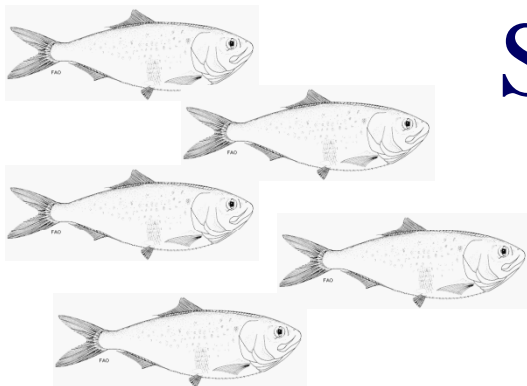




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Episodic Events Set Aside Subcommittee Report



Atlantic Menhaden Management Board
May 22, 2013



Overview

- Board approved a 1% TAC set aside for episodic events through Amendment 2 (December 2012)
- Incomplete, need to discuss and finalize implementation details (February 2013)
- Board tasked Subcommittee of New England states to further develop episodic events program (May 2013).





Subcommittee Recommendation

- Subcommittee proposes the Board consider a two-fold approach to address the program:
- (1) enactment of a pilot program for 2013
- (2) initiation of an addendum to more fully develop the program for 2014 and thereafter.





Eligibility

- To be eligible to participate in the EE program a state's bait landings must have been less than 2% of the total coastwide bait landings from 2009-2011.
- ME, NH, RI, CT, NY, DE, SC, GA, and FL are eligible to participate.
- Interested states must implement the following mandatory provisions as part of the eligibility requirements





Mandatory Provisions

- Must implement daily trip level harvester reporting submitted weekly to ASMFC
- Episodic event harvest must be restricted to state waters only.
- States must implement a maximum daily trip limit no greater than 120,000 pounds/vessel.





Qualification Process

- To qualify a state must demonstrate implementation of the mandatory provisions through resubmission of its implementation plan by July 1, 2013
- ASMFC will issue a letter to the Board identifying state(s) that qualify to participate in the program.
- States that qualify do not forfeit their allocated state quotas as they will use their quota to determine if an episodic event has occurred.





Declaring Participation

- Once a state qualifies they must monitor their state landings to determine if an episodic event occurs.
- Episodic events shall be defined as any instances when a qualified state has reached its individual state quota, prior to September 1, and has information indicating the presence of unusually large amounts of menhaden in its state waters.
- If an episodic event is triggered, the state must declare to ASMFC by September 1 that it plans to begin harvest from the set aside.
- States declaring participation in the episodic event program will not be eligible for *de minimis* status.





Procedure for Unused Set Aside

- If an episodic event is not triggered by September 1
 - ❖ quota will immediately be rolled into the overall quota and redistributed to the states based on the historical allocation from 2009-2011.
- If an episodic event is triggered,
 - ❖ any unused set aside at the end of the calendar year will remain unused and will not be rolled over into the coastwide quota.
 - ❖ The justification for this measure is that Amendment 2 does not currently allow for quota rollovers because Atlantic menhaden is experiencing overfishing.





Quota Payback

- Require that if the set aside is exceeded, any overages are reduced from the next season's episodic events set-aside.





Program Review

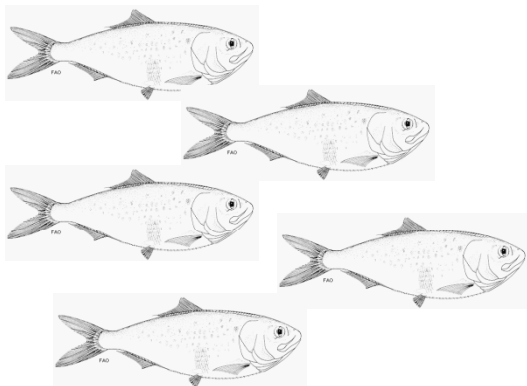
- Review performance of the episodic events set aside pilot program and report back to the Board at the fall ASMFC meeting
- Board may change episodic events program through Board action or the adaptive management addendum process





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State Implementation Plans for Amendment 2 to the ISFMP for Atlantic Menhaden



Atlantic Menhaden Management Board

May 22, 2013



Overview

- Amendment 2 was approved in December 2012, and will be implemented July 1, 2013
- However, beginning on January 1, 2013 all Atlantic menhaden landings will count towards a state's quota
- States submitted implementation plans by April 15, 2013 to meet the requirements of Amendment 2
- The PRT reviewed implementation plans and has the following recommendations.





General Recommendations

- Approve implementation plans from MA, PRFC, and FL as is because their plans fully met the requirements of Amendment 2.
- States of ME, NH, NY, NJ, and DE clarify when their proposed regulations will be implemented.
- States of ME, NH, DE and SC submit rule language to support submitted plans because it's difficult for the PRT to determine if requirements have been met without a state's regulatory code.
- States of DE, SC, and GA implement the bycatch allowance provision in Amendment 2 to prevent directed fisheries from developing.





Bycatch Allowance

- A bycatch allowance mechanism for non-directed fisheries following the harvest of the state's TAC and closure of directed fisheries (*Bycatch Allowance 4.2.1.7*).
- Bycatch allowance has the following mandatory provisions:
 - 6,000 pound bycatch landing limit per calendar day for all non-directed fisheries
 - Prohibit a vessel from making multiple trips in one day to land more than 6,000 lbs
 - Prohibit the use of multiple carrier vessels per trip to offload bycatch exceeding 6,000 pounds
 - Must have a mechanism to require timely reporting of bycatch allowance landings by non-directed fisheries





Bycatch Allowance Revision

- Maryland is proposing that a single vessel may land/possess 12,000 pounds per day when there are two individuals physically on board
 - ❖ Each individual holds a 6,000 pound menhaden bycatch permit.
 - ❖ Additionally, individuals who hold multiple striped bass pound net permits be allowed 12,000 pounds as a daily limit because they are harvesting larger volumes of striped bass.
- Virginia requests the bycatch allowance provision apply to any non-purse seine licensed individual, meaning it does not prohibit two or more individuals from operating from a single vessel with each landing up to 6,000 pounds of Atlantic menhaden.
- PRFC has interest in allowing multiple individuals to harvest from a single vessel if the Board considers that for other states.





Definition of Non-Directed Fisheries

- General concern from the PRT about fisheries directing on Atlantic menhaden and landing under the bycatch allowance.
- State of MA implemented a 5% by weight rule
- “The weight of the bycatch of Atlantic menhaden cannot exceed 5% of the weight of the entire catch being landed, thus restricting use of the bycatch tolerance to non-directed fisheries.”





State Specific Recommendations

Rhode Island

- Prohibit the use of multiple carrier vessels per trip to offload bycatch exceeding 6,000 pounds (*Bycatch Allowance 4.2.1.7*).

Connecticut

- Prohibit a vessel from making multiple trips in one day to land more than 6,000 pounds. (*Bycatch Allowance 4.2.1.7*).
- Prohibit the use of multiple carrier vessels per trip to offload bycatch exceeding 6,000 pounds. (*Bycatch Allowance 4.2.1.7*).





State Specific Recommendations

New York

- Require purse seine vessels to submit trip level reports to ensure purse seiners are reporting timely enough to prevent overages (*Quota Monitoring 3.6.1.2*).
- Exclude the menhaden purse seine permit from the landing under the bycatch allowance if they are directing on menhaden because the bycatch allowance is intended for non-directed fisheries (*Bycatch Allowance 4.2.1.7*).

New Jersey

- Prohibit the use of multiple carrier vessels per trip to offload bycatch exceeding 6,000 pounds. (*Bycatch Allowance 4.2.1.7*).
- Exclude purse seines and bait nets from landing under the bycatch allowance if they are directing on menhaden because the bycatch allowance is intended for non-directed fisheries (*Bycatch Allowance 4.2.1.7*).





State Specific Recommendations

North Carolina

- Collect quantity of gear on trip tickets for pound nets to quantify effort (*Adult CPUE Index 3.6.2.2*).
- Consider closing directed fishery sooner than the 90% as proposed because of the one month lag in reporting that may not be timely enough to limit the chance for quota overages (*Quota Monitoring 3.6.1.2*).





Timely Monitoring

- Amendment 2 requires that each states' timely quota monitoring program be approved by the using the following guidelines:
 - ❖ The approved methodology for timely monitoring,
 - ❖ must be approved by the Board as a valid method for monitoring (high probability of success)
 - ❖ must require menhaden purse seine and bait seine vessels (or snapper rigs) to submit Captain's Daily Fishing Reports (CDFRs) or similar trip level reports as implemented in Amendment 1.
 - ❖ is recommended to have trip level harvester monitoring within seven days of actual landing date, unless a different timeframe is approved by the Board; and
 - ❖ is recommended to collect the ACCSP data elements





Timely Monitoring

State	Dealer Reporting	Harvester Reporting	Notes
ME	monthly	monthly/daily	Harvesters landing greater than 6,000 lbs will report daily
NH	weekly	monthly	Exempt from timely reporting. Implementing weekly reporting for state dealers.
MA	weekly	monthly/daily	Harvesters landing greater than 6,000 lbs will report daily
RI	twice weekly	quarterly/daily	Harvesters using purse seines will report daily
CT	monthly	monthly	No directed fisheries for Atlantic menhaden
NY	weekly	monthly/weekly	Capability to require weekly harvester reporting if needed
NJ	weekly	monthly	All menhaden sold or bartered must be done through a licensed dealer
DE	—	monthly/daily	Harvesters landing menhaden will report daily using IVR
MD	monthly	weekly	Currently monthly harvester reporting, but implementing weekly in 2013





Timely Monitoring

PRFC	—	weekly	Trip level harvester reports submitted weekly
VA	—	weekly/daily	Purse seines submit weekly reports until 97% of quota, then daily reports. Monthly for all other gears until 90% of quota, then reporting every 10 days.
NC	monthly (combined reports)		Single trip ticket with dealer and harvester information submitted monthly
SC	monthly (combined reports)		Exempt from timely reporting. Single trip ticket with dealer and harvester information
GA	monthly (combined reports)		Exempt from timely reporting. Single trip ticket with dealer and harvester information
FL	weekly (combined reports)		Monthly until implementation of weekly expected in September 2013. For 2013 at 50% of quota FL will call dealers weekly and close the fishery when at 70% of quota.





Timely Monitoring

- The PRT recommends the state of NC adopt a more timely reporting system (*Quota Monitoring 3.6.1.2*).
- The PRT recommends that states submit total annual landings from harvester reports in state compliance reports to account for fish retained for personal use.





De minimis Requests

- New Hampshire, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida requests *de minimis* status for 2013 and are eligible based on the criteria in Amendment 2.
- The PRT recommends approval of *de minimis* status for New Hampshire, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida for 2013.



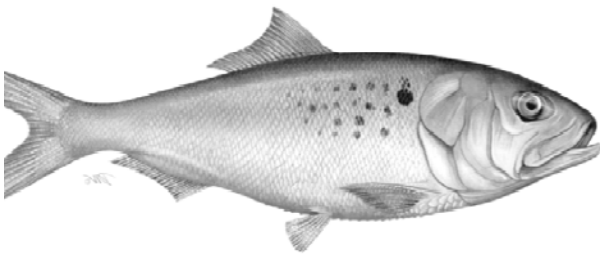


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Atlantic Menhaden Stock Assessment Progress Report

Micah Dean, TC Chair

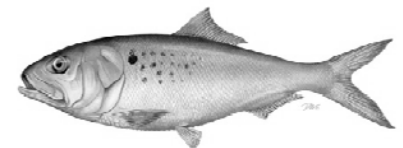
May 22, 2013





Stock Assessment Progress Report

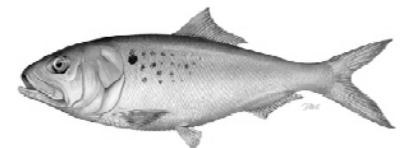
- Problems with 2012 assessment
 - Retrospective pattern
 - Poor fit to indices
 - Uncertainty in current stock estimates
- Benchmark assessment scheduled for 2014 (SEDAR)





Stock Assessment Progress Report

- 5 preparatory meetings so far
 - Exploring new data sources
 - Preliminary discussion of alternative models
 - Established a work plan / schedule

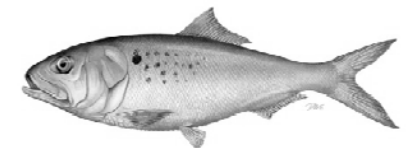




Stock Assessment Progress Report

➤ December 18, 2012 webinar

- Discussed alternative modeling approaches to address seasonal migration and fishery selectivity concerns
- Brainstormed potential new sources of data and made plans to follow up on ideas

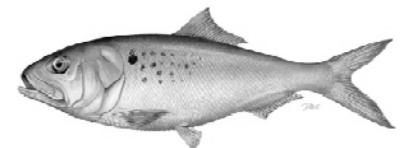




Stock Assessment Progress Report

➤ January 25, 2013 webinar

- Discussed utility of historical tagging data
- Discussed sources of data to create a coast-wide adult abundance index from fixed gear fisheries
- Discussed bio-sampling recommendations for states

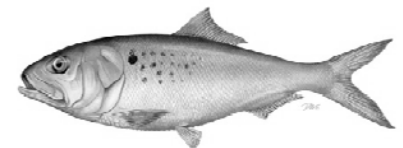




Stock Assessment Progress Report

➤ February 26, 2013 webinar

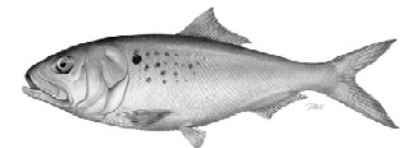
- Continued discussion of alternative modeling approaches
- Continued discussion of potential new data sources and assigned data collection tasks
- Discussed MSVPA model and prioritized tasks
- Discussed PRFC and JAI indices and potential new treatments





Stock Assessment Progress Report

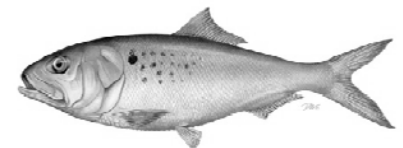
- April 3, 2013 in-person meeting
 - Identified criteria for including data sources in 2014 assessment
 - Reviewed all available fixed gear data from states for potential creation of an adult CPUE index
 - Selected 6 new data sources for further review
 - Pound/trap nets - MA, RI, MD, VA, NC
 - Gillnets - NJ





Stock Assessment Progress Report

- April 3, 2013 in-person meeting (*continued*)
 - Identified desired set of data elements to be collected for future CPUE indices
 - Reviewed details of historical tagging data

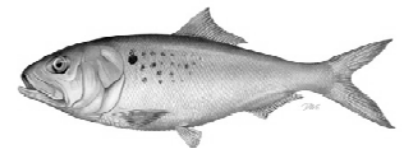




Stock Assessment Progress Report

➤ May 6, 2013 webinar

- Presentation – otolith microchemistry & juvenile source areas (K Anstead – ODU)
- Approved Terms of Reference
- Reviewed details of selected fixed gear datasets
- Assigned tasks for further development
- Established work plan for 2013/2014

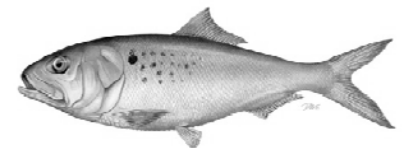




Stock Assessment Progress Report

➤ The Plan:

- 2013
 - June – fishery independent data
 - September – life history data
- 2014
 - January – data workshop
 - June – assessment workshop
 - December – peer review





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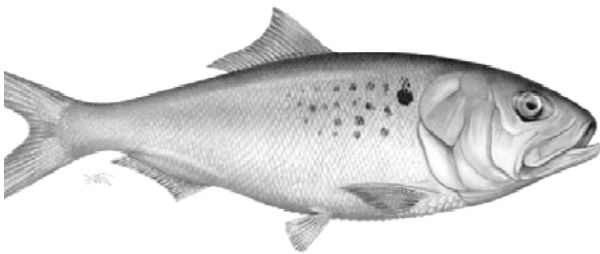
Atlantic Menhaden

2014 Benchmark Stock Assessment

Terms of Reference

Micah Dean, TC Chair

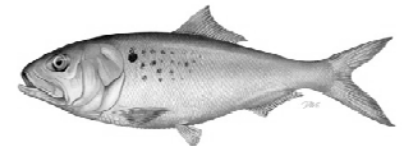
May 22, 2013





Terms of Reference

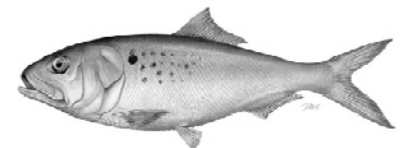
1. Review and vet all available data sources, including current and historical fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data. Justify inclusion or elimination of each data source. If possible, identify and prepare new data that could be used to inform the assessment of mortality and migration rates, commercial selectivity, and coastwide adult and/or spawning stock trends.





Terms of Reference

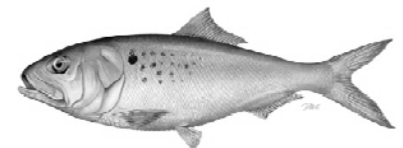
2. Characterize precision and accuracy of all data sources used in the assessment.
 - a) Provide descriptions of each included data source (e.g., geographic location, sampling methodology, potential explanation for outlying or anomalous data).
 - b) Discuss data strengths and weaknesses (e.g. temporal and spatial scale, gear selectivities, sample size) and their potential effects on the assessment.
 - c) Describe calculation and potential standardization of abundance indices.
 - d) Discuss trends and magnitude of uncertainty estimates (e.g., standard errors).





Terms of Reference

3. Develop population assessment models that are compatible with available data and can be used to estimate population parameters (e.g., F , biomass, abundance) and biological reference points. Analyze model performance.
 - a. Clearly and thoroughly explain model strengths and limitations.
 - b. Justify choice of CVs, effective sample sizes, and/or likelihood weighting schemes.

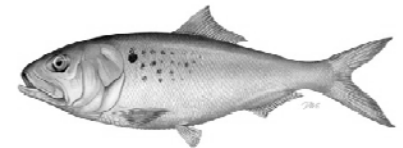




Terms of Reference

3. *Continued*

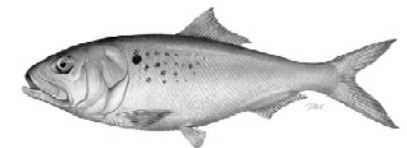
- c. Describe stability of the model(s). Perform sensitivity analyses for starting parameter values, priors, etc. and conduct other model diagnostics as necessary.
- d. Briefly describe history of model usage, its theory and framework, and document associated peer-reviewed literature. If using a new model, test using simulated data.
- e. State assumptions made for all models and explain the likely effects of assumption violations on model outputs.
- f. If multiple models were considered, justify the choice of preferred model and attempt to explain any differences in results among models.





Terms of Reference

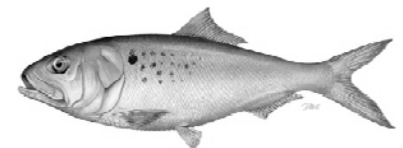
4. Characterize uncertainty of model estimates and biological or empirical reference points.
5. Perform retrospective analyses, assess magnitude and direction of any pattern detected, and discuss implications of any observed retrospective pattern for uncertainty in population parameters (e.g., F , SSB), reference points, and/or management measures.





Terms of Reference

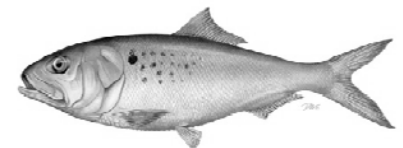
6. Recommend stock status as related to current reference points (thresholds and targets).
Recommend alternative reference points, if appropriate.





Terms of Reference

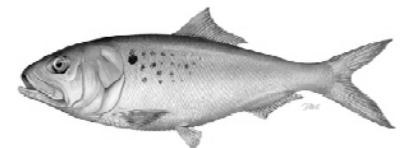
7. Identify potential ecological reference points that account for Atlantic menhaden's role as a forage fish. Provide proposed methodology, a model development plan, and example results using preliminary model configurations, if time allows. *Note: finalized ERPs will not be developed in time for the 2014 Atlantic menhaden peer review or 2015 Management Board meetings. Additional technical work and peer review will be necessary before ERPs will be available for management use.*





Terms of Reference

8. Develop detailed short and long-term lists of prioritized recommendations for future research, data collection, and assessment methodology. Highlight improvements to be made by next benchmark review.





Terms of Reference

9. Recommend timing of next benchmark assessment and intermediate updates, if necessary relative to biology and current management of the species.

