



**Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council**  
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Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | G. Warren Elliott, Vice Chairman  
Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** June 5, 2020  
**To:** Chris Moore, Executive Director  
**From:** Dr. Jerome Hermsen (GARFO APSD) and Julia Beaty (MAFMC staff)  
**Subject:** Unmanaged species landings, 2015-2019

The tables on the following pages summarize commercial landings of unmanaged species from Maine through North Carolina. This information was compiled by staff at the Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office Analysis and Program Support Division (GARFO APSD). The purpose of this report is to allow the Council to monitor commercial landings of unmanaged species in the northeast region. This report is meant to provide a high-level summary to determine if any further evaluation is needed.

In this context, “unmanaged landings” refers to landings of species from Maine through North Carolina only in locations where they are not managed at the state or federal level with a possession limit, size limit, seasonal closure, and/or limited access. For example, the blue crab landings shown on the following pages represent only those landings in states where blue crab is not managed.

The data were accessed from the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) Data Warehouse. Both state-only and federal dealer reports are included. The data account for state-only permitted dealers located in the northeast as well as all dealers with GARFO permits, regardless of location.

The table on page 2 contains the top 25 unmanaged species by weight landed during 2015-2019. The second table contains the top 25 finfish species by weight landed. The rankings are based on average 2015-2019 landings. Confidential values are not counted in the averages. The third table contains landings of Mid-Atlantic Council ecosystem component species. The fourth table shows species with increasing rank order of landings every year from 2017 through 2019.

In 2019, blue catfish (an invasive species) had the highest amount of unmanaged commercial landings, followed by conchs, and hagfish.

When ranked from highest to lowest unmanaged commercial landings in each year from 2015 through 2019, two species had increasing rank every year: oysters and gray triggerfish. Unmanaged oyster landings totaled 144,670 pounds in 2019 and averaged 93,694 pounds during 2015-2019. Unmanaged landings of gray triggerfish totaled 2,093 pounds in 2019 and averaged 748 pounds during 2015-2019 (excluding 2017, which is confidential). When considering only the past three years (i.e., 2017-2019), 15 species increased in rank each year. These species are listed in the second table on page 4.

## Top 25 Unmanaged Species Annual Landings, 2015-2019

Report Run on: 2020-05-26.

For data reported through 2020-05-25. Values are in pounds.

Cells marked with a 'C' are confidential. Averages do not include confidential data.

Common Name	Code	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Avg
MUSSELS	781	15,342,427	11,578,754	10,480,326	5,642,701	879,484	8,784,738
CATFISH, BLUE	067	3,697,016	4,123,309	5,199,117	5,093,158	4,981,704	4,618,861
CRAB, ROCK	712	1,774,510	1,482,765	2,216,872	2,571,016	1,934,725	1,995,978
CONCHS	775	2,666,958	1,066,324	1,234,770	2,368,253	2,434,252	1,954,111
HAGFISH	150	2,204,603	1,871,105	1,558,251	C	C	1,877,986
CRAB, BLUE	700	2,580,077	3,450,444	0	1,070,692	1,605,269	1,741,296
QUAHOG	748	3,113,556	3,028,273	159,961	58,218	24,987	1,276,999
OTHER FISH	526	1,810,527	1,291,616	656,646	844,650	752,707	1,071,229
STRIPED MULLET	235	612,729	461,742	778,353	832,924	896,851	716,520
WHITING, KING	197	564,373	582,919	814,345	327,756	482,838	554,446
CRUSTACEANS NK	834	0	160,171	234,650	170,342	527,698	273,215
TUNA, LITTLE	468	212,072	220,244	279,355	232,494	239,774	236,788
MOLLUSKS NK	804	619,872	96,249	179,234	169,826	103,077	233,652
JOHN DORY	188	206,857	209,695	246,233	122,198	102,405	177,478
HARVEST FISH	165	237,082	209,841	172,931	130,037	99,179	169,814
CUTLASSFISH, ATLANTIC	099	183,313	61,042	50,840	158,763	287,906	148,373
CLAM, BLOODARC	743	113,270	104,888	212,229	98,894	129,765	131,809
SEA ROBINS	341	122,319	206,341	149,469	77,456	69,179	124,953
KELP, SUGAR	833	0	C	101,571	99,301	256,646	114,380
PERCH, WHITE	506	135,060	139,261	79,294	99,326	110,288	112,646
OYSTERS	789	0	44,590	79,442	106,065	144,679	93,694
PUFFER, NORTHERN	429	91,413	102,934	100,913	70,606	82,403	89,654
CATFISH (SEA)	069	122,786	94,736	C	50,650	42,502	77,669
EEL, CONGER	116	44,874	47,459	57,568	90,772	49,060	57,947
SCALLOP, BAY	799	0	0	C	C	65,554	21,851

## Top 25 Unmanaged Finfish Species Annual Landings, 2015-2019

Report Run on: 2020-05-26.

For data reported through 2020-05-25. Values are in pounds.

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Common Name	Code	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Avg
<b>CATFISH, BLUE</b>	067	3,697,016	4,123,309	5,199,117	5,093,158	4,981,704	4,618,861
<b>HAGFISH</b>	150	2,204,603	1,871,105	1,558,251	C	C	1,877,986
<b>OTHER FISH</b>	526	1,810,527	1,291,616	656,646	844,650	752,707	1,071,229
<b>STRIPED MULLET</b>	235	612,729	461,742	778,353	832,924	896,851	716,520
<b>WHITING, KING</b>	197	564,373	582,919	814,345	327,756	482,838	554,446
<b>TUNA, LITTLE</b>	468	212,072	220,244	279,355	232,494	239,774	236,788
<b>JOHN DORY</b>	188	206,857	209,695	246,233	122,198	102,405	177,478
<b>HARVEST FISH</b>	165	237,082	209,841	172,931	130,037	99,179	169,814
<b>CUTLASSFISH, ATLANTIC</b>	99	183,313	61,042	50,840	158,763	287,906	148,373
<b>SEA ROBINS</b>	341	122,319	206,341	149,469	77,456	69,179	124,953
<b>PERCH, WHITE</b>	506	135,060	139,261	79,294	99,326	110,288	112,646
<b>PUFFER, NORTHERN</b>	429	91,413	102,934	100,913	70,606	82,403	89,654
<b>CATFISH (SEA)</b>	069	122,786	94,736	C	50,650	42,502	77,669
<b>EEL, CONGER</b>	116	44,874	47,459	57,568	90,772	49,060	57,947
<b>CUSK</b>	096	82,397	58,323	56,440	48,825	42,866	57,770
<b>BONITO</b>	033	69,033	47,030	51,819	41,514	63,550	54,589
<b>SILVERSIDE, NK</b>	363	61,286	120,019	37,976	28,314	14,196	52,358
<b>HERRING (NK)</b>	167	C	49,567	C	C	54,697	52,132
<b>SILVERSIDE, ATLANTIC</b>	362	20,810	32,470	23,132	16,805	63,417	31,327
<b>SPADEFISH</b>	381	21,664	23,690	35,844	25,988	30,454	27,528
<b>HERRING, RIVER</b>	170	24,427	C	C	C	C	24,427
<b>RIBBONFISH</b>	098	36,573	15,376	11,615	6,459	49,400	23,885
<b>HERRING, ATL THREAD</b>	174	C	C	30,482	11,515	13,432	18,476
<b>RAY, COWNOSE</b>	285	C	C	C	C	16,924	16,924
<b>DOGFISH (NK)</b>	350	28,858	C	0	4,255	C	11,038

## MAFMC Ecosystem Component Species Annual Landings, 2015-2019

Report Run on: 2020-05-26.

For data reported through 2020-05-25. Values are in pounds.

Cells marked with a 'C' are confidential. Averages do not include confidential data.

Other ecosystem component species had no reported commercial landings during 2015-2019.

Common Name	Code	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Avg
<b>MOLLUSKS NK</b>	804	619,872	96,249	179,234	169,826	103,077	233,652
<b>SILVERSIDE, NK</b>	363	61,286	120,019	37,976	28,314	14,196	52,358
<b>HERRING (NK)</b>	167	C	49,567	C	C	54,697	52,132
<b>SILVERSIDE, ATLANTIC</b>	362	20,810	32,470	23,132	16,805	63,417	31,327
<b>HERRING, ATL THREAD</b>	174	C	C	30,482	11,515	13,432	18,476
<b>SQUIDS, LOLIGINIDAE</b>	803	659	10,940	4,526	C	1,393	4,380
<b>EEL, SAND (LAUNCE)</b>	206	3,367	C	C	C	C	3,367
<b>HERRING, ROUND</b>	166	0	0	C	C	70	23
<b>ARGENTINE</b>	171	C	0	0	0	0	C
<b>BAY ANCHOVY</b>	006	C	C	C	C	C	C

## Species with Increasing Rank of Unmanaged Landings Every Year During 2017-2019

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For data reported through 2020-05-25. Values are in pounds.

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Common Name	Code	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Avg
<b>CONCHS</b>	775	2,666,958	1,066,324	1,234,770	2,368,253	2,434,252	1,954,111
<b>CRAB, BLUE</b>	700	2,580,077	3,450,444	0	1,070,692	1,605,269	1,741,296
<b>CUTLASSFISH, ATLANTIC</b>	99	183,313	61,042	50,840	158,763	287,906	148,373
<b>OYSTERS</b>	789	0	44,590	79,442	106,065	144,679	74,955
<b>PERCH, WHITE</b>	506	135,060	139,261	79,294	99,326	110,288	112,646
<b>SILVERSIDE, ATLANTIC</b>	362	20,810	32,470	23,132	16,805	63,417	31,327
<b>SHRIMP (PENAEID)</b>	738	C	C	C	12,629	44,624	28,627
<b>WHELK, WAVED</b>	779	23,508	11,360	984	6,195	42,037	16,817
<b>SHRIMP (MANTIS)</b>	737	358	12,171	8,203	13,378	37,279	14,278
<b>CLAM SURF, ARTIC</b>	765	0	C	0	C	8,965	2,988
<b>GOOSEFISH, BLACKFIN</b>	13	1,610	1,330	C	4,474	7,329	3,686
<b>SEA ROBIN, ARMORED</b>	343	C	C	C	C	2,774	2,774
<b>TRIGGERFISH, GRAY</b>	457	0	0	C	898	2,093	748
<b>PUFFERS</b>	431	206	1,590	497	1,194	1,777	1,053
<b>MACKEREL, BULLET</b>	131	0	0	0	C	C	C