

**Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
Shad and River Herring Technical Committee
Conference Call Summary
July 12, 2010**

Technical Committee: Kathy Hattala (NY), Sara Winslow, (NC), Mike Stangl (DE), Bill Post (SC), Russ Allen (NJ), Bob Sadzinski (MD), Phil Edwards (RI), Mike Dionne (NH), Bennett Wynne (NC), Phil Brady (MA), Ruth Hass Castro (NMFS)

Staff: Kate Taylor, Katie Drew

SASC: Andy Kahnle (NY)

Review of Updated North Carolina Plan

- Addition of adaptive management section.
- Includes targets (JAI, repeat spawners, SSB and recruitment) derived from 2005 NC Stock Assessment

Q: How was the JAI target calculated?

A: It was based off long term CPUE data (1972 – 2005 (last year of assessment data)). It is the average of those years.

Q: All of these will be revisited in the next NC assessment or update?

A: Yes

The Technical Committee recommends approval of the North Carolina Sustainable Fishing Plan

Review of Updated South Carolina Plan

- Incorporated suggestions from the TC
- Found errors in the data that were corrected
- The exploitation rate became very large
- Methodology stayed the same
- Started a sampling program this year

Scaler = average (min population size estimate / mark recapture pop), where the minimum population size is the harvest plus passage numbers. Only used 1986 – 1990 data because these were the years estimates were available for.

Scaler * annual exploitation rate = adjusted exploitation rate

Q: The CI range is an order of magnitude in some cases (1986 and 1988). Why is this?

A: I'm not sure what was going on in 1988. IN Table 3 you see that we dropped the 1988 number in one column because it was such a strange year. So the scaler was only based off of 1986, 1987, 1989 and 1990. We also tried using the lower CI is better because this is a conservation estimate.

Q: Population numbers are the spawning stock or all ages?

A: Spawning stock.

Change – Pee Dee Fishery

- Originally would be closed
- This is an insignificant fishery. There are five or fewer fishermen left, using gill nets and fishing only for consumption.
- Interim Target: Do not want to cap the fishery to limit the fishermen. If the three year running average exceeds 500 kg then will consider management action. We will also start to collect biological samples and send them to MD for analysis.

Q: The population is a small percentage compared to the catch?

A: Yes very small

Q: Is there an anecdotal scale which would tell you if you had good or bad years?

A: Other than harvest reports no. I tried to find out first hand through calling the fishermen but I haven't been able to get in touch with any of them.

Q: How do you know it's a fraction of the population?

A: There is an electroshocking survey that targets robust red horse. We get tons of herring during the survey. We've also seen lots of shad when we are out there too. The harvest doesn't come close to the population. The fishermen are legally allowed to keep up to 10 bushels a day and the harvest has not come close to that. There were five fishermen in 2010 and the number is dropping.

Q: Is there any other effort data?

A: CPUE since 1998.

Q: Can you add effort data in Table 4?

A: I don't think it will show much.

Q: Any historical landings (prior to 1980)?

A: No. The majority of the fishery has been focused in the Santee.

Q: Could you do an index similar to the one John Olney created in VA?

A: Maybe for the assessment.

The Technical Committee recommends approval of the South Carolina Sustainable Fishing Plan