Review of MRIP Preliminary Wave 4 Harvest Estimates for Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass

Presented to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board

November 2, 2015

Summer Flounder

Year	Harvest through wave 4	RHL (millions of lbs)	Percent of RHL
2014	6,703,542	7.01	95.63%
2015	4,200,003	7.38	56.91%
Percent Change	-37.3	5.3	-40.5

Summer Flounder

2015 Management Measures

- Status quo regions and management measures from 2014

Summer Flounder

Regional Performance

Regions	MASSACHUSETTS	RHODE ISLAND	CONNECTICUT-NEW JERSEY	DELAWARE-VIRGINIA	NORTH CAROLINA
Preliminary regional total (W 1-4)	106,410	550,323	3,020,120	478,854	44,296
Projected Regional Total	238,604	635,647	5,203,623	592,467	33,201
Harvest as % of projected total	44.6	86.6	58.0	80.8	133.4

Black Sea Bass

in pounds

Year	MA	RI	CT	NY	NJ	DE	MD	VA	NC	Coastwide Harvest
2014	937,556	193,543	295,903	544,007	413,242	23,723	41,052	4,463	1,005	2,454,494
2015	757,432	187,702	202,054	754,803	499,894	10,628	16,509	57,619	2,449	2,489,090
Percent Change	-19.2	-3.0	-31.7	38.7	21.0	-55.2	-59.8	1191.0	143.7	1.4

Black Sea Bass Regional Performance

Year	Northern Region (MA-NJ)	Southern Region (DE-NC)	Coastwide Harvest
2014	2,384,251	70,243	2,454,494
2015	2,401,885	87,205	2,489,090
Percent Change	0.7	24.1	1.4

Scup

in pounds

Year	MA	RI	CT	NY	NJ	DE	MD	VA	NC	Coastwide Harvest
2014	1,530,016	751,874	263,880	838,554	0	28	0	0	389	3,384,741
2015	1,210,452	496,525	224,871	984,594	3210*	0	0	9*	86*	2,919,747
Percent Change	-20.9	-34	-14.8	17.4	32100	-100	-	900	-78	-13.7

Questions?

Preliminary Projections: SFL

Summer Flounder Projected 2015 Landings in lb		% of 2015 RHL	% of 2016 RHL
Coastwide 2014 %	4,635,435	63%	86%
Sum State by State 2014%	4,691,758	64%	87%
Coastwide 2012-2014 %	4,667,870	63%	86%
Sum State by State 2012-2014%	4,626,117	63%	85%
2015 RHL	3,347 mt	7,378,872 lb	
2016 RHL	2,457 mt	5,416,758 lb	

Preliminary Projections: BSB

Black Sea Bass Projected 2015 Landings in lb		% of 2015 RHL	% of 2016 RHL
Coastwide 2014 %	3,787,912	163%	134%
Sum State by State 2014%	3,785,489	163%	134%
Coastwide 2012-2014 %	3,630,939	156%	129%
Sum State by State 2012-2014%	3,604,566	155%	128%
2015 RHL	1,056 mt	2,328,081 lb	
2016 RHL	1,280 mt	2,821,917 lb	
2015 (2014 only, no MA W5,6, adj NJ)	3,537,790	152%	125%
2015 (2012-2014, no MA W5,6, adj NJ)	3,168,286	136%	112%

Management Approaches for the 2016 Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass Recreational Fisheries

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November 2, 2015

Summer Flounder Background

- In October 2014, the Board initiated draft addendum XXVI to develop alternative regional management approaches for the Summer Flounder Recreational Fishery in 2015

- Addendum XXVI was then approved in February 2015, extending status quo regional management from 2014 into 2015
  - Ability to extend up to one year

Summer Flounder 2016 Season

- The Board can extend the 2015 regional management alignment into 2016 without an addendum

- An addendum is needed if different regional management alignments are preferred in 2016 and beyond

Black Sea Bass Background

- Through addendum XXV, the Board moved to extend ad hoc regional management for the Black Sea Bass Recreational Fishery for 2014
  - Option to extend one year (2015)

- The Board extended ad hoc regional management for 2015 through addendum XXV in December 2014

Black Sea Bass 2016 Season

- A new addendum is needed if the Board wishes to continue ad hoc regional management in the Black Sea Bass Recreational Fishery into 2016

- If an addendum is not initiated then coastwide management measures will be place for 2016

Next Steps

- The Board needs to determine whether to continue regional management for the Summer Flounder Recreational Fishery in 2016.
- The Board needs to initiate an addenda to extend ad hoc regional management for Black Sea Bass Recreational Fisheries in 2016.

Questions?

Draft Terms of Reference for Black Sea Bass 2016 Assessment

Presented to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board

November 2, 2015

TOR #1

Evaluate the distribution, movement and potential for spatial structure of the stock, the ability of existing data to support alternative spatial structure, and their consequences for the stock assessment.

TOR #2

Estimate catch from all sources including landings and discards. Characterize the uncertainty in these sources of data. Evaluate available information on discard mortality and, if appropriate, update mortality rates applied to discard components of the catch.Describe the spatial and temporal distribution of fishing effort.

TOR #3

Present the survey data being used in the assessment (e.g., indices of abundance, recruitment, state surveys, age-length data, etc.). Investigate the utility of fishery dependent indices as a measure of relative abundance. Characterize the uncertainty and any bias in these sources of data.

TOR #4

Consider the consequences of environmental factors on the estimates of abundance or relative indices derived from surveys.

TOR #5

Investigate implications of hermaphroditic life history on stock assessment model. If possible, incorporate parameters to account for hermaphroditism.

TOR #6

Estimate annual fishing mortality, recruitment and stock biomass (both total and spawning stock), using measures that are appropriate to the assessment model, for the time series (integrating results from TOR-4&5), and estimate their uncertainty. Include a historical retrospective analysis and past projection performance evaluation to allow a comparison with most recent assessment results.

TOR #7

Estimate biological reference points (BRPs; point estimates or proxies for BMSY, BTHRESHOLD, FMSY, and MSY), including defining BRPs for spatially explicit areas if appropriate, and provide estimates of their uncertainty. If analytic model-based estimates are unavailable, consider recommending alternative measurable proxies for BRPs. Comment on the appropriateness of existing BRPs and the "new" (i.e., updated, redefined, or alternative) BRPs.

TOR #8

Evaluate stock status with respect to a new model or new models corresponding to spatial units developed for this peer review.

TOR #9

Develop approaches and apply them to conduct stock projections.

a) Provide numerical annual projections (3-5 years) and the statistical distribution (e.g., probability density function) of the OFL (overfishing level) that fully incorporates observation, process and model uncertainty (see Appendix to the SAW TORs). Each projection should estimate and report annual probabilities of exceeding threshold BRPs for F, and probabilities of falling below threshold BRPs for biomass. Use a sensitivity analysis approach in which a range of assumptions about the most important uncertainties in the assessment are considered (e.g., terminal year abundance, variability in recruitment, and definition of BRPs for black sea bass).

TOR #9 (cont'd)

b) Comment on which projections seem most realistic. Consider major uncertainties in the assessment as well as the sensitivity of the projections to various assumptions.

c) Describe this stock's vulnerability (see "Appendix to the SAW TORs") to becoming overfished, and how this could affect the choice of ABC.

TOR #10

Review, evaluate and report on the status of the SARC and Working Group research recommendations listed in recent SARC reviewed assessments and review panel reports. Identify new research recommendations

Revised 2016 Black Sea Bass Commercial Quota and Recreational Harvest Limit

Presented to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board

November 2, 2015

Background

- In August 2015, the Board and Council approved a commercial quota of 2.24 million lbs and recreational harvest limit of 2.33 million lbs for 2016-2017.
- In September 2015, the Council's SSC peer reviewed a new data limited approach for setting the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) for Black Sea Bass.
  - Offered a revised 2016 and 2017 ABC

Background (cont'd)

- In October the Council approved the revised 2016 and 2017 ABC recommendation of 6.67 million pounds.

- The new 2016 Council approved commercial quota is 2.71 million lbs and the recreational harvest limit 2.88 million lbs

Revised 2016 Commercial Quota

State	% Allocation	2016 ASMFC Initial Quota*
ME	0.005	13,550
NH	0.005	13,550
MA	0.13	352,300
RI	0.11	298,100
CT	0.01	27,100
NY	0.07	189,700
NJ	0.2	542,000
DE	0.05	135,500
MD	0.11	298,100
VA	0.2	542,000
NC**	0.11	298,100
Total	100%	2,710,000

*State by state Quotas have not been adjusted yet for 2014 overages.

**North Carolina landings north of Cape Hatteras.

Next Steps

The Board can consider a revised 2016 commercial quota and recreational harvest limit for Black Sea Bass

Questions?

2014 Black Sea Bass Commercial Landings impact on 2016 Quota

Presented to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board

November 2, 2015

Background

- NOAA monitors coastwide quota; ASMFC administers state by state quota
- The 2014 Black Sea Bass Commercial Quota was 2.17 million lb
- NOAA considered closing the fishery in federal waters in December 2014 but ultimately did not
- Coastwide Overages are assessed to the Quota two years removed (2014 applied to 2016)

Background (cont'd)

- ASMFC Staff and NOAA Staff identified discrepancies between the state reported landings and the SAFIS database
- Differs between a <1% (171 lb) and 4.68% (101,739 lb) coastwide quota overage

NOAA 2014 Commercial Landings

STATE	NOAA Commercial Landings	NOAA RSA Landings	NOAA Landings – RSA	Final 2014 ASMFC State Quota (including Transfers)	NOAA overage	NOAA overage
ME	0	0	0	872		
NH	0	0	0	872		
MA	307,053	29,777	277,276	282,661		
RI	267,774	22,506	245,268	239,174	2.55%	6,094
CT	27,036	0	27,036	21,743	24.34%	5,293
NY	223,706	35,270	188,436	172,202	9.43%	16,234
NJ	494,076	8,003	486,073	434,862	11.78%	51,211
DE	102,279	0	102,279	108,716		
MD	303,314	0	303,314	239,174	26.82%	64,140
VA	419,952	9,790	410,162	444,901		
NC	236,207	0	236,207	229,135	3.09%	7,072
Total	**2,381,397**	**105,346**	**2,276,051**	**2,174,312**	**4.68%**	**101,739**

State 2014 Commercial Landings

STATE	ASMFC Commercial Landings	ASMFC RSA Landings	ASMFC Landings – RSA	Final 2014 ASMFC State Quota (including Transfers)	ASMFC overage	ASMFC overage
ME	0	0	0	872		
NH	0	0	0	872		
MA	307,046	30,188	276,858	282,661		
RI	267,300	23,593	243,707	239,174	1.90%	4,533
CT	26,957	0	26,957	21,743	23.98%	5,214
NY	237,458	35,300	202,158	172,202	17.40%	29,956
NJ	493,775	8,000	485,775	434,862	11.71%	50,913
DE	102,279	0	102,279	108,716		
MD	248,032	0	248,032	239,174	3.70%	8,858
VA	387,518	9,790	377,728	444,901		
NC	210,989	0	210,989	229,135		
Total	**2,281,354**	**106,871**	**2,174,483**	**2,174,312**	**0.01%**	**171**

Significant Discrepancies

STATE	NOAA Landings – RSA	ASMFC Landings – RSA	Difference
MA	277,276	276,858	(418)
RI	245,268	243,707	(1,561)
CT	27,036	26,957	(79)
NY	188,436	202,158	13,722
NJ	486,073	485,775	(298)
DE	102,279	102,279	0
MD	303,314	248,032	(55,282)
VA	410,162	377,728	(32,434)
NC	236,207	210,989	(25,218)
Total	*2,276,051*	*2,174,483*	***129,012***

Background (Cont'd)

- Addendum XX (2009)
  - Quota Reconciliation Process (done before March 1)
  - Redistribution of quota based on overages & underages
  - 2 Options
    - Negotiated Process
    - Default Underage redistribution based proportion allocation

Next Steps

Staff is seeking guidance in how to move forward in the specification process for 2016, specifically what data set should be used in determining final 2014 landings.

Questions?