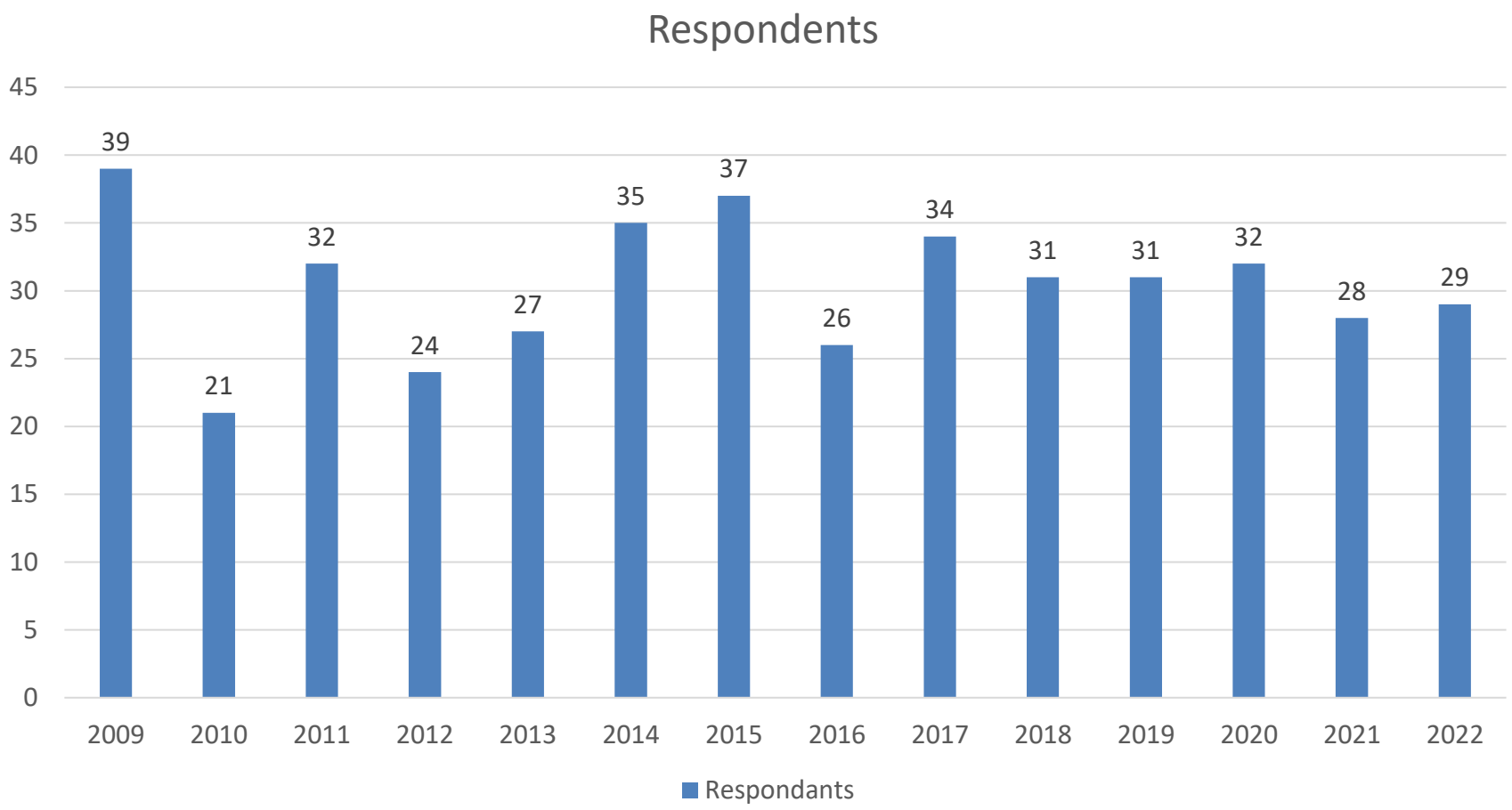
Survey of 2022 ASMFC Progress

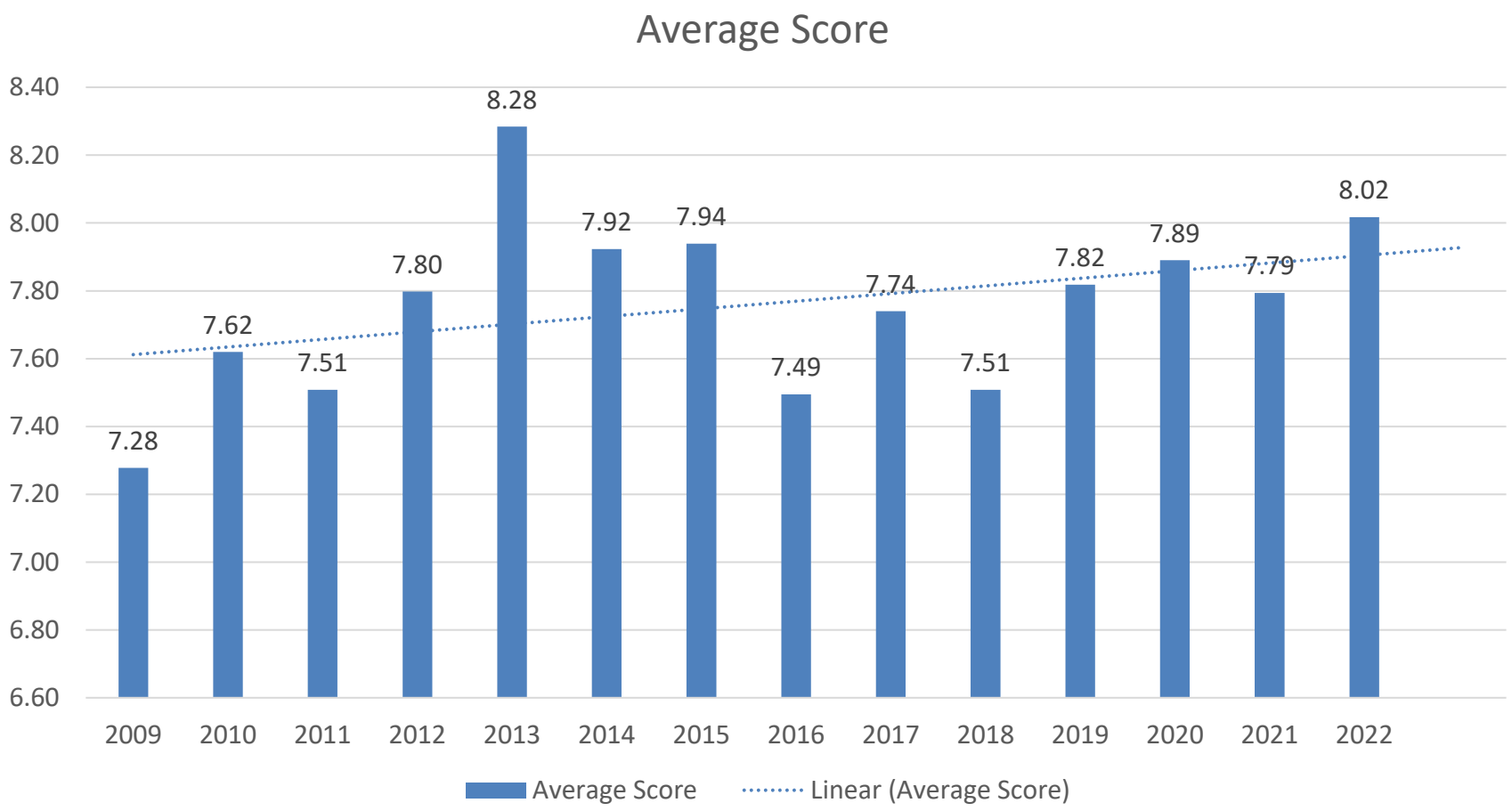
ISFMP Policy Board

February 2023

Survey Responses by Year



Average Score of all Questions by Year



Where We Made Notable Progress

- Q8: How satisfied are you with the Commission's progress to end overfishing? (+0.78 above 2021)
- Q7: One of the metrics the Commission uses to measure progress is tracking the number of stocks where overfishing is no longer occurring. Is this a clear metric to measure progress? (+0.64)
- Q10: How satisfied are you with the Commission's efforts to engage with state legislators and members of Congress? (+0.51)

Where We Can Improve

- Q4: How satisfied are you that the Commission has an appropriate level of cooperation with federal partners? (-0.33 below 2021)
- Q1: How comfortable are you that the Commission has a clear and achievable plan to reach the Vision (Sustainably managing Atlantic Coastal Fisheries)? (-0.24)

Obstacles to Rebuilding Stocks

- Concerns about unpredictable and changing environmental conditions due to climate change
  - A lack of adaptability when responding to changing conditions and regulations
  - Having a cumbersome management process
  - The inability to have more frequent stock assessments
- Managing competing interests from a vide variety of stakeholders
- Crafting equitable sacrifice in management decisions across states and regions
- Building state and regional buy-in to hard management decisions

Most Useful ASMFC Products

- Staff knowledge and availability
- CARES Act funding help
- Science trainings
- Meeting materials and summaries
- Public hearings
- ISFMP and science products (stock assessments, compliance reports, FMPs, and amendments/addenda)
- www.asmfc.org as a hub for all products
- Legislative updates

Requests for Additional Products

- Earlier access to Meeting Week materials
- Summaries of lengthy documents
- Easier access to graphs and tables from Commission products
- An archive of state compliance reports
- Outreach products
- Regulation summaries by state
- Calendar reminders of pertinent events (Ex. TC/PRT/PDT meetings)
- Fishery Performance Reports for ASMFC managed species on a frequent basis (annually or every 2-3 years)
- More information on congressional processes

Issues Needing More Attention

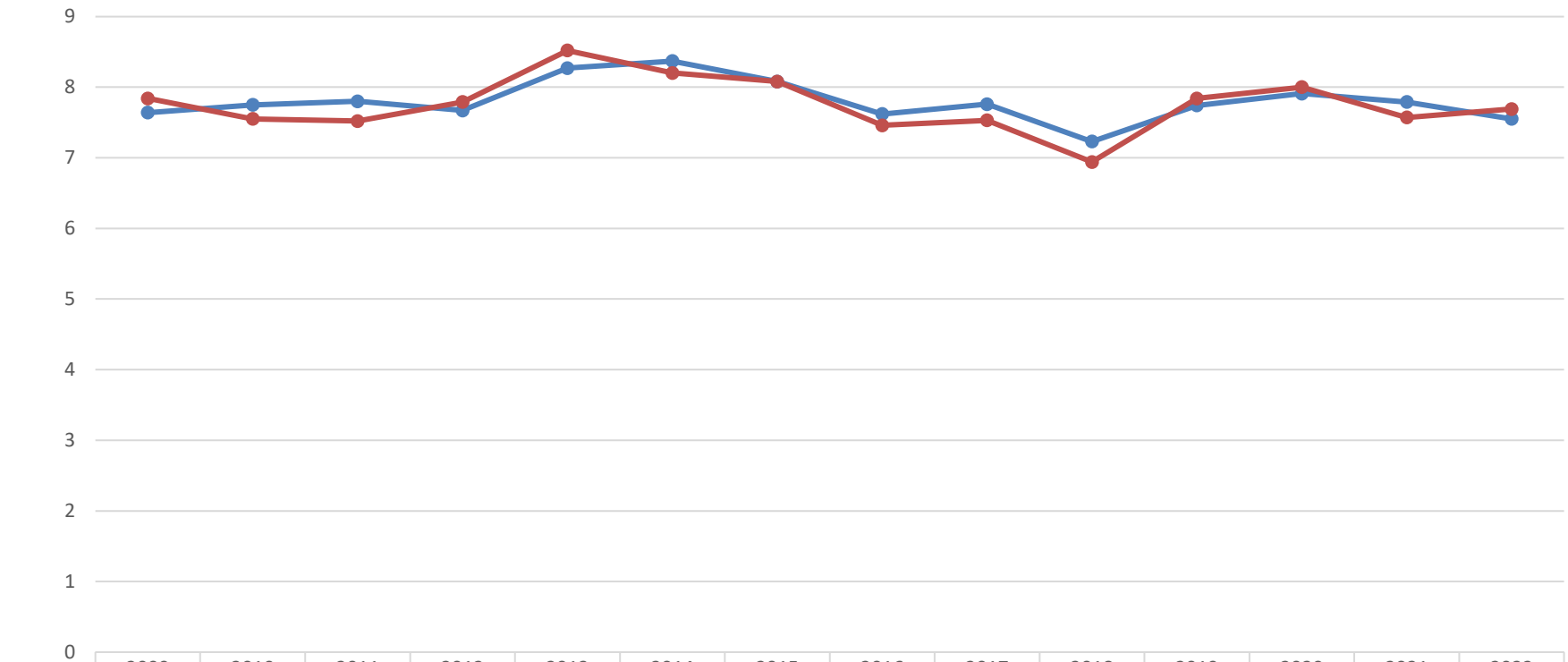
- Incorporating ecosystem-based management and climate change factors into management
- Creating new methods for responding to shifting stocks
- Improving our risk and uncertainty tools
- Real-time science on fish conditions/populations and timely recommendations
- More frequent stock assessments- including new weakfish
- Improving the understanding of recreational fishing data
- Equity of recreational regulations
- Cooperating with federal partners
- Engagement with competing uses and protected species issues
- Making Commission products concise and easy to understand
- Improving the efficiency of meetings

Additional Comments

- Praise for the work of ASMFC and ACCSP, especially in navigating challenging topics and the ability to weather the pandemic
- Some comments reiterated the challenges we must address. These include:
  - Structural issues in our relationships with Fishery Management Councils and federal partners
  - Sometimes limited participation in the commission
  - Sluggish management in dynamic environments

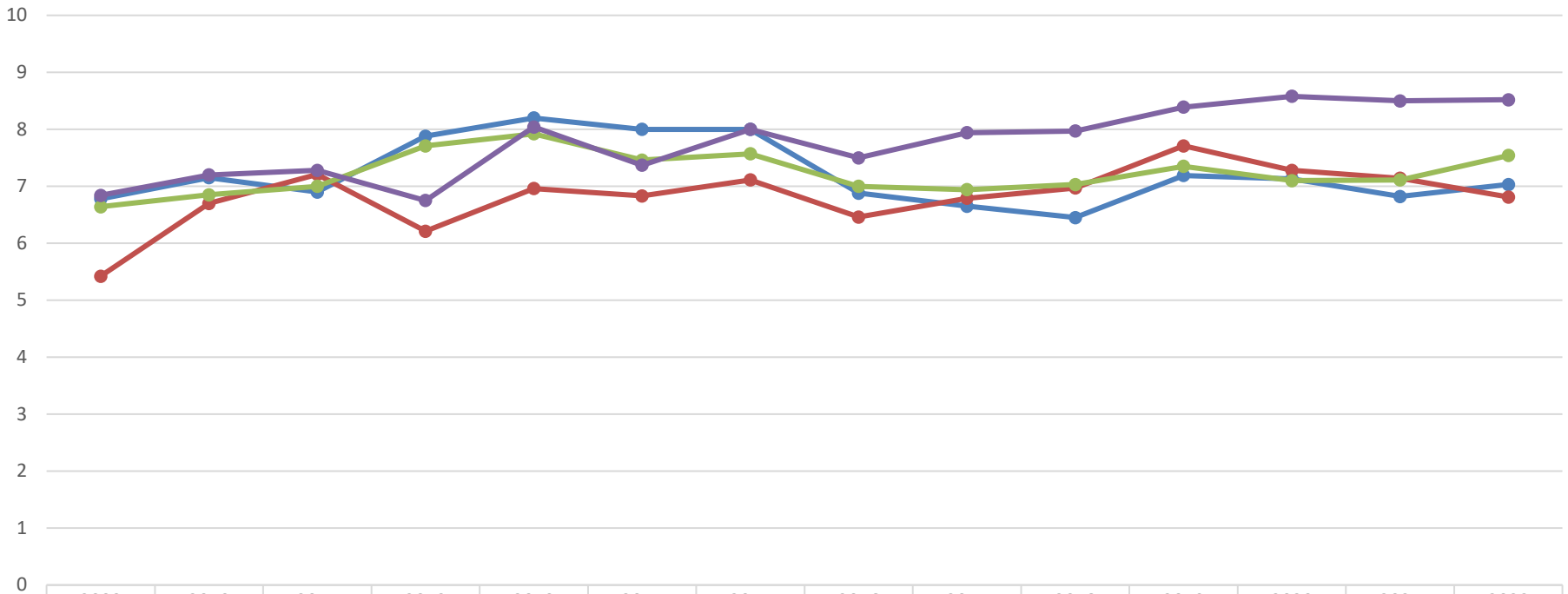
Questions?

Commission Progress



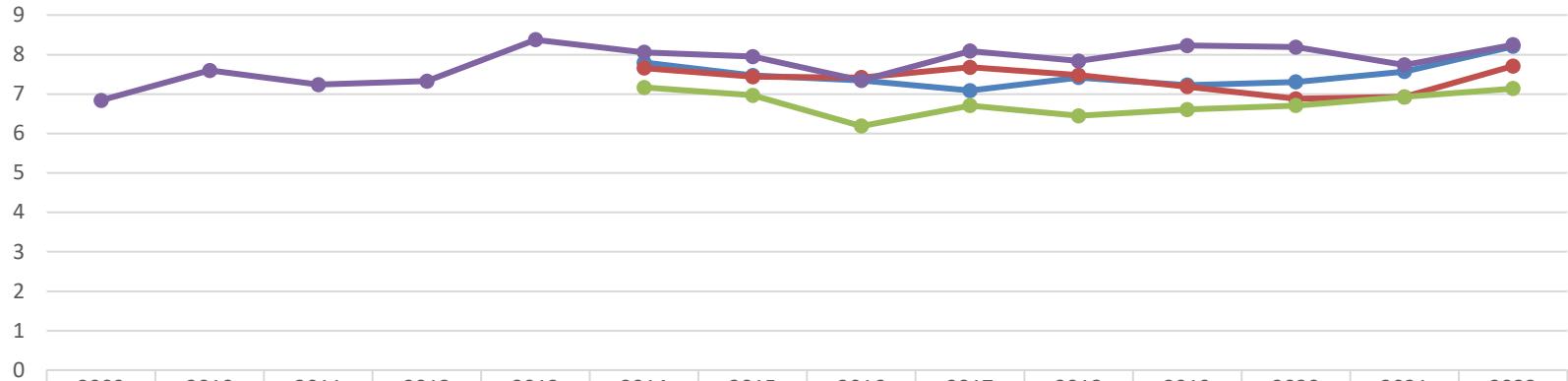
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q1	7.64	7.75	7.8	7.67	8.27	8.37	8.08	7.62	7.76	7.23	7.74	7.91	7.79	7.55
Q2	7.84	7.55	7.52	7.79	8.52	8.2	8.08	7.46	7.53	6.94	7.84	8	7.57	7.69

Commission Execution and Results



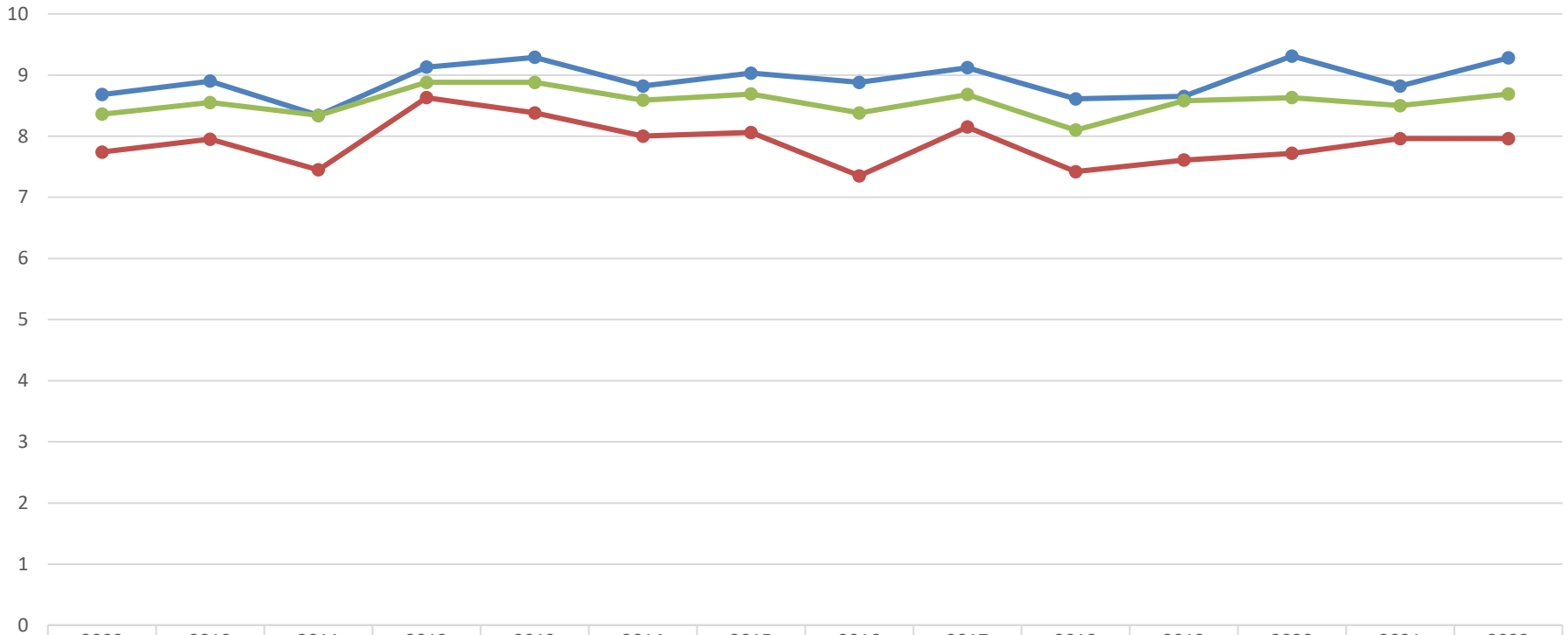
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q3	6.78	7.15	6.9	7.88	8.2	8	8	6.88	6.65	6.45	7.19	7.13	6.82	7.03
Q4	5.42	6.7	7.21	6.21	6.96	6.83	7.11	6.46	6.79	6.97	7.71	7.28	7.14	6.81
Q5	6.64	6.85	7	7.71	7.92	7.46	7.57	7	6.94	7.03	7.35	7.1	7.11	7.54
Q6	6.84	7.2	7.28	6.75	8.04	7.37	8	7.5	7.94	7.97	8.39	8.58	8.5	8.52

Commission Progress and Results



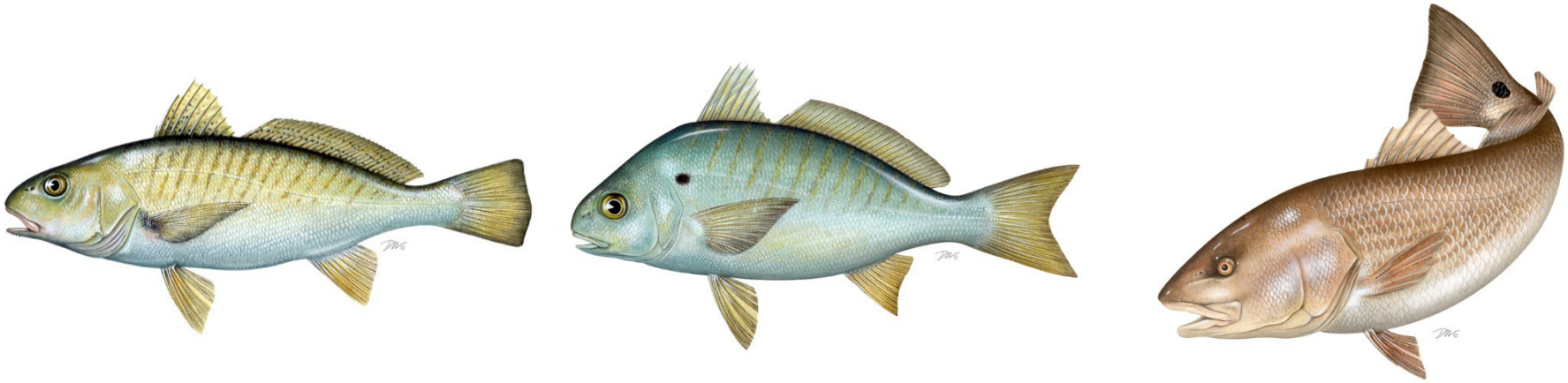
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q7						7.8	7.47	7.35	7.09	7.42	7.23	7.31	7.57	8.21
Q8						7.66	7.44	7.42	7.68	7.48	7.19	6.88	6.93	7.71
Q9						7.17	6.97	6.19	6.71	6.45	6.61	6.71	6.93	7.14
Q10	6.84	7.6	7.24	7.33	8.38	8.06	7.95	7.35	8.09	7.84	8.23	8.19	7.74	8.25

Measuring the Availability and Utilization of Commission Resources



	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Q11	8.68	8.9	8.34	9.13	9.29	8.82	9.03	8.88	9.12	8.61	8.65	9.31	8.82	9.28
Q12	7.74	7.95	7.45	8.63	8.38	8	8.06	7.35	8.15	7.42	7.61	7.72	7.96	7.96
Q13	8.36	8.55	8.34	8.88	8.88	8.59	8.69	8.38	8.68	8.1	8.58	8.63	8.5	8.69

2024 Atlantic Croaker, Spot, and Red Drum Benchmark Stock Assessment TORs and Timelines



ISFMP Policy Board

February 2, 2023

Materials

- Terms of Reference for the Assessments
- Terms of Reference for the Peer Reviews
- Assessment Timelines

Spot and Croaker TOR 1

Define population structure based on available data. If alternative population structures are used in the models, justify use of each population structure. Explore possible impacts of environmental change on range shifts.

Spot and Croaker TOR 2

Evaluate new information on life history such as growth rates, size-at-maturation, natural mortality rate, and migrations and review potential impacts of environmental change on these characteristics. Explore possible impacts of environmental change on life history characteristics.

Spot and Croaker TOR 3

Characterize precision and accuracy of fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data used in the assessment.

Spot and Croaker TOR 4

Develop models used to estimate population parameters and biological reference points, and analyze model performance.

Spot and Croaker TOR 5

State assumptions made for all models and explain the likely effects of assumption violations on synthesis of input data and model outputs.

Spot and Croaker TOR 6

Characterize uncertainty of model estimates and biological or empirical reference points.

Spot and Croaker TOR 7

Perform retrospective analyses, assess magnitude and direction of retrospective patterns detected, and discuss model consistency due to implications of any observed retrospective pattern for uncertainty in population parameters, reference points, and/or management measures.

Spot and Croaker TOR 8

Recommend stock status as related to reference points (if available).

Spot and Croaker TOR 9

Compare stock status and management advice from the assessment with the results of the traffic light analysis currently used for management. If outcomes differ, discuss potential causes of observed discrepancies and preferred method.

Spot and Croaker TOR 10

If a minority report has been filed, explain majority reasoning against adopting approach suggested in that report. The minority report should explain reasoning against adopting approach suggested by the majority.

Spot and Croaker TOR 11

Develop detailed short and long-term prioritized lists of recommendations for future research, data collection, and assessment methodology. Highlight improvements that would be beneficial to the next benchmark.

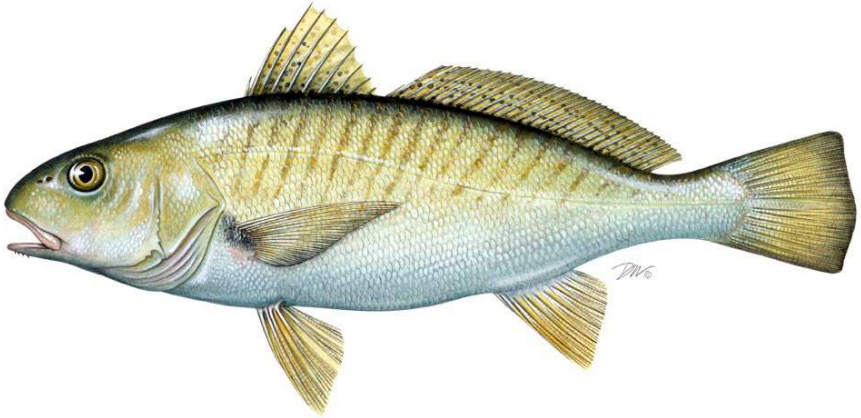
Spot and Croaker TOR 12

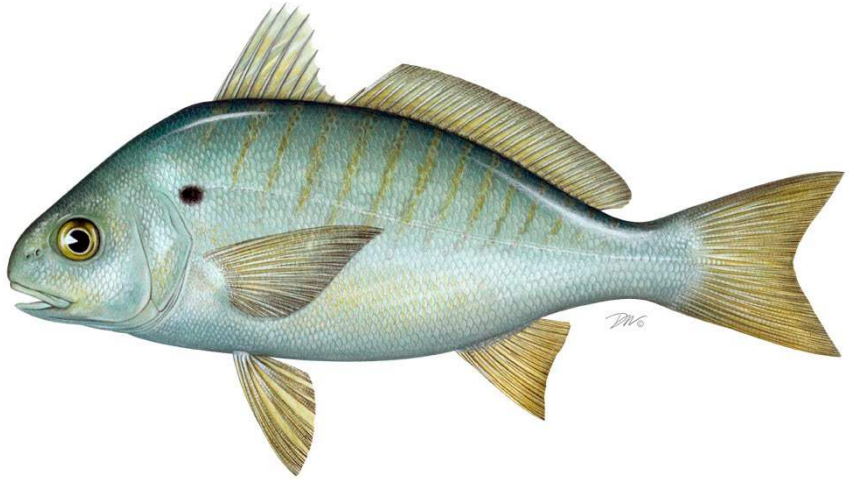
Recommend timing of next benchmark assessment and intermediate updates, if necessary relative to biology and current management of the species.

Spot and Croaker Timeline

- January 2023: Circulate data request forms to TCs
- Mid-March 2023: Data templates due with a 2022 terminal year
- Mid-April 2023: Landings validated via ACCSP and data contacts
- May 2023: Data Workshop (virtual)
- September 2023: Assessment Workshop I (virtual or in-person)
- February 2024: Assessment Workshop II (virtual or in-person)
- Summer 2024: Peer Review Workshop
- Annual Meeting 2024: Present Assessment and Peer Review Reports to the Sciaenids Management Board

Questions?





Red Drum TOR 1

Evaluate Simulation Assessment Peer Review Panel recommendations for the simulation-based analyses used to guide assessment approaches in this benchmark assessment.

Red Drum TOR 2

Provide descriptions of each fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data source.

Red Drum TOR 3

Develop model(s) used to estimate population parameters and reference points, and analyze model performance.

Red Drum TOR 4

Discuss the effects of data strengths and weaknesses on model inputs and outputs.

Red Drum TOR 5

State assumptions made for all models and explain the likely effects of assumption violations on synthesis of input data and model outputs.

Red Drum TOR 6

Characterize uncertainty of model estimates and reference points.

Red Drum TOR 7

Perform retrospective analyses, assess magnitude and direction of retrospective patterns detected, and discuss implications of any observed retrospective pattern for uncertainty in population parameters, reference points, and/or management measures.

Red Drum TOR 8

Recommend stock status as related to reference points (if available).

Red Drum TOR 9

Other potential scientific issues:

a. Compare trends in population parameters and reference points with current and proposed modeling approaches. If outcomes differ, discuss potential causes of observed discrepancies.

b. Compare reference points derived in this assessment with what is known about the general life history of the exploited stock. Explain any inconsistencies.

Red Drum TOR 10

If a minority report has been filed, explain majority reasoning against adopting approach suggested in that report. The minority report should explain reasoning against adopting approach suggested by the majority.

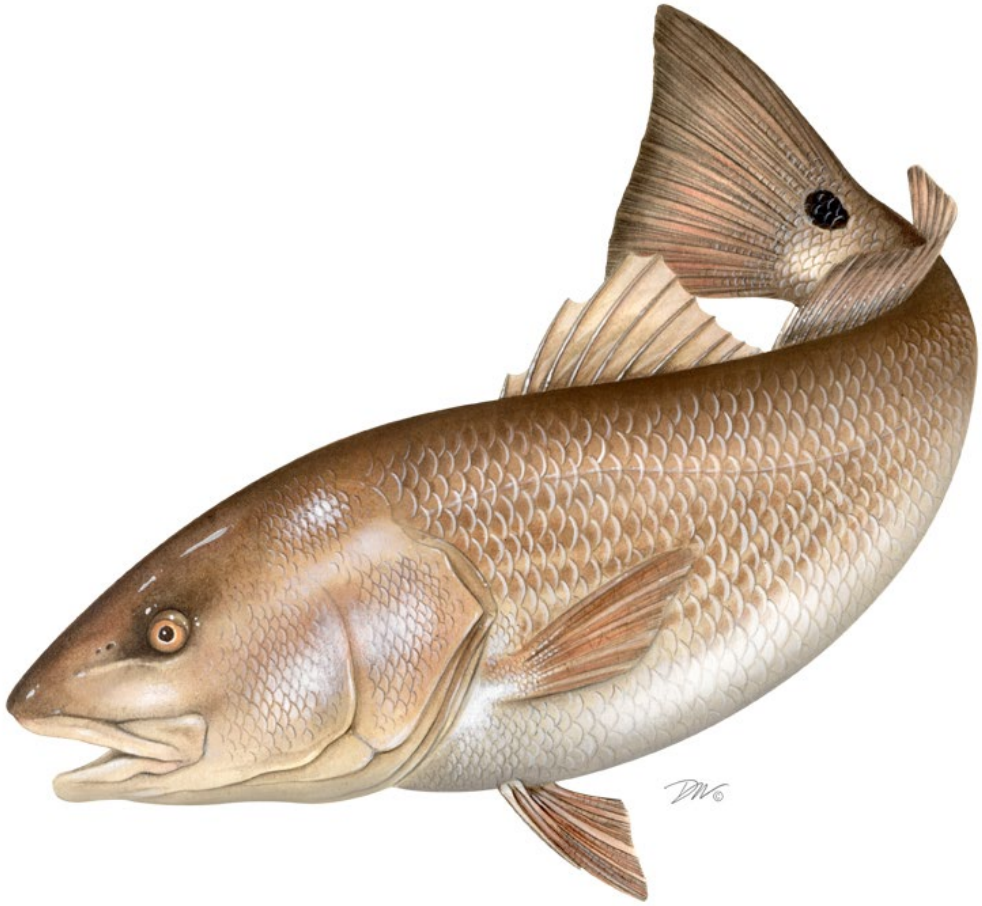
Red Drum TOR 11

Develop detailed short and long-term prioritized lists of recommendations for future research, data collection, and assessment methodology.

Red Drum TOR 12

Recommend timing of next benchmark assessment and intermediate updates, if necessary, relative to biology and current management of red drum.

Red Drum Timeline

- Data request: January 30, 2023
- Data deadline: May 30, 2023
- Data Workshop: June 2023
- Assessment Workshop 1: October 2023
- Assessment Workshop 2 (finalize model results/stock status determination): March 2024
- Assessment report draft finalized by SAS: Mid-May 2024
- Assessment reviewed by TC: Early June 2024
- Assessment report provided to SEDAR for peer review panel: July 1, 2024
- SEDAR Peer Review Workshop: Week of August 12, 2024
- Present Assessment and Peer Review Reports to the Board: Annual Meeting 2024

Questions?