

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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Tautog Technical Committee Meeting Summary

April 3, 2023

Technical Committee Members: Craig Weedon (Chair, MD), Sandra Dumais (NY), Nichole Ares (RI), Linda Barry (NJ), Scott Newlin (DE), Joshua McGilly (VA)

ASMFC Staff: James Boyle and Katie Drew

The TC met via conference call on April 3, 2023 to draft a set of questions for TC members to use to survey commercial dealers and harvesters in their respective states about the commercial tagging program. The TC will reconvene in May to discuss the results and develop recommendations to present to the Board at the Summer Meeting.

Additionally, the TC is interested in hearing from members regarding the percentage of each states' fishery (based on landings) that utilizes live storage, as well as the mean length of fish to consider when discussing tag size.

Survey Questions

- 1. Did you use live storage?
 - If so, what system of live storage?
 - i. Flow-through water system
 - ii. Cage in open water system
 - iii. Closed tank system
- 2. Did you experience issues with the tags?
 - i. No
 - ii. Yes, and I did not find a solution
 - iii. Yes, but I found a solution
 - a. Please describe your solution
 - If yes, describe issues with the tags.
 - Note: can be open ended or multiple choice (e.g. lesions, tags not locking, etc)
- 3. Did you use the National Band & Tag applicator?
- 4. How long do the fish spend in live storage on average?
- 5. Did fish die from the tags?
 - If so, what % of fish died?
- 6. Did the tags cause excessive damage?
 - If so, What % of fish had damage?

Vision: Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries