



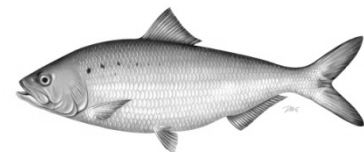
2013 Shad and River Herring FMP Review and Compliance

Presented to Shad and River Herring
Management Board
February 6, 2013

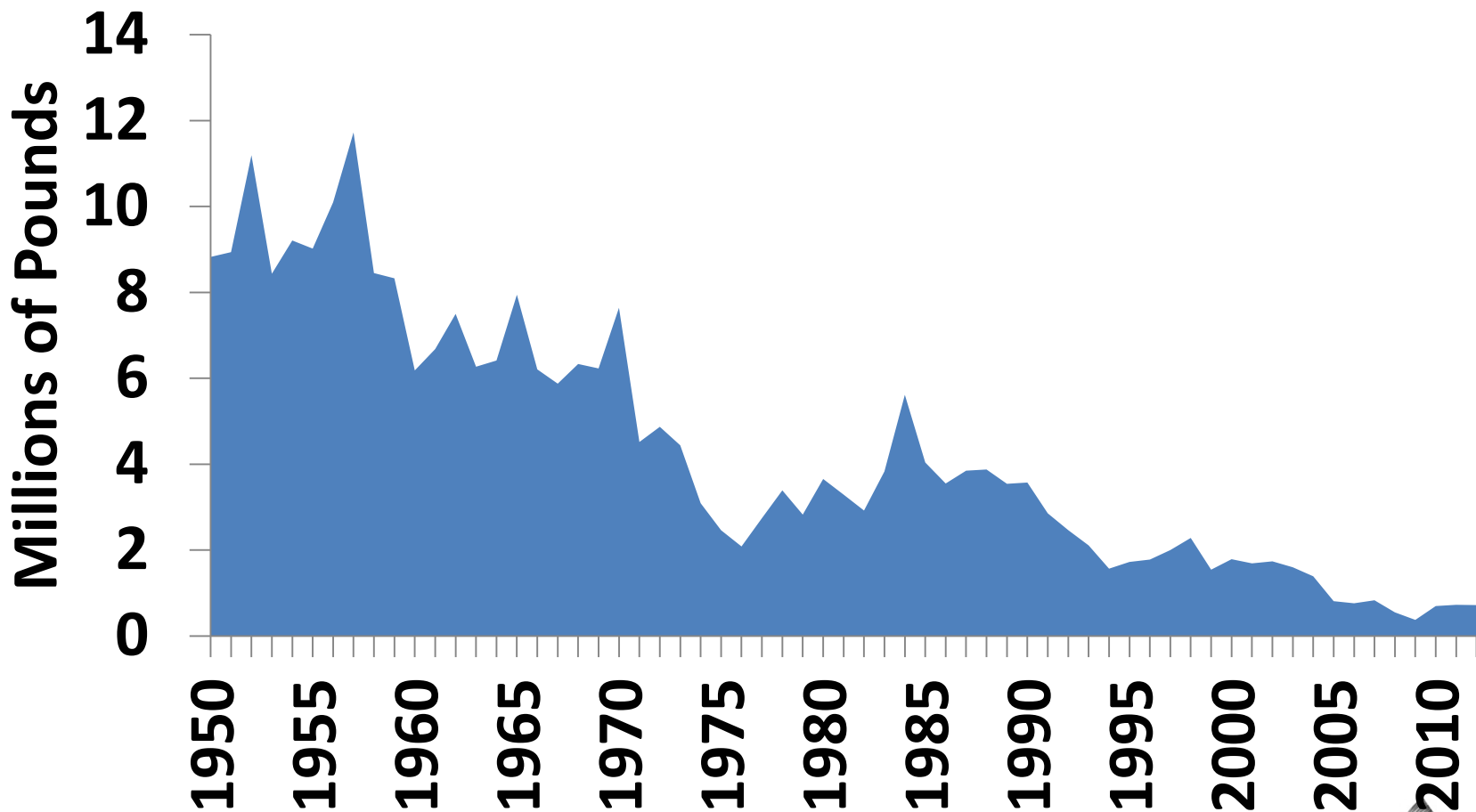


Status of the Stocks

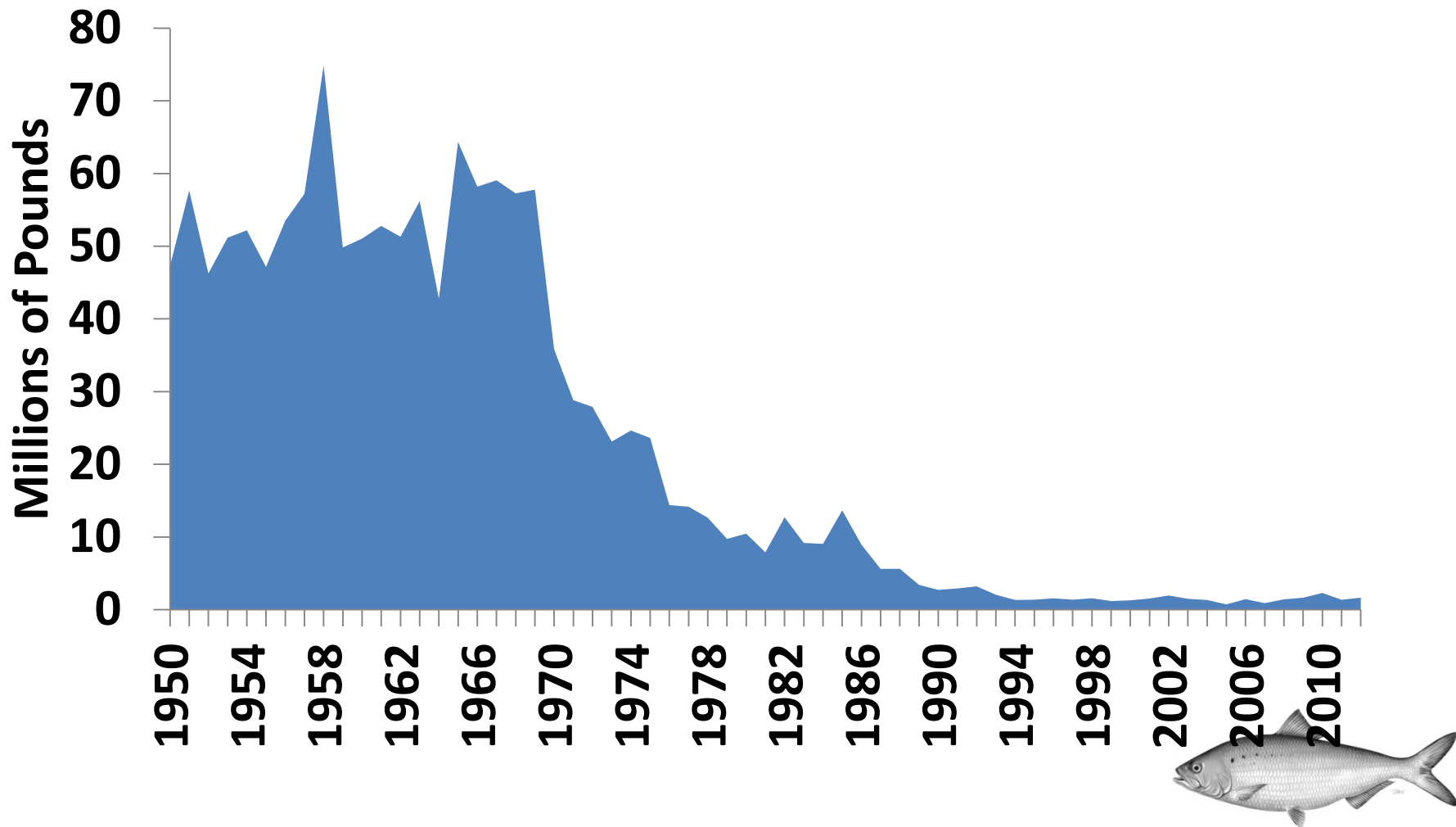
- **American shad: 2007 Benchmark Stock Assessment – stocks are currently at all time lows and do not appear to be recovering**
- **Hickory shad: status unknown**
- **River Herring: 2012 Benchmark Stock Assessment - depleted**



Shad Commercial Landings



River Herring Commercial Landings



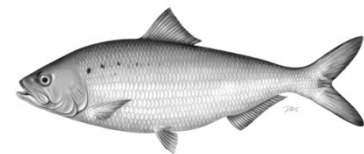
Coastwide Stocking

- Occurring in ME, MA, PA, NC, SC
- American shad: 16 million
- Alewife: 400,000



Sturgeon Interactions

- **297 interactions were reported**
- **CT, NJ, VA, SC, GA**
- **All released alive.**



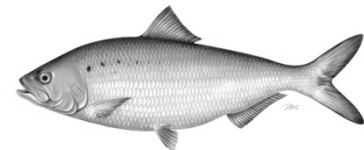
PRT Recommendations

- **Several of the states did not report all of the monitoring requirements listed under Amendments 2 and 3.**
 - **The states should take note of the required monitoring programs that were not reported and make concerted effort to report all monitoring programs**



Recommendations

- **The PRT requests the Board task the TC with the following:**
 - **Review of recreational compliance and the ability of states to provide recreational data. A majority of states rely on MRIP for catch estimates and do not have survey data of their own.**
 - **Review methods to ensure states submit data that were previously unavailable (if a state is still completing sampling when the compliance report is turned in, a follow-up version should be sent when the sampling is completed).**



De minimis

Shad

- ME, NH, MA

River herring

- NH, MA

- All of these states were granted *de minimis* in the past. PRT recommends granting *de minimis*.





Technical Committee Report on Shad Habitat Plans

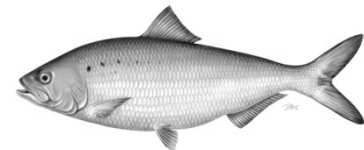
**Presented to Shad and River Herring
Management Board**

August 6, 2013



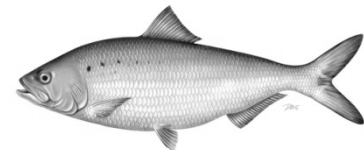
Habitat Plan Background

- **Amendment 3 required states to submit a habitat plan**
 - **Current and historical spawning and nursery habitat**
 - **Threats to those habitats**
 - **Habitat restoration programs**



Technical Committee Review

- TC held a conference call to review plans
- 18 members on call
- Plans received from every state with an interest in Shad FMP except Hudson and Merrimack Rivers and Florida
 - Florida anticipates plan completed in March, due to necessity to coordinate with other state agencies
 - Hudson River and Merrimack have an unclear final date



Trends in Plans

- **Largest threat coastwide are barriers to migration**
- **Overall lack of information on potential impacts of climate change**



TC Recommendations

- **Made recommendations to states based on discussion during call**
 - Final plans were due January 10, 2014
- **TC recommends approval of all habitat plans that have been received**
 - Requests receipt of missing plans ASAP for review



UPDATE:

**Recent Council Actions to
Address River Herring/Shad
(RH/S)**

Lori Steele, NEFMC Staff, Herring PDT Chair

February 2014 ASMFC Meeting

Recent Council Actions

Amendment 5 to the Atlantic Herring FMP

- Comprehensive catch monitoring program
- River herring monitoring/avoidance measures
- Formal support for SMAST/SFC/MA DMF project
- RH/S catch caps to be established through FWA
- Final Rule/implementation *imminent*

*Framework 3 to the Atlantic Herring FMP

- RH/S catch caps – process and related provisions
- 2014/2015 RH/S catch cap specifications
- Final measures selected November 2013; submission January 2014; implementation ASAP

Recent Council Actions

Framework 4 to the Atlantic Herring FMP

- Disapproved elements of Amendment 5 – dealer weighing provisions, measures to address slippage
- Initial meeting January 2014; Final Meeting April 2014; submission June/July; implementation ASAP

Omnibus Industry-Funded Monitoring Amendment (NMFS)

- Disapproved elements of Amendment 5 – observer coverage provisions, industry-funded monitoring
- Provisions for industry-funded monitoring in all FMPs; herring/mackerel observer coverage measures
- Implementation ASAP

MAFMC (Atlantic Mackerel FMP)

- Am14 established RH/S catch cap provisions
- 2014 specifications specified RH/S catch cap for mackerel fishery (236 mt)
- RH/S cap will apply to all trips landing more than 20,000 pounds of mackerel in all areas
- Proposed Rule published, Final Rule/implementation ASAP (March 2014)
- 2015 mackerel fishery catch cap will be considered during 2014

MAFMC (Mackerel FMP)

Framework 9 to the Atlantic Mackerel FMP

- Measures to address net slippage (disapproved in Amendment 14)
- Final measures selected in February 2014

RH/S Committee and FMAT

- MAFMC, NEFMC, ASMFC, with an AP and FMAT
- Initial focus on improving basis/effectiveness of RH/S catch caps
- Will develop more specific TORs at first meeting

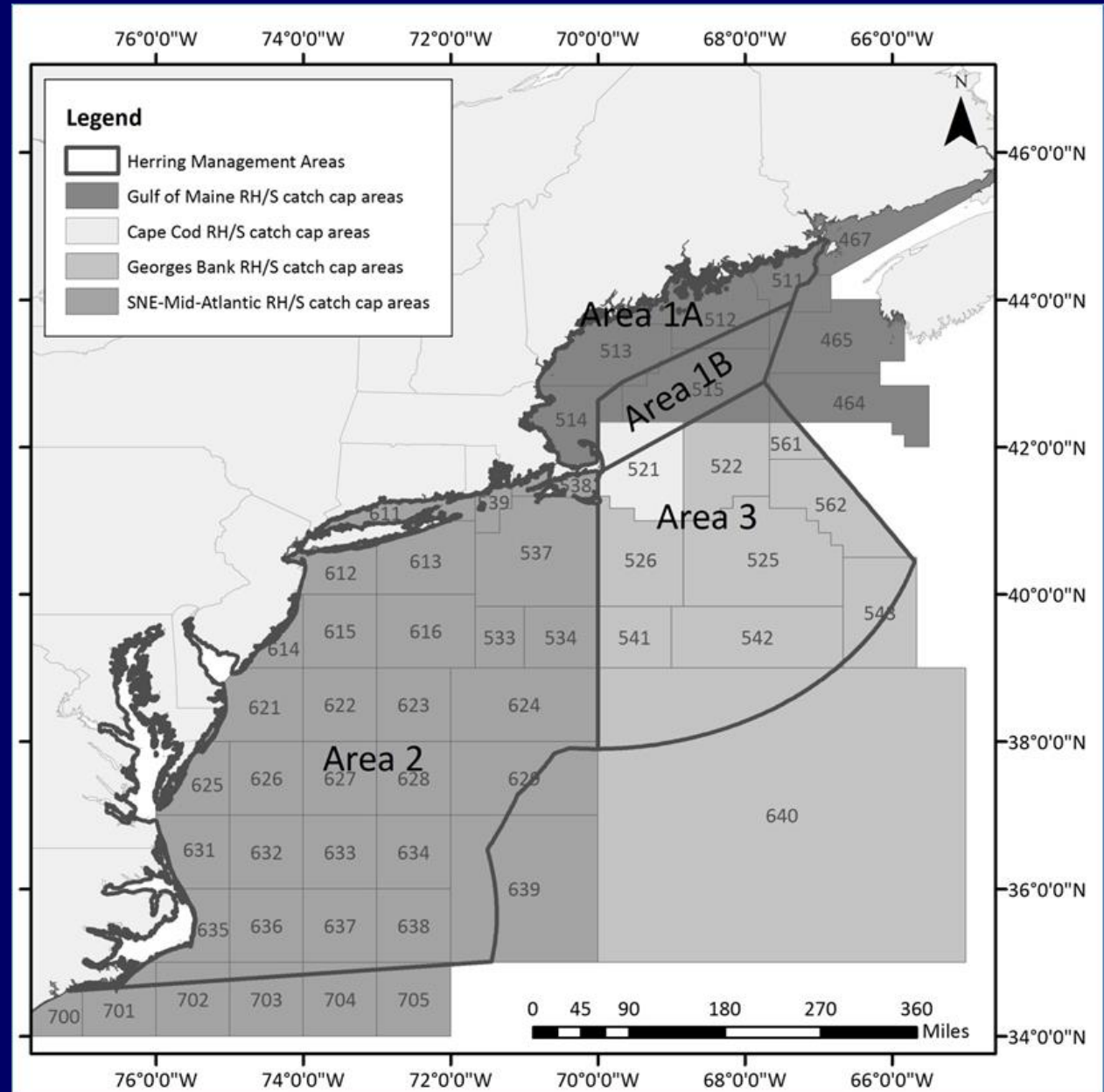
Both Councils will be participating with NMFS and ASMFC on the TEWG to implement a comprehensive, coastwide effort to conserve river herring and address data gaps.

Fw 3 – RH/S Catch Cap Provisions

- Caps apply collectively to four species of river herring and shad (RH/S) on trips landing more than 6,600 pounds (3 mt) Atlantic herring
- Annual catch caps distributed by gear/statistical area clusters
- When a catch cap is reached in an area, directed herring fishery closes in the associated closure area (offshore portions of SNE/MA remain open)

Proposed RH/S Catch Cap Areas

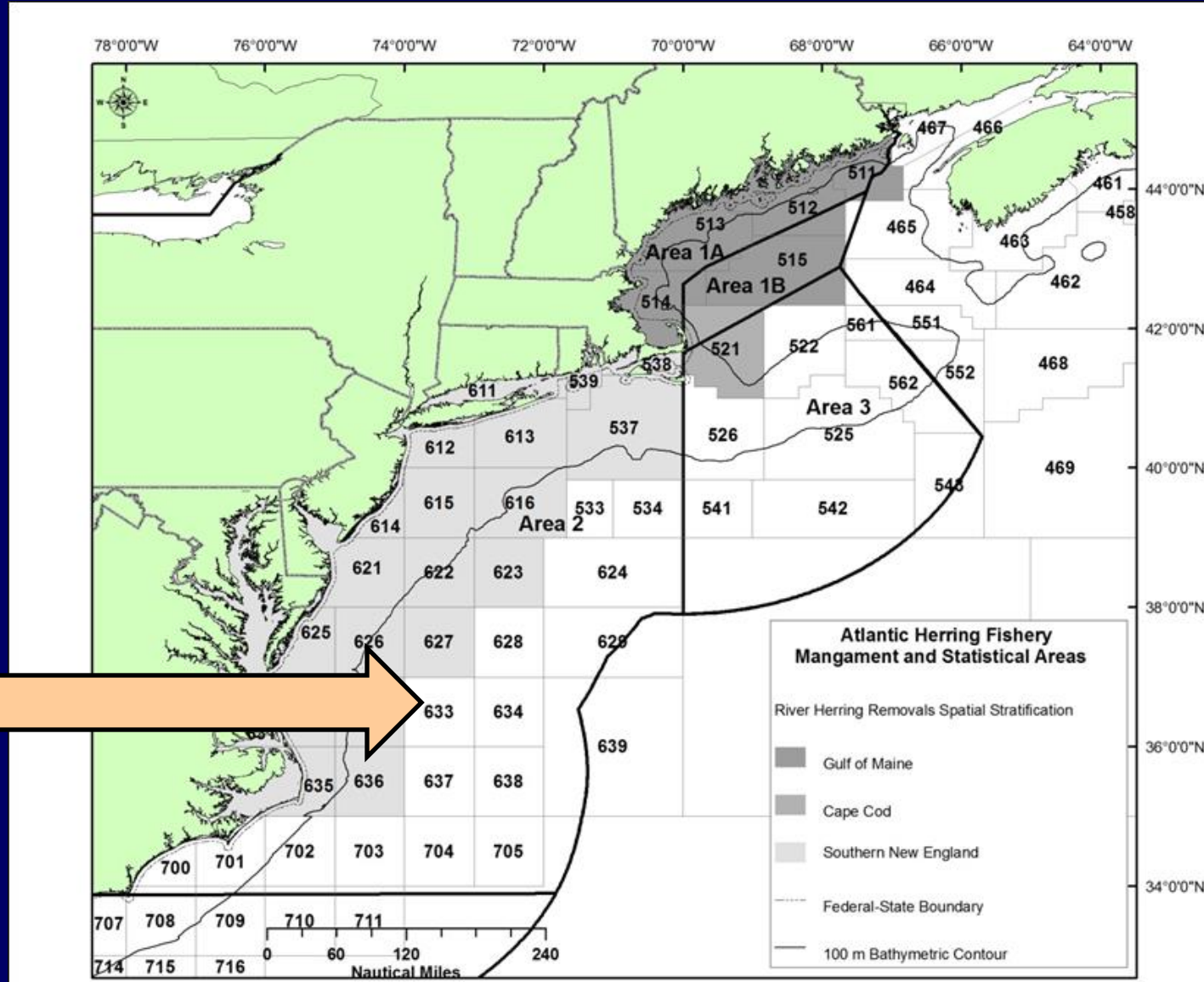
RH/S catch from all trips landing more than 6,600 pounds of Atlantic herring would count against catch caps in the shaded areas.



SNE/MA RH/S Cap Closure Area

Closure Area (when 95% of the catch cap is reached)

Offshore statistical areas in SNE/MA would not be closed to directed herring fishery.



FW3 RH/S Catch Caps 2014/2015

- RH/S catch caps specified/modified through Atlantic herring fishery specifications process
- Opportunity for coordinated cap with MA Council in future to address herring/mackerel fishery overlap
- GB catch cap considered in the future if necessary

Cap Area	2014-2015 RH/S Catch Caps	
GOM	MWT	85.5 mt
CC	MWT	13.3 mt
SNE/MA	MWT	123.7 mt
	BT	88.9 mt
GB	N/A	

What's Next?

NE Council 2014 Management Priorities

- Address disapproved Am 5 measures (Fw4)
- Industry-Funded Monitoring Amendment
- Continue conservation efforts and consideration of RH/S as stocks in the Atlantic herring fishery – Council staff white paper

SMAST/SFC/MA DMF River Herring Bycatch Avoidance Project has been funded through 2014/2015 Herring Research Set-Aside. Both Councils will review/discuss results of this project in 2014/2015.