



Working towards healthy, self-sustaining populations for all Atlantic coast fish species or successful restoration well in progress by 2015

Gillnet Bycatch Workshop

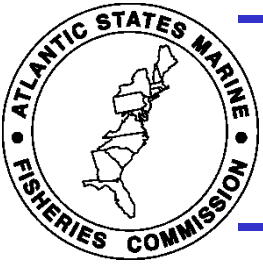




Bycatch Workshop

- Co-hosted by NOAA Fisheries and ASMFC
- Focused on SNE/Mid-Atlantic sturgeon and sea turtle gillnet bycatch workshop
- Goal: Identify technological solutions to reduce or mitigate bycatch while maintaining catch
- Invited guests included representatives from fishing industry, scientists, the conservation community, managers, and other interested parties

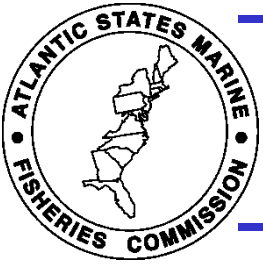




Bycatch Workshop

- Research was presented on the occurrences of sturgeon bycatch and the factors that contribute to increased interactions
- Research was presented on gear technologies to reduce bycatch gillnets fisheries
 - reducing the vertical height of the net, eliminating tie-downs, raising the net off the bottom, and changing the hanging ratio.

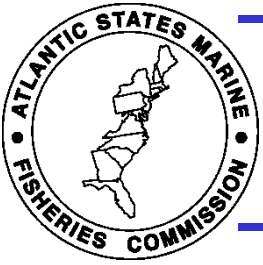




Bycatch Workshop

- Additional discussion on potential solutions or further research needs :
 - Changing gear
 - Changing how detectable the gear is to sturgeon
 - Changing the orientation or location of the gear,
 - Relationship of soak time and sturgeon bycatch mortality

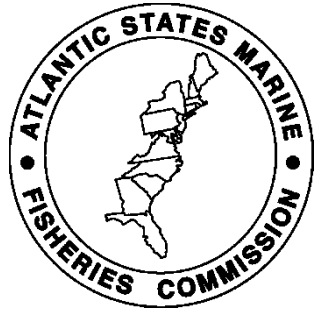




Bycatch Workshop

- Detailed summary report of workshop findings will be distributed
- Workshop findings may be helpful to states that are developing Section 10 permit applications.

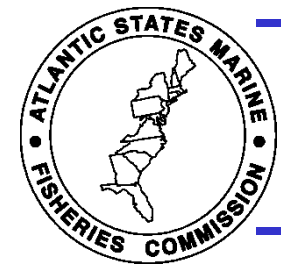




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Stock Assessment Subcommittee Membership





SAS Membership

- Mike Bednarski, MA DMF
- Matt Fisher, DDFW
- Dewayne Fox, DSU
- Kathy Hattala, NY DEC
- Andy Kahnle, NY DEC
- Laura Lee, NC DMF
- Christine Lipsky, NOAA Fisheries
- Mike Loeffler, NC DMF
- Jerre Mohler, USFWS
- Bill Post, SC DNR
- Eric Schneider, RI DFW
- Dave Secor, UM – CBL

