



Addendum II Area Measures for New York, Pennsylvania, and Delaware



Striped Bass TC Report
March 26, 2024
Tyler Grabowski (TC Chair)

Background



- TC met via webinar on March 4, 2024
- Reviewed analysis for Addendum II area-specific recreational measures:
 - New York Hudson River fishery
 - Pennsylvania spring slot fishery in lower Delaware River/Estuary
 - Delaware summer slot fishery in Delaware River/Bay
- NY, PA, and DE submitted measures estimated to achieve at least a 14.1% estimated reduction for these fisheries

Methods



- Typical methodology to estimate reductions for proposed striped bass measures
- Each state used available fishery-dependent data and/or fishery-independent data to characterize the size of available striped bass
- Calculated percent change in removals based on change in harvest and release mortality
- Also accounted for bag limit reduction (PA)

Methods



- TC noted significant data limitations, particularly for PA and DE fisheries
- PA fishery is small compared to coastwide removals; no fishery-dependent data
 - No MRIP sampling in PA and no logbook program
- DE has low number of MRIP intercepts, especially when looking at one wave
- TC noted NY, PA, and DE used the best data available given these challenges

New York Hudson River



- TC had no concerns with New York Hudson River analysis
- Confirmed that non-compliance measure has not been applied this analysis (nor the PA or DE analysis) in the past

State	Fishery	Current Measures	Proposed Measures	Estimated Reduction
NY	Hudson River (Apr-Nov)	1 fish at 18"-28"	1 fish at 23"-28"	-14.9%

Pennsylvania Spring Slot



- TC recommended revisions to Pennsylvania's initial spring slot analysis
 - Apply 25% estimated savings from reducing bag limit (2 fish to 1 fish)
 - Apply multiplicative reduction equation to account for simultaneous changes to slot and bag limit
- TC had no concerns with the revised analysis

State	Fishery	Current Measures	Proposed Measures	Estimated Reduction
PA	Apr-May slot in lower Delaware River Estuary	2 fish at 21"-<24"	1 fish at 22"-<26"	-19.3%

Delaware Summer Slot



- TC had no concerns with the Delaware summer slot analysis

State	Fishery	Current Measures	Proposed Measures	Estimated Reduction
DE	Jul-Aug slot in Delaware River/Bay	1 fish at 20"-25"	1 fish at 20"-24"	-15.4%



Review of Addendum II State Implementation Plans



Striped Bass Plan Review Team Report
March 26, 2024

Background



- State implementation plans for Addendum II due March 1
- States implement Addendum II measures by May 1
- PRT met via webinar on March 12, 2024 to review plans

Background



Addendum II Requirements

Ocean Recreational Fishery	1 fish at 28-31" with 2022 seasons
NY, PA, DE specific area fisheries	Measures designed for 14.1% reduction
Chesapeake Bay Recreational Fishery	1 fish at 19-24" with 2022 seasons
Recreational Filleting Allowance	If filleting is allowed, racks must be retained and possession limited to two fillets per legal fish
Ocean and Chesapeake Bay Commercial Fisheries	7% reduction from 2022 quotas with 2022 size limits

Rec Size-Bag-Season



- No inconsistencies with recreational size-bag-season
- Four states implemented <31" upper bound in the ocean (more conservative)
- MD and PRFC are eliminating trophy fisheries as of May 1; MD is also eliminating late May Susquehanna Flats fishery (more conservative)

Rec Size-Bag-Season



- PA proposing delayed implementation until 2025 for new April-May slot limit and bag limit
 - Changing slot size in the middle of two-month season would be procedurally burdensome and confusing to anglers with non-compliance and enforcement issues
 - Pre-Add II measures already published in 2024 PA Fishing Summary

Rec Filleting



- Requirement limiting possession to two fillets per legal fish is missing from some state regulations; some state regulations are not clear
- MD and VA authorize filleting, but missing the two fillet per fish limit
- Some states specify length must not be altered, fish should be measurable, and/or have head and tail attached
 - CT and NC interpret as filleting is allowed; missing two fillet per fish limit
 - DE, DC, and PRFC interpret as filleting is not allowed (two fillet limit is not applicable)

Rec Filleting



- PA proposing delayed implementation until 2025 for two fillet per fish requirement
 - Existing PA regulations require retaining racks
 - Needs more time for the two-fillet limit to go through the full Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission rulemaking process

Commercial Quota Reduction



- MD, VA, and PRFC have not implemented 7% reduction for 2024 Chesapeake Bay commercial fisheries
- MD has not implemented the 7% reduction for their 2024 ocean commercial fishery
 - Commercial fisheries started prior to Add II approval
 - Commercial tags were already distributed
 - Will pay back any 2024 overage above the new Add II reduced quota level
 - PRFC and VA note landings in recent years have been below new Add II reduced quotas; do not anticipate overage

Commercial Quota Reduction



- MD and PRFC note if overage occurs in 2024, that overage will be deducted from their 2026 quota
 - 2025 quota already distributed to permit holders before 2024 ends
- Addendum II requires any overage to be deducted from the state's quota in the following year (i.e., 2025)

Commercial Size Limits



- No inconsistencies regarding commercial size limits (same as 2022 size limits)



Questions?