

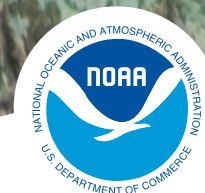
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Status of Stocks

2010 Report on the Status of U.S. Fisheries

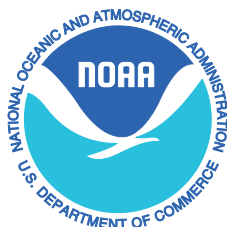


NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

2010 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



July, 2011

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



NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE

Report on the Status of U.S. Fisheries for 2010

A Message from NOAA Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

The year 2010 was a watershed year in U.S. fisheries management and our national commitment to sustainable fisheries and seafood. We implemented measures to end overfishing and are implementing stronger measures to prevent overfishing on all U.S. stocks. We are also making significant progress to fully rebuild overfished stocks. As NOAA's Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, I am privileged to present the 2010 report on the status of U.S. fisheries.



This report reflects the continued hard work of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the eight regional Fishery Management Councils, our Interstate Marine Fisheries Commission partners, as well as commercial and recreational fishermen, to rebuild and sustain our marine fisheries for the benefit of the Nation. The commercial and recreational fisheries require healthy and abundant fish stocks and marine ecosystems in order to provide viable and sustainable jobs, food, and recreational opportunities.

This year, the report highlights one of the most challenging efforts that NMFS and the Councils have undertaken since implementation of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act in 1976. When the Act was reauthorized in 2007, it required implementation of annual catch limits and accountability measures to end and prevent overfishing. These provisions move us away from a management system that too frequently resulted in overfishing. Implementing annual catch limits to end overfishing requires, in many cases, difficult decisions and short-term sacrifices on the part of commercial and recreational fishermen. However, in the long term, ending and preventing overfishing will result in sustainable fisheries that support more stable jobs and recreational opportunities.

Notably, the majority of our domestic fish stocks are not subject to overfishing and are not overfished. While we have implemented the measures to end overfishing, 40 stocks will still be listed as subject to overfishing until we can scientifically assess them and update their status, and work remains to rebuild the 48 stocks that are overfished.

We will continue to work with the Councils and Commissions to implement annual catch limits that are supported by the best available science, rebuild and manage fish stocks at sustainable levels, and ensure that the Nation benefits from sustainable and productive fisheries now and for our future generations. We appreciate the support of Congress, our state partners, stakeholders, and constituencies as we work to accomplish these goals and standards as set forth in the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

Eric C. Schwaab

Results

Overfishing

Yes : 40 fisheries
No: 213 fisheries

Overfished

Yes: 48 fisheries
No: 159 fisheries

Rebuilt

3 fisheries, including Spiny dogfish of the Atlantic Coast, Haddock in Georges Bank, and Pollack in the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank.

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Figure 1. Map of 2010 stocks subject to overfishing.

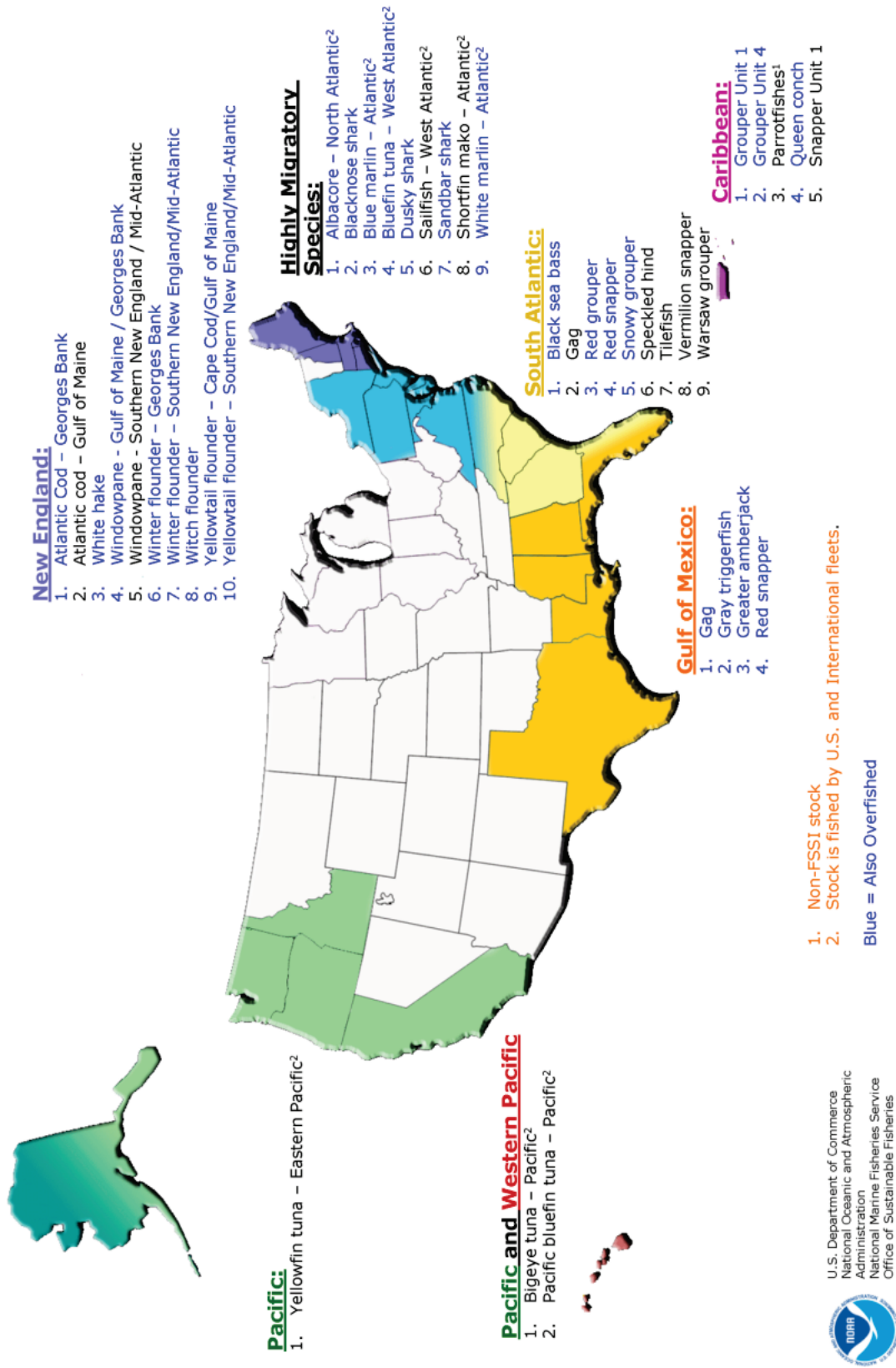
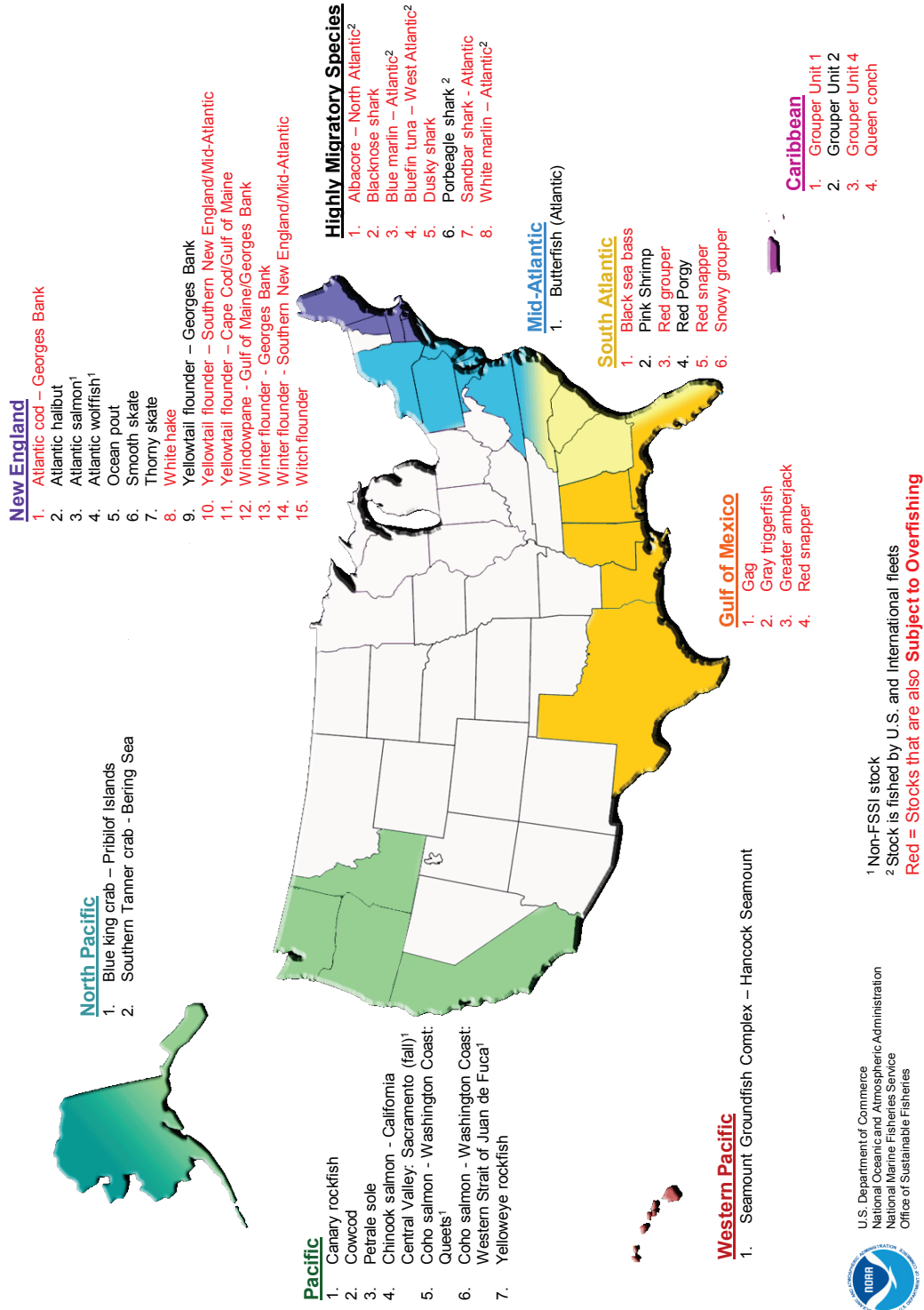


Figure 2. Map of 2010 overfished stocks.



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 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, 2010. 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 identified 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 (i.e., rate of removals is too high). A stock that is overfished has a biomass level below a biological threshold specified in its fishery management plan (i.e., the population is too low).

For 2010, NMFS reviewed the 528¹ individual stocks and stock complexes that are currently managed within 46² federal fishery management plans nationwide. Determinations of both overfishing and overfished status could be made for 197 stocks and complexes. An additional 65 stocks or stock complexes have either a known overfishing determination or a known overfished determination. The number of stocks listed as subject to overfishing or overfished have both increased by 2 compared to the 2009 report (see chart below).³

Overfishing

Of the 253 stocks or stock complexes for which an overfishing determination could be made, 213 (84%) are not subject to overfishing and 40 (16%) are subject to overfishing.

Overfished

Of the 207 stocks or stock complexes for which an overfished determination could be made, 159 (77%) are not overfished⁴ and 48 (23%) are overfished.

Rebuilding

NMFS tracks the biomass trends for overfished stocks to monitor rebuilding progress. In 2010, three stocks have fully rebuilt to 100% of their B_{MSY} levels, bringing the total number of stocks rebuilt since 2000 to 21. In addition, NMFS uses the ratio of the current stock biomass (B) compared to B_{MSY} to indicate sustainability. NMFS considers a B/B_{MSY} ratio of 80% or greater as a sustainable biomass level capable of supporting MSY in the long term. In 2010, three additional stocks were determined to have B/B_{MSY} ratios greater than 80%.

Summary of Changes		
	2009	2010
Subject to Overfishing	38 (15%)	40 (16%)
Overfished	46 (23%)	48 (23%)

¹Compare to 522 in the 2009 report: adds Atlantic wolfish, Kamchatka flounder, 4 crustacean stock complexes, a lobster complex, and 1 squid complex, and removes a lobster complex and spanner crab.

²The Gulf of Mexico Aquaculture FMP is in place, but not included in this report since no stocks are managed in it. That FMP would bring the total number to 47.

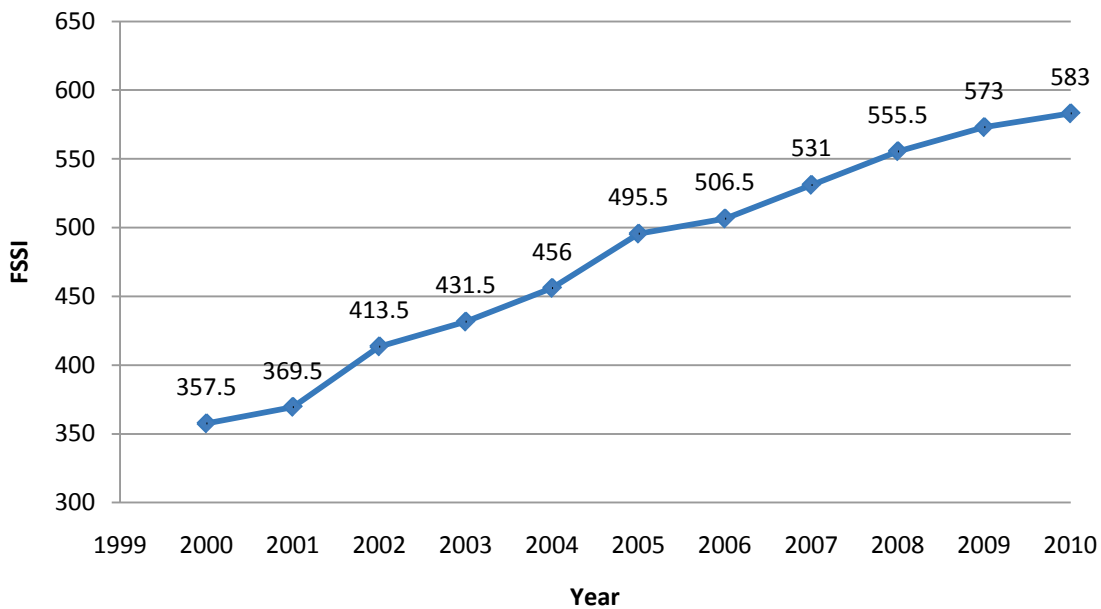
³Much of the increase reflects the formal reporting of status changes for Northeast stocks that were assessed in 2008. However, the status determination criteria specified in the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP) had to be changed by a plan amendment before those status changes could be formally reported. That amendment was completed in 2010. Management actions to end overfishing and begin rebuilding for the overfished stocks are already in place for that FMP, as well as for others. The status changes are detailed in Tables 2 and 3 of this report.

⁴This number includes 5 stocks that are approaching an overfished condition.

Tracking Progress

NMFS measures the sustainability of our Nation's fisheries through the Fish Stock Sustainability Index (FSSI). The FSSI measures the performance of 230 key stocks, and the score increases as additional assessments are conducted, overfishing is ended, and stocks rebuild to the level that provides maximum sustainable yield. The FSSI was first reported in September 2005, with a score of 481.5 and an end-of-year score of 495.5. The value of the FSSI has been calculated back to 2000. Out of 920 possible points, the index increased from 357.5 in 2000 to 583 in 2010 (see Figure 1). The 63% increase in the FSSI in 10 years represents significant progress in sustainably managing our fisheries. More information about the FSSI is available online at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>.

Figure 3. Fish Stock Sustainability Index (FSSI) for 230 key stocks.



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. 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 (i.e., rate of removals is too high). A stock that is overfished has a biomass level below its prescribed biological threshold (i.e., population size is too low). While the MSA establishes the term “overfished,” such status may occur due to environmental factors and may not be the result solely of overfishing.

The reauthorized MSA added new requirements for annual catch limits and accountability measures to end and prevent overfishing in all U.S. fisheries. These measures were required to be established by 2010 for all stocks subject to overfishing and by 2011 for all other stocks, except for stocks with annual life cycles or those managed under international agreements to which the United States is a party.

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 principal 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 last year?

Information on fishing mortality and biomass trends for stocks in rebuilding plans—which can show whether management measures to end overfishing are working and whether the biomass of the stock is rebuilding as planned—is available online at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>.

Additional information on many important federally managed fish stocks, particularly those of interest to seafood consumers, is available online at our FishWatch website: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/fishwatch/#>.

Overfishing
The rate of removal from a stock is too high.

Overfished
The population is too low, below a prescribed threshold.

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

Using the Best Available Data

A stock assessment is the analysis of the abundance and composition of a fish stock, which informs managers on the appropriate level of harvest to ensure sustainability of the stock. Stock assessments use the best available data from fishery landings, scientific surveys, and biological and ecological studies. An assessment typically undergoes thorough peer review before it is used by the Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee to provide the Council with fishing level recommendations. Information on the methodology used for status determinations can be found in Appendix 1, and information on the specific science used to make the determinations can be found in Appendix 4. These appendices are also available online at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>.

For this report, NMFS reviewed each stock relative to the status determination criteria (SDC) contained in the relevant fishery management plan (FMP)⁶. Some of these reviews used the results of stock assessments and some used other information—such as trawl survey data or total catch data—as specified by the SDC. Some SDCs apply to an individual stock; in other cases SDCs apply 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 are useful when individual stocks cannot be assessed due to a lack of data. The status of individual stocks in a complex may be determined using the SDC of one or more appropriate indicator stocks in the complex, or the SDC may apply to the complex as a whole.

In 2010, NMFS reviewed status determinations on 189 stocks and stock complexes. Four of these stocks now have known overfishing determinations in 2010—that is, their overfishing determination was previously unknown. Five additional stocks have overfished determinations in 2010—that is, their overfished determination was previously unknown/undefined. Of those stocks with new determinations, three are not subject to overfishing and three are not overfished. Management action is underway to address the stocks that were newly determined to be subject to overfishing or overfished.

This year’s report is based on assessments completed as of December 31, 2010. Results from fishery stock assessments in progress on that date will be summarized in next year’s report. The status of all 528 stocks and stock complexes is summarized in Table 1.

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

Table 1. Number and status of FSSI and non-FSSI stocks in 2010 by Council.

Council	Stock Group	Total # of Stocks Reviewed	Overfishing					Overfished					
			Yes	No	Not Known	Not Defined	N/A	Yes	No	Approaching Overfished Condition	Not Known	Not Defined	N/A
New England	Total	36	10	21	3	2	0	15	19	0	2	0	0
	FSSI	34	10	20	2	2	0	13	19	0	2	0	0
	NonFSSI	2	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Mid-Atlantic	Total	11	0	11	0	0	0	1	9	0	1	0	0
	FSSI	11	0	11	0	0	0	1	9	0	1	0	0
	NonFSSI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New England / Mid-Atlantic	Total	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0
	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
South Atlantic	Total	84	9	21	54	0	0	6	8	1	62	7	0
	FSSI	21	9	11	1	0	0	6	7	1	7	0	0
	NonFSSI	63	0	10	53	0	0	0	1	0	55	7	0
Gulf of Mexico	Total	53	4	16	32	1	0	4	8	0	1	40	0
	FSSI	17	4	10	3	0	0	4	7	0	0	6	0
	NonFSSI	36	0	6	29	1	0	0	1	0	1	34	0
South Atlantic / Gulf of Mexico	Total	13	0	11	1	1	0	0	8	0	3	2	0
	FSSI	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	7	0	2	1	0
	NonFSSI	3	0	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0
Caribbean	Total	22	5	1	16	0	0	4	0	2	16	0	0
	FSSI	8	4	1	3	0	0	4	0	1	3	0	0
	NonFSSI	14	1	0	13	0	0	0	0	1	13	0	0
Pacific	Total	168	1	51	62	1	53	7	45	0	60	3	53
	FSSI	48	1	34	12	1	0	4	31	0	10	3	0
	NonFSSI	120	0	17	50	0	53	3	14	0	50	0	53
Western Pacific	Total	40	0	10	25	5	0	1	8	0	26	5	0
	FSSI	16	0	7	9	0	0	1	7	0	8	0	0
	NonFSSI	24	0	3	16	5	0	0	1	0	18	5	0
Pacific / Western Pacific	Total	10	2	2	6	0	0	0	4	0	6	0	0
	FSSI	6	2	2	2	0	0	0	4	0	2	0	0
	NonFSSI	4	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
North Pacific	Total	63	0	55	1	7	0	2	31	0	3	27	0
	FSSI	35	0	35	0	0	0	2	29	0	0	4	0
	NonFSSI	28	0	20	1	7	0	0	2	0	3	23	0
Pacific / North Pacific	Total	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
	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
Atlantic HMS*	Total	24	9	11	4	0	0	8	10	2	4	0	0
	FSSI	21	9	10	2	0	0	8	9	2	2	0	0
	NonFSSI	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0
Total	Total	528	40	213	204	48	53	48	154	5	184	84	53
	FSSI	230	39	154	34	3	0	43	132	4	37	14	0
	NonFSSI	298	1	59	170	15	53	5	22	1	147	70	53

*HMS = highly migratory species.

Not Known: Stocks for which there is an approved overfishing definition, but for which no determination can be made because of insufficient information.

Not Defined: Stocks contained in FMPs for which the overfishing definitions were fully disapproved, are still under review, or have yet to be proposed.

Overfishing Status

Overview

Of the 528 stocks or stocks complexes reviewed in 2010:

- **253** have a known overfishing status.
 - 213 (84%) stocks or stock complexes **are not** subject to overfishing.
 - 40 (16%) stocks or stock complexes **are** subject to overfishing.

- **275** have overfishing thresholds not defined or applicable, or the overfishing status is unknown.

Changes in Overfishing Status

Three NMFS regions had stocks with overfishing status changes from 2009 to 2010 (see Table 2).

Table 2. Changes in overfishing status from 2009 to 2010.

Region	Total # of stocks	Stock	Change from 2009-2010
Northeast	1	Yellowtail flounder - Georges Bank	no longer subject to overfishing
	3	Windowpane - Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Windowpane - Southern New England / Mid-Atlantic Witch flounder - Northwestern Atlantic Coast	now subject to overfishing
	1	Atlantic halibut – Northwestern Atlantic Coast	not subject to overfishing (was previously listed as unknown)
Southeast	1	Winter flounder – Gulf of Maine	Is unknown (was previously listed as not subject to overfishing)
	1	Black grouper - Southern Atlantic Coast	no longer subject to overfishing
	1	Black grouper - Gulf of Mexico	not subject to overfishing (was previously listed as unknown)
Northwest	1	Pacific cod – Pacific	not subject to overfishing (was previously listed as unknown)
Southwest/ Pacific Islands	1	Pacific bluefin tuna - Pacific SW/PI	subject to overfishing (was previously listed as unknown)

Overfished Status

Overview

Of the 528 stocks or stocks complexes reviewed in 2010:

- **207** have a known overfished status.
 - 159 (77%) stocks or stock complexes **are not** overfished
 - 5 stocks are approaching an overfished condition.
 - 48 (23%) stocks or stock complexes **are** overfished.
- **321** have overfished thresholds not defined or applicable, or the overfished status is unknown.

Changes in Overfished Status

Five NMFS regions had stocks with overfished status changes from 2009 to 2010 (see Table 3).

Table 3. Changes in overfished status from 2009 to 2010.

Region	Total # of stocks	Stock	Change from 2009-2010
Northeast	1	Haddock - Georges Bank	no longer overfished, Rebuilt
	4	Haddock - Gulf of Maine American plaice - Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Cod - Gulf of Maine Windowpane - Southern New England/Mid-Atlantic	no longer overfished, are rebuilding
	3	Windowpane - Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Witch flounder - Northwestern Atlantic Coast Winter flounder - Georges Bank	now overfished
	1	Atlantic wolffish - Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank	overfished (was previously unknown; this stock is newly contained in the Northeast Multispecies FMP)
	1	Winter flounder – Gulf of Maine	Is unknown (was previously listed as not overfished)
Southeast	1	Red grouper - Southern Atlantic Coast	overfished (was previously listed as unknown)
	1	Black grouper - Southern Atlantic Coast	not overfished (was previously unknown)
	1	Black grouper - Gulf of Mexico	not overfished (was previously undefined)
Northwest	1	Chinook salmon - California Central Valley: Sacramento (fall)	now overfished
Southwest/ Pacific Islands	1	Pacific bluefin tuna - Pacific SW/PI	not overfished with $B/B_{MSY} > 80\%$ (was previously unknown)
Alaska	1	Southern Tanner crab - Bering Sea	overfished (was previously approaching an overfished condition) ⁷

⁷The 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 whether the stock is likely to become overfished within 2 years.

Biomass and Rebuilding

Biomass is an important measure of a stock’s abundance and sustainability. For overfished stocks, tracking biomass trends is used as an indicator of rebuilding progress. The NMFS Fish Stock Sustainability Index⁸ (FSSI) established a ratio of the current stock biomass (B) to the biomass that supports the maximum sustainable yield (B_{MSY}) as an indicator of sustainability. Stocks with a B/B_{MSY} above 80% are considered to be within the range of natural fluctuation around B_{MSY} , which is defined as a long-term average.

Changes in Biomass Levels and Rebuilt Stocks

Two NMFS regions had stocks with biomass increases to above 80% of B_{MSY} from 2009 to 2010 (see . Table 4).

Table 4. Changes in biomass levels from 2009 to 2010.

Region	Total # of stocks	Stock	Change from 2009-2010
Northeast	3	Haddock – Georges Bank Spiny dogfish – Atlantic coast Pollock – Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank	Rebuilt
	1	Winter skate – Georges Bank/Southern New England	B/B_{MSY} now above 80% (was previously not estimated)
Southeast	2	Black grouper - Southern Atlantic Coast Black grouper - Gulf of Mexico	B/B_{MSY} now above 80% (was previously not estimated)
Southwest/ Pacific Islands	1	Pacific bluefin tuna - Pacific SW/PI	
Alaska	1	Red King Crab – Pribilof Islands	B/B_{MSY} now below 80%

Biomass and Mortality Trends in Stocks under Rebuilding Plans

Section 304(e)(7) of the MSA requires that the Secretary review rebuilding progress at routine intervals that may not exceed 2 years. The most recent information on trends in fishing mortality (F) and biomass (B) for stocks under rebuilding plans is available online at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>.

⁸The FSSI is a performance measure developed by NMFS to assess the sustainability of 230 U.S. fish stocks selected for their importance to commercial and recreational fisheries.

Implementing Annual Catch Limits

With the reauthorization of the MSA in 2007, Congress gave NMFS and the Councils a mandate to implement annual catch limits (ACL), including measures to ensure accountability, at a level such that overfishing does not occur in a fishery. In January 2009, NMFS published revised National Standard 1 Guidelines⁹ to address these new requirements and aid the Councils in developing ACLs and accountability measures (AMs) to end and prevent overfishing, and achieve optimum yield. The MSA required ACLs to end overfishing in fisheries subject to overfishing by 2010, and in all other fisheries by 2011, with limited exceptions¹⁰.

For 2010, FMPs were required to implement ACLs for the 2010 fishing year. All of those FMPs have ACLs or measures in place to end overfishing.¹¹ Table 5 shows the status of ACL implementation for each FMP.

⁹The guidelines (50 CFR Part 600.310) can be viewed at: http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/msa2007/docs/acl_final_rule.pdf.

¹⁰Exceptions specified in reauthorized MSA section 104(b), unless otherwise provided for under an international agreement in which the United States participates, and species that have a life cycle of approximately 1 year unless the Secretary has determined the fishery is subject to overfishing of that species.

¹¹ ACL implementation for Caribbean stocks listed as subject to overfishing is pending due to a review under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Although management measures to end overfishing have been in place since 2005 (see 70 FR 62073), an assessment is needed to verify that overfishing has ended.

Table 5. Progress in implementing annual catch limits or measures to end overfishing for stocks and complexes (as of December 31, 2010).

Council	FMP	MSA Deadline		Implementation Status As of Dec 31, 2010	Implementation Dates Final Rule Published
		2010	2011		
New England	Northeast Skate	X		Completed	06/16/2010
	Atlantic Herring		X		-
	Atlantic Salmon		X	Exception	NA
	Atlantic Sea Scallop		X		
	Red Crab		X		
	Monkfish		X		
	Northeast Multispecies Groundfish <i>Small-mesh Multispecies Component</i>	X		In place	04/09/2010
Mid Atlantic	Omnibus Amendment				
	<i>Spiny Dogfish</i>		X		
	<i>Summer flounder, Scup & Black Sea Bass</i>		X		
	<i>Atlantic Bluefish</i>		X		
	<i>Surfclam & Ocean Quahog</i>		X		
	<i>Mackerel, Squid, & Butterfish</i>		X		
	<i>Tilefish</i>		X		
South Atlantic	Snapper Grouper	X		In place	12/09/2010 and 12/30/2010
	Coastal Migratory Pelagics		X		
	Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitats		X		
	Shrimp		X	Exception	NA
	Spiny Lobster		X		
	Comprehensive Amendment				
	<i>Dolphin Wahoo</i>		X		
	<i>Golden Crab</i>		X		
	<i>Sargassum</i>		X		
Gulf of Mexico	Aquaculture		*		
	Reef Fish	X		In place	01/29/2008, 07/03/2008, and 04/16/2009
	Stone Crab		X	Intend to repeal FMP	NA
	Generic Amendment				
	<i>Coral and Coral Reefs</i>		X		
	<i>Red Drum</i>		X		
	<i>Reef Fish</i>		X		
Caribbean	Comprehensive Amendment				
	<i>Queen Conch</i> [#]	X			
	<i>Reef Fish</i> [#]	X			
	Comprehensive Amendment				
	<i>Queen Conch</i>		X		
	<i>Reef Fish</i>		X		
	<i>Corals and Reef Associated Invertebrates</i>		X		
<i>Spiny Lobster</i>		X			
Atlantic HMS	Atlantic Highly Migratory Species	X		In place	06/24/2008 and 06/01/2010
North Pacific	Bering Sea & Aleutian Islands Groundfish		X	In place	10/06/2010
	Gulf of Alaska Groundfish		X	In place	10/06/2010
	Fish Resources of the Arctic Management Area		X	In place	11/03/2009
	BSAI King and Tanner Crab		X		
	Alaska Weathervane Scallops		X		
	Alaska Salmon		X		
Pacific	Pacific Coast Groundfish		X	In place	12/15/2010
	West Coast Salmon		X		
	West Coast Highly Migratory Species		X		
	Coastal Pelagic Species		X		
Western Pacific	Omnibus Amendment				
	<i>Hawaii Archipelago</i>		X		
	<i>America Samoa</i>		X		
	<i>Mariana Archipelago</i>		X		

Council	FMP	MSA Deadline		Implementation Status As of Dec 31, 2010	Implementation Dates Final Rule Published
		2010	2011		
	<i>Pacific Remote Island Areas</i>		X		
	<i>Pelagic Fisheries</i>		X		

HMS = highly migratory species.

* While this FMP established MSY and OY levels, there are no species contained in the management unit that are not managed under another approved FMP. ACLs implemented for those FMPs will be used as proxies for this FMP.

ACL implementation for stocks subject to overfishing is pending due to a review under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Although management measures to end overfishing have been in place since 2005 (see 70 FR 62073), an assessment is needed to verify that overfishing has ended.

Status Determinations by Region

Northeast Region

Thirteen FMPs containing 50 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS and the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils. Within these FMPs, 10 stocks are subject to overfishing, 16 stocks are overfished, and no stocks are approaching an overfished condition (Table 6).¹²

New England	Mid-Atlantic
1. Atlantic Salmon	1. Atlantic Bluefish
2. Atlantic Sea Scallop	2. Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish
3. Northeast Multispecies	3. Atlantic Surfclam and Ocean Quahog
4. Northeast Skate	4. Spiny Dogfish
5. Atlantic Herring	5. Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass
6. Red Crab	6. Tilefish
7. Monkfish	

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

Council	FMP	Stock	Overfishing condition	Overfished Condition	
				Overfished	Approaching
New England	Atlantic salmon	Atlantic salmon*		x	
	Northeast Multispecies	cod - Georges Bank	x	x	
		cod - Gulf of Maine	x		
		Atlantic halibut		x	
		Atlantic wolffish		x	
		ocean pout		x	
		white hake	x	x	
		windowpane - GOM/GB	x	x	
		windowpane - SNE/MA	x		
		winter flounder - GB	x	x	
		winter flounder - SNE/MA	x	x	
		witch flounder	x	x	
		yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/GOM	x	x	
		yellowtail flounder - Georges Bank		x	
	yellowtail flounder - SNE/MA	x	x		
Northeast Skate	thorny skate - Gulf of Maine		x		
	smooth skate - Gulf of Maine		x		
Mid-Atlantic	Atlantic Mackerel, Squid, and Butterfish	butterfish		x	

*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.

¹²Assessment results for 19 stocks in the Northeast Multispecies FMP will not be used to make determinations until the FMP is amended to reflect the SDCs recommended in the assessment.

Southeast Region

Eighteen FMPs containing 172 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS and the South Atlantic, Caribbean, and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils. Within these FMPs, 18 stocks are subject to overfishing, 14 stocks are overfished, and three stocks are approaching an overfished condition (Table 7).

South Atlantic	Gulf of Mexico	Caribbean
1. Coral, Coral Reefs, and Live/Hard Bottom Habitats of the South Atlantic Region	1. Aquaculture	1. Corals and Reef Associated Invertebrates of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands
2. Dolphin Wahoo	2. Coastal Migratory Pelagics of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic	2. Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands
3. Pelagic Sargassum Habitat of the South Atlantic Region	3. Coral and Coral Reefs of the Gulf of Mexico	3. Spiny Lobster Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands
4. South Atlantic Golden Crab	4. Gulf of Mexico/South Atlantic Spiny Lobster	4. Queen Conch Resources of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands
5. South Atlantic Shrimp	5. Gulf of Mexico Red Drum	
6. South Atlantic Snapper Grouper	6. Gulf of Mexico Shrimp	
	7. Gulf of Mexico Stone Crab	
	8. Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	

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

Council	FMP	Stock	Overfishing condition	Overfished Condition	
				Overfished	Approaching
South Atlantic	South Atlantic Snapper Grouper	black sea bass	x	x	
		gag	x		x
		red grouper	x	x	
		red porgy		x	
		red snapper	x	x	
		snowy grouper	x	x	
		speckled hind	x		
		tilefish	x		
		vermilion snapper	x		
	warsaw grouper	x			
	South Atlantic Shrimp	pink shrimp		x	
Gulf of Mexico	Reef Fish Resources of the Gulf of Mexico	gag	x	x	
		gray triggerfish	x	x	
		greater amberjack	x	x	
		red snapper	x	x	
Caribbean	Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the USVI	Grouper Unit 1	x	x	
		Grouper Unit 2		x	
		Grouper Unit 4	x	x	
		Snapper Unit 1	x		x
		Parrotfish complex	x		x
	Queen Conch Resources of Puerto Rico and the USVI	queen conch	x	x	

Southwest Region

Two FMPs containing 19 stocks or complexes¹³ are managed by NMFS and the Pacific Fishery Management Council. Within these FMPs, three stocks are subject to overfishing, no stocks are overfished, and no stocks are approaching an overfished condition (Table 8).

Pacific	
1.	Coastal Pelagic Species
2.	West Coast Highly Migratory Species

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

Council	FMP	Stock	Overfishing condition	Overfished Condition	
				Overfished	Approaching
Pacific	U.S. West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species	yellowfin tuna - Eastern Tropical Pacific	x		
Pacific / Western Pacific	U.S. West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species / Fishery Ecosystem Plan for Pacific Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region	bigeye tuna - Pacific*	x		
		Pacific bluefin tuna – Pacific*	x		

*This stock also appears in Table 10 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.

¹³Total includes 10 pelagic species shared with the Pacific Islands Region.

Northwest Region

Two FMPs containing 159 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS and the Pacific Fishery Management Council. In addition, Pacific halibut is managed jointly with the Alaska Region and the International Pacific Halibut Commission. Within these FMPs, no stocks are subject to overfishing, seven stocks are overfished, and no stocks are approaching an overfished condition (Table 9).

Pacific	
1.	Pacific Coast Groundfish
2.	West Coast Salmon

Table 9. Northwest Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

Council	FMP	Stock	Overfishing condition	Overfished Condition	
				Overfished	Approaching
Pacific	Pacific Coast Groundfish	Canary rockfish		x	
		cowcod		x	
		Petrале sole		x	
		yelloweye rockfish		x	
	Pacific Coast Salmon	Chinook salmon - California Central Valley: Sacramento (fall)		x	
		coho salmon - Washington Coast: Queets		x	
		coho salmon - Washington Coast: Western Strait of Juan de Fuca		x	

Pacific Islands Region

Five FEPs¹⁴ containing 50 stocks or complexes¹⁵ are managed by NMFS and the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council. Within these FEPs, two stocks or stock complexes are subject to overfishing, one stock or stock complex is overfished, and no stocks or stock complexes are approaching an overfished condition (Table 10).

Western Pacific	
1.	American Samoa Archipelago
2.	Hawaii Archipelago
3.	Mariana Archipelago
4.	Pacific Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region
5.	Pacific Remote Island Areas

Table 10. Pacific Islands Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

Council	FEP	Stock	Overfishing condition	Overfished Condition	
				Overfished	Approaching
Pacific / Western Pacific	U.S. West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species / Fishery Ecosystem Plan for Pacific Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region	bigeye tuna - Pacific*	x		
		Pacific bluefin tuna - Pacific*	x		
Western Pacific	Fishery Ecosystem Plan for the Hawaii Archipelago	Seamount Groundfish complex - Hancock Seamount**		x	

*This stock also appears in Table 8 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 raftfish and alfonsin. There is no U.S. fishery for any of the species in this complex.

¹⁴On 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 were effective February 16, 2010, and replace the five existing FMPs.

¹⁵Total includes 10 pelagic species shared with the Southwest Region.

Alaska Region

Six FMPs containing 63 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS and the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. 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, two stocks or stock complexes are overfished, and no stocks or stock complexes are approaching an overfished condition (Table 11).

North Pacific	
1.	Alaska Salmon
2.	Alaska Weathervane Scallops
3.	Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI) Groundfish
4.	BSAI King and Tanner Crab
5.	Fish Resources of the Arctic Management Area
6.	Gulf of Alaska Groundfish

Table 11. Alaska Region stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

Council	FMP	Stock	Overfishing condition	Overfished Condition	
				Overfished	Approaching
North Pacific	BSAI King and Tanner Crab	blue king crab - Pribilof Islands		x	
		Southern Tanner crab - Bering Sea		x	

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

One FMP containing 24 stocks or complexes are managed by NMFS. Within this FMP, nine stocks or stock complexes are subject to overfishing, eight stocks or stock complexes are overfished, and two stocks are approaching an overfished condition (Table 12).

Atlantic HMS
1. Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species

Table 12. Atlantic Highly Migratory stocks that are subject to overfishing, are overfished, or are approaching an overfished condition.

Council	FMP	Stock	Overfishing condition	Overfished Condition	
				Overfished	Approaching
Atlantic HMS	Consolidated Atlantic Highly Migratory Species	albacore - North Atlantic	x	x	
		blacknose shark - Atlantic	x	x	
		blue marlin - Atlantic	x	x	
		bluefin tuna - West Atlantic	x	x	
		dusky shark	x	x	
		Porbeagle shark		x	
		sailfish - West Atlantic	x		
		sandbar shark - Atlantic*	x	x	
		shortfin mako - Atlantic	x		x
		white marlin - Atlantic	x	x	
		yellowfin tuna - Atlantic			x

*This stock is part of the Large Coastal Shark complex, but is assessed separately.

Stock status comparison between 2009 and 2010

Table 13 and 14 present a comparison between fish stocks with determinations of subject to overfishing and overfished for 2009 and 2010, respectively.

Table 13. Comparison of stocks or stock complexes with “subject to overfishing” determinations in 2009 and 2010. Stocks in **GREEN** under “2009” were *removed* from the list in 2010. Stocks in **RED** under "2010" were added to the list in 2010.

COUNCIL	# of stocks reviewed in 2010	2009*	2010*
New England	36	cod - GB	cod - GB
		cod - GOM	cod - GOM
		white hake	white hake
		-	WINDOWPANE - GOM/GB
		-	WINDOWPANE - SNE/MA
		winter flounder - GB	winter flounder - GB
		winter flounder - SNE/MA	winter flounder - SNE/MA
		-	WITCH FLOUNDER
		YELLOWTAIL FLOUNDER - GB	-
yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/GOM	yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod/GOM		
yellowtail flounder - SNE/MA	yellowtail flounder - SNE/MA		
Mid-Atlantic	11	-	-
New England / Mid-Atlantic	3	-	-
South Atlantic	84	BLACK GROUPEL	-
		black sea bass	black sea bass
		gag	gag
		red grouper	red grouper
		red snapper	red snapper
		snowy grouper	snowy grouper
		speckled hind	speckled hind
		tilefish	tilefish
		vermillion snapper	vermillion snapper
warsaw grouper	warsaw grouper		
Gulf of Mexico	53	gag	gag
		gray triggerfish	gray triggerfish
		greater amberjack	greater amberjack
		red snapper	red snapper
South Atlantic / Gulf of Mexico	13	-	-
Caribbean	22	queen conch	queen conch
		Grouper Unit 1	Grouper Unit 1
		Grouper Unit 4	Grouper Unit 4
		Parrotfish complex	Parrotfish complex
		Snapper Unit 1	Snapper Unit 1
Pacific	168	yellowfin tuna - Eastern Pacific	yellowfin tuna - Eastern Pacific
Western Pacific	40	-	-
Pacific / Western Pacific	10	bigeye tuna - Pacific	bigeye tuna - Pacific
		-	BLUEFIN TUNA - PACIFIC
North Pacific	63	-	-
Highly Migratory Species	24	albacore - North Atlantic	albacore - North Atlantic
		blacknose shark - Atlantic	blacknose shark - Atlantic
		blue marlin - Atlantic	blue marlin - Atlantic
		bluefin tuna - West Atlantic	bluefin tuna - West Atlantic
		dusky shark - Atlantic	dusky shark - Atlantic
		sailfish - West Atlantic	sailfish - West Atlantic
		sandbar shark - Atlantic**	sandbar shark - Atlantic**
		shortfin mako - Atlantic	shortfin mako - Atlantic
white marlin - Atlantic	white marlin - Atlantic		

*GB = Georges Bank; GOM = Gulf of Maine; SNE = Southern New England; MA = Mid-Atlantic; CC = Cape Cod.

**This stock is part of the Large Coastal Shark complex, but is assessed separately.

Table 14. Stocks or stock complexes with “overfished” determinations in 2009 and 2010. Stocks in GREEN under “2009” were removed from the list in 2010. Stocks in RED under “2010” were added to the list in 2010.

COUNCIL	# of stocks reviewed in 2010**	2009*	2010*
New England	36	Atlantic salmon	Atlantic salmon
		AMERICAN PLAICE	-
		Atlantic halibut	Atlantic halibut
		-	ATLANTIC WOLFFISH
		COD - GOM	-
		cod - GB	cod - GB
		HADDOCK - GOM	-
		HADDOCK - GB	-
		ocean pout	ocean pout
		white hake	white hake
		WINDOWPANE FLOUNDER – SNE/MA	-
		-	WINDOWPANE - GOM/GB
		-	WINTER FLOUNDER - GB
		winter Flounder - SNE/MA	winter flounder - SNE/MA
		-	WITCH FLOUNDER
		yellowtail flounder - CC/GOM	yellowtail flounder - CC/GOM
yellowtail flounder - GB	yellowtail flounder - GB		
yellowtail flounder - SNE/MA	yellowtail flounder - SNE/MA		
thorny skate - GOM	thorny skate - GOM		
smooth skate - GOM	smooth skate - GOM		
Mid-Atlantic	11	butterfish	butterfish
New England / Mid-Atlantic	3	-	-
South Atlantic	84	black sea bass	black sea bass
		-	RED GROUPER
		red porgy	red porgy
		red snapper	red snapper
		snowy grouper	snowy grouper
		-	-
pink shrimp**	pink shrimp**		
Gulf of Mexico	53	red snapper	red snapper
		greater amberjack	greater amberjack
		gray triggerfish	gray triggerfish
		gag	gag
South Atlantic / Gulf of Mexico	13	None	None
Caribbean	22	Grouper Unit 1	Grouper Unit 1
		Grouper Unit 2	Grouper Unit 2
		Grouper Unit 4	Grouper Unit 4
		queen conch	queen conch
Pacific	168	canary rockfish	canary rockfish
		Cowcod	cowcod
		Petrale sole	Petrale sole
		yelloweye rockfish	yelloweye rockfish
		-	CHINOOK SALMON - CALIFORNIA CENTRAL VALLEY: SACRAMENTO (FALL)
		coho salmon - Washington Coast: Queets	coho salmon - Washington Coast: Queets
coho salmon - Washington Coast: Western Strait of Juan de Fuca	coho salmon - Washington Coast: Western Strait of Juan de Fuca		
Western Pacific	40	Seamount Groundfish complex - Hancock Seamounts	Seamount Groundfish complex - Hancock Seamounts
Pacific / Western Pacific	10	-	-
North Pacific	63	blue king crab - Pribilof Islands	blue king crab - Pribilof Islands
		-	SOUTHERN TANNER CRAB – BERING SEA
Highly Migratory Species	24	albacore - North Atlantic	albacore - North Atlantic
		blacknose shark - Atlantic	blacknose shark - Atlantic
		blue marlin – Atlantic	blue marlin - Atlantic
		bluefin tuna - West Atlantic	bluefin tuna - West Atlantic
		dusky shark	dusky shark

		porbeagle shark	porbeagle shark
		sandbar shark – Atlantic**	sandbar shark – Atlantic***
		white marlin – Atlantic	white marlin - Atlantic

*GB = Georges Bank; GOM = Gulf of Maine; SNE = Southern New England; MA = Mid-Atlantic; CC = Cape Cod.

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

***This stock is part of the Large Coastal Shark complex, but is assessed separately.

An online version of this report is available at
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/statusoffisheries/SOSmain.htm>

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U.S. Secretary of Commerce
Gary Locke

Administrator of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
and Undersecretary of Commerce
Dr. Jane Lubchenco

Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
Eric Schwaab

www.nmfs.noaa.gov

National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
SSMC 3, F/SF, Room 9535
Silver Spring, MD 20910

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