

2010 Overview of Mid-Atlantic Council Fisheries

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Mid-Atlantic Council Fishery Management Plans









Seven Fishery Management Plans (FMP)

- Five Wholly Mid-Atlantic Jurisdiction
- Two Jointly with New England Council

The FMPs govern 13 Species and 14 Stocks






Species Stock Status

(As of December 31, 2009)

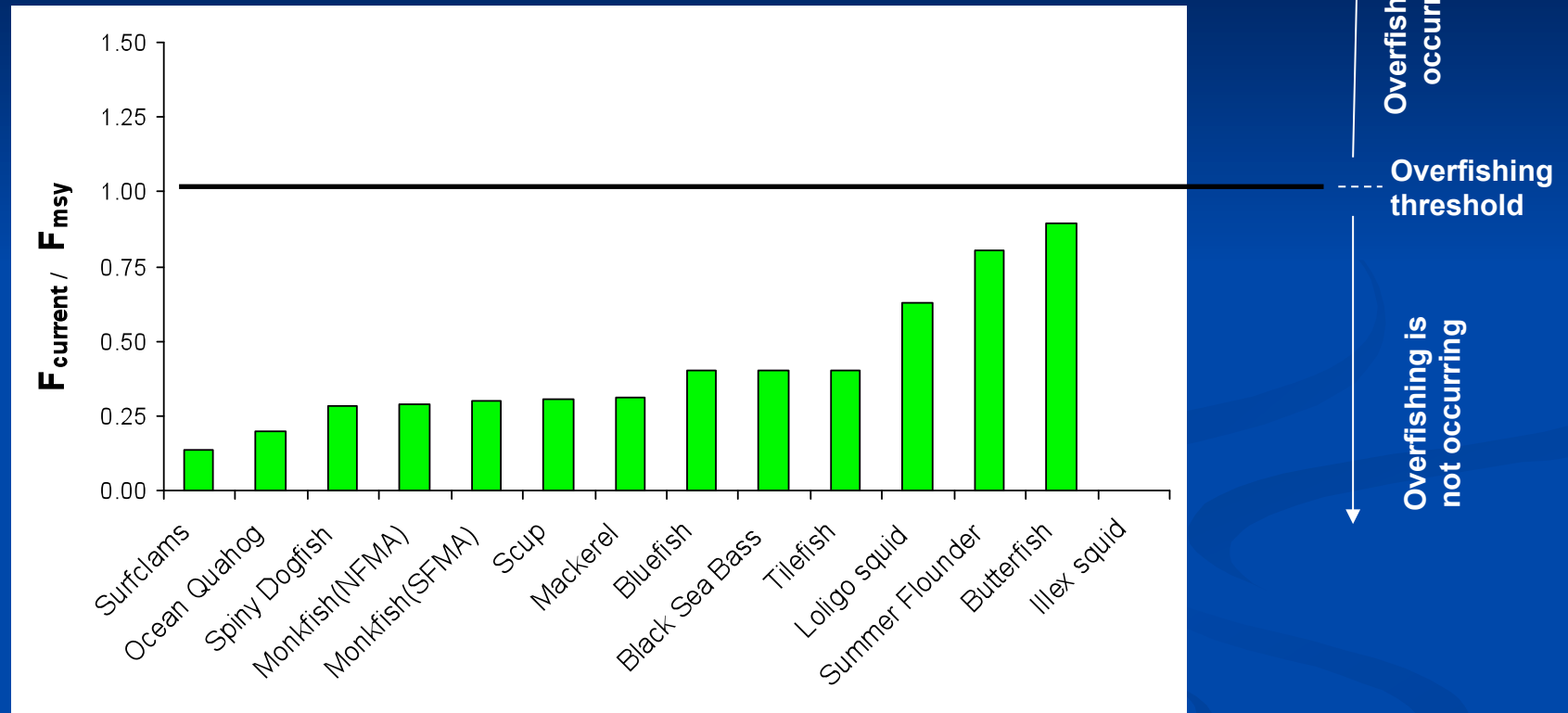
SPECIES		OVERFISHING	OVERFISHED	REBUILDING PROGRAM / STOCK STATUS
Summer Flounder		No	No - Rebuilding	To be rebuilt by 2013. Most recent peer reviewed stock assessment was June 2008.
Scup		No	No	To be rebuilt by 2015. Most recent assessment was December 2008.
Black Sea Bass		No	No	To be rebuilt by 2010. Most recent assessment was December 2008.
Bluefish		No	No	Most recent assessment (2005); stock currently above minimum stock size threshold. To be rebuilt by 2010.
<i>Illex</i> Squid		No	Unknown	Most recent assessment (2006); not able to determine current exploitation rates or stock biomass.
<i>Loligo</i> Squid		No	No	Most recent assessment was 2002.
Atlantic Mackerel		No	No	Most recent assessment was 2005.
Butterfish		No	Yes - Rebuilding	Most recent assessment was 2004. Rebuilding program outlined in Amendment 10.

Species Stock Status

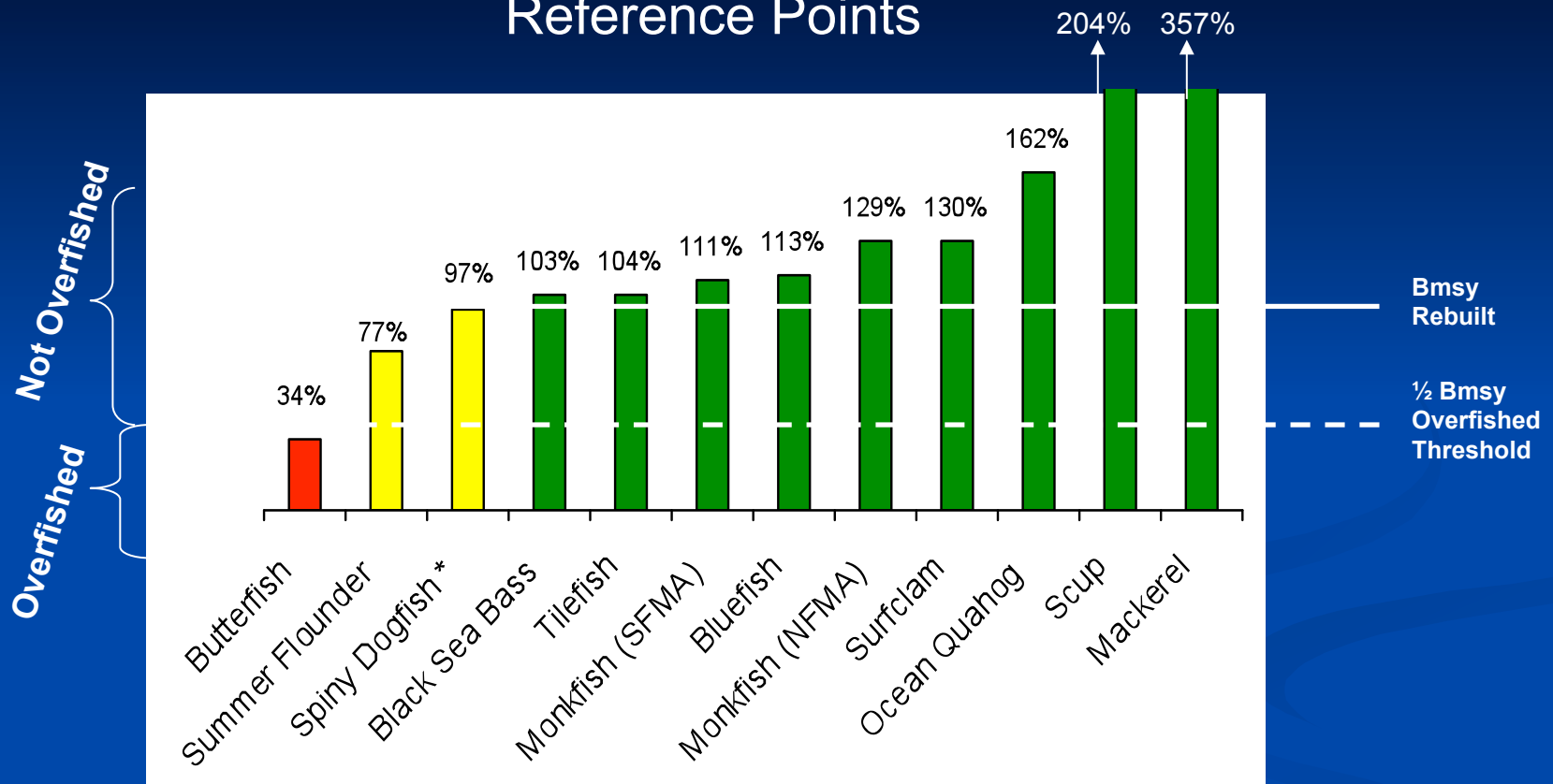
(As of December 31, 2009)

SPECIES		OVERFISHING	OVERFISHED	REBUILDING PROGRAM/ STOCK STATUS
Surfclam		No	No	Most recent assessment was 2007.
Ocean Quahog		No	No	Most recent assessment was 2007.
Tilefish		No	No - Rebuilding	Most recent assessment (2005); stock currently above minimum stock threshold. To be rebuilt by 2011.
Spiny Dogfish (Joint management with NEFMC)		No	No - Rebuilding	Most recent assessment (2006); based on approved threshold, biomass estimates indicate stock is not overfished.
Monkfish (Joint management with NEFMC)		No (north and south management areas)	No (north and South management areas)	Most recent assessment was 2007; based on new reference points for both regions.

Fishing mortality ratios for MAFMC-managed species



Stock Size Relative to Biological Reference Points



* No approved target for spiny dogfish
 NOTE: Unknown Bmsy - Illex and Loligo squids

Summer Flounder

COMM PERMITS 652 / 939 active in 2008
(Moratorium permit – if possess more than 2 fish)

COMM FISHERY 11.0 million pounds
2006-2008 average (4,990 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE \$23.6 million
2006-2008 average

REC FISHERY 9.8 million pounds
2006-2008 average (4,445 metric tons)

REC PERMITS 810 permits in 2008
(Party/Charter)

Scup

COMM PERMITS 375 / 767 active in 2008
(Moratorium permit – if possess more than 15 fish)

COMM FISHERY 7.8 million pounds
2006-2008 average (3,538 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE \$7.1 million
2006-2008 average

REC FISHERY 3.6 million pounds
2006-2008 average (1,633 metric tons)

REC PERMITS 719 permits in 2008
(Party/Charter)

Black Sea Bass

COMM PERMITS 491 / 796 active in 2008
(Moratorium permit – if possess more than 25 fish)

COMM FISHERY 2.3 million pounds
2006-2008 average (1,043 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE \$6.7 million
2006-2008 average

REC FISHERY 2.1 million pounds
2006-2008 average (953 metric tons)

REC PERMITS 784 permits in 2008
(Party/Charter)

Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass

PRIMARY MANAGEMENT

COMM fishery – commercial quota, gear requirements, possession limits, scup GRAs

REC fishery – recreational harvest limit (quota-based management), minimum size, season, possession limits

LAST MAJOR ACTIONS

Amendment 12 - Revised FMP to comply with the SFA and established framework adjustment process

Amendment 13 - Addressed disapproved sections of Amendment 12 and included new EIS

Amendment 14 - Established rebuilding schedule for scup

NEXT MAJOR ACTION ACLs and AMs.

Bluefish

NUMBER OF PERMITS

624 / 3,184 active in 2008

COMMERCIAL FISHERY

2006-2008 average

6.9 million pounds

(3,121 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE:

2006-2008 average

\$3.7 million

REC FISHERY

2006-2008 average

18.9 million pounds

(8,593 metric tons)

REC PERMITS

(Party/Charter)

941 permits in 2008

Bluefish

STATUS

Updated Stock Assessment (June 2009)

- Overfished?
- Overfishing?

No/Rebuilt

No

PRIMARY MANAGEMENT 17% of the TAL is allocated to the commercial fishery.

Amendment 1 stipulates that if 17% of the TAL is less than 10.5 M lb, then the commercial quota can be increased up to 10.5 M lb if the rec fishery is projected to land less than 83% of the TAL for the upcoming year and provided that the combination of the projected recreational landings and the commercial quota does not exceed the TAL.

LAST MAJOR ACTION Amendment 1 (2000) - Brought the FMP into compliance with new and revised National Standards and other required provisions of the Sustainable Fisheries Act Implemented rebuilding plan. Required that a commercial quota and recreational harvest limit be based on projected stock size estimates as derived from the latest stock assessment information.

**NEXT MAJOR
ACTION (2010)**

ACLs & AMs.
(Amendment 3)

Mackerel

COMM PERMITS
(Open Access Permit Required)

215 / 2342 active in 2008

COMM FISHERY
2006-2008 average

76.5 million pounds
(34,719 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE
2006-2008 average

\$10.1 million

REC FISHERY
2006-2008 average

2.4 million pounds
(1,069 metric tons)

No overfishing, not overfished (2004) – 2010 TRAC Pending

Illex Squid

COMM PERMITS 17 / 77 active in 2008
(Moratorium permit to possess more than 10,000 pounds)

COMM FISHERY 28.6 million pounds
2006-2008 average (12,955 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE \$6.7 million
2006-2008 average

Overfishing unlikely, stock status unknown (2004)

Loligo Squid

COMM PERMITS 190 / 371 active in 2008
(Moratorium permit to possess more than 2,500 pounds)

COMM FISHERY 29.1 million pounds
2006-2008 average (13,217 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE \$24.8 million
2006-2008 average

Overfishing unlikely, unlikely overfished (2000). Dec 2010 assessment scheduled.

Butterfish

COMM PERMITS 164 / 371 active in 2008
(Moratorium permit to possess more than 600 pounds)

COMM FISHERY 1.2 million pounds
2006-2008 average (560 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE \$0.9 million
2006-2008 average

Overfishing unlikely, stock status unknown (2010)

-Declining trend likely due to factors other than fishing

Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish

PRIMARY MANAGEMENT

COMM fishery – commercial quota, in-season closures, gear requirements, possession limits, GRAs for bycatch of other species

REC fishery – only mackerel - recreational harvest unmanaged, small compared to quota

LAST MAJOR ACTIONS

Amendment 10 – Butterfish rebuilding; bycatch minimization

NEXT MAJOR ACTIONS

Amendment 11 – mackerel limited access, EFH, Rec/Com mackerel allocation

Amendment 13 – ACLs/AMs

Amendment 14 – Squid “catch shares”; river herring bycatch

Surfclams

NUMBER OF PERMITS	891
NUMBER OF VESSELS LANDING LANDINGS:	32
2006-2008 <i>average</i>	3.1 million bushels (52.1 million pounds)
EX-VESSEL VALUE:	\$37.1 million
REC FISHERY	Insignificant
STATUS	NOT OVERFISHED
PRIMARY MANAGEMENT	NO OVERFISHING
LAST MAJOR ACTION	ITQs
NEXT MAJOR ACTION	Framework 1 – VMS Amendment 15 – EFH update, cost recovery, excessive shares, data collection, OQ overfishing definition

Ocean Quahogs

(Excludes Maine small-scale fishery)

NUMBER OF PERMITS	870
NUMBER OF VESSELS LANDING LANDINGS:	18
2006-2008 average	3.2 million bushels (32.1 million pounds)
EX-VESSEL VALUE:	\$20.3 million
REC FISHERY	Insignificant
STATUS	NOT OVERFISHED NO OVERFISHING
PRIMARY MANAGEMENT	ITQs
LAST MAJOR ACTION	Framework 1 – VMS
NEXT MAJOR ACTION	Amendment 15 – EFH update, cost recovery, excessive shares, data collection, OQ overfishing definition

Tilefish

NUMBER OF PERMITS

- ITQ – Initial Allocation 13 Vessels
Amendment 1 implemented ITQ system-became effective 1 Nov 2009
- Incidental category 2,256 Vessels
(Amendment 1)
 - 300 lb trip limit

LANDINGS:

2006-2008 average

816 metric tons
(1.8 million pounds)

EX-VESSEL VALUE:

2006-2008 average

\$4.6 million

REC FISHERY

Insignificant
(i.e., < than 1 metric ton
2,205 pounds caught annually)

Tilefish

STATUS

SAW 2009

- Overfished? No/Rebuilt*
- Overfishing? No

**The SARC48 Review Panel concluded that the tilefish projections are useful for displaying the extent of uncertainty in future stock size, but not for predicting future stock size.*

PRIMARY MANAGEMENT

Incidental category (open access) gets 5% overall TAL, 95% of the TAL goes to IFQ permit holders. 300 lb/trip limit for the incidental category.

LAST MAJOR ACTION

ITQ for Limited Access category. Established recreational party/charter permits and bag limits. Revised the identification and description of EFH. Established GRAs. (Amd1 - 2009)

NEXT MAJOR ACTION (2011)

ACLs & AMs.
(Amendment 2)

Spiny Dogfish

NUMBER OF PERMITS

229 / 3,012 active in
2008

COMMERCIAL FISHERY

2006-2008 average

7.3 million pounds
(3,325 metric tons)

EX-VESSEL VALUE:

2006-2008 average

\$1.6 million

REC FISHERY

2006-2008 average

18.9 million pounds
(8,593 metric tons)

Spiny Dogfish

STATUS

Updated Stock Assessment (Fall 2009)

■ Overfished?

No

■ Overfishing?

No

PRIMARY MANAGEMENT

Coastwide commercial quota divided by periods. Period 1 (May 1 through October 31) with 57.9% of the quota and quota Period 2 (November 1 through April 30) with 42.1% of the quota. 3,000 lb trip limit.

LAST MAJOR ACTION

Framework 2 (2009) - Built flexibility into process to define and update status determination criteria.

NEXT MAJOR ACTION (2010)

ACLs & AMs.
Amendment 3

Monkfish

NUMBER OF PERMITS

- Limited access (Monkfish only permits) 758 / 276 active*
- Open access 2,200 / 479 active

LANDINGS

2004-2008 average

13,579 metric tons
(29.9 million pounds)

EX-VESSEL VALUE

\$30.2 million

STATE WATERS LANDINGS

est. 1 million lbs. - about 3%

REC FISHERY

None

* Active in terms of using a Monkfish-only DAS.

Monkfish

STATUS

- Overfished?
- Overfishing?

DPWG 2007

No – Rebuilt

No

PRIMARY MANAGEMENT

DAS/trip limits,
incidental catch limits
on all non-DAS fishing

LAST MAJOR ACTION

Removed the backstop
quota that would have
closed the fishery
(Framework 6 – 2008)

NEXT MAJOR ACTION

ACLs, AMs, etc.
(Amendment 5 - 2011)

SPECIES	Average Commercial ex-vessel value, 2006-2008 (\$ Million)	2008	
		# active comm. vessels / # comm. permits issued / # p/c permits	# Directed recreational fishing trips
Summer Flounder	23.6	652 / 939 / 810	5,427,176 ^{c,d}
Scup	7.1	375 / 767 / 719	648,548 ^{c,d}
Black Sea Bass	6.7	491 / 796 / 784	245,323 ^{c,d}
Bluefish	2.7	624 / 3,184 / 941	2,215,488 ^{d,e}
<i>Illex</i> Squid	6.7	17 / 77 / 829	
<i>Loligo</i> Squid	24.8	190 / 371 / 829	
Atlantic Mackerel	10.1	215 / 2,342 / 829	---
Butterfish	0.9	164 / 371 / 829	
Surfclam	37.1	32 / 891 / NA	
Ocean Quahog	20.3	18 / 870 ^a / NA	
Tilefish	4.6	13 ITQ permits; 2,256 incidental permits; 201 p/c permits	---
Spiny Dogfish	1.6	229 / 3,012 / NA	
Monkfish	30.2	LA - 276 / 758/ NA OA 479 / 2,200/ NA	