



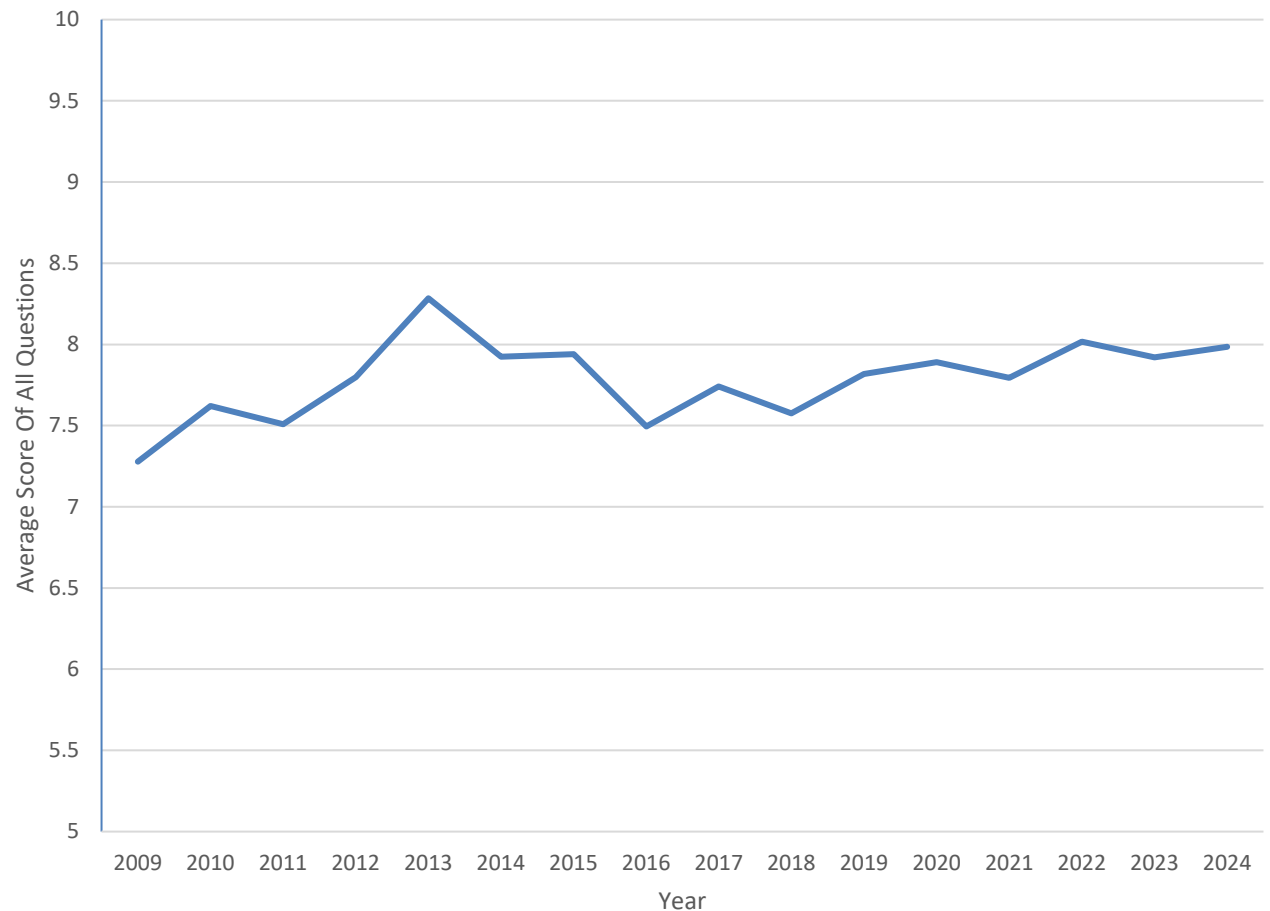
# 2024 Commissioner Survey Results

February 5, 2025



## Overall Commission Trends

- 28 Commissioners completed this year's survey.
- This is a decrease by 5 from 2023's survey.
- The average score of all the questions has hovered around 8.0 for the last three years.





## Highlights of the Ten-Point Scale Questions:

(Q4), Cooperation with Federal partners consistently, year after year, scores as our lowest question, with an average of 6.87 over 16 years. Sentiment had declined dramatically since a high of 7.97 in 2018.

(Q3), Satisfaction with cooperation between Commissioners to achieve the Commission's Vision, saw the largest drop off this year (-0.65 pts).

(Q11-13), Utilization and availability of Commission resources consistently scores at the top of the survey. The efficient and effective utilization of available fiscal and human resources is a particular highlight with a 15-year average of 8.94.

(Q10), engagement with state legislators and members of Congress saw the largest score increase in the survey (+0.72 pts). This may be caused by the Legislative Program Coordinator sending out the survey and the lower response rate in 2024. Those who are more likely to read and engage with the coordinator's emails may be more likely to view their activities favorably.



## Discussion Question Summaries

**Obstacles to the Commission's success in rebuilding stocks (Q17)** answers to this question mentioned massive scale obstacles such as climate change, and degradation of the physical environment. Delays in decision making was mentioned multiple times. Other answers mentioned politics and stakeholder impacts being prioritized over resource management, included in this is state and regional protectionism. Politics was called out much more than in previous years.

The most **useful products produced by the Commission (Q18)** include; stock assessments, FMPs, press releases, public hearing webinars, distribution of federal funding, the legislative committee and legislative coordination, the commissioner manual, the website, the annual report, summaries of meetings, data repository, trainings, contracting help, and overall staff support for a variety of issues that the Commission provides. All ASMFC products were mentioned.



## Discussion Question Summaries (Cont.)

**Additional products the Commission could provide (Q19):** Executive summaries of major changes and regulations, outreach products and environmental education materials written or produced for the public, and generally more materials written with the “layman” in mind.

**Issues the Commission should focus on more (Q20):** Some answers mentioned that we should innovate on communication strategies, stock assessment processes, and recreational data collection to address climate change impacts. Incorporation of socioeconomic factors was also mentioned multiple times.

**Additional comments (Q21):** Many Commissioners declined to respond to this question. Those who did commented on how thankful they are for the staff. One comment showed concern about political influence over management of horseshoe crab and menhaden. Another mentioned concerns about keeping up with the demands for non-admin commissioners.