



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

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Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | P. Weston Townsend, Vice Chairman

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 18, 2022
To: Chris Moore, Executive Director
From: Jason Didden, staff
Subject: Hudson Canyon Analyses

To support the Council interacting in the process regarding potential designation of a National Marine Sanctuary in the Hudson Canyon area, Council staff requested that NMFS Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) staff conduct revenue/catch analyses in the relevant area. While no specific area has yet been proposed by NOAA, the originally nominated area in the November 2016 nomination seemed like a reasonable area for initial analysis. The GARFO analyses contain a wealth of information on potentially affected species, gears, states, ports, and permits.

The full GARFO Commercial analysis can be accessed here: https://www.mafmc.org/s/Hudson-Sanctuary-WCS-proposal-area-MAFMC-June-2022_com.html (link will download html file)

The full GARFO For-Hire analysis can be accessed here: https://www.mafmc.org/s/Hudson-Sanctuary-WCS-proposal-area-MAFMC-June-2022_rec.html (link will download html file)

We have less information on private recreational activity in the selected area, but informal staff discussions with individuals knowledgeable about recreational fishing indicate that there has also been substantial private recreational activity in the relevant area in recent years.

Table 3.2 of the commercial GARFO analysis, reproduced below, describes the top 10 species in terms of **totalled revenues** (2008-2020) that were reported as being caught from the originally nominated Hudson sanctuary area. Table 10.2 notes that in 2020 the area was responsible for substantial **revenue proportions** of multiple Council-managed species including golden tilefish, black sea bass, longfin squid, summer flounder, scup, and Atlantic mackerel.

Table 3.2 Thirteen Year Total Revenue, Most Impacted Species, Hudson Sanctuary WCS proposal area MAFMC June 2022

Species	Thirteen Year Revenue
Sea Scallop	\$117,915,000
Longfin Squid	\$50,080,000
Summer Flounder	\$29,604,000
Golden Tilefish	\$23,109,000
Scup	\$9,943,000
Black Sea Bass	\$8,763,000
Silver Hake	\$8,512,000
American Lobster	\$5,927,000
Illex Squid	\$3,947,000
Atlantic Mackerel	\$2,445,000
Total	\$260,246,000

Table 1.1 of the for-hire GARFO analysis, reproduced below, describes the top 10 fishery management plan species, in terms of **counts of fish** 2008-2020 that were reported as being caught out of the originally nominated Hudson sanctuary area (based on federal Vessel Trip Reports).

Table 1.1 Management Categories Fish Count, Hudson Sanctuary Wcs Proposal Area Mafmc June 2022

Management Categories	Thirteen Year Fish Count
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass FMP	115,793
No Federal FMP	28,080
Highly Migratory Species FMP	13,479
Northeast Multispecies FMP	9,863
Bluefish FMP	6,658
Golden and Blueline Tilefish FMP	6,116
All Others	5,641
ASMFC Interstate FMPs	282
Other Federal FMP	13
Total	185,925