

2009 Status of U.S. Fisheries



NOAA

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Science, Service, Stewardship

A Message from Eric Schwaab
NOAA's Assistant Administrator
for Fisheries

Status Determination by Region

Changes in Stock Status for 2009

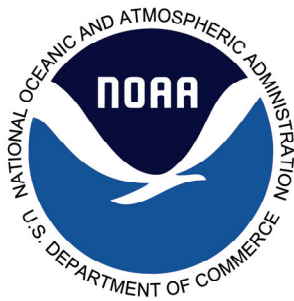


NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

2009 REPORT TO CONGRESS

THE STATUS OF U.S. FISHERIES

As mandated by the Sustainable Fisheries Act amendment to
the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996



May, 2010

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Office of Sustainable Fisheries

A Message from the NOAA Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service's
Report on the status of the U.S. fisheries for 2009

Science – Service - Stewardship



As NOAA's newest Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, I am pleased to have the opportunity to present the 2009 report on the status of U.S. marine fish stocks as one of my first reports. This report reflects the tremendous work being done by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the eight regional Fishery Management Councils (Councils), and our Interstate Marine Fisheries Commission partners, and the commercial and recreational fishing industries, to rebuild and sustain our marine fish stocks for the benefit of the Nation.

We recognize the importance of ensuring that the fishery resources under our management are healthy and productive. The commercial seafood industry and the recreational saltwater fishing industry provide critical services to our Nation -- food, jobs, recreation, and other benefits.

The report provides a summary of the status of our fisheries – including where stocks are improving, and where work remains. Four stocks have been declared fully rebuilt, which is certainly good news. And, while the majority of our domestic assessed fish stocks are not subject to overfishing or not overfished, 38 stocks remain subject to overfishing and 46 stocks overfished.

We will continue to work with the Councils and Commissions to achieve the goals of ending overfishing through annual catch limits, rebuilding all fish stocks to sustainable levels, and ensuring the benefits of productive stocks for future generations. We appreciate the support of Congress, stakeholders, and constituencies as we work to accomplish these goals for the benefit of the Nation.

Results

Overfishing

- 38 stocks are subject to overfishing
- 212 are not

Overfished

- 46 stocks are overfished
- 157 are not
- 4 are rebuilt

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Schwaab".

Eric C. Schwaab

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Executive Summary

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act requires that NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) report annually to Congress and the eight Regional Fishery Management Councils (Councils) on the status of fisheries (Sec. 304(e)(1)). This report fulfills that requirement.

The information in this report was generated by the NMFS' regional offices and science centers based on the most recent stock assessments as of December 31, 2009. Status determinations are generally made during a formal review of a scientific stock assessment using the best available scientific information and status determination criteria specified in a fishery management plan.

Stocks discussed in this report are characterized under two broad categories: (1) subject to overfishing and (2) overfished. A stock that is subject to overfishing has a fishing mortality (harvest) rate above the level that provides for the maximum sustainable yield. A stock that is overfished has a biomass level below a biological threshold specified in its fishery management plan.

For 2009, NMFS reviewed 522¹ individual stocks and stock complexes and made determinations of both overfishing and overfished status for 193 stocks and complexes; an additional 67 have either an overfishing or overfished determination.

Two hundred fifty stocks or stock complexes have known overfishing determinations: 212 (85%) are not subject to overfishing and 38 (15%) are subject to overfishing. These percentages are a slight improvement from last year's report, in which 84 percent were not subject to overfishing and 16 percent were. This slight improvement in the percentages reflects new assessments which have added to the number of stocks with known overfishing determinations as well as stocks no longer subject to overfishing.

Summary of Changes

Subject to overfishing, 2009: 38 (15%)
Subject to overfishing, 2008: 41 (16%)

Overfished, 2009: 46 (23%)
Overfished, 2008: 46 (23%)

Two stocks are no longer subject to overfishing: *scup* – Atlantic Coast and *thorny skate* – Gulf of Maine. A third stock, *pink shrimp* – Gulf of Mexico, was found to not be subject to overfishing because the previous assessment was invalidated. No stock was listed as subject to overfishing in 2009.

Two hundred and three stocks have known overfished determinations: 157 (77%) are not overfished² and 46 (23%) are overfished. These percentages are unchanged from last year's report.

Five stocks are no longer overfished: *scup* – Atlantic coast³, *winter skate* – Georges Bank/Southern New England, *bocaccio* – Southern Pacific Coast, *darkblotched rockfish* – Pacific coast, and *sailfish* – Western Atlantic. Four stocks have become overfished: *canary rockfish* – Pacific coast, *coho salmon* – Washington coast: *Queets*, *coho salmon* – Washington Coast: *Western Strait of Juan de Fuca* and *Petrale sole* – Pacific coast. One stock, previously listed as unknown, has been determined to be overfished: *gag* – Gulf of Mexico.

¹ Compare to 531 in the 2008 report: 12 stocks of crab – Blue king crab - Saint Lawrence Island, Golden king crab - Northern District, Grooved Tanner crab - Bering Sea, Grooved Tanner crab - Eastern Aleutian Islands, Grooved Tanner crab - Western Aleutian Islands, Red king crab - Eastern Aleutian Islands, Scarlet king crab - Aleutian Islands, Scarlet king crab - Bering Sea, Southern Tanner crab - Eastern Aleutian Islands, Southern Tanner crab - Western Aleutian Islands, Triangle Tanner crab - Bering Sea, and Triangle Tanner crab - Eastern Aleutian Islands – are no longer contained in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands King and Tanner Crab FMP (June 16, 2008; 73 FR 33925). The State of Alaska will continue to manage these stocks as they currently do under the deferred management authority of the FMP. The new Fish Resources of the Arctic Management Area FMP added three target stocks: *arctic cod*, *saffron cod*, and *snow crab* (*C. opilio*) (November 3, 2009; 74 FR 56734).

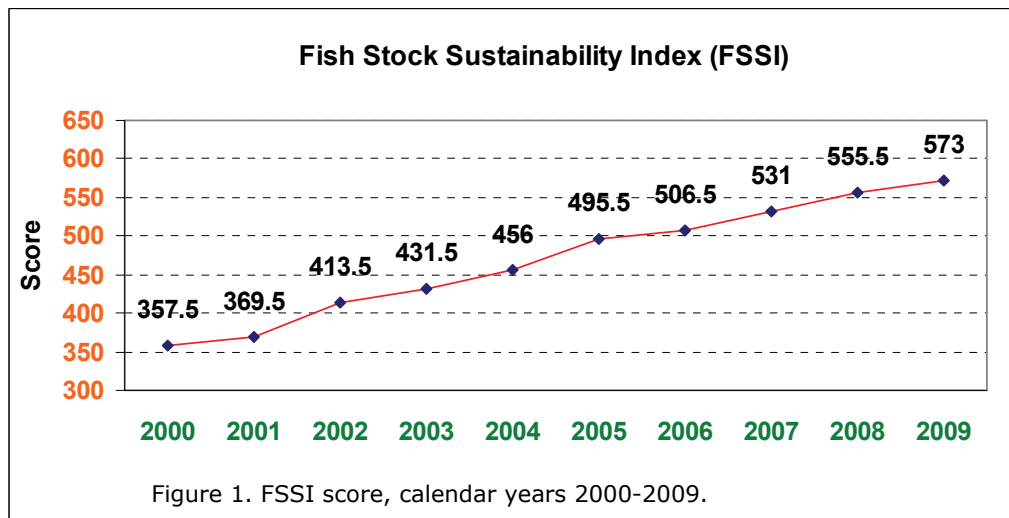
² Number includes 6 stocks that are approaching an overfished condition.

³ This stock is also rebuilt.

Four stocks have fully rebuilt to 100% of their B_{MSY} ⁴ levels: *Scup - Atlantic Coast*, *Black sea bass - Mid-Atlantic Coast*, *Blue king crab - St. Matthews Island*, and *Swordfish - North Atlantic*. Management of four additional stocks has resulted in biomass levels of at least 80% of their maximum sustainable levels: *greenstriped rockfish - Pacific coast*, *splitnose rockfish - Pacific coast*, *rex sole - Gulf of Alaska*, and *walleye pollock - Western/Central Gulf of Alaska*.

NMFS measures progress towards the sustainability of our nation's fisheries through the Fish Stock Sustainability Index (FSSI). The FSSI measures the performance of 230 key stocks and increases as additional assessments are conducted, overfishing is ended and stocks rebuild to the level that provides maximum sustainable yield. This index increased from 357.5 in 2000 to 573 in 2009, see Figure 1 below. The 60% increase in the FSSI in 9 years represents significant progress in improving our knowledge of stock status and sustainably managing our fisheries. More information about the FSSI can be found at:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>.



⁴ B_{MSY} is the weight (biomass) of a group of fish necessary to produce the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) from the stock.

Introduction

This report describes the state of our nation's marine fisheries and the effectiveness of fisheries management under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, Public Law 94-294 (MSA), as amended in 1996 by the Sustainable Fisheries Act (SFA) and again by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 (MSRA). The SFA emphasized the need to end overfishing, rebuild overfished stocks, and establish management plans designed to ensure biologically and economically sustainable fisheries. A stock that is subject to overfishing has a fishing mortality (harvest) rate above the level that provides for the maximum sustainable yield. A stock that is overfished has a biomass level below its prescribed biological threshold. The MSRA requires annual catch limits that end overfishing be established by 2010 for all stocks subject to overfishing and by 2011 for all other stocks, except for some stocks with annual life cycles or managed under international agreements.

This report fulfills the Congressional requirement in Sec. 304(e)(1) of the MSA for an annual report on the status of fisheries within each Council's geographic area of authority and to identify fisheries that are overfished or approaching a condition of being overfished.

This report lists the managed marine fish stocks in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone⁵, including stocks that straddle international boundaries and highly migratory stocks. In response to the Congressional requirement, the report categorizes stocks according to their status. The report answers four questions which help determine the effectiveness of management measures in meeting the provisions of the MSA:

1. *What stocks are subject to overfishing?*
2. *What stocks are overfished?*
3. *What stocks are approaching an overfished condition?*
4. *How do this year's determinations compare to previous years?*

Information on fishing mortality and biomass trends for rebuilding stocks, which can show if the management measures to end overfishing are working and if the biomass of the stock is rebuilding as planned, can be found at the NMFS website:

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>. Additional information on many rebuilding stocks, as well as other important fish stocks, can be found at the NMFS *FishWatch* website: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/fishwatch/#>.

Using the Best Available Data

To categorize marine fish stocks for this report, NMFS reviewed each stock relative to the status determination criteria (SDC) contained in the relevant fishery management plan (FMP)⁶. Sometimes the SDC do not apply to an individual stock, but to a group of similar species harvested together or sharing a similar life history. These groups are referred to as stock complexes, units, or assemblages. Such groupings may be particularly useful when data are sparse or lacking because they provide a level of protection for all related stocks and allow data collection on them. In some cases, the status of a stock complex is determined using the SDC for one stock in the complex. In other cases, the SDC apply to the complex as a whole. Stock complexes are used in the Southeast, the Pacific Islands, and the Alaska Regions, as well as by the NMFS Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) division. The reporting level (stock or stock complex) is based on the level used in the assessment.

⁵ The U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone generally extends from 3 to 200 miles offshore and covers more than 2 million square miles.

⁶ Some stocks in the Southeast Region have status determinations based on criteria that are not contained in the FMP because it is the best scientific information available for such data poor stocks. Alaska SDC are generally specified in the annual Stock Assessment & Fishery Evaluation (SAFE) Report, rather than in the FMP itself.

Based on a review of the best scientific information available for each stock or stock complex, relative to its SDC, NMFS determined whether an overfishing and overfished condition exists, including whether or not the stock is approaching an overfished condition. NMFS used many resources to make these determinations, including final, peer-reviewed documents such as Stock Assessment Review Committee reports and recommendations of each Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee. For species not included in a federal FMP (i.e., species managed by international agreement), the stock status determination was made in accordance with the relevant FMP or agreement. More information on the stock complexes and methodology used to include them in this report can be found in Appendix 1, located on the NMFS website, <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>.

NMFS continues to make progress in improving the scientific knowledge of marine fisheries and in the ability to use that knowledge to manage for the sustained use of these resources. NMFS is also working to increase the number of stocks that are assessed. NMFS assessed or otherwise conducted new status determinations on 213 stock and stock complexes in 2009. In 2009, 2 additional stocks now have known overfishing determinations (that is, their overfishing determination was previously unknown) and 4 additional stocks now have overfished determinations (that is, their overfished determination was previously unknown). Of those, 2 are not subject to overfishing and 3 are not overfished.

This year's report is based on assessments completed as of December 31, 2009. Results from fishery stock assessments in progress on that date will be summarized in next year's report. The status of all 522 stocks and stock complexes is summarized in Table 1.

Overview of Overfishing Status

- **250** stocks or stock complexes have a known overfishing status. Of these:
 - 212 (85%) stocks or stock complexes are not subject to overfishing.
 - 38 (15%) stocks or stock complexes have a fishing mortality rate that exceeds the overfishing threshold (i.e., is subject to overfishing).
- **272** stocks or stock complexes have overfishing thresholds not defined or applicable, or are unknown with respect to their overfishing status.

Changes in Overfishing Status

- In the Northeast Region –
 - Scup – Atlantic Coast is no longer subject to overfishing.
 - Thorny skate – Gulf of Maine is no longer subject to overfishing.
- In the Southeast Region –
 - Pink shrimp – Gulf of Mexico was found to be not subject to overfishing because the previous assessment had been invalidated.
- In the Alaska Region –
 - Golden king crab – Aleutian Islands is not subject to overfishing (was previously unknown)
 - Red king crab - Western Aleutian Islands is not subject to overfishing (was previously unknown)
- There are no changes to the other Regions.

Overview of Overfished Status

- **203** stocks or stock complexes have a known overfished status. Of these:
 - 157 (77%) stocks or stock complexes are not overfished - 6 of these stocks are approaching an overfished condition.
 - 46 (23%) stocks or stock complexes are overfished.
- **319** stocks or stock complexes have overfished thresholds not defined or applicable, or are unknown with respect to their overfished status.

Changes in Overfished Status

- In the Northeast Region –
 - Winter skate – Georges Bank/Southern New England is no longer overfished and is rebuilding.
 - Scup – Atlantic Coast is no longer overfished and is rebuilt.
 - Black sea bass – Mid-Atlantic Coast is now rebuilt.
- In the Southeast Region –
 - Gag – Gulf of Mexico is overfished (was previously unknown).
- In the Northwest Region –
 - Canary rockfish – Pacific coast is now overfished.
 - Petrale sole – Pacific coast is now overfished.
 - Coho salmon - Washington Coast: Queets is now overfished.
 - Coho salmon - Washington Coast: Western Strait of Juan de Fuca is now overfished.
 - Bocaccio – Southern Pacific Coast is no longer overfished.
 - Darkblotched rockfish is no longer overfished.

- Greenstriped rockfish - Pacific Coast is not overfished (was previously unknown).
- Splitnose rockfish – Pacific coast is not overfished (was previously unknown).
- In the Alaska Region –
 - Blue king crab – St. Matthews Island is rebuilt
 - Rex sole – Gulf of Alaska is not overfished (was previously unknown)
- In the Highly Migratory Species Division –
 - Sailfish – Western Atlantic is no longer overfished.
 - Swordfish – North Atlantic is rebuilt

There are no changes to any of the other Regions.

Approaching an Overfished Condition

The basis for determining whether a stock is approaching an overfished condition is a comparison of the current stock biomass and trends in fishing effort to determine if the stock is likely to become overfished within 2 years. The definition for the biomass threshold in the FMP, along with trends in fishing effort, is the basis for determining whether a stock is approaching an overfished condition. For Pacific salmon stocks, the criteria are based on maximum sustainable yield/maximum spawner potential objectives for natural stocks or stock complexes.

- **6** stocks approaching an overfished condition.

Changes in Approaching an Overfished Condition

- In the Alaska Region –
 - Southern Tanner crab – Bering Sea is approaching an overfished condition.
- There are no changes in the other regions.

Biomass Levels

The Fish Stock Sustainability Index (FSSI) is a performance measure for the sustainability of 230 U.S. fish stocks selected for their importance to commercial and recreational fisheries. The FSSI establishes, as an indicator of sustainability, an 80% threshold of the current stock biomass compared to the biomass that supports the maximum sustainable yield (B/B_{MSY}). Stocks with biomass above that level are considered to be within the range of natural fluctuation around the B_{MSY} level, which is defined as a long-term average. The following stocks are all not overfished and have biomass levels determined, in 2009, to have changed relative to this threshold.

Changes in Biomass Levels

- In the Northwest Region –
 - Pacific hake – Pacific coast – B/B_{MSY} is now below 80%.
 - Splitnose rockfish – Pacific coast – B/B_{MSY} is now above 80%.
 - Greenstriped rockfish – Pacific coast (nonFSSI stock) – B/B_{MSY} is now above 80%.
- In the Alaska Region –
 - Walleye pollock - Western / Central Gulf of Alaska – B/B_{MSY} is above 80%.
 - Rex sole – Gulf of Alaska - B/B_{MSY} is above 80% (was previously not estimated).
- There are no changes in the other regions.

Table 1. Description of FSSI and nonFSSI Stocks by Council, 2009.

Jurisdiction*	Stock Group	Number of Stocks	Overfishing					Overfished					Approaching Overfished Condition
			Yes	No	Not Known	Not Defined	N/A	Yes	No	Not Known	Not Defined	N/A	
NEFMC	FSSI	34	8	22	2	2	0	15	18	1	0	0	0
	NonFSSI	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	35	8	23	2	2	0	16	18	1	0	0	0
MAFMC	FSSI	11	0	11	0	0	0	1	9	1	0	0	0
	NonFSSI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	11	0	11	0	0	0	1	9	1	0	0	0
NEFMC/MAFMC	FSSI	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
	NonFSSI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
SAFMC	FSSI	21	10	10	1	0	0	5	6	9	0	0	1
	NonFSSI	63	0	10	51	2	0	0	1	55	7	0	0
	Total	84	10	20	52	2	0	5	7	64	7	0	1
GMFMC	FSSI	17	4	9	4	0	0	4	6	0	7	0	0
	NonFSSI	36	0	6	29	1	0	0	1	1	34	0	0
	Total	53	4	15	33	1	0	4	7	1	41	0	0
SAFMC/GMFMC	FSSI	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	7	2	1	0	0
	NonFSSI	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
	Total	13	0	11	1	1	0	0	8	3	2	0	0
CFMC	FSSI	8	4	1	3	0	0	4	0	3	0	0	1
	NonFSSI	14	1	0	13	0	0	0	1	13	0	0	1
	Total	22	5	1	16	0	0	4	1	16	0	0	2
PFMC	FSSI	48	1	33	13	1	0	4	31	10	3	0	0
	NonFSSI	120	0	17	50	0	53	2	15	50	0	53	0
	Total	168	1	50	63	1	53	6	46	60	3	53	0
WPFMC	FSSI	16	0	7	9	0	0	1	7	8	0	0	0
	NonFSSI	20	0	3	15	2	0	0	1	17	2	0	0
	Total	36	0	10	24	2	0	1	8	25	2	0	0
PFMC/WPFMC	FSSI	6	1	2	3	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0
	NonFSSI	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
	Total	10	1	2	7	0	0	0	3	7	0	0	0
NPFMC	FSSI	35	0	35	0	0	0	1	29	0	4	0	1
	NonFSSI	27	0	20	1	6	0	0	2	3	22	0	0
	Total	62	0	55	1	6	0	1	31	3	26	0	1
PFMC/NPFMC	FSSI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	NonFSSI	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
	Total	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
HMS	FSSI	21	9	10	2	0	0	8	9	2	0	0	2
	NonFSSI	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0
	Total	24	9	11	4	0	0	8	10	4	0	0	2
TOTAL	FSSI	230	37	153	37	3	0	43	128	39	15	0	5
	NonFSSI	292	1	59	166	13	53	3	24	146	66	53	1
	Total	522	38	212	203	16	53	46	152	185	81	53	6

* FSSI = Fish Stock Sustainability Index; NEFMC = New England Fishery Management Council; MAFMC = Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; SAFMC = South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; GMFMC = Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; CFMC = Caribbean Fishery Management Council; PFMC = Pacific Fishery Management Council; WPFMC = Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; NPFMC = North Pacific Fishery Management Council; HMS = Atlantic Highly Migratory Species.

Biomass and Mortality Trends in Stocks under Rebuilding Plans

Section 304(e)(7) of the MSA requires that the Secretary review any fishery management plan, plan amendment, or regulations required by this subsection at routine intervals that may not exceed two years for adequate progress toward ending overfishing and rebuilding affected fish stocks. For the past several years, within this report, NMFS has presented an analysis of trends in fishing mortality (F) and biomass (B) for stocks under rebuilding plans. This analysis uses the most current scientific stock assessments for 37 rebuilding stocks and presented a series of figures to illustrate the trends. The analysis and its findings have been updated using the most recent assessments completed since that time, where available. The results are updated and presented on the NMFS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>.

Implementing Annual Catch Limits

In early 2009, NMFS published guidelines⁷ to aid the regional Councils in implementing annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs) required by the MSA to end and prevent overfishing, rebuild overfished stocks, and achieve optimum yield. ACLs and AMs are required for stocks that are subject to overfishing by 2010, and for all other stocks by 2011. Congress provided two exceptions to the ACL requirements:

- unless otherwise provided for under an international agreement in which the United States participates, and
- shall not apply to a fishery for species that have a life cycle of approximately 1 year unless the Secretary has determined the fishery is subject to overfishing of that species

Table 2 includes a summary of the stocks that are currently subject to overfishing and had ACLs in place by December 31, 2009. Some stocks are managed based on “fishing years” which may start after January 1, 2010. Implementation of ACLs for these stocks will be reported in the 2010 Status of US Fisheries Report.

Table 2. Annual Catch Limits in place, as of December 31, 2009.

Region*	Fishery Management Plan	Fishery
SERO	Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	<i>gag</i> <i>red grouper</i> <i>gray triggerfish</i> <i>greater amberjack</i>
HMS	Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species	<i>sandbar shark</i> <i>dusky shark</i> <i>Non-sandbar large coastal sharks</i> [#] <i>#silky, tiger, blacktip, spinner, bull, lemon, nurse, scalloped hammerhead, great hammerhead, and smooth hammerhead sharks</i> ^a

* SERO – Southeast Regional Office; HMS – Highly Migratory Species Division ^a the status of these species is unknown.

⁷ The guidelines can be viewed here: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/msa2007/catchlimits.htm>.

Status Determinations by Region

Northeast Region⁸

Thirteen FMPs containing 49 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS and the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils: Atlantic Sea Scallop; Northeast Multispecies; Northeast Skate; Atlantic Herring; Red Crab; Monkfish; Spiny Dogfish; Summer flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass; Atlantic Bluefish; Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog; Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish; Tilefish; and Atlantic Salmon. Within these FMPs, 8 stocks are subject to overfishing, 17 stocks are overfished, and no stocks are approaching an overfished condition. See Table 3.

Table 3. Northeast Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

Council	FMP	Overfishing	Overfished	Approaching
NEFMC	Atlantic salmon	-	<i>Atlantic salmon*</i>	-
	Northeast Multispecies	<i>cod - Gulf of Maine</i> <i>cod - Georges Bank</i> - - <i>yellowtail flounder - Georges Bank</i> <i>yellowtail flounder - Southern New England (SNE)/Mid-Atlantic (MA)</i> <i>yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine</i> <i>white hake - Georges Bank/Gulf of Maine</i> - <i>winter flounder - SNE/MA</i> <i>winter flounder - Georges Bank</i> - -	<i>cod - Gulf of Maine</i> <i>cod - Georges Bank</i> <i>haddock - Gulf of Maine</i> <i>haddock - Georges Bank</i> <i>American plaice</i> <i>yellowtail flounder - Georges Bank</i> <i>yellowtail flounder - Southern New England SNE/MA</i> <i>yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine</i> <i>white hake - Georges Bank/Gulf of Maine</i> <i>windowpane flounder - SNE/MA</i> <i>winter flounder - SNE/MA</i> - <i>ocean pout</i> <i>Atlantic halibut</i>	-
	Northeast Skate		<i>thorny skate - Gulf of Maine</i> <i>smooth skate - Gulf of Maine</i>	-
MAFMC	Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish		<i>butterfish - Gulf of Maine/Cape Hatteras</i>	-

* No fishing is allowed in this fishery, or incidental harvest is limited to levels necessary to meet Endangered Species Act (ESA) requirements. A Final Recovery Plan for the Gulf of Maine Distinct Population Segment of Atlantic Salmon has been developed under the ESA.

⁸ Assessment results for 19 stocks in the Northeast Multispecies FMP will not be used to make determinations until the FMP is amended to reflect the SDC recommended in the assessment.

Southeast Region

Seventeen FMPs⁹ containing 175 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS and the South Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils: South Atlantic Golden Crab; South Atlantic Shrimp; South Atlantic Snapper Grouper; Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitats of the South Atlantic Region; Pelagic Sargassum Habitat of the South Atlantic Region; Dolphin Wahoo; Coastal Migratory Pelagics of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic; Gulf of Mexico/South Atlantic Spiny Lobster; Gulf of Mexico Stone Crab; Gulf of Mexico Shrimp; Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico; Gulf of Mexico Red Drum; Coral and Coral Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico; Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; Spiny Lobster Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; Queen Conch Resources of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; and Corals and Reef Associated Invertebrates of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Within these FMPs, 19 stocks are subject to overfishing, 13 stocks are overfished, and 3 stocks are approaching an overfished condition. See Table 4.

Table 4. Southeast Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

Council	FMP	Overfishing	Overfished	Approaching
SAFMC	South Atlantic Snapper Grouper	<i>vermillion snapper</i> <i>red snapper</i> <i>snowy grouper</i> <i>red grouper</i> <i>black sea bass</i> <i>gag</i> <i>speckled hind</i> <i>warsaw grouper</i> <i>tilefish</i> <i>black grouper</i> -	- <i>red snapper</i> <i>snowy grouper</i> - <i>black sea bass</i> - - - - - <i>red porgy</i>	<i>gag</i>
	South Atlantic Shrimp	-	<i>pink shrimp</i>	
GMFMC	Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	<i>red snapper</i> <i>greater amberjack</i> <i>gag</i> <i>gray triggerfish</i>	<i>red snapper</i> <i>greater amberjack</i> <i>gag</i> <i>gray triggerfish</i>	
CFMC	Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the USVI	<i>Grouper Unit 1</i> - <i>Grouper Unit 4</i> <i>Snapper Unit 1</i> <i>Parrotfish complex</i>	<i>Grouper Unit 1</i> <i>Grouper Unit 2</i> <i>Grouper Unit 4</i> - -	- - - <i>Snapper Unit 1</i> <i>Parrotfish complex</i>
	Queen Conch Resources of Puerto Rico and the USVI	<i>queen conch</i>	<i>queen conch</i>	-

⁹ The Atlantic Coast Red Drum FMP has had management authority transferred to the ASMFC. It is no longer under federal management and its overfishing status is now reported under stocks contained in non-Federal FMPs. The stock remains subject to overfishing.

Southwest Region

Two FMPs containing 19 stocks or complexes¹⁰ are managed by NMFS and the Pacific Fishery Management Council: Coastal Pelagic Species and West Coast Highly Migratory Species. Within these FMPs, 2 stocks are subject to overfishing, no stocks are overfished, and no stocks are approaching an overfished condition. See Table 5.

Table 5. Southwest Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

FMP	Overfishing	Overfished	Approaching
West Coast Highly Migratory Species	<i>yellowfin tuna - Eastern Tropical Pacific</i> <i>bigeye tuna - Pacific*</i>	- -	- -

* This stock also appears in Table 7 as a stock subject to overfishing in the Pacific Islands Region's *Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region FMP*. Each of the 10 stocks shared between these two FMPs is listed only once in the support tables as a single stock managed under both FMPs. The Southwest and the Pacific Islands Regions, along with the Pacific and Western Pacific Fishery Management Councils, are working together to end overfishing in this stock.

¹⁰ Total includes 10 pelagic species shared with the Pacific Islands Region.

Northwest Region

Two FMPs containing 158 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS and the Pacific Fishery Management Council: West Coast Salmon and Pacific Coast Groundfish. In addition, Pacific halibut is managed jointly with the Alaska Region and the International Pacific Halibut Commission. Within these FMPs, no stock is subject to overfishing, 6 stocks are overfished, and no stock is approaching an overfished condition. See Table 6.

Table 6. Northwest Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

FMP	Overfishing	Overfished	Approaching
Pacific Coast Groundfish	- - - -	<i>cowcod</i> <i>yelloweye rockfish</i> <i>Petrale sole</i> <i>Canary rockfish</i>	-
Pacific Coast Salmon	- -	<i>Coho salmon - Washington Coast: Queets</i> <i>Coho salmon - Washington Coast: Western Strait of Juan de Fuca</i>	-

Pacific Islands Region

Five FMPs¹¹ containing 45 stocks or complexes¹² are managed by NMFS and the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council: Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region; Crustaceans Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region; Precious Coral Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region; Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region; and Coral Reef Ecosystems of the Western Pacific Region. Within these FMPs, 1 stock or stock complex is subject to overfishing, 1 stock or stock complex is overfished, and no stock or stock complexes are approaching an overfished condition. See Table 7.

Table 7. Pacific Islands Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

FMP	Overfishing	Overfished	Approaching
Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region	<i>bigeye tuna - Pacific</i> *	-	
Bottomfish and Seamount Groundfish Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region	-	<i>Seamount Groundfish complex - Hancock Seamount</i> **	

* This stock also appears in Table 5 as a stock subject to overfishing in the Southwest Region's *West Coast Highly Migratory Species FMP*. Each of the 10 stocks shared between these two FMPs is listed only once in the support tables as a single stock managed under both FMPs. The Southwest and the Pacific Islands Regions, along with the Pacific and Western Pacific Fishery Management Councils, are working together to end overfishing in this stock.

** This stock complex uses pelagic armorhead as the indicator species of a three-species seamount groundfish complex that includes raффish and alfonsin.

¹¹ On January 14, 2010 (75 FR 2198), NMFS issued a final rule restructuring western Pacific fishery regulations to be consistent with five new area-specific fishery ecosystem plans (FEP). These FEPs are effective February 16, 2010, and replace the 5 existing FMPs. This change will be reflected in the 2010 Status of US Fisheries report.

¹² Total includes 10 pelagic species shared with the Southwest region.

Alaska Region

Six FMPs containing 62 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council: Gulf of Alaska Groundfish; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Groundfish; BSAI King and Tanner Crab; Alaska Weathervane Scallops; Fish Resources of the Arctic Management Area; and Alaska High Seas Salmon. In addition, Pacific halibut is managed jointly with the Northwest Region and the International Pacific Halibut Commission. Within these FMPs, no stocks or stock complexes are subject to overfishing, 1 stock or stock complex is overfished, and no stocks or stock complexes are approaching an overfished condition. See Table 8.

Table 8. Alaska Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

FMP	Overfishing	Overfished	Approaching
BSAI King and Tanner Crab	-	<i>blue king crab - Pribilof Islands</i>	Southern Tanner crab - Bering Sea

Table 10. Comparing stocks or stock complexes with "subject to overfishing" determinations in 2008 and 2009. Stocks in *GREEN* under "2008" were *removed* from the list in 2009. No stocks were *added* to the list in 2009.

COUNCIL	2008	2009	COUNCIL	2008	2009
NEFMC	cod - Gulf of Maine cod - Georges Bank yellowtail flounder - Georges Bank yellowtail flounder - SNE/ Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/ Gulf of Maine White hake - Georges Bank/ Gulf of Maine winter flounder - SNE/ Mid-Atlantic winter flounder - Georges Bank <i>THORNY SKATE - GULF OF MAINE</i>	cod - Gulf of Maine cod - Georges Bank yellowtail flounder - Georges Bank yellowtail flounder - SNE/ Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/ Gulf of Maine White hake - Georges Bank/ Gulf of Maine winter flounder - SNE/ Mid-Atlantic winter flounder - Georges Bank -	CFMC	Queen conch Grouper Unit 1 Grouper Unit 4 Parrotfish complex Snapper Unit 1	Queen conch Grouper Unit 1 Grouper Unit 4 Parrotfish complex Snapper Unit 1
MAFMC	<i>SCUP - ATLANTIC COAST</i>		PFMC	yellowfin tuna - Eastern Pacific	yellowfin tuna - Eastern Pacific
NEFMC/MAFMC	None	None	WPFMC	None	None
SAFMC	vermillion snapper red snapper snowy grouper tilefish red grouper black sea bass gag speckled hind warsaw grouper black grouper	vermillion snapper red snapper snowy grouper tilefish red grouper black sea bass gag speckled hind warsaw grouper black grouper	PFMC/ WPFMC	bigeye tuna - Pacific	bigeye tuna - Pacific
GMFMC	red snapper greater amberjack gray triggerfish gag <i>PINK SHRIMP</i>	red snapper greater amberjack gray triggerfish gag -	NPFMC	None	None
SAFMC/GMFMC	None	None	HMS	blue marlin - Atlantic white marlin - Atlantic sailfish - West Atlantic albacore - North Atlantic bluefin tuna - West Atlantic sandbar shark - Atlantic dusky shark - Atlantic blacknose shark - atlantic shortfin mako - atlantic	blue marlin - Atlantic white marlin - Atlantic sailfish - West Atlantic albacore - North Atlantic bluefin tuna - West Atlantic sandbar shark - Atlantic dusky shark - Atlantic blacknose shark - atlantic shortfin mako - atlantic

NEFMC = New England Fishery Management Council; MAFMC = Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; SAFMC = South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; GMFMC = Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; CFMC = Caribbean Fishery Management Council; PFMC = Pacific Fishery Management Council; WPFMC = Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; NPFMC = North Pacific Fishery Management Council; HMS = Atlantic Highly Migratory Species.

Table 11. Stocks or stock complexes with "overfished" determinations in 2007 and 2008. Stocks in **GREEN** under "2008" were removed from the list in 2009. Stocks in **RED** under "2009" were added to the list in 2009.

Council	2008	2009	Council	2008	2009
NEFMC	cod - Gulf of Maine cod - Georges Bank haddock - Gulf of Maine haddock - Georges Bank American plaice yellowtail flounder - Georges Bank yellowtail flounder - SNE/Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/ Gulf of Maine white hake - Georges Bank/ Gulf of Maine windowpane Flounder - SNE/ Mid-Atlantic winter Flounder - SNE/Mid-Atlantic ocean pout Atlantic halibut thorny skate - Gulf of Maine WINTER SKATE smooth skate - Gulf of Maine Atlantic salmon	cod - Gulf of Maine cod - Georges Bank haddock - Gulf of Maine haddock - Georges Bank American plaice yellowtail flounder - Georges Bank yellowtail flounder - SNE/Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/ Gulf of Maine white hake - Georges Bank/ Gulf of Maine windowpane Flounder - SNE/ Mid-Atlantic winter Flounder - SNE/ Mid-Atlantic ocean pout Atlantic halibut thorny skate - Gulf of Maine - smooth skate - Gulf of Maine Atlantic salmon	CFMC	queen conch Grouper Unit 1 Grouper Unit 2 Grouper Unit 4	queen conch Grouper Unit 1 Grouper Unit 2 Grouper Unit 4
MAFMC	butterfish SCUP - ATLANTIC COAST	butterfish -	PFMC	BOCACCIO DARKBLOTCHED ROCKFISH cowcod yelloweye rockfish	- - cowcod yelloweye rockfish CANARY ROCKFISH PETRALE SOLE COHO SALMON - WASHINGTON COAST: QUEETS COHO SALMON - WASHINGTON COAST: WESTERN STRAIGHT OF JUAN DE FUCA
NEFMC/ MAFMC	None	None	WPFMC	Seamount Groundfish complex - Hancock Seamounts	Seamount Groundfish complex - Hancock Seamounts
SAFMC	snowy grouper black sea bass red porgy red snapper pink shrimp*	snowy grouper black sea bass red porgy red snapper pink shrimp*	PFMC/ WPFMC	None	None
GMFMC	red snapper greater amberjack gray triggerfish -	red snapper greater amberjack gray triggerfish GAG	NPFMC	blue king crab - Pribilof Islands	blue king crab - Pribilof Islands
SAFMC/ GMFMC	None	None	HMS	blue marlin - Atlantic white marlin - Atlantic SAILFISH - WEST ATLANTIC albacore - North Atlantic bluefin tuna - West Atlantic sandbar shark Porbeagle shark Dusky shark Blacknose shark - Atlantic	blue marlin - Atlantic white marlin - Atlantic - albacore - North Atlantic bluefin tuna - West Atlantic sandbar shark Porbeagle shark Dusky shark Blacknose shark - Atlantic

NEFMC = New England Fishery Management Council; MAFMC = Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council; SAFMC = South Atlantic Fishery Management Council; GMFMC = Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council; CFMC = Caribbean Fishery Management Council; PFMC = Pacific Fishery Management Council; WPFMC = Western Pacific Fishery Management Council; NPFMC = North Pacific Fishery Management Council; HMS = Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

* Pink shrimp are an annual crop. An advisory panel concluded the apparent decline in pink shrimp abundance appears to be due to environmental factors, rather than overfishing.

Stocks "Subject to Overfishing" (38) – 2009

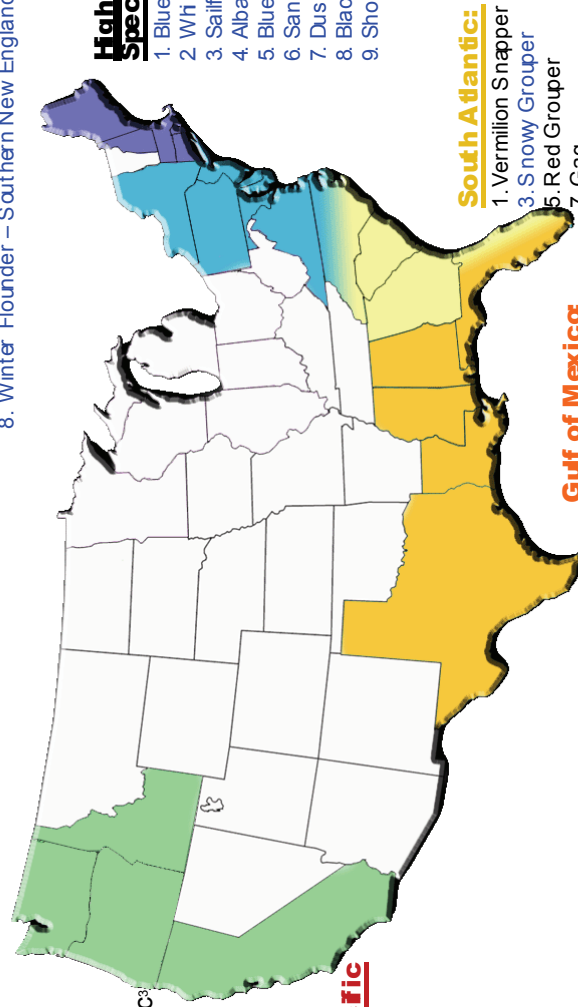


Pacific

1. Yellowfin Tuna – Eastern Pacific³

Pacific and Western Pacific

1. Bigeye Tuna – Pacific³



New England

1. Cod – Gulf of Maine¹
2. Cod – Georges Bank¹
3. Yellowtail flounder – Georges Bank¹
4. Yellowtail flounder – Southern New England/Middle Atlantic¹
5. Yellowtail flounder – Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine¹
6. White Hake¹
7. Winter Flounder – Georges Bank¹
8. Winter Flounder – Southern New England/Middle Atlantic¹

Highly Migratory Species:

1. Blue Marlin – Atlantic³
2. White Marlin – Atlantic³
3. Sailfish – West Atlantic³
4. Albacore – North Atlantic³
5. Bluefin Tuna – West Atlantic³
6. Sandbar Shark
7. Dusky Shark
8. Blacknose Shark
9. Shortfin Mako – Atlantic

South Atlantic:

1. Vermilion Snapper
3. Snowy Grouper
5. Red Grouper
7. Gag
9. Spotted Hind

Gulf of Mexico

1. Red Snapper
2. Greater Amberjack
3. Gag
4. Gray Triggerfish

Caribbean:

1. Snapper Unit 1
2. Grouper Unit 1
3. Grouper Unit 4
4. Queen Conch
5. Parrotfishes²

1. This map does not include the results of GARM III. Northeast multi-species stock status is based on GARM II (assessed in 2005).
2. Indicates non-FSI stock
3. Stock is fished by U.S. and international fleets.

Blue = Also Overfished

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Overfished Stocks (46) – 2009



North Pacific:

1. Blue King Crab – Pribilof Islands

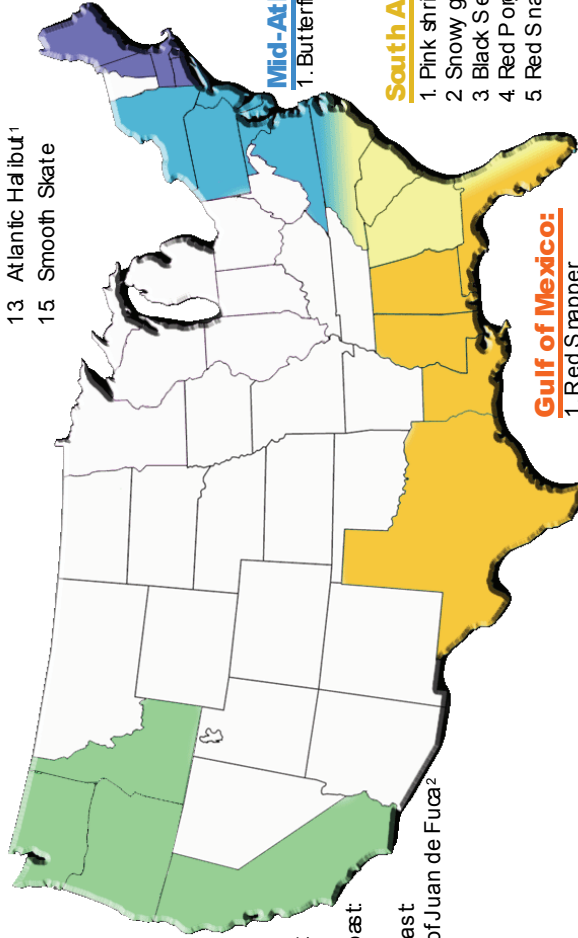
Pacific

1. Cowcod
2. Yelloweye Rockfish
3. Canary rockfish - Pacific Coast
4. Petrale sole – Pacific Coast
5. Coho salmon - Washington Coast
6. Coho salmon - Washington Coast



Western Pacific

1. Seamount Groundfish Complex – Hancock Seamount



New England:

1. Cod – Gulf of Maine¹
2. Cod – Georges Bank¹
3. Haddock – Gulf of Maine¹
4. Haddock – Georges Bank¹
5. American Plaice¹
6. Yellowtail flounder – Georges Bank¹
7. Yellowtail flounder – Southern New England/Middle Atlantic¹
8. Yellowtail flounder – Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine¹
9. White Hake¹
10. Winter flounder – Southern New England/Middle Atlantic¹
11. Winter flounder – Southern New England/Middle Atlantic¹
12. Ocean Pout¹
13. Atlantic Halibut¹
14. Thorny Skate
15. Smooth Skate
16. Atlantic Salmon²

Highly Migratory Species:

1. Blue Marlin – Atlantic³
2. White Marlin – Atlantic³
3. Albacore – North Atlantic³
4. Bluefin Tuna – West Atlantic³
5. Sandbar Shark
6. Poibeagle Shark
7. Dusky Shark
8. Blacknose Shark

Mid-Atlantic:

1. Butterfish (Atlantic)

South Atlantic:

1. Pink shrimp
2. Snowy grouper
3. Black Sea Bass
4. Red Pogy
5. Red Snapper

Gulf of Mexico:

1. Red Snapper
2. Greater Amberjack
3. Gray Triggerfish
4. Gag

Caribbean:

1. Grouper Unit 1
2. Grouper Unit 2
3. Grouper Unit 4
4. Queen Conch

1. This map does not include the results of GARM III. Northeast mullet species stock status is based on GARM II (assessed in 2005).
2. Indicates non-FSS stock
3. Stock is fished by U.S. and International fleets.

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Office of Sustainable Fisheries



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