



Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan

Southern Flounder Amendment 3 Landings Update

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Marine Fisheries

MFC Meeting | Anne L. Markwith and Holly White | February 23, 2023



Amendment 3 Landings Presentation Overview

- Required and Estimated Reductions
- Landings and Achieved Reductions



Amendment 3

Requirements

- Built on seasonal closures from Amendment 2
- MFC directed the division to reduce total removals by 72%
 - More conservative approach
 - Greater reduction than required by statute
- Requirements to end overfishing in 2 years
 - 31% reduction to meet the threshold
 - 51% reduction to meet the target
- Requirements to end overfished status in 10 years
 - 52% reduction to meet the threshold
 - 72% reduction to meet the target



Amendment 2 (2019-2021) and 3 (2022)

Landings Summary

Total Removals (pounds)				Removal Overage (pounds)	Percent Reduction from 2017	Pounds of Escapement
	2017 Removals	Allowable	Actual			
Commercial						
	2019-2021, average	1,399,312	438,360	589,589	151,228	809,724
	*2022	1,399,312	377,379	366,633	0	1,037,128
Recreational						
	2019-2021, average	545,740	170,999	514,513	343,513	31,227
	*2022	545,740	170,655	222,321	51,666	323,419
Overall						
	2019-2021, average	1,945,052	609,360	1,104,101	516,270	846,951
	*2022	1,945,052	548,034	588,954	40,920	1,356,098

*2022 data are preliminary at this time. Allocations between the fisheries for 2022 were 70% commercial:30% recreational

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Amendment 3

Commercial Fishery Gear/Area Total Landings in Pounds

	2022 Total Landings (pounds)				2023
	Allowable Landings	Actual	Percent Harvested	Overage	Allowable Landings
Mobile Gears Northern Area	123,879	115,740	93%	0	123,879
Mobile Gears Southern Area	62,309	52,326	84%	0	62,309
Pound Net Northern Area	39,700	38,730	98%	0	39,700
Pound Net Central Area	121,756	126,901	104%	5,145	116,611
Pound Net Southern Area	25,002	28,488	114%	3,486	21,516
Total	372,646	362,185	97%	8,631	364,015



Amendment 2 (2019-2021) and 3 (2022)

Landings Summary

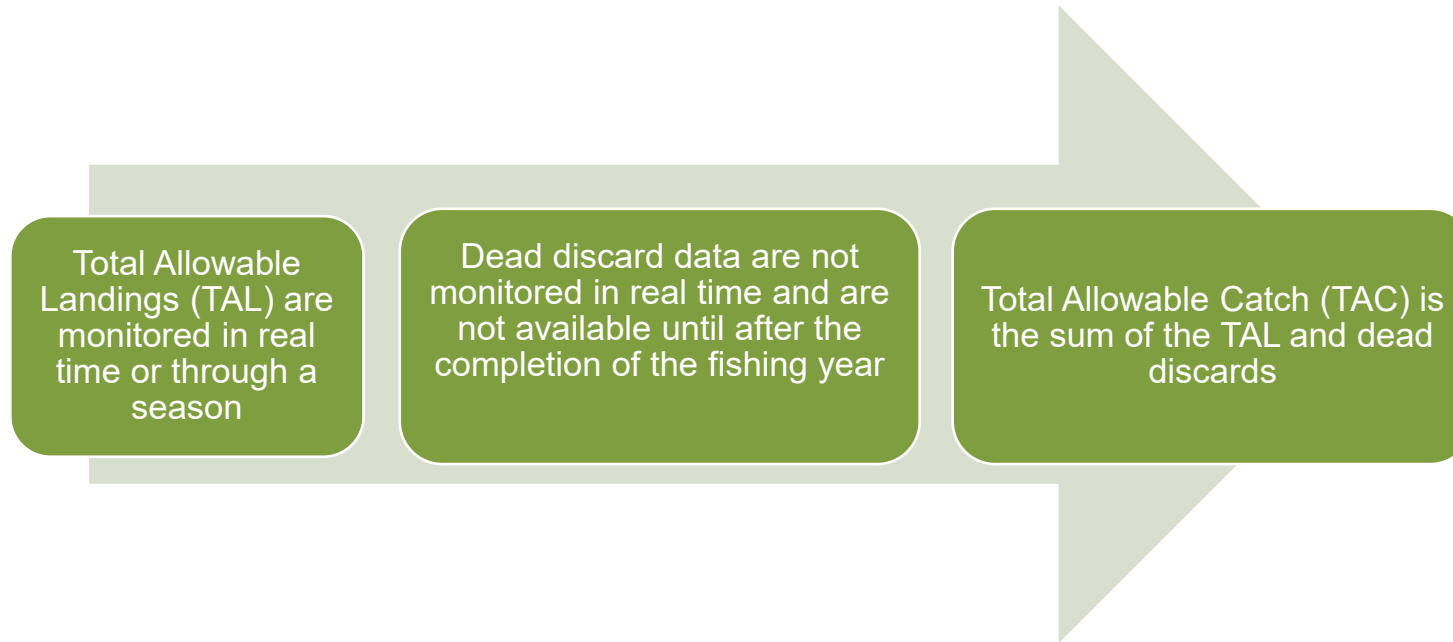
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Amendment 3

Calculating TAL and TAC

Total Allowable Landings + Dead Discards = Total Allowable Catch



Commercial Fishery

- TAL: Trip ticket landings
- TAC: Trip ticket landings + calculated dead discards from the gill net fishery

Recreational Fishery

- TAL: Hook-and-line landings (MRIP) + gig landings (survey through NCDMF)
- TAC: MRIP landings + gig survey landings + dead discards calculated from MRIP discards + gig dead discards

Amendment 3

Calculating Recreational TAL and TAC

Recreational Fishery

- TAL: Hook-and-line landings (MRIP) + gig landings (survey through NCDMF)
- TAC: MRIP landings + gig survey landings + dead discards calculated from MRIP discards + gig dead discards

Landings

MRIP

Year	Common Name	Harvest (A+B1) Total Weight (lb)	PSE
2022	SOUTHERN FLOUNDER	163,485	25.6

163,485 pounds

Gig Survey:
7,882 pounds

Total Landings: 171,367 pounds

Values are as of Feb. 17, 2023

Dead discards

MRIP

Estimate Status	Year	Common Name	Released Alive (B2)	PSE
PRELIMINARY	2022	SOUTHERN FLOUNDER	5,456	83.7

Estimate Status	Year	Common Name	Released Alive (B2)	PSE
PRELIMINARY	2022	SUMMER FLOUNDER	128	103.1

Estimate Status	Year	Common Name	Released Alive (B2)	PSE
PRELIMINARY	2022	LEFT EYE FLOUNDER GENUS	3,194,467	15.7

Total flounder discards:
3,200,046 fish

Total southern flounder discards:
2,682,727 fish x 0.21 x 0.09 =
50,704 pounds dead discards

Gig Survey:
109 fish x 2.3 pounds x 1 =
250 pounds dead discards

Total Dead Discards: 50,951 pounds

Total removals

**171,367 + 50,954 =
222,321 pounds**

**TAL = 159,706
pounds**

**TAC = 170,655
pounds**

Amendment 2 (2019-2021) and 3 (2022)

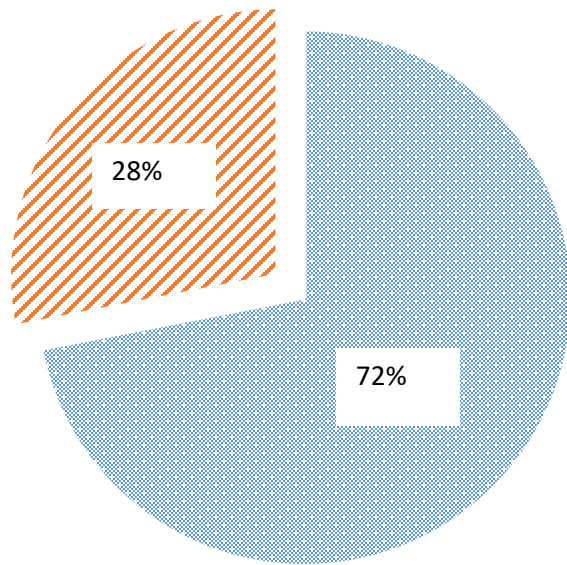
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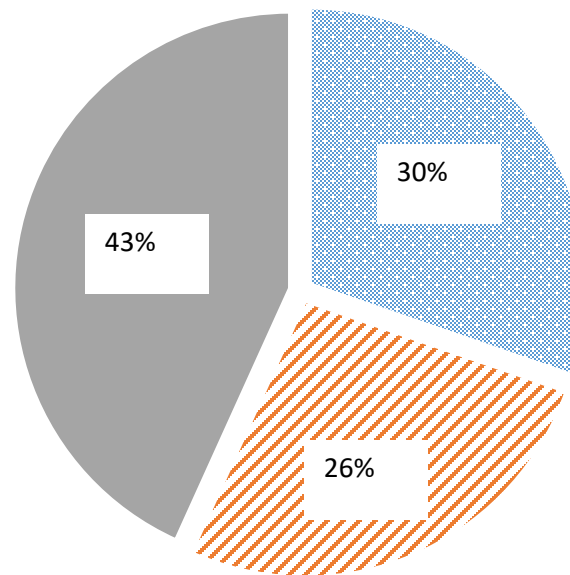
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Flounder Removals by Year and Sector in Pounds *(Percentage of Landings per Amendment)*

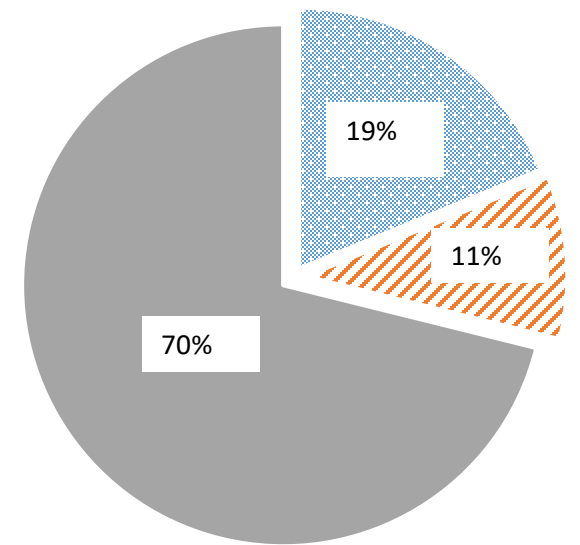
■ Commercial Removals ■ Recreational Removals ■ Escapement



2017



Amendment 2 (2019-2021)



Amendment 3 (2022)

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Summary

Amendment 3

- Reductions have met statutory requirements to end overfishing.
- Overfished status:
 - Two of last four years at rebuilding threshold or above
 - Overages to TAC still occurring in recreational fishery
 - Overages to two commercial gear-area combination TALs occurred
 - Continued reductions expected under Amendment 3 for rebuilding stock by 2028
- Update to 2019 stock assessment will occur in 2023

