NORTH CAROLINA DIVISION OF MARINE FISHERIES



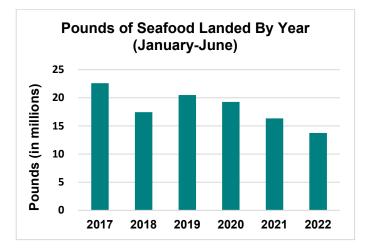
Fish Dealer Report

License & Statistics Section, PO Box 769, Morehead City, NC 28557

November 2022

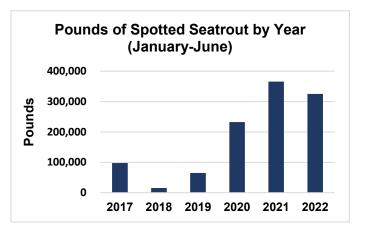
2022 COMMERCIAL LANDINGS REVIEW

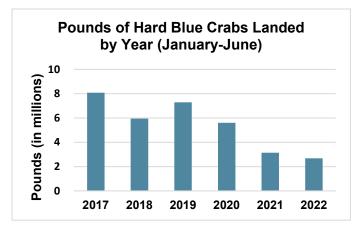
Preliminary data collected by the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries reveals that fishermen landed 13.8 million pounds of seafood from January to June 2022. This was a 28.5% decrease from the previous 5-year average for the same time period.



The top five species landed were Hard Blue Crab (2.7 million pounds), Catfishes (1.6 million pounds), Summer Flounder (1.3 million pounds), Atlantic Cutlassfish (Ribbonfish) (879,398 pounds), and Shrimp (634,759 pounds).

Despite being the top landed species in the state this year, Hard Blue Crab landings have decreased to about 55% compared to the previous 5-year average. Additionally, shrimp (heads on and Brown, White, and Pink shrimp combined) and Bluefish landings decreased 67% and 59%, respectively, compared to their previous 5-year averages. In contrast, Spotted Seatrout and Spot landings substantially increased compared to their previous 5-year averages, by 110% and 95%, respectively.





Landings in this report are summarized. To see actual 2022 landings, please see the <u>2022 Semi-Annual</u> Landings Bulletin

COMMERCIAL STATISTICS PROGRAM 5-YEAR COMPLETION REPORT

In the late 1970s, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) began developing the Commercial Statistics Program (CSP) with the mission to "cooperatively collect, manage, and disseminate landings (including finfish and shellfish) and bioprofile information for marine commercial fisheries in the Southeast Region." Bioprofile information collected by this program included the species harvested, the total landings for that species, the market grade/size of the species, and the condition (whole, gutted, etc.) of the landings. North Carolina became a member of the CSP in 1978, allowing the state to receive a federal grant each year on a 5-year funding cycles. Currently, the CSP funds a full-time Data Entry Clerk and Commercial Port Agent within the North Carolina Trip Ticket Program (NCTTP).

Annual Performance Reports and a 5-year Completion Report must be submitted to NMFS to continue receiving CSP funds. The NCTTP staff completed the most recent <u>5-year Completion Report</u> in October 2022 and will receive another 5-year cycle of CSP funds.

FEDERAL HURRICANE FLORENCE FISHERIES RELIEF PROGRAM

In December 2021, North Carolina received \$7.7 million in federal Hurricane Florence relief funds to distribute to qualified applicants, which included seafood dealers and processors, ocean fishing piers, bait and tackle shops, and for-hire operators. Commercial fishermen were not included in this program because they received aid via a separate, state-funded relief program in 2019 called the North Carolina Hurricane Florence Fisheries Relief Program.

To qualify for the federal relief program, applicants were required to be a North Carolina resident who suffered damages caused by the storm or demonstrated a loss in revenue during the September to November 2018 period as compared to the average of the previous three years for the same period. Checks were distributed to approved applicants in September 2022.

STAFF CHANGES

Deputy Director Dee Lupton retired from the Division of Marine Fisheries after 28 years of dedicated service. The application period for the Deputy Director position is currently open.

Within the Trip Ticket Program, Sam McNeely, the technician working on the Program 405 Conversion Factor Project, left the Division and has been replaced by Lily Zeller (Lily.Zeller@ncdenr.gov, 252-725-2667). Marisa Ponte (Marisa.Ponte@ncdenr.gov, 252-808-8107) is the

new Assistant Quota Monitoring Biologist within the Quota Monitoring Program. Finally, Alexis Rakestraw (<u>Alexis.Rakestraw@ncdenr.gov</u>, 252-337-5362) is the new Commercial Port Agent in Elizabeth City.

TRIP TICKET TEMPLATE UPDATE

Upon receiving feedback from the fishing industry and our Commercial Port Agents, Trip Ticket Program staff updated the paper trip ticket templates. You can expect to see these new trip tickets within the next year. If you have questions about these changes, please contact Michael Thompson (<u>Michael.Thompson@ncdenr.gov</u>, 252-269-1847).

TRIP TICKET REMINDERS

When purchasing Atlantic Menhaden for bait, please note that Menhaden has its own bait code. When filling out the trip ticket, use species code 4200 (mixed Menhaden bait) instead of species code 7900 (mixed bait).

TECH TIPS

Dealers with permits to deal in quota-monitored species, such as Striped Bass, Summer and Southern Flounder, Black Sea Bass, and Spiny Dogfish can now use the Trip Ticket software to electronically submit daily Quota Monitoring Logs in the same way as trip tickets. First, update the software by clicking "Check for Update" in the bottom right corner of the Trip Ticket System screen. Once the software is updated, send the daily reports by clicking "Reports" at the top of the screen, above the "Dealer Info" button, then selecting "Quota Monitoring Report."

On the Quota Monitoring Report screen, simply set the unload date for the report and click "Send QM Report to Agency". The report will automatically pull any landings from trip tickets that have been entered for the unload date selected and will include them in the Quota Monitoring Log that is sent to the Division. When the file sends successfully, a record will show at the bottom of the screen in the "QM Files Sent to Agency" box. These reports must be submitted by noon daily for the previous day.

The Division of Marine Fisheries is dedicated to ensuring sustainable marine and estuarine fisheries and habitats for the benefit and health of the people of North Carolina.

UPCOMING NC MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION MEETING

November 17-19, 2022

The public may access the meeting virtually. Please visit the <u>MFC webpage</u> for updates and details.

TRIP TICKET CONTACTS

For questions regarding rules, procedures, or requirements, please contact a port agent at your local Division of Marine Fisheries office.

Elizabeth	Alexis	252-337-5362 (office/cell)
City	Rakestraw	Alexis.Rakestraw@ncdenr.gov
Manteo	Marty Brill	252-342-0156 (cell)
		252-473-2158 (office)
		Martin.Brill@ncdenr.gov
Morehead City	Chuck Davis	252-808-7935 (cell)
		252-808-8029 (office)
		Chuck.Davis@ncdenr.gov
Washington	Jon	252-908-6786 (office/cell)
	Anglemyer	Jon.Anglemyer@ncdenr.gov
Wilmington	Pam Zuaboni	252-241-0118 (cell)
		910-796-7216 (office)
		Pam.Zuaboni@ncdenr.gov

For supplies, please contact our data clerks at 252-808-8104.

If you have any questions regarding use of the NC Trip Ticket System software, please contact Willow Patten (<u>Willow.Patten@ncdenr.gov</u>, 252-904-7810) or Marisa Ponte (<u>Marisa.Ponte@ncdenr.gov</u>, 252-808-8107).





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