
| 2005 | $72,050(25.4)$ | 35,991 |
| 2006 | $85,884(22.9)$ | 84,144 |
| 2007 | $36,909(26.3)$ | 121,273 |
| 2008 | $44,012(26.9)$ | 190,153 |
| 2009 | $7,375(32.4)$ | 92,866 |
| 2010 | $39,971(30.2)$ | 34,392 |
| 2011 | $82,876 *(29.8)$ | NA |

Table 12. Status of compliance with monitoring and reporting requirements, 2010 (JAI = juvenile abundance index survey, SSB = spawning stock biomass survey, tag = participation in coastwide tagging program, $\mathrm{Y}=$ compliance standards met, $\mathrm{N}=$ compliance standards not met, na = not applicable)

| Jurisdiction | Fishery-independent <br> monitoring | Fishery-dependent monitoring |  | Annual <br> reporting |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Requirement(s) | Status | Requirement(s) | Status | Status |
| ME | JAI | Y | x | na | Y |
| NH | x | na | x | na | Y |
| MA | tag | Y | composition, catch \& effort (C\&R) | Y | Y |
| RI | x | na | composition (C\&R), catch \& effort (R) | Y | Y |
| CT | x | na | composition, catch \& effort (R) | Y | Y |
| NY | JAI, SSB, tag | Y | composition, catch \& effort (C\&R) | Y | Y |
| NJ | JAI, tag | Y | composition, catch \& effort (R) | Y | Y |
| PA | SSB | Y | x | na | Y |
| DE | SSB, tag | Y | composition, catch \& effort (C) | Y | N |
| MD | JAI, SSB, tag | Y | composition, catch \& effort (C\&R) | Y | Y |
| PRFC | x | na | composition, catch \& effort (C\&R) | Y | Y |
| DC | x | na | x | na | Y |
| VA | JAI, SSB, tag | Y | composition, catch \& effort (C\&R) | Y | Y |
| NC | JAI, SSB, tag | Y | composition (C) | Y | Y |


[^0]:    Note: All harvests are based on the calendar year. MD and VA harvests include Chesapeake Bay harvest. NC is Atlantic Ocean only.

[^1]:    $\wedge$ Dead discards are estimated by multiplying the number of released fish by a mortality rate of $9 \%$.

[^2]:    * In 2007, the 30,000 fish allowance was a target not a quota.

