



# *2021 Stock Overview*

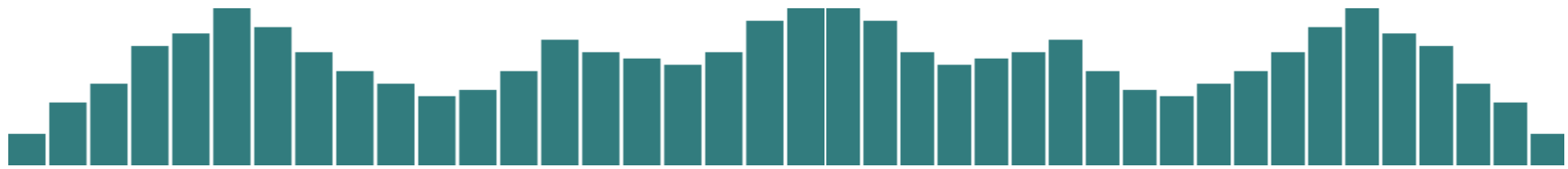


*DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY*

Marine Fisheries

Marine Fisheries Commission | Lee Paramore | August 2021

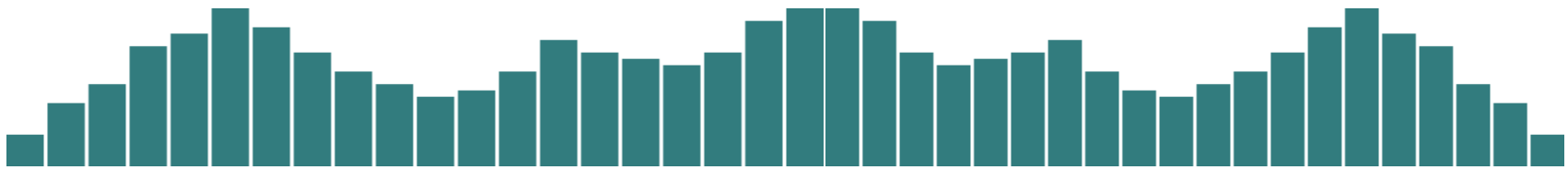




## ***STOCK OVERVIEW***

- Online report released annually in July
- Data through prior calendar year
- Report links directly to the fishery management plan review for each species

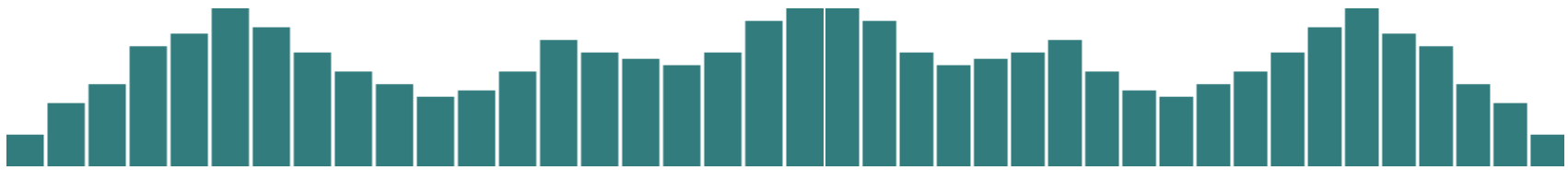




## ***STOCK OVERVIEW***

- Stock overview website separates by:
  - 13 state-managed species or species groups
  - 21 federal and interstate managed species or species groups
- Fishery management plan reviews provided for all 34 species or species groups





## ***STOCK OVERVIEW***

Fishery management plan reviews provide:

- Status of Fishery Management Plan
- Life History
- Stock Status (overfished and overfishing)
- Trends in Catch and Surveys
- Current Regulations
- Research Needs
- Schedule Changes





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# Marine Fisheries



## Size & Bag Limits

Find size and bag limits for recreational fishermen in coastal NC waters.

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# Fishery Management Plans

## Stock Overview

[2020 FMP Review \(August 2021\)](#) →[State-Managed Species](#) →[Interjurisdictional Species](#) →

The North Carolina Fisheries Reform Act of 1997 requires the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries prepare fishery management plans for adoption by the North Carolina Marine Fisheries Commission for all commercially and recreationally significant species or fisheries that comprise state marine or estuarine resources. The goal of these plans is to ensure long-term viability of the fisheries.

The division currently has 13 state-managed fishery plans. In addition to stocks managed through state fishery management plans, the commission and division fully participate in the management of interjurisdictionally managed species where North Carolina has a vested interest. Interjurisdictional species are managed regionally due to either their migration across

## Public Information and Education

[Coastal Fishing Information](#)[Managing the Fisheries](#)[Habitat Information](#)[Maps](#)[Fisheries Glossary](#)[Kids' Educational Pages](#)[DMF Library](#)[Additional Resources](#)

# State-Managed Species

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- + Bay Scallop
- + Blue Crab
- + Eastern Oyster
- + Estuarine Striped Bass - *under review*
- + Hard Clam
- + Kingfishes
- + Red Drum
- + River Herring
- + Sheepshead
- + Shrimp - *under review*
- + Southern Flounder - *under review*
- + Spotted Seatrout - *under review*
- + Striped Mullet - *under review*





The 2019 stock assessment of southern flounder in the south Atlantic indicated that the stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring. The assessment passed peer review and the model was accepted for use in management. Amendment 2 to the Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan was approved in August 2019 implementing reductions in total removals in North Carolina of 62% in 2019 and 72% beginning in 2020. Development of Amendment 3 is underway, as required by Amendment 2. For more information, contact Michael Loeffler at [Michael.Loeffler@ncdenr.gov](mailto:Michael.Loeffler@ncdenr.gov), or view the [Frequently Asked Questions about Southern Flounder Management page](#) or the [Information on Southern Flounder Amendment 3 page](#).



## Documents

<p><a href="#">Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 2</a> </p> <p>(Sept. 2019)</p>	<p><a href="#">Stock Assessment of Southern Flounder (<i>Paralichthys lethostigma</i>) in the South Atlantic, 1989-2017</a> </p> <p>(Jan. 2019)</p>
<p><a href="#">Stock Assessment of Southern Flounder (<i>Paralichthys lethostigma</i>) in the South Atlantic, 1989-2015</a> </p> <p>(Jan. 2018)</p>	<p><a href="#">Supplement A to 2013 Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 1</a> </p> <p>(Aug. 2017)</p>
<p><a href="#">Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 1</a> </p> <p>(Feb. 2013)</p>	<p><a href="#">Supplement A to 2005 Southern Flounder FMP</a> </p> <p>(Jan. 2011)</p>
<p><a href="#">Southern Flounder Original FMP</a> </p> <p>(Feb. 2005)</p>	



# Interjurisdictional Species

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In addition to the above listed state FMPs, there is also one composite plan called the N.C. FMP for Interjurisdictional Fisheries. This plan is comprised of 21 species or species groups jointly managed by regional councils, NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. To reduce redundancy, federal plans for interjurisdictional fisheries are usually adopted by reference unless the MFC decides to implement more restrictive or complementary management measures. This plan is currently under review.

[Interjurisdictional FMP Information Update](#) 

(Nov. 2015)

[Interjurisdictional FMP Amendment](#) 

(June 2008)

[Interjurisdictional Original FMP](#) 

(Sept. 2002)

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+ American Eel

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+ American Shad

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+ Atlantic Croaker

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+ Atlantic Menhaden



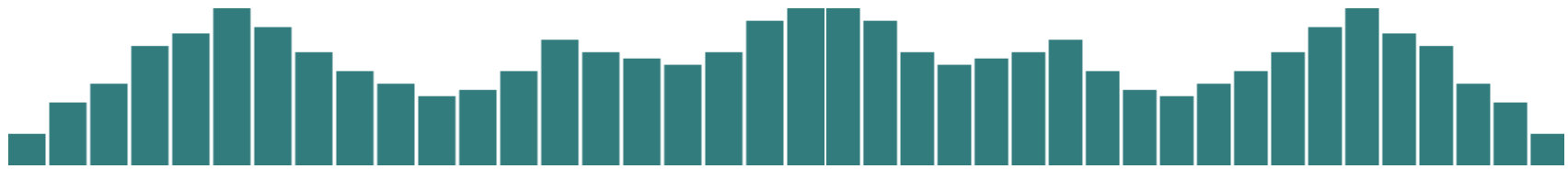
– Atlantic Menhaden



[Atlantic Menhaden Annual Update →](#)

[ASMFC Atlantic Menhaden Page →](#)





## ***STOCK OVERVIEW***

Stock determinations based on peer reviewed assessment

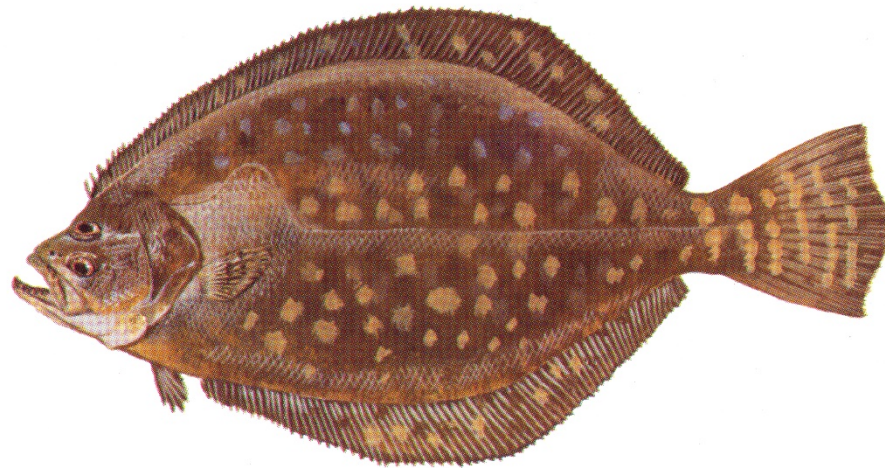
- Relative to overfishing and overfished terminology
- Stocks with no assessment provide pertinent trends in catch and surveys



# Highlights of the 2021 Stock Overview Report

## Southern Flounder

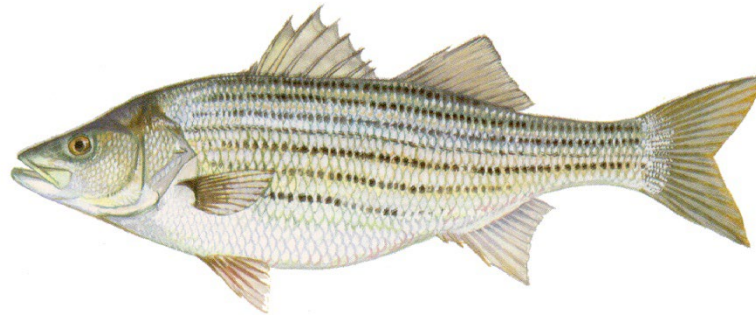
- Stock Status – (2019) overfished and overfishing
- Amendment 2, adopted August 2019
- Amendment 3 is currently under development



# Highlights of the 2021 Stock Overview Report

## Estuarine Striped Bass

- Albemarle-Roanoke stock
  - Stock Status – (2020) overfished and overfishing
  - Revision to Amendment 1 to address stock status
- Central and Southern stocks
  - No formal stock assessment available
  - No possession



# Highlights of the 2021 Stock Overview Report

## Spotted Seatrout

- Stock status – (2014) not overfished and no overfishing
- Susceptible to cold stun events
- Benchmark assessment and plan review is underway



*Department of Environmental Quality*



# Highlights of the 2021 Stock Overview Report

## Blue Crab

- Amendment 3 adopted in February 2020
- Measures taken to address overfished status and end overfishing
- Established Diamond Back Terrapin Management Areas

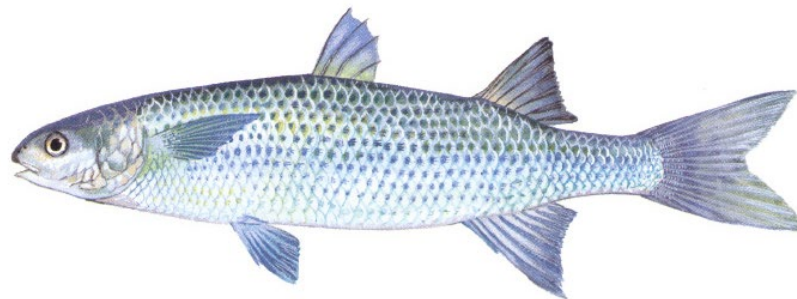




# Highlights of the 2021 Stock Overview Report

## Striped Mullet

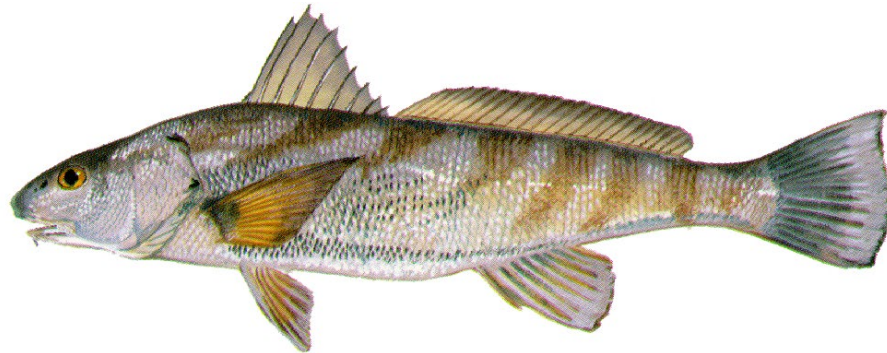
- Stock status – (2018) no overfishing with overfished not determined
- Benchmark assessment and plan review is underway



# Highlights of the 2021 Stock Overview Report

## Kingfishes

- Annual trend analysis to monitor stock
- One of seven triggers tripped in 2019
- Full trigger analysis unavailable for 2020
- No action required



# Highlights of the 2021 Stock Overview Report

Stock assessments are not available for all stocks



**Kingfishes**



**Sheepshead**



**Eastern Oyster**



**Hard Clam**

# Highlights of the 2021 Stock Overview Report

- Two stocks managed by North Carolina are annual crops
- Annual crops are not assessed due to short life-span



Bay Scallop



Shrimp  
(Brown, Pink, White)



# QUESTIONS?

*Department of Environmental Quality*

