



Update 2023-2025 Specifications for the Atlantic Herring Fishery



Atlantic Herring Management Board

November 7, 2022

2023-2025 Specifications



- In September 2022 the New England Fishery Management Council voted on a 2023-2025 specifications package for Atlantic herring
- Specifications based on:
 - 2022 stock assessment, includes projections with updated recruitment methodology
 - Recommendations from the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee consistent with the biomass-based ABC control rule
 - Atlantic herring rebuilding plan in Framework 9
- 2023-2025 annual catch limits (ACLs) are low, but are an increase relative to recent years



2023-2025 Specifications Timeline



- **September 2022:** New England Council selects a 2023-2025 specification package to be submitted to NOAA Fisheries for review and approval
- **January-February 2023:** NOAA Fisheries rule to implement 2023-2025 specifications; ASMFC Atlantic Herring Board considers action to set 2023-2025 specifications at 2023 ASMFC Winter Meeting



2023-2025 Specifications



Metric Tons

NEFMC Specification	2023	2024	2025
Overfishing Limit (OFL)	29,138	32,233	40,727
Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC)	16,649	23,409	28,181
Management Uncertainty*	4,220	4,220	4,220
Annual Catch Limit (ACL)	12,429	19,189	23,961
Border Transfer	0	0	0
Domestic Annual Harvest	12,429	19,189	23,961

**If the New Brunswick weir fishery catch through October 1 is less than the associated "trigger" of 2,722 mt, then 1,000 mt of the management uncertainty buffer will be added to the Area 1A sub-ACL and the ACL.*

2023-2025 Specifications



Metric Tons

NEFMC Specification	2023	2024	2025
Area 1A Sub-ACL* (28.9%)	3,592	5,546	6,925
Area 1B Sub-ACL (4.3%)	534	825	1,030
Area 2 Sub-ACL (27.8%)	3,455	5,335	6,661
Area 3 Sub-ACL (39%)	4,847	7,484	9,345
Fixed Gear Set-Aside	30	30	30
Research Set-Aside as % of sub-ACLs	0%	0%	0%

**If the New Brunswick weir fishery catch through October 1 is less than the associated “trigger” of 2,722 mt, then 1,000 mt of the management uncertainty buffer will be added to the Area 1A sub-ACL and the ACL.*

2023-2025 Comparison to 2022



Metric Tons

NEFMC Specification	Initial 2022	2023	2024	2025
Total ACL	4,098	12,429	19,189	23,961
Area 1A Sub-ACL (28.9%)	1,184	3,592	5,546	6,925
Area 1B Sub-ACL (4.3%)	176	534	825	1,030
Area 2 Sub-ACL (27.8%)	1,139	3,455	5,335	6,661
Area 3 Sub-ACL (39%)	1,598	4,847	7,484	9,345

Next Steps



- **January-February 2023**
 - NOAA Fisheries rule to implement 2023-2025 specifications
 - ASMFC Atlantic Herring Board considers action to set 2023-2025 specifications at 2023 ASMFC Winter Meeting



Questions?





Quota Periods for the 2023 Area 1A Fishery



Atlantic Herring Management Board

November 7, 2022

Outline



- Review Amendment 3 quota period systems
- **Board action for consideration today:
Set quota periods for the 2023 Area 1A fishery**



Area 1A Quota Periods



- Per Amendment 3, quota periods shall be determined annually for Area 1A
- The Board can distribute the Area 1A sub-ACL to meet the needs of the fishery using quota periods:
 - Bi-monthly
 - Trimester
 - Seasonal
- The Board can also decide whether quota from Jan 1 – May 31 will be allocated to later in the fishing season
- Underages may be rolled from one period to the next within the same year



Area 1A Quota Periods



Bi-Monthly Quotas

January – December			No Landings Prior to June 1 (with June as a one-month period)			No Landings Prior to June 1 (with December as a one-month period)		
Period	Months	%	Period	Months	%	Period	Months	%
1	Jan/Feb	1.5%	1	June	16.4%	1	June/July	36.8%
2	Mar/Apr	2.3%	2	July/Aug	40.1%	2	Aug/Sep	36.0%
3	May/June	24.0%	3	Sep/Oct	34.0%	3	Oct/Nov	27.1%
4	July/Aug	34.6%	4	Nov/Dec	9.5%	4	Dec	0.2%
5	Sep/Oct	29.4%						
6	Nov/Dec	8.2%						

Trimesters

Seasonal Quotas

January – December			January - December			No Landings Prior to June 1		
Trimester	Months	%	Season	Months	%	Season	Season	%
1	Jan - May	13.7%	1	Jan - Sep	76.5%	1	Jun - Sep	72.8%
2	Jun - Sept	62.8%	2	Oct - Dec	23.5%	2	Oct - Dec	27.2%
3	Oct - Dec	23.5%						



Quota Periods in Recent Years



- **2019:** bimonthly quota periods with no landings prior to June 1 (with June as a 1-month period)
 - Underages rolled to next period

June	16.4%
July/Aug	40.1%
Sep/Oct	34.0%
Nov/Dec	9.5%

- **2020, 2021, 2022:** seasonal quota periods with no landings prior to June 1
 - Underages rolled to next period

June-Sep	72.8%
Oct-Dec	27.2%



Today



- **Board action for consideration:**
Set quota periods for the 2023 Area 1A fishery

NEFMC proposed 2023 Area 1A sub-ACL is 3,592 metric tons (pending review and implementation by NOAA).

Questions?

