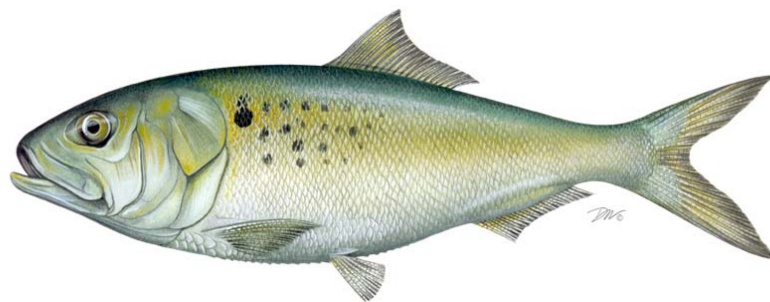




Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

2014 FMP Review of the 2013 Fishery for Atlantic Menhaden



Atlantic Menhaden Management Board

May 15, 2014

Status of FMP



- Amendment 2, implemented July 2013
- Establishes coast wide TAC = 170,800mt until completion and Board action on next benchmark assessment
- Episodic Event Set Aside (1% of overall TAC)
- State allocated quotas (2009-2011) landings history
- Transfer of quotas
- 6,000 pound bycatch allowance for non-directed fisheries
- 20% Reduction in Chesapeake Bay reduction fishery harvest cap
- Timely reporting to minimize quota overages
- Improved biological monitoring

Status of FMP



- In 2013, bycatch allowance enabled two permit holders aboard one vessel to harvest 12,000 pounds
- Now, 6,000 pound per vessel bycatch trip limit
- October 2013:
 - the Board extended the episodic event set aside program through 2015
 - Re-allocation provision; any unused set aside as of October 31 of each year will be re-allocated to the coastwide states
- February 2014:
 - the Board passed a motion to manage cast net fisheries for Atlantic menhaden under the bycatch allowance through 2015

Status of the Stock



- Interim reference points based on maximum spawning potential (MSP)
- | <u>Thresholds</u> | <u>Targets</u> |
|-------------------|----------------|
| – F15%MSP | F30%MSP |
| – SSB15%MSP | SSB30%MSP |
- Based on 2012 Stock assessment update:
 - Stock is experiencing overfishing
 - Overfished status is unknown because of uncertainty in the model runs.
- Interim reference points while ERPs are being developed

2013 Status of the Fishery



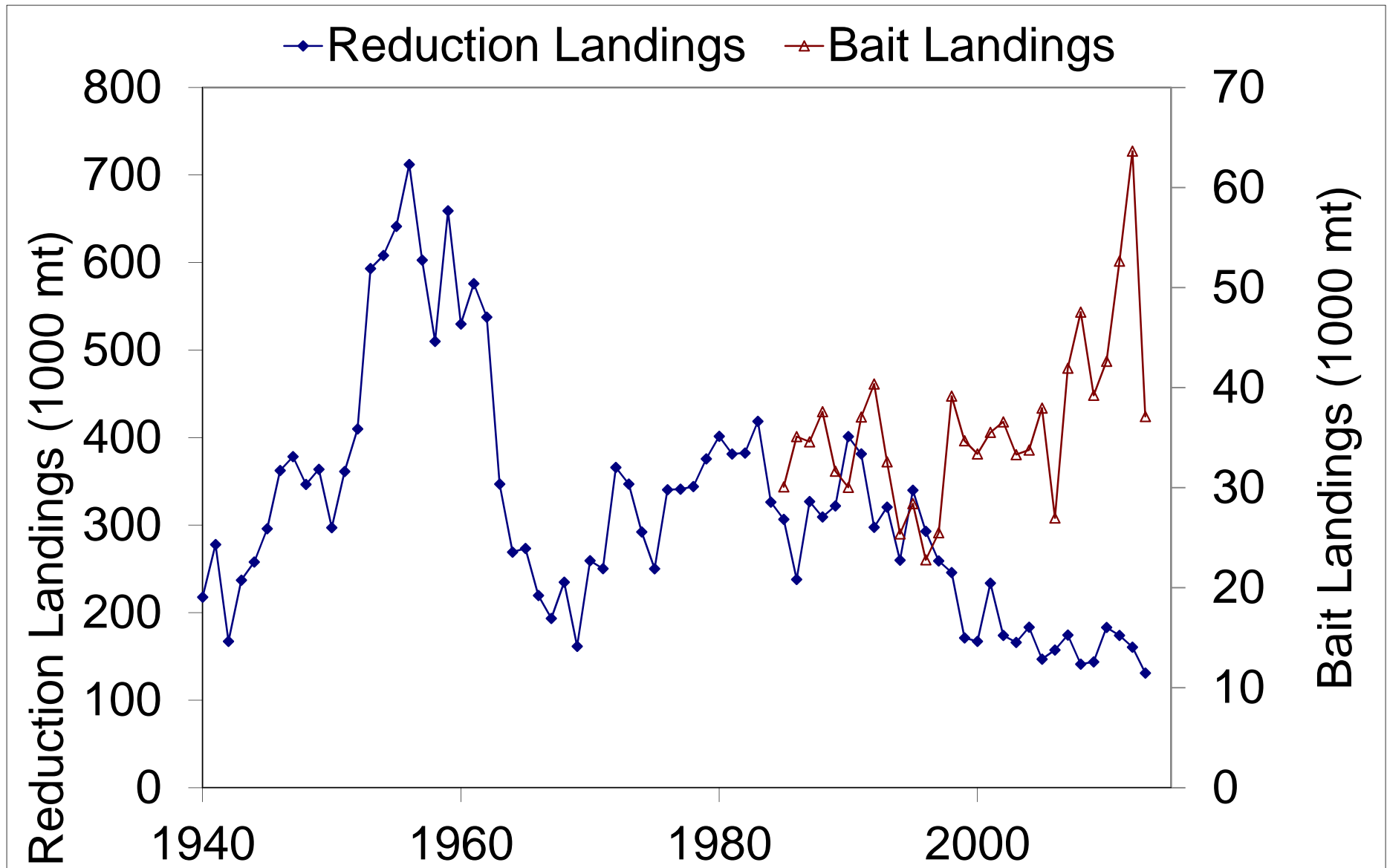
- Total coastwide harvest: 166,077 mt
 - 26% decrease from 2012
- Bycatch harvest = 1,942 mt
 - 1.2% of coastwide harvest but does not count towards TAC
- Total harvest 168,019 mt
 - 1.6% below the coastwide TAC of 170,800 mt

2013 Status of the Fishery



- Reduction harvest: 131,034 mt
 - 18% decrease from 2012
 - 18% decrease from previous 5-year average
- Bait harvest: 35,043 mt
 - 45% decrease from 2012
 - 29% decrease from previous 5-year average

Atlantic Menhaden Harvest



2013 Bycatch Analysis



State	Bycatch (LBS)	% of total	Gears
RI	15,200	0.4%	fish traps
DE	76,708	1.8%	gill nets
MD	2,786,083	65.1%	pound nets
PRFC	1,087,400	25.4%	pound nets
VA	251,191	5.9%	gill nets, haul seine
FL	64,790	1.5%	cast nets
Total	4,281,372		

2013 Bycatch Analysis



Bins (LBS)	# of trips	% of total trips
1-1000	1,526	62%
1001-2000	264	11%
2001-3000	157	6%
3001-4000	108	4%
4001-5000	129	5%
5001-6000	157	6%
6000+	131	5%
Total	2,472	

Episodic Events Set Aside



- Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island all qualified for the set aside program
- implemented mandatory fishery management provisions of the set aside (i.e., daily reporting, 120,000 pound trip limit, restricting harvest to state waters).
- Rhode Island was the only state that declared participation in 2013
- High biomass in early summer did not return to RI water in the fall
- No directed harvest occurred under the setaside
- 1,708 mt was re-allocated to all the coastal states on November 1

2013 Quota Transfers



- A transfer of quota from Massachusetts to New York occurred in season to cover an expected quota overage.
- Post season transfer from North Carolina covered realized overages from the states of New York, Florida and Rhode Island.

2013 Reporting



- NY has monthly reporting, but has the capability of requiring weekly reporting if needed
- FL has monthly reporting and called dealers weekly, but documented late reports as an issue
- All other states implemented reporting that adequately



State	#10-fish samples required	#10-fish samples collected	Age samples collected	Length samples collected	Gear/Comments
ME	0	0	0	0	N/A
NH	0	0	0	0	N/A
MA	3	3	30	30	cast nets
RI	0	10	74	100	fish traps and purse seine
CT	0	0	0	0	N/A
NY	2	2	75	150	pound nets
NJ	60	59	590	590	purse seine, pound nets and gill nets
DE	0	1	34	40	sampled one gill net set
MD	16	22	326	762	pound nets (15 from CB, 7 from Potomac River)
PRFC	7	4	85	85	Pound net (7 of 11 collections had less than 10 fish)
VA	62	63	691	1281	gill nets, pound nets, haul seines
NC	1	17	185	185	pound nets, gill nets, beach seine, and cast nets
	152	181	2090	3223	

2013 Quota Transfers



State	Total 2013 Quota	2013 Landings	Overage	Transfer 2	2014 Quota
ME	148,270	-			146,787
NH	113	-			112
MA	2,657,600	2,310,488			3,126,024
RI	67,453	80,499	13,046	15,000	66,779
CT	65,691	6,703			65,034
NY	708,783	1,177,993	469,210	500,000	206,695
NJ	42,142,590	39,819,342			41,721,164
DE	49,727	49,201			49,230
MD	5,168,559	4,122,830			5,116,874
PRFC	2,337,550	2,207,885			2,314,174
VA	321,279,585	315,830,045			318,066,790
NC	1,855,503	406,448		(575,000)	1,836,948
SC	-	-			-
GA	-	-			-
FL	67,672	124,975	57,303	60,000	66,995
Total	376,549,096	366,136,409	539,559		372,783,605

Adult CPUE Index Requirement



- Amend 2 requirement
 - Total pounds landed per day
 - Number of pound nets fished per day
- NC is unable to collect the number of PN fished per day with current reporting

Chesapeake Bay Reduction Harvest Cap



- 2013 harvest cap for reduction fishery from Chesapeake Bay: 87,216 mt
- Approximate reported 2013 harvest: ~40,000 mt
- 2014 harvest cap: 98,192 mt
 - Includes 10,976 mt rollover

De minimis



- The states of New Hampshire, New York, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida requested *de minimis* status for the 2014 fishing season.
- All states qualify except for New York because their bait landings in 2013 exceeded 1% of the total coastwide bait landings.
- As a result, the PRT recommends that New Hampshire, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida be granted *de minimis* status.

PRT Recommendations



- Accept the 2014 Fishery Management Plan Review for Atlantic menhaden.
- That the Board:
 - consider the reporting timeframes of New York and Florida to minimize future quota overages.
 - consider the compliance of Potomac River Fisheries Commission and New Jersey with the monitoring requirements in 2013.
 - consider the compliance of North Carolina with the Adult CPUE Index Requirement.
 - consider the *de minimis* requests from New Hampshire, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.



Vision: Sustainably Managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

Atlantic Menhaden Stock Assessment Progress Report May 15, 2014



Stock Assessment Progress Report

- Benchmark assessment scheduled for 2014 (SEDAR)
- 12 meetings so far (8 webinars; 4 in-person):
 - Identified and completed preliminary workups of all new data sources
 - Held Data Workshop
 - Prepare to hold Assessment Workshop June 2-5, 2014



Stock Assessment Progress Report

- Work completed since January 2013 Data Workshop
 - Finalized bait landings statistics and estimates of weight-at-age, maturity-at-age, fecundity-at-age, and growth.
 - Finalized treatment of individual fishery-dependent and fishery-independent indices and estimates of the spatial extent of each survey.
 - Reviewed tagging data analyses and discussed potential ways in which the data could inform assessment models.
 - Discussed options for natural mortality estimation using MSVPA, tagging, and life history estimates.
 - Reviewed updates on assessment model development



Stock Assessment Progress Report: BERP WG

- BERP held two conference calls and will meet again at summer TCMW to finalize work on AM benchmark TOR #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.
- BERP still ironing out kinks in MSVPA model. Results will be finalized on conference call at end of May.



Stock Assessment Progress Report

- Next steps:
 - 2014
 - June – Assessment Workshop in Beaufort, NC
 - June – BERP WG meeting during TCMW to develop ERP plan
 - Summer/Fall additional meetings/conference calls
 - Fall AMTC meeting to approve report for review
 - December – peer review workshop (SEDAR 40)
 - 2015
 - February – assessment results presented to Board