
















## Stock Status of MAFMC-Managed Species

(as of 5/23/23)

SPECIES	STATUS DETERMINATION CRITERIA		Stock Status	Most Recent Assessment
	Overfishing $F_{\text{threshold}}$	Overfished $\frac{1}{2} B_{\text{MSY}}$		
 <b>Summer Flounder</b>	$F_{35\%MSP}=0.422$	60.87 million lbs	No overfishing Not overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2021.
 <b>Scup</b>	$F_{40\%MSP}=0.200$	99.23 million lbs	No overfishing Not overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2021.
 <b>Black Sea Bass</b>	$F_{40\%MSP}=0.46$	15.92 million lbs	No overfishing Not overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2021.
 <b>Bluefish</b>	$F_{35\%SPR}=0.181$	222.37 million lbs	No overfishing Overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2021. Dec 2022 research track review – stock status will be updated with 2023 management track assessment.
 <b>Illex Squid (short finned)</b>	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown Unknown	2022 research track assessment failed, but peer review agreed likely “lightly fished in 2019,” though with cautions.
 <b>Longfin Squid</b>	Unknown	46.7 million lbs	Unknown Not overfished	Most recent assessment update was 2020; not able to determine current exploitation rates.
 <b>Atlantic Mackerel</b>	$F_{40\%}=0.22$	199.6 million pounds	Overfishing Overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2021.
 <b>Butterfish</b>	$F_{\text{Proxy}}=2/3M=0.81$	43.5 million lbs	No overfishing Not overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2022.

SPECIES	STATUS DETERMINATION CRITERIA		Stock Status	Most Recent Assessment
	Overfishing $F_{\text{threshold}}$	Overfished $\frac{1}{2} B_{\text{MSY}}$		
<b>Chub Mackerel</b> 	At least 3,026 MT of catch per year	At least 3,026 MT of catch three years in a row	No overfishing Not overfished	No stock assessment.
<b>Surfclam</b> 	$F/F_{\text{threshold}} = 1^a$	$SSB/SSB_{\text{threshold}} = 1^b$	No overfishing Not overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2020.
<b>Ocean Quahog</b> 	$F/F_{\text{threshold}} = 1^c$	$SSB/SSB_{\text{threshold}} = 1^d$	No overfishing Not overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2020.
<b>Golden Tilefish</b> 	$F_{40\%MSP} = 0.261$	12.12 million lbs	No overfishing Not overfished	Most recent management track assessment was 2021.
<b>Blueline Tilefish</b> 	Unknown	Unknown	South of Cape Hatteras: No overfishing Not overfished  North of Cape Hatteras: Unknown Unknown	Most recent benchmark assessment was 2017.
<b>Spiny Dogfish</b> (Joint mgmt with NEFMC) 	$F_{\text{MSY}} = 0.2439$	175.6 million lbs Female SSB	No overfishing Not overfished	Most recent assessment was 2018. Stock status will be updated with 2023 management track assessment. 2022 research track assessment indicated declining biomass.
<b>Monkfish</b> (Joint mgmt with NEFMC) 	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown Unknown	Survey biomass trends evaluated in 2022 Management Track Assessment.

SOURCES: Office of Sustainable Fisheries - Status Report of U.S. Fisheries; SAW/SARC, SEDAR, TRAC Assessment Reports, NEFSC Research and Management Track Stock Assessments.

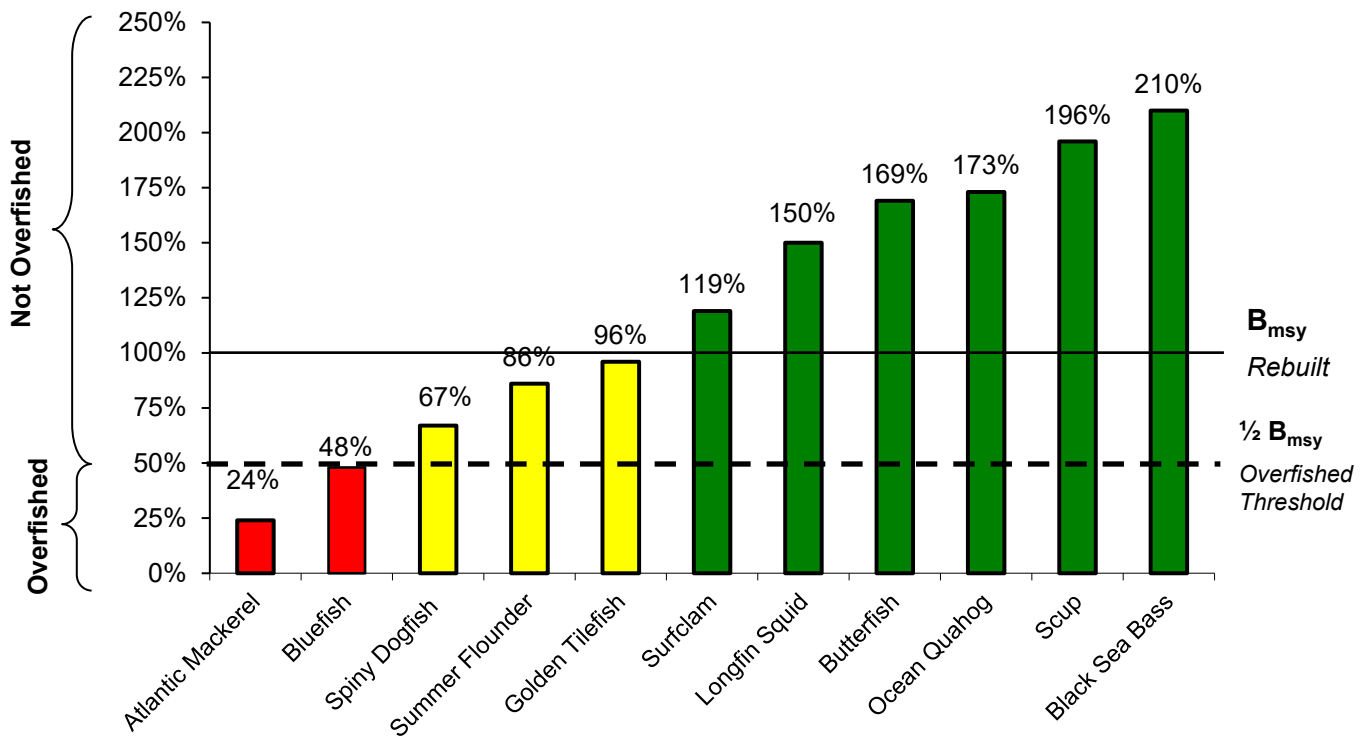
<sup>a</sup>  $F_{\text{threshold}}$  is calculated as 4.136 times the mean F during 1982 – 2015.

<sup>b</sup>  $SSB_{\text{threshold}}$  is calculated as  $SSB_0/4$ .

<sup>c</sup>  $F_{\text{threshold}}$  is 0.019.

<sup>d</sup>  $SSB_{\text{threshold}}$  is calculated as  $0.4 * SSB_0$ .

## Stock Size Relative to Biological Reference Points (as of 5/23/23)



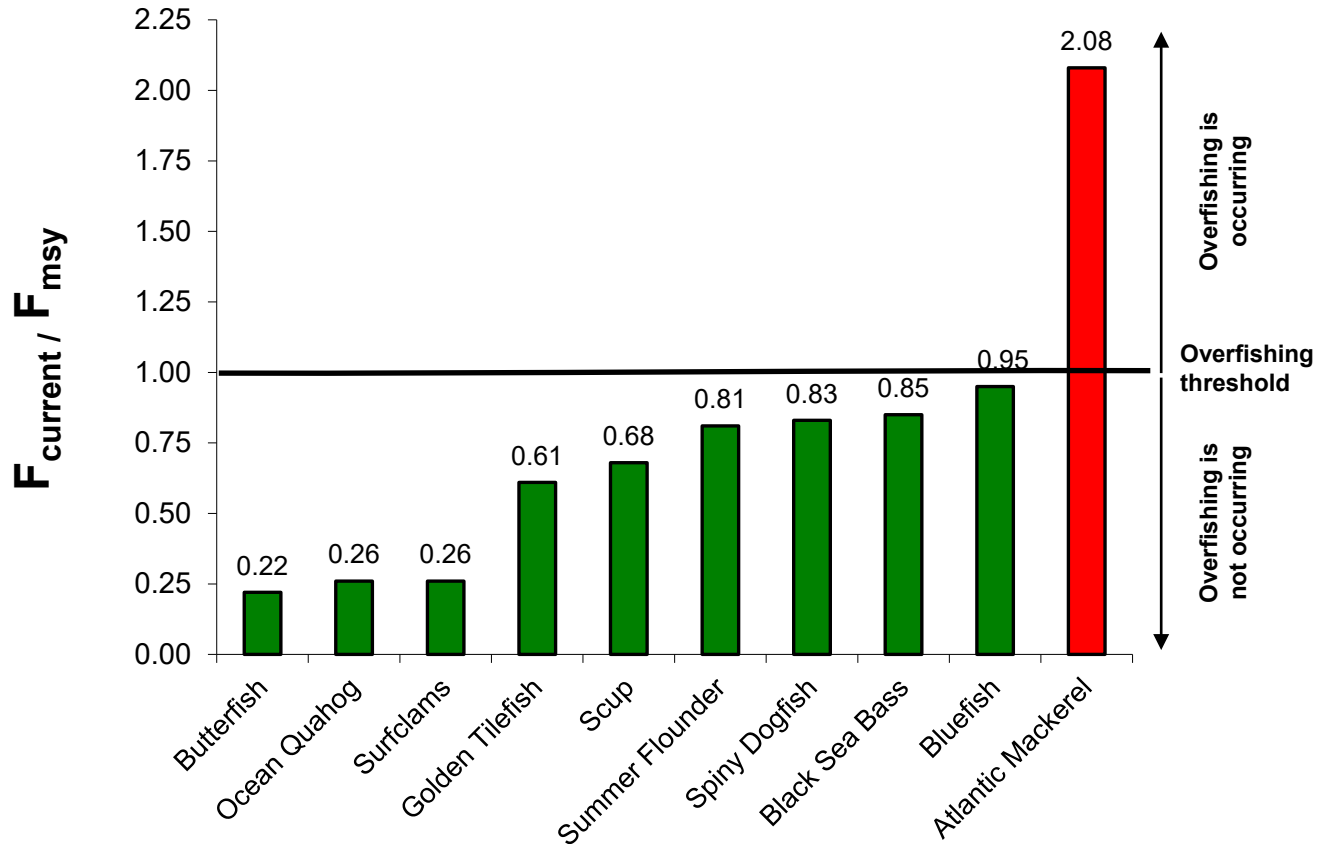
### Notes:

- Unknown  $B_{msy}$  - *Illex* squid, monkfish (NFMA & SFMA), blueline tilefish (North of Cape Hatteras), and chub mackerel.
- Of the 15 species managed by the Council, 6 are above  $B_{msy}$ , 5 are below  $B_{msy}$ , and 4 are unknown.

Year of data used to determine stock size	
Atlantic Mackerel	2019
Black Sea Bass	2019
Bluefish	2019
Butterfish	2021
Golden Tilefish	2020
Longfin Squid	2018-2019 (average)
Ocean Quahog	2019
Spiny Dogfish	2018
Surfclam	2019
Scup	2019
Summer Flounder	2019

## Fishing Mortality Ratios for MAFMC-Managed Species

(as of 5/23/23)



**Notes:**

- Unknown fishing mortality: *Illex* squid, Longfin squid, monkfish (NFMA and SFMA), blueline tilefish (North of Cape Hatteras), and chub mackerel.
- Of the 15 species managed by the Council, 9 are above  $F_{msy}$ , 1 is above, and 5 are unknown.

Year of data used to determine fishing mortality	
Atlantic Mackerel	2019
Black Sea Bass	2019
Bluefish	2019
Butterfish	2021
Golden Tilefish	2020
Ocean Quahog	2019
Spiny Dogfish	2017
Surfclam	2019
Scup	2019
Summer Flounder	2019



# Status of Council Actions Under Development

AS OF 5/23/23

FMP	Action	Description	Status	Staff Lead
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass and Bluefish	Recreational Harvest Control Rule 2.0 Framework/Addenda	The Recreational Harvest Control Rule Framework (approved June 2022) modified the process for setting recreational management measures for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, and bluefish (once bluefish is no longer in a rebuilding plan). The new "Percent Change Approach" will sunset no later than the end of 2025. This action will consider a new process to be implemented in time for use in setting 2026 recreational measures. <a href="https://www.mafmc.org/actions/hcr-framework-addenda">https://www.mafmc.org/actions/hcr-framework-addenda</a>	An FMAT/PDT has been formed. The Council and ASMFC's Policy Board are tentatively scheduled to receive an update and discuss next steps at the August 2023 meeting.	Beaty
	Recreational Sector Separation and Catch Accounting Amendment	This amendment considers (1) options for managing for-hire recreational fisheries separately from other recreational fishing modes and (2) options related to recreational catch accounting, such as private angler reporting and enhanced vessel trip report requirements for for-hire vessels. <a href="https://www.mafmc.org/actions/recreational-reform-initiative">https://www.mafmc.org/actions/recreational-reform-initiative</a>	An FMAT is being formed to begin development of issues for consideration and a draft scoping document. The Council and ASMFC's Policy Board are tentatively scheduled to review a draft scoping document in December 2023.	Dancy/Hart
Mackerel, Squid, Butterfish	<i>Illex</i> Vessel Hold Capacity Framework	This framework will consider measures to restrict future increases in capacity in the <i>Illex</i> squid fishery. Specifically, this framework will consider implementing a volumetric vessel hold baseline requirement and an upgrade restriction for all <i>Illex</i> limited access permits. <a href="https://www.mafmc.org/actions/illex-vessel-hold-capacity-framework">https://www.mafmc.org/actions/illex-vessel-hold-capacity-framework</a>	The Council initiated this framework at the April 2023 Council Meeting. June Committee and Advisory Panel meeting will develop alternatives. FW Mtg 1 planned for Aug and final action at FW Mtg 2 in October	Didden
Surfclam and Ocean Quahog	Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Species	As surfclams have shifted toward deeper water in recent years, catches including both surfclams and ocean quahogs have become more common. Current regulations do not allow surfclams and	In December 2022 the Council reviewed public comments and agreed to postpone final action to	Coakley/Montañez

FMP	Action	Description	Status	Staff Lead
	Separation Requirements Amendment	ocean quahogs to be landed on the same trip or in the same tagged cage. The Council is developing and Amendment to modify species separation requirements in these fisheries in the short-term. In addition, staff/NEFSC will explore longer term solutions for monitoring (such as electronic monitoring testing on the clam survey). <a href="https://www.mafmc.org/actions/scoq-species-separation">https://www.mafmc.org/actions/scoq-species-separation</a>	allow time for development of additional alternatives. The FMAT is continuing to work on alternative development in 2023.	
Omnibus	Omnibus Essential Fish Habitat Amendment	This action is an opportunity to utilize the best available fish habitat science to improve EFH designations and support the Council's fish habitat conservation efforts while supporting the EFH consultation process. The consultation process plays an important role in addressing the impacts of non-fishing projects (such as wind energy projects) on fish habitat. This action will concurrently conduct the 5-year EFH review required under the Magnuson Stevens Act while amending fishery management plans for the Council, as needed. <a href="https://www.mafmc.org/actions/omnibus-efh-amendment">https://www.mafmc.org/actions/omnibus-efh-amendment</a>	An FMAT was formed in January 2023. The FMAT will begin the EFH Review and development work for EFH and HAPC designations alternatives. The EOP Committee and Advisory Panel will meet to review technical approaches being considered in early fall 2023.	Coakley
Dogfish and Monkfish	Framework to Reduce the Bycatch of Atlantic Sturgeon	This action was initiated due to the 2021 Biological Opinion (BiOp) that considered the effects of ten FMPs on ESA listed species. The BiOp requires that sturgeon bycatch be reduced in federal large mesh gillnet fisheries, however it does not prescribe specific measures or a target percentage of bycatch reduction. <a href="https://www.mafmc.org/actions/sturgeon-bycatch-framework">https://www.mafmc.org/actions/sturgeon-bycatch-framework</a>	Initiated in December 2022. NEFMC and MAFMC staff are co-leading the FMAT/PDT. The Councils are scheduled to approve a range of alternatives for this action at their June Meetings	Cisneros

# Timeline and Status of Recent MAFMC Actions and Amendments/Frameworks Under Review

As of 5/23/23

The table below summarizes the status of actions after they have been approved by the Council. For information about the status of Council actions under development, please see the document titled "Status of Council Actions Under Development."

Title	Action Number	Council Approval	Initial Submission	Final Submission	NOA Published	Proposed Rule	Approval/Disapproval Letter	Final Rule	Regs Effective	Notes
Black Sea Bass Commercial State Allocation Amendment	SFSBSB Amd 23	8/4/21	11/19/21	9/14/22	5/4/23	5/15/23				

# Timeline and Status of Current and Upcoming Specifications for MAFMC Fisheries

As of 5/23/23

Current Specifications	Year(s)	Council Approval	Initial Submission	Final Submission	Proposed Rule	Final Rule	Regs Effective	Notes
Golden Tilefish	2022-2024	8/11/21	10/7/21	4/22/22	9/14/22	11/10/22	11/9/22	
Blueline Tilefish	2022-2024	4/7/21	10/20/21	5/5/22	8/2/22	11/3/22	12/5/22	
Surfclam and Ocean Quahog	2021-2026	8/12/20	9/2/20	2/24/21	2/17/21	5/13/21	6/14/21	
Longfin Squid	2021-2023	8/10/20	10/14/20	7/2/21	5/26/21	7/22/21	7/22/21	
Butterfish	2023-2024	6/8/22	9/8/22	2/17/23	3/7/23			expected soon
Illex Squid	2023	8/10/22	11/10/22	2/15/23	3/7/23			expected soon
Atlantic Mackerel (including RH/S cap)	2023	6/8/22	8/19/22	10/27/22	11/2/22	2/2/23	2/1/23	
Chub mackerel	2023-2025	6/8/22	9/8/22	2/17/23	3/7/23			
Bluefish	2023	8/8/22	9/22/22	10/26/22	11/15/22	12/21/22	1/1/23	
Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass	2023	8/9/22	9/28/22	10/26/22	12/6/22	1/3/23	1/1/23	
Spiny Dogfish	2023	10/5/22	1/13/23	3/7/23	3/9/23	5/3/23	5/1/23	

## Recreational Management Measures

Current Management Measures	Year(s)	Council Approval	Initial Submission	Final Submission	Proposed Rule	Final Rule	Regs Effective	Notes
Summer flounder rec measures	2023	12/13/22	2/21/23	2/21/23	3/30/23			
Black sea bass rec measures	2023	12/13/22	2/21/23	2/21/23	3/30/23			
Scup rec measures	2023	12/13/22	2/21/23	2/21/23	3/30/23			
Bluefish rec measures	2022-2023	12/13/21	1/23/20	3/19/20	5/25/20	6/29/20	6/29/20	Reviewed in 2022. No changes from previous year's measures.