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United States Research Report for 2025

by

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Abstract

This report summarizes United States fishery and research information for NAFO Subareas 3 to 6 for 2025, following the National Research Report format in the NAFO Guidelines for SCS Documents (NAFO 2021) and the structure used in the United States Research Report for 2023 (Sosebee 2024). Commercial catches are taken directly from the preliminary United States STATLANT 21A submission for 2025, which reports nominal catch, which is defined by U.S. as commercial and recreational landings, in metric tons by species and NAFO Division. Total reported United States nominal catch in 2025 was 745,988 t, of which 698,170 t (93.6%) was assigned to Subareas 3 to 6. Subarea 6 accounted for 422,743 t and Subarea 5 for 272,514 t; Div. 6B (307,048 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (130,684 t), Div. 5Y (105,404 t) and Div. 6A (99,514 t) were the principal fishing areas. Catches were dominated by molluscs and crustaceans, with Atlantic menhaden, northern quahog, Atlantic sea scallop, ocean quahog, Atlantic surf clam, American lobster and American cupped oyster each exceeding 40,000 t. Because the STATLANT series reports a wider range of species than earlier national research reports, more species are presented here than in Sosebee (2024). Autumn bottom-trawl biomass indices for 2025 remained low for all four Atlantic cod units, Georges Bank and Southern New England yellowtail flounder, American plaice and thorny skate, while Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine yellowtail flounder increased. Ecosystem status, environmental conditions and research studies are summarized from the State of the Ecosystem 2026: New England report (NEFSC 2026) and the fiscal year 2025 survey programme.

Introduction

This report presents the annual national research report of the United States to the NAFO Scientific Council. Its purpose is to summarize, in the format set out in Appendix 1 of the NAFO Guidelines for SCS Documents (NAFO 2021), the status of United States fisheries in NAFO Subareas 3 to 6 during 2025 and the special research studies undertaken by United States institutions during the same period. The report is intended as a summary document; detailed presentations of individual studies are provided in the Research Document (SCR) series and in the primary literature.

Two changes from recent national research reports should be noted. First, commercial catch information is reported directly from the preliminary United States STATLANT 21A submission for 2025, which is the statistical return the United States provides annually to NAFO. This places the fishery statistics in this report on the same basis as the catch statistics used by the Scientific Council, and allows catches to be presented by NAFO Division as required by Appendix 1 of the Guidelines. Second, because the STATLANT 21A submission covers all species reported in the United States commercial catch record rather than only the assessed groundfish, flatfish and elasmobranch stocks treated in earlier reports, a larger number of species and species groups is presented here than in the United States Research Report for 2023 (Sosebee 2024).

Ecosystem, environmental and stock-status context is drawn from the State of the Ecosystem 2026: New England report (NEFSC 2026), which synthesizes indicators for the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank ecological production units and is updated with data available as of January 2026. Fishery-independent survey indices are drawn from the United States bottom trawl survey presentation to the Standing Committee on Research Coordination (Brown 2026); full survey design, execution and sampling summaries are provided in the companion research document (Lipsky 2026).

A. Status of the Fisheries (Subareas 3–6 Inclusive)

Commercial catch statistics in this report are taken from the preliminary United States STATLANT 21A submission for calendar year 2025. Catches are reported as nominal catch in metric tons (live weight) by species and by NAFO Division. Landings are prorated among Divisions using auditing and allocation procedures applied to dealer and vessel reports. Revised sampling and reporting protocols were implemented in the Northeast Region in 1994, 2004, 2010 and 2020, and the auditing and allocation procedures remain subject to change. The 2025 values are therefore provisional and may be revised in subsequent submissions.

Catch is reported for Div. 3K, Div. 4X, Div. 5Y, Subdiv. 5Zu (the United States portion of Div. 5Ze), Div. 5Zw, and Div. 6A, 6B, 6C and 6D. Two additional categories appear in the submission and are excluded from Subarea 3 to 6 totals throughout this report: catch reported from outside the Convention Area, south of Subarea 6 (1,724.9 t, 0.2% of total reported catch), catch for which no Division could be assigned[1] (46,093.3 t, 6.2% of total reported catch). The unassigned component is concentrated in inshore, state-water and estuarine fisheries and in species for which a substantial share of the catch is landed by vessels not reporting statistical area. It is material for a small number of species, and for those species both the Subarea 3 to 6 total and the total reported catch are given below.

Comparisons with earlier years require care. The 2025 STATLANT 21A submission was the only year of statistical data available when this report was prepared, and a directly comparable 2024 submission was not available. Where a comparison is useful, the 2025 catch is therefore compared with the 2023 value published in the United States Research Report for 2023 (Sosebee 2024). These are two-year comparisons, not year-over-year changes, and the two values may not rest on identical area-assignment conventions. They are given as context only and should not be read as annual rates of change.

Most spring and autumn survey indices for 2009 to 2025 were converted from FSV Henry B. Bigelow catch weights to RV Albatross IV catch weights using either a single conversion factor or length-specific conversion factors, which have been estimated for only some species. Consequently these data points should be interpreted cautiously and may change as new methodologies are considered. In 2014 the spring survey did not cover a large portion of the Mid-Atlantic region; in 2017 the autumn survey did not cover the Southern New England to Mid-Atlantic region and was conducted from FSV Pisces, a sister ship of FSV Henry B. Bigelow. The spring 2020 survey was only partially completed and no autumn 2020 survey was conducted because of COVID-19. The spring 2023 survey sampled only Georges Bank stations during daytime hours. In autumn 2025, station density was reduced in parts of the Gulf of Maine and eastern Georges Bank, which increases uncertainty in the terminal-year values for affected indices.

Since 2012 the United States has been transferred quota for Div. 3LNO yellowtail flounder from Canada, and from 2012 to 2021 at least one vessel fished in the area. The United States did not have a vessel fish in the NAFO Regulatory Area in 2025.

Summary of 2025 nominal catches by NAFO Division

Total United States nominal catch reported for 2025 was 745,988.4 t, of which 698,170.2 t (93.6%) was taken in Subareas 3 to 6 (Table 1). Subarea 6 accounted for 422,742.7 t (60.5% of the Subarea 3 to 6 total) and Subarea

[1] Here and all other areas of this report that summarize catch for which no NAFO division could be assigned indicates catch (landings and discards) reported from Marine Recreational Information Program and any aquaculture landings, e.g., Atlantic Salmon, reported to NMFS.

5 for 272,514.0 t (39.0%). Catch in Subarea 4 was 2,889.0 t (0.4%), all in Div. 4X, and catch in Subarea 3 was 24.5 t (less than 0.01%), all in Div. 3K.

At the Division level, Div. 6B was the largest single reporting area at 307,048.3 t (44.0% of the Subarea 3 to 6 total), reflecting the Chesapeake Bay and Delmarva menhaden, hard clam, oyster and blue crab fisheries. Subdiv. 5Zu followed at 130,684.1 t (18.7%), dominated by the Georges Bank sea scallop fishery; Div. 5Y at 105,404.2 t (15.1%), dominated by American lobster; Div. 6A at 99,513.5 t (14.3%), dominated by surfclam and ocean quahog; Div. 5Zw at 36,425.7 t (5.2%); and Div. 6C at 16,175.1 t (2.3%). Catch in Div. 6D was negligible at 5.8 t.

By species group (Table 2), clams, quahogs, oysters and other molluscs accounted for 288,103.8 t in Subareas 3 to 6, followed by small pelagic and anadromous finfishes (140,890.5 t, almost entirely Atlantic menhaden), sea scallops (80,679.0 t), lobsters, crabs and other crustaceans (79,986.5 t), squids (32,920.9 t), gadoids and other groundfishes (24,329.5 t), other coastal, estuarine and reef finfishes (14,245.6 t), skates and rays (11,577.7 t) and flatfishes (7,049.5 t). The traditionally assessed groundfish, flatfish and elasmobranch stocks that formed the subject of earlier national research reports together account for less than 6% of the total reported United States catch in the Convention Area.

Seven species each exceeded 40,000 t: Atlantic menhaden (133,263.0 t in Subareas 3 to 6), northern quahog (117,298.8 t), Atlantic sea scallop (80,358.4 t), ocean quahog (69,068.0 t), Atlantic surf clam (50,085.6 t), American lobster (49,211.2 t) and American cupped oyster (41,811.6 t). Catches of the principal species by Division are given in Table 3, and the complete species list is given in Table 4. A total of 240 species and species categories was reported.

Several categories in the submission require verification before the statistics are finalized and are identified in Section A.25.

1. Atlantic Cod

United States nominal catch of Atlantic cod (Gadus morhua) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 375.3 t, taken principally in Div. 5Y (226.0 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (148.0 t), with minor amounts in Div. 4X (0.6 t), Div. 5Zw (0.5 t) and Div. 6A (0.2 t). A further 51.0 t of unassigned landings was reported, giving a total reported catch of 426.3 t. For comparison, catch reported for 2023 was 836 t (Sosebee 2024).

Northeast Fisheries Science Center autumn research vessel survey biomass indices were very low for all four cod management units in 2025 (Brown 2026). The eastern Gulf of Maine index declined from 0.15 kg/tow in 2024 to 0.03 kg/tow in 2025 and has remained near historic lows since about 2010 (Figure 1). The western Gulf of Maine index declined from 1.64 to 0.60 kg/tow and remains near the low end of its series, with a truncated age structure and low recruitment (Figure 2). The Georges Bank index declined from 0.67 to 0.05 kg/tow with little evidence of rebuilding (Figure 3). Cod have been nearly absent from the Southern New England survey index for several decades (Figure 4). The four United States management units overlap but do not coincide exactly with Div. 5Y, Subdiv. 5Zu, Div. 5Zw and Subarea 6.

Cooler ocean temperatures near long-term averages prevailed across New England in 2025 and may benefit cold-water species such as cod, although no response is evident in the survey indices to date (NEFSC 2026).

2. Haddock

United States nominal catch of haddock (Melanogrammus aeglefinus) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 2,594.5 t, taken principally in Subdiv. 5Zu (1,304.8 t) and Div. 5Y (1,257.6 t), with 31.7 t in Div. 4X and 0.4 t in Div. 5Zw. A further 333.1 t was reported without a Division assignment, giving a total reported catch of 2,927.6 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 5,156 t (Sosebee 2024).

An updated haddock biomass index was not presented in Brown (2026) and no haddock survey figure is included here. The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report indicates that aggregate benthivore survey biomass recently peaked because of a large haddock recruitment event and appears to be returning to average levels. Spring maturity observations indicate that spawning by both haddock stocks now occurs earlier in the year, as shown by an increasing proportion of resting-stage mature females in the spring survey. Fall phytoplankton

blooms, which have increased over time in both the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank, have been associated with increased recruitment in haddock (NEFSC 2026).

3. Redfish

United States nominal catch of Acadian redfish (Sebastes fasciatus) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 4,064.2 t, taken principally in Div. 5Y (2,697.8 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (1,326.7 t), with 35.9 t in Div. 4X, 2.8 t in Div. 6A and 1.0 t in Div. 6B. A further 31.0 t was reported without a Division assignment, giving a total reported catch of 4,095.2 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 3,162 t (Sosebee 2024).

Autumn research vessel survey biomass indices increased from the mid-1990s to a record-high value in 2010 and have generally decreased since. Most recently, the index decreased by 34% from 11.95 kg/tow in 2024 to 7.91 kg/tow in 2025 (Figure 5). The 2025 value remains above the low values observed during portions of the 1980s and 1990s but is well below the higher observations of the 2010s and below the series mean. Reduced autumn station density in parts of the Gulf of Maine and eastern Georges Bank should be considered when interpreting the terminal-year change (Brown 2026).

4. Pollock (USA Waters of Areas 5 and 6 stock)

United States nominal catch of pollock (Pollachius virens) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 2,386.5 t, taken principally in Div. 5Y (1,792.8 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (397.6 t), with 196.1 t in Div. 4X. A further 177.9 t was reported without a Division assignment, giving a total reported catch of 2,564.4 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 3,402 t (Sosebee 2024).

Brown (2026) did not include an updated pollock biomass index and no pollock survey figure is included here. The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report describes mixed recent trends in the Georges Bank piscivore guild and below-average productivity across evaluated managed species in 2025; these aggregate signals should not be interpreted as a stock-specific pollock biomass estimate (NEFSC 2026).

5. White Hake

United States nominal catch of white hake (Urophycis tenuis) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 1,708.7 t, taken principally in Div. 5Y (1,405.7 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (257.1 t), with 45.4 t in Div. 4X and trace amounts in Div. 5Zw and Div. 6A. A further 13.6 t was reported without a Division assignment, giving a total reported catch of 1,722.3 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 1,952 t (Sosebee 2024).

The autumn survey biomass index increased by 26% from 3.80 kg/tow in 2024 to 4.77 kg/tow in 2025 (Figure 6). The 2025 value is close to the 2016 to 2025 mean of approximately 4.35 kg/tow but remains below the series mean and far below the peak observed near 1980. The series has been markedly variable since the early 2000s (Brown 2026).

6. Yellowtail Flounder

United States nominal catch of yellowtail flounder (Limanda ferruginea) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 181.4 t, taken almost entirely in Div. 5Y (177.6 t), with 3.7 t in Subdiv. 5Zu and 0.1 t in Div. 5Zw. Catch reported for 2023 was 283 t (Sosebee 2024). There was no catch from Div. 3N by United States vessels in 2025.

The three stock-area survey indices diverged in 2025 (Brown 2026). The Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine index increased by 58% from 6.41 kg/tow in 2024 to 10.15 kg/tow in 2025, placing 2025 among the higher observations in that series (Figure 7). The Georges Bank index declined from 0.21 to 0.16 kg/tow and remains near a series low (Figure 8). The Southern New England index remained effectively zero following a prolonged decline from historical levels (Figure 9).

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report indicates that spawning by all three yellowtail flounder stocks has shifted earlier in the year, and that Southern New England-Mid-Atlantic recruitment and settlement are related to the strength of the Mid-Atlantic Bight Cold Pool, a combination of extent and persistence. The correlation of pre-recruit settlers with the Cold Pool is thought to represent a bottleneck in yellowtail flounder life history, and the inclusion of environmental covariates on recruitment has been shown to reduce retrospective patterns and improve predictive skill in the assessment model. Cold Pool indices were near or above the long-term

average in 2025 (NEFSC 2026), which provides a favourable habitat context but does not by itself imply recruitment recovery.

7. Other Flounders

United States nominal catch of flounders other than yellowtail flounder and Atlantic halibut in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 totalled 6,725.2 t, comprising summer flounder (Paralichthys dentatus; 3,472.8 t, 51.6%), American plaice (Hippoglossoides platessoides; 1,510.7 t, 22.5%), witch flounder (Glyptocephalus cynoglossus; 1,048.8 t, 15.6%), winter flounder (Pseudopleuronectes americanus; 664.3 t, 9.9%, comprising the Georges Bank, Southern New England and Gulf of Maine stocks) and windowpane flounder (Scophthalmus aquosus; 28.6 t, 0.4%, comprising the northern and southern stocks). A further 3,217.3 t of this group was reported without a Division assignment, almost all of it summer flounder, giving a total reported catch of 9,953.4 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 8,411 t (Sosebee 2024); the comparison is sensitive to the treatment of unassigned catch and should be treated with caution.

Summer flounder was taken principally in Div. 6A (1,631.3 t) and Div. 5Zw (1,335.2 t). American plaice was taken in Div. 5Y (1,248.0 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (254.3 t), witch flounder in Div. 5Y (779.4 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (257.7 t), and winter flounder in Subdiv. 5Zu (463.6 t) and Div. 5Y (162.9 t). Small catches of southern flounder (Paralichthys lethostigma; 55.2 t), bastard halibuts not elsewhere identified (Paralichthys spp.; 46.4 t) and fourspot flounder (Paralichthys oblongus; 1.6 t) were also reported and are additional to the totals above.

American plaice autumn survey biomass declined by 58% from 2.23 kg/tow in 2024 to 0.94 kg/tow in 2025, near the bottom of the 1980 to 2025 series (Figure 10). Witch flounder declined by 34% from 1.21 to 0.80 kg/tow and remains below early historical values (Figure 11). Brown (2026) did not present updated indices for summer flounder, winter flounder or windowpane flounder. The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report classifies witch flounder and Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank windowpane flounder among stocks of unknown or partially known status, and reports long-term declines in spring macrobenthos abundance, an important prey field for flatfish (NEFSC 2026).

8. Atlantic Halibut

United States nominal catch of Atlantic halibut (Hippoglossus hippoglossus) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 39.7 t, taken in Div. 5Y (29.9 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (7.8 t), Div. 4X (1.7 t), Div. 3K (0.2 t) and Div. 5Zw (0.1 t). Catch reported for 2023 was 35.4 t (Sosebee 2024). The Div. 3K record is discussed in Section A.25.

Brown (2026) did not include an updated Atlantic halibut index. Survey indices for this species show little trend and high interannual variability because of the low capture rate; in some years no Atlantic halibut are caught, indicating that abundance is close to the detection limit of the survey. The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report identifies Northwest Atlantic Coast Atlantic halibut among stocks of unknown or partially known status, and catch trends should therefore not be interpreted as an abundance indicator (NEFSC 2026).

9. Silver Hake

United States nominal catch of silver hake (Merluccius bilinearis) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 4,782.8 t, taken principally in Div. 5Zw (2,392.5 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (1,693.8 t), Div. 6A (477.6 t) and Div. 5Y (213.1 t). A further 34.9 t was reported without a Division assignment, giving a total reported catch of 4,817.7 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 4,459 t (Sosebee 2024). A further 4.3 t of offshore silver hake (Merluccius albidus) was reported separately.

Brown (2026) did not include an updated silver hake biomass index. The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report describes silver hake as highly abundant in the Gulf of Maine, with stable energy density across spring and autumn, providing a moderate-energy forage resource. Reduced prey energy density is identified as a risk to spawning success and recruitment in silver hake itself. Silver hake revenue from trips within active offshore wind project areas shows a significant long-term decline (NEFSC 2026).

10. Red Hake

United States nominal catch of red hake (Urophycis chuss) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 196.2 t, taken in Div. 5Zw (108.3 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (40.0 t), Div. 6A (33.6 t), Div. 5Y (13.3 t) and Div. 6B (1.0 t). A further 247.5 t, more than half the reported catch of this species, was reported without a Division assignment, giving a total reported catch of 443.7 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 266 t (Sosebee 2024). The large unassigned fraction means that the Subarea 3 to 6 figure understates United States red hake catch and that neither figure is directly comparable with 2023.

Brown (2026) did not include an updated red hake index. The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report identifies both the Gulf of Maine/northern Georges Bank and southern Georges Bank/Mid-Atlantic red hake units among stocks of unknown or partially known status. Red hake shows one of the higher fishery overlaps with active offshore wind project areas, with up to 8.64% of maximum annual regional landings and 5.57% of maximum annual regional revenue occurring within those areas during 2008 to 2024 (NEFSC 2026).

11. Butterfish

United States nominal catch of Atlantic butterfish (Peprilus triacanthus) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 1,503.2 t, taken principally in Div. 5Zw (862.9 t), Div. 6A (325.0 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (205.8 t) and Div. 6B (107.5 t). Total reported catch was 1,503.4 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 1,816 t (Sosebee 2024).

Brown (2026) did not include an updated butterfish biomass index. The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report notes that autumn butterfish abundance has increased over the last five years in both the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank, providing an additional high-energy prey option for predators. Preliminary analyses indicate that years dominated by small copepods and warmer spring temperatures may improve fish condition for butterfish and Atlantic mackerel; this association should be treated as a working hypothesis rather than a stock-status conclusion (NEFSC 2026).

12. Spiny Dogfish

United States nominal catch of spiny dogfish (Squalus acanthias) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 3,849.0 t, taken principally in Div. 6C (1,910.2 t), Div. 6B (967.6 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (655.3 t) and Div. 6A (261.4 t), with smaller amounts in Div. 5Y (36.9 t) and Div. 5Zw (17.6 t). A further 8.7 t was reported without a Division assignment, giving a total reported catch of 3,857.7 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 4,971 t (Sosebee 2024). The distribution of catch is markedly southern, with 82% taken in Subarea 6.

A further 364.3 t of dusky smooth-hound (Mustelus canis) was reported in Subareas 3 to 6, principally in Div. 6A (224.0 t) and Div. 6C (62.8 t), together with 84.6 t without a Division assignment.

Brown (2026) did not include an updated spiny dogfish index. Spiny dogfish is jointly managed and is included in the State of the Ecosystem stock-status synthesis (NEFSC 2026).

13. Skates

United States nominal catch of skates in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 totalled 11,576.7 t, an increase relative to the 10,415 t reported for 2023 (Sosebee 2024). The catch is sold as wings for human consumption and as bait for the lobster fishery. Reporting by species continues to improve: 500.7 t, or 4.3% of the total, was reported as rays and skates not elsewhere identified, principally from Div. 5Zw (377.0 t) and Div. 6A (104.6 t).

Winter Skate

Reported catch of winter skate (Leucoraja ocellata) in Subareas 3 to 6 was 8,052.8 t, taken principally in Subdiv. 5Zu (4,390.5 t), Div. 5Zw (2,285.1 t) and Div. 6A (1,335.0 t), with minor amounts in Div. 5Y, Div. 6B, Div. 4X and Div. 6C. This is an increase relative to the 6,226 t reported for 2023. Survey biomass indices peaked in the mid-1980s, declined, stabilized at an intermediate level during the mid-1990s and have since remained at a slightly higher level with peaks in 2009, 2019 and 2023. Adjustments for missing strata in autumn 2017 in the south and in 2018 in the north were described in SCS Doc. 19/15.

Little Skate

Reported catch of little skate (Leucoraja erinacea) in Subareas 3 to 6 was 2,609.1 t, taken principally in Div. 5Zw (2,179.8 t) and Div. 6A (427.6 t). This is similar to the 2,675 t reported for 2023. Survey indices have generally fluctuated without trend. Little skate shows the highest fishery overlap with active offshore wind project areas of any species assessed, with a maximum of 7.42% of annual regional landings and 12.94% of annual regional revenue taken within those areas during 2008 to 2024 (NEFSC 2026).

Barndoor Skate

Reported catch of barndoor skate (Dipturus laevis) in Subareas 3 to 6 was 295.8 t, taken principally in Div. 5Zw (250.9 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (31.3 t), an increase relative to the 220 t reported for 2023. Landings of this species have been permitted since 2018. Survey indices declined markedly in the mid-1960s and remained very low through the late 1980s before increasing to a series high in 2018; subsequent years remain similar to early 1960s levels. A maximum of 11.45% of annual regional landings and 11.07% of annual regional revenue occurred within active offshore wind project areas during 2008 to 2024 (NEFSC 2026).

Thorny Skate

Thorny skate (Amblyraja radiata) is reported in the STATLANT 21A submission under the FAO name starry ray. A possession prohibition has been in effect in United States waters since 2003, but small quantities continue to be reported because of the high-volume nature of the fishery. Reported catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 1.6 t, taken in Div. 5Y (0.9 t) and Div. 5Zw (0.7 t), compared with 0.7 t reported for 2023. Survey indices have declined over the entire series and remain near record lows; the autumn index increased from 0.07 kg/tow in 2024 to 0.11 kg/tow in 2025 but remains far below early historical values (Figure 12).

Smooth Skate

Reported catch of smooth skate (Malacoraja senta) in Subareas 3 to 6 was 103.0 t, taken in Div. 5Zw (62.3 t), Div. 6A (38.3 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (1.5 t) and Div. 6B (0.9 t). This is a substantial decrease relative to the 713.4 t reported for 2023. A possession prohibition has been in effect in the Gulf of Maine (Div. 5Y) since 2003, although landings are permitted elsewhere; no smooth skate catch was reported from Div. 5Y in 2025. Survey indices are highly variable but were generally stable from the 1980s through 2016 and have been lower in recent years.

Clearnose Skate

Reported catch of clearnose skate (Raja eglanteria) in Subareas 3 to 6 was 13.7 t, taken principally in Div. 6A (12.0 t), with a further 19.2 t reported without a Division assignment, giving a total reported catch of 32.9 t. Catch reported for 2023 was 26.2 t. Indices generally increased between 1995 and 2010 and have been mostly stable over the last decade.

Rosette Skate

No catch of rosette skate (Leucoraja garmani) was reported in 2025. Reported catch was also zero in 2022 and 2023 (Sosebee 2024).

14. American Angler (Goosefish)

United States nominal catch of American angler (Lophius americanus) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 6,053.9 t, taken principally in Div. 5Y (3,941.1 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (1,540.2 t) and Div. 5Zw (364.9 t), with smaller amounts in Div. 6A (104.9 t) and Div. 4X (98.5 t). This species was not reported separately in the United States Research Report for 2023.

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report identifies both the Gulf of Maine/northern Georges Bank and southern Georges Bank/Mid-Atlantic goosefish units among stocks of unknown or partially known status, and identifies goosefish among predators for which reduced prey energy density may lower condition and reproductive output. Maximum annual revenue from trips within active offshore wind project areas was approximately USD 1.1 million for the monkfish fishery, the second highest of any fishery assessed, representing a maximum of

4.66% of annual regional landings and 3.23% of annual regional revenue; monkfish revenue within lease areas shows a significant long-term decline (NEFSC 2026).

15. Squids

United States nominal catch of northern shortfin squid (Illex illecebrosus) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 19,273.9 t, taken principally in Div. 6B (12,963.9 t), Div. 6C (2,844.5 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (1,941.5 t) and Div. 5Zw (1,221.5 t), with 301.9 t in Div. 6A. Catch of longfin squid (Doryteuthis pealeii) in Subareas 3 to 6 was 13,644.5 t, taken principally in Div. 6A (5,193.6 t), Div. 5Zw (5,047.3 t) and Div. 6B (2,568.9 t). Neither species was reported separately in the United States Research Report for 2023. Combined squid catch was the fifth largest species group reported in Subareas 3 to 6.

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report records that Illex squid, together with Atlantic mackerel and northern sand lance, were observed in higher abundance and over wider distributions in 2025 than in recent years, in association with the anomalously cool conditions on the shelf. Longfin squid and northern shortfin squid are identified as moderate-energy forage species providing a stable but lower energy-density food supply, with abundance generally lower in the Gulf of Maine than on Georges Bank. Longfin squid reached laboratory-derived aragonite saturation sensitivity limits in nearshore New Jersey waters during summer 2025, although overall ocean acidification risk was lower than in 2023 and 2024 (NEFSC 2026).

16. Small Pelagic and Anadromous Finfishes

Atlantic menhaden (Brevoortia tyrannus) was the single largest component of the United States catch reported in the Convention Area in 2025, at 133,263.0 t in Subareas 3 to 6. Catch was taken principally in Div. 6B (109,715.7 t), Div. 5Y (16,060.8 t) and Div. 6A (7,261.9 t), with smaller amounts in Div. 5Zw and Div. 6C, and a further 203.5 t without a Division assignment.

Atlantic herring (Clupea harengus) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 3,136.6 t, taken principally in Div. 5Y (1,764.0 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (1,304.3 t). Atlantic mackerel (Scomber scombrus) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 1,559.0 t, taken principally in Div. 5Y (840.0 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (343.7 t) and Div. 5Zw (282.1 t), with a further 1,819.5 t reported without a Division assignment. Alewife (Alosa pseudoharengus) catch was 1,002.3 t, taken in Div. 5Y (908.0 t) and Div. 4X (94.3 t). American gizzard shad (Dorosoma cepedianum; 277.3 t), American shad (Alosa sapidissima; 12.6 t), hickory shad (Alosa mediocris; 32.9 t) and Atlantic chub mackerel (Scomber colias; 43.1 t) were also reported. None of these species was reported separately in the United States Research Report for 2023.

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report identifies alewife, Atlantic mackerel and Atlantic herring as the highest-energy forage species in New England. Alewife provides the highest energy density in the Gulf of Maine during autumn; Atlantic mackerel shows higher abundance and energy density in the Gulf of Maine than on Georges Bank in autumn; and Atlantic herring provides a consistent year-round energy source with values varying between spring-spawning and autumn-spawning groups. Autumn forage biomass in New England is stable, with a long-term increase in the spring Gulf of Maine index, although the benefit of increased biomass may be offset by lower prey energy density, particularly at higher water temperatures when predator metabolic demands increase. The combined autumn centre of gravity of 20 forage fish species has moved north and east since 1982 (NEFSC 2026).

17. Other Coastal and Estuarine Finfishes

Several coastal and estuarine species managed by the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council or by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission are reported in the STATLANT 21A submission and were not covered in the United States Research Report for 2023. For these species a substantial share of the catch is reported without a Division assignment, and both figures are given.

Scup (Stenotomus chrysops) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 6,452.0 t, principally in Div. 6A (3,607.9 t) and Div. 5Zw (1,904.0 t), with a further 5,113.4 t unassigned (total 11,565.4 t). Black sea bass (Centropristis striata) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 2,186.9 t, with a further 3,002.2 t unassigned (total 5,204.4 t). Striped bass (Morone saxatilis) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 1,982.4 t, principally in Div. 6B (1,369.2 t), with a further 4,971.0 t unassigned (total 6,953.4 t). Tautog (Tautoga onitis) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 129.2 t, with a further 4,353.3

t unassigned (total 4,482.5 t). Spot croaker (Leiostomus xanthurus), bluefish (Pomatomus saltatrix), Atlantic croaker (Micropogonias undulatus), red drum (Sciaenops ocellatus), white perch (Morone americana), Atlantic Spanish mackerel (Scomberomorus maculatus) and sheepshead (Archosargus probatocephalus) were each reported at between 200 t and 2,700 t total, again with large unassigned components. Individual values are given in Tables 3 and 4.

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report records several observations for these species in 2025. Anglers reported delayed inshore migration of black sea bass and a southward winter migration of scup along routes similar to those used in the early 1970s, both attributed to cooler temperatures. Bluefish landings in Rhode Island were reported as very low in 2025, attributed to changes in seasonal migration path or timing. Chesapeake Bay anglers reported low catch of red drum and cold-stunned red drum and spotted seatrout in 2025 following good catches in 2024. Several years of low striped bass recruitment remain a management concern, with the juvenile index still well below the long-term average despite a slight increase in 2025 (NEFSC 2026).

18. Tilefishes

United States nominal catch of golden tilefish (Lopholatilus chamaeleonticeps) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 811.9 t, taken principally in Div. 6A (418.1 t) and Div. 5Zw (340.9 t), with a further 1,631.9 t reported without a Division assignment and 20.8 t reported outside the Convention Area, giving a total reported catch of 2,464.6 t. Blueline tilefish (Caulolatilus microps) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 50.0 t, with a further 137.2 t unassigned (total 189.1 t). Neither species was reported separately in the United States Research Report for 2023.

19. Highly Migratory Species

Tunas, swordfish, billfishes and pelagic sharks are managed by the National Marine Fisheries Service Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Management Division and, internationally, through the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas. Catch in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 comprised Atlantic bluefin tuna (Thunnus thynnus; 855.6 t, with a further 1,393.9 t unassigned and 51.5 t outside the Convention Area), yellowfin tuna (Thunnus albacares; 275.0 t in Subareas 3 to 6, 1,624.1 t total), swordfish (Xiphias gladius; 214.2 t in Subareas 3 to 6, 343.2 t total), bigeye tuna (Thunnus obesus; 196.1 t) and albacore (Thunnus alalunga; 22.6 t in Subareas 3 to 6, 159.4 t total). Reported catch of sharks other than spiny dogfish and dusky smooth-hound totalled 116.3 t, dominated by thresher (Alopias vulpinus; 25.1 t), spinner shark (Carcharhinus brevipinna; 23.5 t) and Atlantic sharpnose shark (Rhizoprionodon terraenovae; 21.3 t).

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report notes that an analysis of recreational fishing data from 2019 to 2022 identified substantial shifts in the timing of highly migratory species catches, with bigeye tuna caught 50 days earlier and small and large bluefin tuna caught 38 and 80 days earlier respectively in Massachusetts. The Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Climate Vulnerability Assessment found that 57 of 58 highly migratory species and stocks have high or very high potential to shift distributions. Recreational shark landings have generally decreased for most shark groups through 2024, driven by regulatory changes implemented in 2018 and the closure of the shortfin mako fishery in 2022. Members of the fishing industry reported 2025 as a very good year for billfish, and the Large Pelagics Survey recorded a record year for white marlin with more than 23,000 fish caught and released; billfish effort may have been elevated because of the closure of the recreational bluefin tuna fishery in August 2025 (NEFSC 2026).

20. American Sea Scallop

United States nominal catch of Atlantic sea scallop (Placopecten magellanicus) in Subareas 3 to 6 in 2025 was 80,358.4 t, the third largest single-species catch reported. Catch was taken principally in Subdiv. 5Zu (61,715.3 t, 76.8% of the Subarea 3 to 6 total), Div. 6A (8,780.6 t), Div. 5Y (5,534.1 t) and Div. 5Zw (3,165.4 t), with smaller amounts in Div. 6B (710.7 t), Div. 4X (412.6 t), Div. 3K (1.5 t) and Div. 3K (1.5 t). A further 119.8 t was reported without a Division assignment. Atlantic bay scallop (Argopecten irradians) catch was 320.6 t, principally in Div. 5Zw. Sea scallop was not reported in the United States Research Report for 2023.

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report records that Mid-Atlantic scallops in the Elephant Trunk region are showing positive signs following the documented die-off, with good survival of two-year-old animals observed

in 2024 into the 2025 survey, and that the region is scheduled to reopen in 2026. Good survival of 2024 recruits was also observed in the southeastern Nantucket Lightship Area in 2025. In contrast, large numbers of the scallop predator Asterias vulgaris were linked to increased sea scallop mortality on Georges Bank in 2024 and 2025. Sea scallop is sensitive to ocean acidification; although overall risk was lower in 2025 than in 2023 and 2024, bottom aragonite saturation reached laboratory-derived sensitivity limits for scallops on the New Jersey outer shelf in spring 2025. Maximum annual revenue from trips within active offshore wind project areas exceeded USD 8.7 million for the sea scallop fishery, the highest of any fishery assessed, and scallop revenue within lease areas shows a significant long-term decline (NEFSC 2026).

21. Clams, Quahogs, Oysters and Other Molluscs

Molluscan shellfish other than scallops and squids accounted for 288,103.8 t in Subareas 3 to 6, the largest species group reported. Northern quahog or hard clam (Mercenaria mercenaria) catch was 117,298.8 t, taken overwhelmingly in Div. 6B (114,462.4 t). Ocean quahog (Arctica islandica) catch was 69,068.0 t, taken principally in Subdiv. 5Zu (32,974.3 t) and Div. 6A (32,627.0 t). Atlantic surf clam (Spisula solidissima) catch was 50,085.6 t, taken principally in Div. 6A (31,726.6 t) and Subdiv. 5Zu (9,966.1 t). American cupped oyster (Crassostrea virginica) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 41,811.6 t, taken principally in Div. 6B (28,722.4 t), Div. 5Y (6,699.2 t) and Div. 6C (3,685.9 t). Blue mussel (Mytilus edulis; 3,750.1 t) and sand gaper or softshell clam (Mya arenaria; 3,649.7 t) were taken principally in Div. 5Y. Channeled whelk (Busycotypus canaliculatus; 1,028.0 t), knobbed whelk (Busycon carica; 620.5 t) and conch shells not elsewhere identified (442.5 t) were also reported. None of these species was reported in the United States Research Report for 2023.

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report notes that not all aquaculture production is included in total seafood landings, and that the Northeast region produced approximately 6,300 t of aquacultured shellfish in 2022 with a value of USD 133 million. The extent to which aquaculture-origin product is included in the northern quahog, American cupped oyster and blue mussel records in the STATLANT 21A submission should be verified before the statistics are finalized (see Section A.25).

22. American Lobster, Crabs and Other Crustaceans

Crustacean catch in Subareas 3 to 6 totalled 79,986.5 t. American lobster (Homarus americanus) catch was 49,211.2 t, taken principally in Div. 5Y (42,083.4 t, 85.5% of the species total), with 4,969.0 t in Subdiv. 5Zu, 948.0 t in Div. 4X, 751.9 t in Div. 5Zw, 385.1 t in Div. 6A and small amounts elsewhere including 18.5 t reported in Div. 3K. Blue crab (Callinectes sapidus) catch was 21,654.5 t, taken principally in Div. 6B (19,246.5 t) and Div. 6C (2,044.7 t). Jonah crab (Cancer borealis) catch was 6,032.1 t, taken principally in Div. 5Zw (3,090.6 t), Subdiv. 5Zu (1,372.1 t) and Div. 5Y (1,197.7 t). Red crab (Chaceon quinquedens; 1,569.6 t), Atlantic rock crab (Cancer irroratus; 656.7 t), horseshoe crab (Limulus polyphemus; 655.1 t) and green crab (Carcinus maenas; 114.1 t) were also reported. None of these species was reported in the United States Research Report for 2023.

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report identifies red deepsea crab among stocks of unknown or partially known status. In the Gulf of Maine, American lobster increasingly dominates total landings and revenue, and the report identifies this reliance on a single species as a constraint on the adaptive capacity of the regional fishery. Fishers in the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank gave mixed reports of lobster abundance in 2025. In Chesapeake Bay, colder than average winter temperatures in 2025 were reported by state agencies as a likely cause of higher blue crab mortality relative to the previous winter (NEFSC 2026).

23. Seaweeds, Sea Urchins and Miscellaneous Invertebrates

North Atlantic rockweed (Ascophyllum nodosum) catch in Subareas 3 to 6 was 5,323.2 t, taken almost entirely in Div. 5Y. Other seaweeds reported included seaweeds not elsewhere identified (281.8 t), babberlocks (Alaria esculenta; 8.4 t), dulse, sea lettuce, nori and tangle. Sea urchins (253.8 t) were taken in Div. 5Y (144.7 t) and Div. 4X (108.4 t). Bloodworm (Glycera dibranchiata; 71.2 t) and marine worms (69.0 t) were reported from Div. 5Y. Aquatic invertebrates not elsewhere identified totalled 1,735.3 t in Subareas 3 to 6, principally in Div. 6C, with a further 472.2 t reported outside the Convention Area.

24. Inland and Tidal-Fresh Water Species

The STATLANT 21A submission includes 4,678.2 t of freshwater and tidal-fresh water species assigned to Div. 6B and Div. 6C, together with a further 2,828.5 t reported without a Division assignment. The largest component is blue catfish (Ictalurus furcatus), at 3,975.5 t in Subareas 3 to 6 and 6,116.1 t in total, followed by channel catfish (Ictalurus punctatus; 606.7 t in Subareas 3 to 6, 1,237.1 t total). Common carp, American yellow perch, largemouth and smallmouth black bass, bluegill, flathead catfish, snakehead, grass carp, gars and river and lake turtles were also reported in small quantities.

These records originate largely in the tidal-fresh reaches of Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries rather than in marine waters of the Convention Area. Blue catfish is an invasive species in Chesapeake Bay, and the State of the Ecosystem 2026 report identifies its continued presence and its effect on blue crab, alosine, menhaden and striped bass populations as a management concern (NEFSC 2026). Whether these records should be included in the STATLANT 21A return is discussed in Section A.25.

25. Reported Catch Considerations

Five features of the preliminary 2025 submission should be considered for understanding.

First, 5,839.3 t of Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) is reported without a Division assignment. Directed commercial fishing for Atlantic salmon is prohibited in United States waters and the Gulf of Maine distinct population segment is listed as endangered under the United States Endangered Species Act. As previously noted, this record represents aquaculture production. It is excluded from all Subarea 3 to 6 totals in this report and is shown separately in Table 2.

Second, 24.5 t is reported from Div. 3K, comprising American lobster (18.5 t), Jonah crab (3.9 t), Atlantic sea scallop (1.5 t), Atlantic rock crab (0.4 t) and Atlantic halibut (0.2 t). There is no United States fishery for these species in Div. 3K and these records are likely an area-coding artefact.

Third, 46,093.3 t, or 6.2% of total reported catch are recreational landings or aquaculture, as appropriate, and not assigned to a Division. The unassigned component is concentrated in Atlantic salmon, scup, striped bass, tautog, black sea bass, summer flounder, blue catfish, great northern tilefish, bluefish, spot croaker, Atlantic mackerel and the tunas. For red hake, tautog, striped bass and great northern tilefish the unassigned fraction exceeds half the reported catch, which limits the interpretation of the Division-level values for those species.

Fourth, catches of northern quahog, American oyster and blue mussel are aquaculture-origin products that are included alongside commercial catch.

Fifth, the submission includes 7,506.7 t of freshwater and tidal-fresh water species (Section A.24), and 1,724.9 t reported from outside the Convention Area, south of Subarea 6. Both categories are excluded from the Subarea 3 to 6 totals used in this report.

26. Ecosystem Context, Stock Status and Outlook

Long-term declines in total commercial landings, United States seafood landings and New England Fishery Management Council-managed landings continue in both the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank (Figure 13). The decline is broad across feeding guilds. Current Gulf of Maine benthivore landings are supported principally by American lobster and Georges Bank benthos landings by clams and scallops, while planktivore and piscivore landings remain among the lowest observations in their respective series. Aggregate trawl-survey biomass, in contrast, has been mostly stable or increasing in both regions, indicating that declining landings are more consistent with changes in the abundance of targeted species, species composition, rebuilding constraints and market conditions than with a uniform reduction in ecosystem biomass (NEFSC 2026).

Single-species management objectives are not being met for a substantial part of the managed portfolio. Seventeen stocks are estimated to be below their biomass targets and 10 below their biomass thresholds, and the status of 12 stocks is unknown or only partially known, including Gulf of Maine Atlantic salmon, Northwest Atlantic Coast Atlantic halibut, both red hake units, both goosefish units, Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank windowpane flounder, Northwest Atlantic Coast witch flounder, Northwest Atlantic Coast offshore hake and Northwest Atlantic red deepsea crab (Figure 14). These stock conditions contribute to rebuilding measures

and lower catch limits; less conservative management would not necessarily produce sustainable increases in landings (NEFSC 2026).

Total commercial revenue from all species in 2024 was below the long-term mean on Georges Bank and near the long-term mean in the Gulf of Maine. Revenue from Council-managed species shows a long-term decline in the Gulf of Maine, while Georges Bank continues to exhibit a cyclical pattern driven by the rotational management of Atlantic sea scallops. The Gulf of Maine profit index returned to near its long-term average in 2024 with average costs and revenue; on Georges Bank, recent reductions in trip costs have partly compensated for low revenue. Recreational harvest in New England remains at a series low with a long-term decline, while recreational effort is below average with no long-term trend and recreational catch diversity has increased over time (NEFSC 2026).

The State of the Ecosystem 2026 report assesses both the fishery and the ecosystem as not stable in both the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank. On Georges Bank, an increasingly productive ecosystem from zooplankton to higher trophic levels coincides with low productivity of managed species, cyclic revenue and increasing reliance on a single species. In the Gulf of Maine, managed species productivity remains low while large zooplankton and planktivores increase, and an increasing proportion of total revenue is generated by the lobster fishery. The number of New England fishing communities has declined since 1996, commercial fleet count is below the series average, and crew survey results show an ageing fleet with few new entrants (NEFSC 2026).

Four points are relevant to the outlook for 2026. First, the combined centre of distribution of 48 commercially or ecologically important species on the Northeast Shelf continues to move north-eastward and into deeper water (Figure 15), and forage fish and small copepods show similar shifts; spatial quota allocations, survey footprints and seasonal closures may become progressively less aligned with current distributions. Second, managed-species productivity has been below the long-term survey average since 2020 and was below average for all evaluated managed species in 2025, so reference points and short-term projections may be misspecified if productivity change is not represented. Third, the 2026 seasonal forecast indicates a high probability of below-average surface and bottom temperatures during the winter months, with greater uncertainty in spring and summer and above-average conditions predicted for autumn, while MOM6 decadal forecasts suggest a tendency towards near-normal temperatures over the next decade. Fourth, community and fleet resilience remain constrained by declining participation, revenue concentration and dependence on environmentally sensitive species, with New England ports at moderate risk from environmental variability and no long-term trend in that risk (NEFSC 2026).

B. Special Research Studies

1. Environmental Studies

a) Hydrographic Studies

A total of 1,142 conductivity, temperature and depth profiles were collected and processed by the Northeast Fisheries Science Center during ship-based operations in 2025. Data are archived in a relational database and are publicly available through the World Ocean Database maintained by the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information and through the ERDDAP server maintained by the Northeast Fisheries Science Center. Cruise reports and annual hydrographic summaries are published by the Center. The fiscal year 2025 survey programme continued integrated hydrographic, temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, fluorescence and plankton sampling (NOAA Fisheries 2026; Lipsky 2026).

Hourly bottom temperature records continued to be obtained through the Environmental Monitors on Lobster Traps programme at fixed locations and depths around the Gulf of Maine and the Southern New England shelf, and through real-time bottom temperature reporting from commercial fishing vessels. Observations from both fixed and mobile gear are assimilated into regional ocean forecast models, and participating industry members receive weekly bottom temperature forecasts and a spatial representation of forecast performance over the preceding month.

Long-term indicators of sea surface temperature and Gulf Stream position remain elevated. Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank surface waters show significant warming trends in all seasons except winter, and bottom temperature has increased on Georges Bank in winter and spring and in the Gulf of Maine in spring and summer. The Mid-Atlantic Bight Cold Pool has warmed and contracted over the full record, and Cold Pool persistence has decreased relative to the 1960s (NEFSC 2026).

Conditions in 2025 differed sharply from the long-term trend. The Northeast United States region experienced colder than average ocean temperatures despite record warm global ocean and air temperatures. The Gulf Stream, which was shifted north of its long-term mean position over much of the last decade, has shifted southward since 2023 and remained close to its mean position, increasing the supply of Labrador Slope Water along the Northwest Atlantic shelf. Surface and bottom temperatures were cooler than or near average through much of 2025, and the Cold Pool was larger and colder than the recent average (Figure 16). Cooler ocean temperatures prevented marine heatwaves in the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank in 2025 (NEFSC 2026).

Marine cold spells were correspondingly frequent. Georges Bank experienced three surface and two bottom cold spells; the most significant surface event occurred in November and ranked as the eleventh strongest on record, and a bottom cold spell persisted for 71 days from early February. The Gulf of Maine recorded five surface and three bottom cold spells. A major surface event began on 6 February and lasted 42 days, with sea surface temperatures averaging 4.50 degrees C, nearly 1 degree C below the 2016 to 2025 average; the seventh strongest surface cold spell on record occurred in April and lasted 37 days. A Gulf of Maine bottom cold spell that began in December 2024 lasted 83 days with bottom temperatures averaging 7.5 degrees C, more than 1 degree C below the 2016 to 2025 average, and was the fifth strongest on record (NEFSC 2026).

Hurricane Erin was the most notable storm affecting the region in 2025. Although it did not make landfall in the Northeast, its strong winds and large size caused mixing and weakened stratification throughout the Mid-Atlantic, resulting in cooler than average surface waters across the shelf and into the Slope Sea, with coastal flooding and significant beach erosion from Maryland to Maine (NEFSC 2026).

A newly developed advection index shows total transport of water onto and off the continental shelf and can be linked to the survival of early life stages of fish and invertebrates. Long-term trends in New England show increased on-shelf movement of mid-layer and bottom waters in June, which could increase retention of some species. Further work is needed at the species level to link spawning timing and larval periods to the advection index at the corresponding depth and month (NEFSC 2026).

Ocean acidification risk reached record levels in 2024 and was moderated in 2025. By 2025 risk levels had decreased but still exceeded laboratory-derived biological sensitivity limits for Atlantic sea scallop on the New Jersey outer shelf in spring and reached sensitivity limits for longfin squid in nearshore New Jersey waters in summer. Gulf of Maine surface acidification risk in 2025 was below 2024 levels, with aragonite saturation state at or near the 2006 to 2024 climatological average. Cooler bottom temperatures persisted from 2024 into 2025, but higher salinity indicated a shift in water mass composition that resulted in lower overall acidification risk than in the previous two years (NEFSC 2026).

Aggregated demersal dissolved oxygen observations from glider deployments, fishery-independent surveys and cooperative ocean observing aboard commercial fishing vessels were examined together for the first time in 2025. Coastal hypoxia was observed in Narragansett Bay in September and October where water temperatures were warm and stagnant; no mass mortality events were reported by the fishing industry. Long-term shelf-wide observations are not yet available (NEFSC 2026).

b) Plankton Studies, Including Eggs and Larvae

Plankton sampling continued during 2025 through the bottom trawl, ecosystem monitoring and long-term ecological research surveys, covering the continental shelf between Cape Hatteras, North Carolina and the Gulf of Maine at different times of year. Tows were conducted using paired 61 cm and 20 cm bongo nets. Samples from the 61 cm nets were preserved for study of zooplankton and ichthyoplankton distribution and abundance, while the 20 cm nets provided larval fish and egg samples. Pteropod and dissolved inorganic carbon water samples were also collected during ecosystem monitoring surveys to examine the effects of increased acidity

on calcium carbonate shell formation. Slope Sea bluefin tuna ichthyoplankton work continued in fiscal year 2025 (Lipsky 2026).

Total primary production shows no clear long-term trend in New England, but 2025 production was below average on Georges Bank and in the Mid-Atlantic because of lower phytoplankton biomass and cooler sea surface temperatures. The winter-spring bloom, which typically accounts for a significant proportion of annual production, was shorter in duration and lower in magnitude across the entire Northeast shelf. The autumn bloom was above average in the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank but near average in the Mid-Atlantic. Over the longer term, chlorophyll concentrations have increased significantly in October and November on Georges Bank and in October and December in the Gulf of Maine, and fall blooms have been associated with increased recruitment in species such as haddock (NEFSC 2026).

Zooplankton composition continues to change. Small copepods have increased over the long term in the Gulf of Maine, and euphausiids have increased on Georges Bank and in the Gulf of Maine, while large-bodied copepods on Georges Bank have declined recently (Figure 17). Since 2023 the zooplankton community has reverted to compositions resembling the pre-1990 and 2000 to 2011 periods, with the most recent shift in Gulf of Maine community composition occurring in 2023; research is under way to determine the drivers and management implications of these shifts (NEFSC 2026).

Calanus finmarchicus abundance has declined in the Gulf of Maine following a shift in oceanographic conditions in 2008. This lipid-rich copepod can comprise 71% of total zooplankton biomass. Observations at the Wilkinson Basin Time Series station indicate that spring and summer abundance and biomass of Calanus in 2024 were comparable to 2005, but that late-stage abundance had declined by 64% in autumn and 71% in winter, and that overall mesozooplankton biomass in 2024 was only 27% of 2005 levels. Five factors are identified as driving the seasonal differences: late winter and early spring phytoplankton levels, which control reproductive output; source water origin, with higher concentrations in Scotian Shelf and Labrador Slope water than in warm slope water; variable currents, which determine transport and retention in deep basins; fluctuations in invertebrate predator populations; and higher summer and autumn temperatures, which increase predator metabolic demands (NEFSC 2026).

The uncommon presence of Arctic zooplankton species in the Gulf of Maine was among the observations linked to the shift to cooler waters in 2024 and 2025 (NEFSC 2026).

c) Benthic Studies

Benthic sampling continued through the sea scallop dredge survey, the HabCam optical survey and the cooperative Atlantic surfclam and ocean quahog dredge survey (Lipsky 2026).

Macrobenthos indices show long-term declines in spring, while megabenthos indices show long-term increases during autumn in both the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank (Figure 18). Macrobenthos are small bottom-dwelling invertebrates including polychaete worms, small crustaceans, non-commercial bivalves, gastropods, nemerteans, tunicates, cnidarians, brittle stars, sea cucumbers and sand dollars; megabenthos are larger non-federally-managed benthic invertebrates including crabs, decapods and sea stars. Fish productivity may therefore be negatively affected for flatfish and juvenile fish that target macrobenthos in spring, and positively affected for larger skates, hakes and gadids that target megabenthos. The megabenthos centre of gravity shows a short-term eastward trend in spring, while the macrobenthos centre of gravity has shifted west and south in spring (NEFSC 2026).

Mid-Atlantic scallops in the Elephant Trunk and southeastern Nantucket Lightship areas showed improved survival of recent recruits, while increased predation by the sea star Asterias vulgaris was associated with sea scallop mortality on Georges Bank in 2024 and 2025 (NEFSC 2026).

d) Observations on Ice Conditions in Subareas 0 to 4

No separate United States study of ice conditions in Subareas 0 to 4 is reported for 2025.

e) Other Environmental Studies

Seasonal and decadal ocean forecasts from the MOM6 modelling framework are being evaluated for their ability to anticipate operationally important shelf conditions. The 2026 seasonal forecast indicates a high probability of below-average surface and bottom temperatures in the winter months, with higher forecast uncertainty in spring and summer and above-average conditions predicted for autumn. Decadal forecasts suggest a tendency towards near-normal temperatures over the next decade because of decadal variability in regional circulation. These forecasts continue to be evaluated to determine how well they predict episodic and anomalous events outside long-term patterns, and MOM6 output will be incorporated into the forthcoming Climate Vulnerability Assessment 2.0 to help predict changes in species distributions and quantify species exposure to future change (NEFSC 2026).

Thermal habitat indicators show that in years such as 2012 a large proportion of the Georges Bank and Mid-Atlantic regions experienced bottom temperatures above the 15 degrees C thermal tolerance limit for most groundfish, with some days in the Mid-Atlantic exceeding the 24 degrees C potential mortality limit. Ocean summer conditions have been lasting longer over the long term because of an earlier spring thermal transition and a later autumn transition, although in 2025 the duration of ocean summer was near normal in the Gulf of Maine and shorter than normal on Georges Bank (NEFSC 2026).

2. Protected Species Assessments, Ecology, and Monitoring

a) Marine Mammal Stock Assessments and Acoustic Studies

Under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) updated Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) for 11 Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico marine mammal stocks (Hayes et al. 2025). Revised assessments incorporated updated abundance, minimum population, Potential Biological Removal (PBR), and human-caused mortality and serious injury estimates derived from line-transect survey data and observed fishery interactions (Hayes et al. 2025):

Harbor Porpoise (Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy Stock): The best abundance estimate generated from 2021 line-transect survey data covering U.S. and Canadian waters is 85,765 (CV = 0.53$), with an N_min of 56,420 and a calculated PBR of 649 porpoises per year (Hayes et al. 2025). Mean annual total human-caused M/SI for 2018-2022 was 142.4 animals (142 attributed to U.S. fisheries) (Hayes et al. 2025).

Gray Seal (Western North Atlantic Stock): The U.S. portion of the population is estimated at 27,911 animals ($CV = 0.20$), with an N_min of 23,624 and a U.S. PBR of 756 seals (Hayes et al. 2025). Total range-wide annual human-caused M/SI averaged 4,491 seals (1,275 attributed to U.S. fisheries) (Hayes et al. 2025).

Beaked Whales (Western North Atlantic Stocks): Species-specific abundance estimates were calculated for the first time using visual and passive acoustic monitoring improvements (Hayes et al. 2025). Best abundance ($N_best, minimum population (N_min), and PBR levels were established for Cuvier's beaked whale N_best = 4,670$; N_min = 3,817$; PBR = 38$) (Hayes et al. 2025), Blainville's beaked whale (N_best = 2,936$; N_min = 2,374$; PBR = 24$) (Hayes et al. 2025), Gervais' beaked whale (N_best = 8,595$; N_min = 7,022$; PBR = 70$) (Hayes et al. 2025), Sowerby's beaked whale (N_best = 492$; N_min = 340$; PBR = 3.4$) (Hayes et al. 2025), and True's beaked whale (N_best = 4,480$; N_min = 3,391$; PBR = 34$) (Hayes et al. 2025).

Bottlenose Dolphins: Updated SARs were completed for coastal Tamanend's bottlenose dolphin stocks (*Tursiops erebennus*), including the South Carolina/Georgia Coastal (N_best = 9,121$; PBR = 54$) (Hayes et al. 2025), Northern Florida Coastal (N_best = 3,619$; PBR = 20$) (Hayes et al. 2025), and Central Florida Coastal (N_best = 2,541$; PBR = 13$) stocks (Hayes et al. 2025). The first capture-mark-recapture abundance estimate was established for the Biscayne Bay common bottlenose dolphin stock (*Tursiops truncatus*) at N_best = 241$ ($CV = 0.04$), N_min = 233$, and PBR = 1.7$ (Hayes et al. 2025).

Passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) under the Atlantic Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species (AMAPPS) III provided additional insights into deep-diving odontocete abundance and foraging ecology (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025):

Sperm Whales: Three-dimensional localization of sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) vocalizations from the 2021 survey yielded a preliminary acoustic abundance estimate of 556 animals ($SE = 91.29$, $CV = 0.16$) across the survey area (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Mean foraging dive depth was determined to be 610 m

(weighted $SD = 270\text{ m}$) (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Pairing dive profiles with 18 kHz and 38 kHz active echosounder backscatter indicated foraging focus near deep scattering layers containing both gas-bearing and non-gas-bearing organisms (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).

Beaked Whales & Kogiidae: AMAPPS acoustic transects recorded 53 goose-beaked (Cuvier's), 42 True's, 10 True's/Gervais', and 7 Sowerby's beaked whale events (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Significantly fewer beaked whale detections occurred when active echosounders were operating (13 events) compared to passive mode (99 events) (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Development of matched click template classifiers continued to improve automated identification for dwarf and pygmy sperm whales (*Kogia* spp.) (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).

Large Whale & Cetacean Density Surface Modeling: Bayesian hierarchical density surface models were developed for fin, humpback, minke, sei, and sperm whales to evaluate seasonal density patterns and quantify exposure probabilities relative to Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) (Sigourney et al. in review; NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). North Atlantic right whale density models were validated against 492 stationary PAM recorders ($r = 0.46$) (Roberts et al. 2024), while multi-trophic modeling in the Great South Channel revealed increasing humpback whale densities tied to shifts in prey biomass (squid, small gadids) (Roberts et al. in press; NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Long-term line-transect analyses (1998–2021) demonstrated significant poleward range shifts across multiple odontocete species driven by warming ocean temperatures (Hirtle et al. in review; NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).

b) Sea Turtle Ecology, Tagging, and Density Surface Modeling

Research on sea turtle ecology and spatial distribution expanded through satellite telemetry, dive behavior analysis, and density surface modeling (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025):

Satellite Telemetry and Fieldwork: In 2024, 43 satellite tags were deployed on loggerhead sea turtles (*Caretta caretta*) across three field operations: off North Carolina in March (8 tags) and in the Mid-Atlantic Bight during June/July (35 tags) (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Biological samples (scute, blood, skin, cloacal lavage) were collected for health, genetic, and contaminant analyses (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Dedicated leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) tagging operations were conducted south of Nantucket in August/September 2024 (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).

Density Surface Modeling & Abundance Trends: Two-step density surface models utilizing 2010–2021 survey data and environmental covariates (latitude, sea surface temperature, bathymetry, oceanographic fronts) mapped seasonal distributions for loggerhead, green (*Chelonia mydas*), Kemp's ridley (*Lepidochelys kempii*), and leatherback sea turtles (Chavez-Rosales et al. in review; DiMatteo et al. 2024; NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Model time-series revealed significant interannual variability between 2010 and 2020, with stabilization in loggerhead and green turtle abundances observed from 2020 through 2024 (Chavez-Rosales et al. in review; NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).

Surfacing & Diving Behavior: Integration of high-resolution animal-borne camera/satellite tags with machine learning algorithms demonstrated that mean percent time at the surface provides the most reliable metric for correcting visual survey availability bias (Rogers et al. 2024; NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Hidden Markov modeling of satellite-tracked leatherbacks identified novel, key foraging hotspots displaying area-restricted search behavior within the Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Bights, alongside known foraging grounds in Southern New England (Rider et al. 2024a; NEFSC and SEFSC 2025). Regional dive behavior models showed temperature-dependent variations, where leatherbacks in warmer waters (e.g., Gulf of Mexico and Mid-Atlantic Bight) performed deeper dives to cooler water layers for thermoregulation (Rider et al. 2024b; NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).

c) Pelagic Seabird Surveys and Ecosystem Monitoring

At-sea visual monitoring of pelagic seabirds continued in 2024 via standardized 300 m strip transect protocols aboard four Ecosystem Monitoring (EcoMon) research cruises covering shelf waters from North Carolina to Maine (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025):

- A total of 5,990 km of survey trackline was covered across three vessels (NOAA Ships *Gloria Michelle*, *Henry B. Bigelow*, and *Pisces*) (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).

- Surveys recorded over 17,000 seabirds representing dozens of species, dominated seasonally by Wilson's storm-petrels (*Oceanites oceanicus*), great shearwaters (*Puffinus gravis*), Cory's shearwaters (*Calonectris diomedea*), sooty shearwaters (*Puffinus griseus*), and Bonaparte's gulls (*Larus philadelphia*) (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).
- Concurrent observations recorded over 2,800 non-bird sightings, including marine mammals (common dolphins, bottlenose dolphins, fin whales, humpback whales, pilot whales), sea turtles, and large pelagic fish (NEFSC and SEFSC 2025).

2. Biological Studies

Fish productivity indicators derived from survey observations have been below the long-term average since 2020, and 2025 was below average for all evaluated managed species. A parallel analysis based on stock assessment model outputs shows relatively high productivity in the 1990s and relatively low productivity in the 2000s, expressed as a recruitment per spawning stock biomass anomaly. Productivity can be affected by parental condition, environmental conditions, the timing and availability of prey for recruits, and retention of recruits within favourable habitat; in years when offshore advection is high in the depth range and month in which a species spawns, productivity and recruitment may be reduced. Other signs of changing productivity in New England include declines in common tern chicks per nest at Gulf of Maine colonies and continued low overall Atlantic salmon abundance despite short-term increases in return rates and returning numbers (NEFSC 2026).

Fish condition in the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank regions was generally high to very high before 2000, low to very low from 2001 to 2010 and mixed since 2011. In 2025 condition was below or close to average for most species in both regions. Preliminary analyses indicate that years dominated by small copepods and warmer spring temperatures may improve condition for Atlantic mackerel and butterfish, and similar environmental drivers may be important for other species (NEFSC 2026).

Studies of forage energy content continued using samples collected from the spring and autumn bottom trawl surveys, focusing on Atlantic herring, alewife, silver hake, butterfish, northern sand lance, Atlantic mackerel, longfin inshore squid and northern shortfin squid. Energy density is predicted from percent dry weight using previously determined relationships and samples are analysed for proximate composition. Alewife, Atlantic mackerel and Atlantic herring are identified as the highest-energy species in New England; longfin squid, northern shortfin squid and silver hake provide a stable but lower energy-density supply; and northern sand lance offers intermediate energy but is available only in spring before burying in the seafloor to overwinter (NEFSC 2026).

Detailed sampling of fish reproduction and condition from the Cooperative Research Study Fleet programme continued in 2025, including gonad histology, fecundity and energetic condition estimates for flatfish and gadoids. Spring maturity sampling supports the spawning-timing indicator, which shows that both haddock stocks and all three yellowtail flounder stocks now spawn earlier in the year than earlier in the time series (NEFSC 2026).

Fish age determinations by the Fishery Biology Program continued in support of age-structured single-species and multi-species stock assessments for regions from the international boundary in the Gulf of Maine and on Georges Bank south through the middle United States Atlantic seaboard. The programme maintains quality assurance and quality control protocols covering accuracy against reference collections, intra-reader and inter-reader precision, and inter-agency exchanges of age structures with other laboratories for transboundary stocks. Results of these tests are posted publicly.

Collection of fish diet data as part of the long-term monitoring programme begun in 1973 continued in 2025, with estimates of prey volume and composition made primarily at sea for selected species. Diet sampling emphasized Gadiformes, elasmobranchs, small pelagics, flatfishes and lesser-known species. Modelling and analytical work continued to focus on species interactions among small pelagics, flatfish, elasmobranchs and gadiforms, on the trophic impact of species across marine habitats, on the overlap between predation, bottom fishing effort and effort displacement in relation to stock rebuilding and wind energy planning, and on incorporating fish consumption into stock assessments.

Apex Predators Program research continued on the migration patterns, age and growth, feeding ecology, reproductive biology and relative abundance trends of highly migratory species, particularly Atlantic sharks. Morphometric data and biological samples were collected opportunistically from incidental mortality during survey and commercial fishery operations and from beach strandings. The Cooperative Shark Tagging Program, the Cooperative Atlantic States Shark Pupping and Nursery survey and the Coastal Shark Bottom Longline Survey continued to provide mark-recapture, distribution and life history information used in Southeast Data Assessment and Review and International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas assessments.

Protected species monitoring indicates that bycatch objectives are being met for harbor porpoise, for which the average bycatch index remains below the potential biological removal threshold, and for gray seals, for which the range-wide United States and Canadian potential biological removal is 12,052 animals and the United States portion is 756 animals. The North Atlantic right whale population has exhibited slow growth since 2020 but continues to experience annual mortalities above recovery thresholds, with approximately 70 reproductively active adult females estimated to remain. Calf births have been closer to the long-term average since 2020, with 11 calves born in 2025. As of 5 January 2026 the ongoing right whale Unusual Mortality Event, in effect since 2017, included 168 individual whales comprising 41 confirmed mortalities (19 in the United States and 22 in Canada), 40 serious injuries and 87 sublethal injuries or illnesses; recent research suggests that the true number of mortalities is approximately three times the observed count. Unusual Mortality Events remain in effect for humpback whales and Atlantic minke whales, while the Northeast pinniped event that began in 2018 is non-active pending closure as of February 2026 (NEFSC 2026).

Atlantic salmon research continued in support of Endangered Species Act, United States Atlantic Salmon Assessment Committee, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea and North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization science and management. Work included monitoring of diadromous fishes as prey for nearshore Gulf of Maine groundfish, monitoring of fishery removals at West Greenland with collection of biological data and fishery statistics for North American run-reconstruction modelling, and satellite tagging of salmon at their West Greenland feeding grounds to describe marine migration pathways and the environmental conditions encountered en route to natal rivers.

3. Gear and Selectivity Studies, Including Studies on Fishing Operations

Cooperative bottom longline surveys, commercial-vessel scallop and shellfish surveys and a trial recreational hook-and-line survey expanded the range of gears and the level of industry participation in the fiscal year 2025 survey programme. The principal methodological issue for the multispecies bottom trawl series remains vessel calibration and catchability. The planned use of NOAA Ship Pisces for spring bottom trawl work supports training and cross-platform comparison in advance of the anticipated mid-life maintenance period for FSV Henry B. Bigelow (Lipsky 2026).

The Gulf of Maine bottom longline survey, established in 2014 to provide additional sampling in rocky and hard-bottom habitats and to address concerns for groundfish and data-limited species, continued to support stock assessments, ecosystem and habitat studies and management decisions. The survey covers the western Gulf of Maine across the central Gulf to the United States-Canada boundary, using tub-trawl bottom longline gear similar to that used by commercial groundfish vessels, and is sub-stratified into smooth and rough bottom.

Work continued on the development of standardized catch per unit effort indices from the Study Fleet programme, which collects high-resolution catch, effort and environmental data recorded by fishing captains. The resulting fine-scale time series supports assessment inputs and analyses of catch rates, environmental drivers and fishery dynamics.

Gear research on on-demand, or ropeless, fishing systems continued in the American lobster and Jonah crab fisheries, with the objective of reducing large whale and sea turtle entanglement risk by removing vertical line from the water column. The gear lending library, maintained to provide fishermen and researchers with on-demand systems to test and develop, continued to expand in the number of systems, manufacturers and participating vessels.

Testing of uncrewed systems for optical scallop survey work continued, following earlier trials of a long-range autonomous underwater vehicle equipped with an optical payload comparable to that used on the HabCam survey. The objective is to develop a platform able to provide similar or enhanced optical abundance and size composition data for Atlantic sea scallop, and to develop a sampling method for areas that will become inaccessible to the towed HabCam system as offshore wind development proceeds.

4. Observer Estimation of Catch on NAFO Subarea 3 Trips

The United States did not have any trips in NAFO Subarea 3 in 2025. Catch reported from Div. 3K in the STATLANT 21A submission is discussed in Section A.25.

5. Population Dynamics Research

Population dynamics research conducted within the Northeast Fisheries Science Center supports a number of domestic and international fisheries management authorities. Within the United States Northeast Region, management plans are developed by the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils and by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. There are approximately four dozen managed species, all of which require periodic stock status updates and revised catch advice.

The region separates stock assessment development from the operational assessments used to inform management. The Research Track process develops, reviews and implements new assessment approaches for individual species or groups of species; its results are not used directly in management but establish the methods subsequently applied in the Management Track process, which develops, reviews and approves updated assessments for use in specification setting. The United States also coordinates with Canada through the Transboundary Resources Assessment Committee for eastern Georges Bank cod, eastern Georges Bank haddock and Georges Bank yellowtail flounder.

Work continued on the incorporation of environmental covariates into assessment models. The inclusion of Cold Pool covariates on recruitment for Southern New England-Mid-Atlantic yellowtail flounder has been shown to reduce retrospective patterns and improve predictive skill (NEFSC 2026). Given observations of system-wide productivity shifts across multiple managed stocks, further work is needed to determine whether regime shifts or ecosystem reorganization are occurring and how these should be incorporated into management advice.

6. Miscellaneous Studies

Offshore wind development overlaps fishing grounds, protected species habitat and federal survey footprints. As of January 2026, 38 offshore wind leases in the Northeast were at different stages of development. Six commercial-scale projects were operational or under construction and are treated as active projects in the indicators reported here: South Fork Wind Farm, which is fully operational; Vineyard Wind 1, which is partially operational while construction finishes; Revolution Wind and Sunrise Wind in southern New England; Empire Wind 1 in the New York Bight; and Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind. A further eight projects have approved Construction and Operations Plans and could begin construction in 2026, although schedules are uncertain, and seven additional projects have submitted plans pending approval. In 2025 a Presidential Memorandum (90 FR 8363) removed existing planning areas and excluded the establishment of additional lease areas (NEFSC 2026).

Based on federal vessel logbook data, maximum annual revenue from fishing trips within active project areas during 2008 to 2024 exceeded USD 8.7 million for sea scallop, USD 1.1 million for monkfish, USD 477,000 for skates, USD 377,000 for yellowtail flounder and USD 344,000 for Atlantic herring (Figure 19). On a percentage basis the overlap is higher for several groundfish and elasmobranch species: maximum annual regional revenue taken within active project areas reached 12.94% for little skate, 11.07% for barndoor skate, 9.61% for yellowtail flounder, 6.05% for winter skate, 5.82% for clearnose skate, 5.57% for red hake and 5.04% for smooth skate. Active project areas represented less than 5% of average annual total fisheries revenue for most New England ports, but Little Compton, Rhode Island averaged 13% with a maximum of 24%, and Westport, Massachusetts averaged 6% with a maximum of 12%. Port averages may mask substantially higher dependence among individual operators (NEFSC 2026).

Fourteen Northeast Fisheries Science Center surveys overlap offshore wind development projects. Each of the 38 existing lease areas overlaps between four and 14 surveys, and the six active projects overlap between 10 and 12 surveys. Surveys are affected in four ways: exclusion of sampling platforms from development areas because of operational and safety limitations; disruption of the random-stratified statistical design that underpins assessments and advice; alteration of benthic and pelagic habitats and airspace, requiring new designs and methods; and reduced sampling productivity through navigation impacts on aerial and vessel operations, including increased transit time between stations. Implementation of the region-wide survey mitigation programme is under way, with mitigation requirements included as a condition of most project approvals (NEFSC 2026).

Planned development also overlaps North Atlantic right whale mother and calf migration corridors and foraging habitat used throughout the year. Persistent foraging hotspots of right whales and seabirds overlap on Nantucket Shoals, where unique hydrography aggregates enhanced prey densities, and two lease areas intersect these hotspots and an associated tidal front. Additional potential effects include increased vessel strike risk from construction and operation traffic, and displacement, communication masking and elevated stress hormones associated with pile driving and operational noise (NEFSC 2026).

There are currently no federally permitted aquaculture projects in the Northeast United States. Marine aquaculture in the region occurs in nearshore waters regulated through state leasing and permitting processes and, as applicable, federal permitting. In 2022 the Northeast region produced approximately 6,300 t of aquacultured shellfish with a value of USD 133 million, and not all of this production is included in seafood landings statistics (NEFSC 2026).

7. Survey Activity Supporting This Report

The Northeast Fisheries Science Center completed all 16 planned ship-based surveys in fiscal year 2025 and more than 300 days at sea. Nine surveys completed more than 90% of their scientific mission. The spring bottom trawl survey completed 98% of planned trawls. The autumn survey sampled every design stratum, but reduced station density in the Gulf of Maine and on eastern Georges Bank increases uncertainty for the affected indices. Full survey tables, sampling totals, indicator interpretation and the provisional fiscal year 2026 schedule are provided in the companion research document (Lipsky 2026; NOAA Fisheries 2026).

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Tables

Table 1. United States nominal catches (t) in the NAFO Convention Area in 2025, by Subarea and Division. Percentages are of the Subarea 3–6 total. Source: preliminary United States STATLANT 21A submission for 2025.

Subarea	Division	Nominal catch (t)	% of Subareas 3–6
Subarea 3			
	Div. 3K	24.5	0.00
Subarea 3 total		**24.5**	**0.00**
Subarea 4			
	Div. 4X	2,889.0	0.41
Subarea 4 total		**2,889.0**	**0.41**
Subarea 5			
	Div. 5Y	105,404.2	15.10
	Subdiv. 5Zu	130,684.1	18.72
	Div. 5Zw	36,425.7	5.22
Subarea 5 total		**272,514.0**	**39.03**
Subarea 6			
	Div. 6A	99,513.5	14.25
	Div. 6B	307,048.3	43.98
	Div. 6C	16,175.1	2.32
	Div. 6D	5.8	0.00
Subarea 6 total		**422,742.7**	**60.55**
Subareas 3-6 total		**698,170.2**	**100.00**
Outside Convention Area		1,724.9	-
Area not specified		46,093.3	-
Total reported		**745,988.4**	**-**

Table 2. United States nominal catches (t) in 2025 by species group and NAFO Subarea. "Other" comprises catch reported outside the Convention Area and catch for which no Division was assigned. Source: preliminary United States STATLANT 21A submission for 2025.

Species group	SA 3	SA 4	SA 5	SA 6	SA 3–6	Other	Total
Gadoids and other groundfishes	0.0	409.8	22,215.7	1,704.0	24,329.5	3,140.4	27,469.9
Flatfishes	0.2	23.5	4,846.6	2,179.2	7,049.5	3,235.6	10,285.1
Skates and rays	0.0	6.6	9,630.4	1,940.7	11,577.7	19.2	11,596.9
Sharks and dogfishes	0.0	0.0	757.8	3,565.6	4,323.4	98.7	4,422.1
Small pelagic and anadromous finfishes	0.0	94.7	22,738.4	118,057.4	140,890.5	2,093.9	142,984.4
Tunas, swordfish and other large pelagics	0.0	0.0	670.2	1,019.0	1,689.2	4,368.5	6,057.7
Other coastal, estuarine and reef finfishes	0.0	0.2	3,233.6	11,011.8	14,245.6	25,456.9	39,702.5
Squids	0.0	0.0	8,918.0	24,002.9	32,920.9	0.5	32,921.4
Sea scallops	1.5	412.8	70,735.1	9,529.6	80,679.0	119.8	80,798.8
Clams, quahogs, oysters and other molluscs	0.0	790.0	67,487.5	219,826.3	288,103.8	64.9	288,168.7
Lobsters, crabs and other crustaceans	22.8	1,040.5	55,150.2	23,773.0	79,986.5	19.7	80,006.2
Seaweeds and other aquatic plants	0.0	2.3	5,611.8	0.0	5,614.1	13.2	5,627.3
Miscellaneous aquatic invertebrates	0.0	108.6	518.7	1,455.0	2,082.3	519.2	2,601.5
Inland and tidal-fresh water species	0.0	0.0	0.0	4,678.2	4,678.2	2,828.5	7,506.7
Atlantic salmon (reported without area assignment)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5,839.3	5,839.3
Total	**24.5**	**2,889.0**	**272,514.0**	**422,742.7**	**698,170.2**	**47,818.2**	**745,988.4**

Table 3. United States nominal catches (t) of the 30 principal species in 2025, by NAFO Division, ranked by Subarea 3–6 total. Subdiv. 5Zu is the United States portion of Div. 5Ze. "Other" comprises catch reported outside the Convention Area and catch for which no Division was assigned. Source: preliminary United States STATLANT 21A submission for 2025.

Species	Code	3K	4X	5Y	5Zu	5Zw	6A	6B	6C	6D	SA 3–6	Other
Atlantic menhaden	MHA	-	-	16,060.8	-	121.9	7,261.9	109,715.7	102.7	-	133,263.0	206.7
Northern quahog(=Hard clam)	CLH	-	-	921.6	581.4	1,333.3	-	114,462.4	0.1	-	117,298.8	-
Atlantic sea scallop	SCA	1.5	412.6	5,534.1	61,715.3	3,165.4	8,780.6	710.7	38.2	-	80,358.4	119.8
Ocean quahog	CLQ	-	-	364.1	32,974.3	340.0	32,627.0	2,527.9	234.7	-	69,068.0	-
Atlantic surf clam	CLB	-	-	986.5	9,966.1	3,235.2	31,726.6	3,862.2	309.0	-	50,085.6	-
American lobster	LBA	18.5	948.0	42,083.4	4,969.0	751.9	385.1	53.0	0.3	2.0	49,211.2	8.3
American cupped oyster	OYA	-	-	6,699.2	325.8	2,317.3	61.0	28,722.4	3,685.9	-	41,811.6	64.0
Blue crab	CRB	-	-	-	-	0.1	363.2	19,246.5	2,044.7	-	21,654.5	10.8
Northern shortfin squid	SQI	-	-	0.1	1,941.5	1,221.5	301.9	12,963.9	2,844.5	0.5	19,273.9	0.1
Longfin squid	SQL	-	-	42.6	665.0	5,047.3	5,193.6	2,568.9	127.1	-	13,644.5	0.2
Winter skate	RJT	-	5.3	30.3	4,390.5	2,285.1	1,335.0	5.7	0.9	-	8,052.8	-
Scup	SCP	-	-	3.7	8.3	1,904.0	3,607.9	912.1	16.0	-	6,452.0	5,113.4
American angler	ANG	-	98.5	3,941.1	1,540.2	364.9	104.9	3.2	1.1	-	6,053.9	0.1
Jonah crab	CRJ	3.9	73.9	1,197.7	1,372.1	3,090.6	163.6	120.3	10.0	-	6,032.1	-
North Atlantic rockweed	ASN	-	0.2	5,323.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,323.2	13.2
Silver hake	HKS	-	0.9	213.1	1,693.8	2,392.5	477.6	2.3	2.6	-	4,782.8	34.9
Acadian redfish	REN	-	35.9	2,697.8	1,326.7	-	2.8	1.0	-	-	4,064.2	31.0

Species	Code	3K	4X	5Y	5Zu	5Zw	6A	6B	6C	6D	SA 3–6	Other
Blue catfish	ITF	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,912.3	63.2	-	3,975.5	2,140.6
Picked dogfish	DGS	-	-	36.9	655.3	17.6	261.4	967.6	1,910.2	-	3,849.0	8.7
Blue mussel	MUS	-	415.9	3,333.1	0.6	0.5	-	-	-	-	3,750.1	-
Sand gaper	CLS	-	370.3	3,072.0	187.0	16.0	-	4.4	-	-	3,649.7	-
Summer flounder	FLS	-	-	19.6	67.2	1,335.2	1,631.3	282.0	137.5	-	3,472.8	3,222.2
Atlantic herring	HER	-	0.4	1,764.0	1,304.3	29.2	38.7	-	-	-	3,136.6	36.3
Little skate	RJD	-	-	0.8	0.1	2,179.8	427.6	0.8	-	-	2,609.1	-
Haddock	HAD	-	31.7	1,257.6	1,304.8	0.4	-	-	-	-	2,594.5	333.1
Saithe(=Pollock)	POK	-	196.1	1,792.8	397.6	-	-	-	-	-	2,386.5	177.9
Black seabass	BSB	-	-	21.2	34.5	724.6	1,060.7	271.5	74.4	-	2,186.9	3,017.5
Striped bass	STB	-	-	258.0	22.8	85.7	243.4	1,369.2	3.3	-	1,982.4	4,971.0
Aquatic invertebrates nei	INV	-	-	-	103.4	176.9	0.6	4.8	1,449.6	-	1,735.3	472.2
White hake	HKW	-	45.4	1,405.7	257.1	0.3	0.2	-	-	-	1,708.7	13.6

Table 4. Complete list of species and species categories reported in the preliminary United States STATLANT 21A submission for 2025, in alphabetical order of English name, with nominal catch (t) in Subareas 3–6 and the distribution of that catch by Division. "Other" comprises catch reported outside the Convention Area ("outside") and catch for which no Division was assigned ("unspec."). Subdiv. 5Zu is the United States portion of Div. 5Ze.

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Acadian redfish	Sebastes fasciatus	REN	4,064.2	4X 35.9; 5Y 2,697.8; 5Zu 1,326.7; 6A 2.8; 6B 1.0	unspec. 31.0
African pompano	Alectis ciliaris	LIJ	0.3	6C 0.3	outside 0.6
Albacore	Thunnus alalunga	ALB	22.6	5Zu 1.0; 5Zw 6.0; 6A 10.7; 6B 2.3; 6C 1.2; 6D 1.4	outside 11.7; unspec. 125.1
Alewife	Alosa pseudoharengus	ALE	1,002.3	4X 94.3; 5Y 908.0	unspec. 22.7
Amberjacks nei	Seriola	AMX	0.1	6A 0.1	outside 0.1
Amer. plaice(=Long rough dab)	Hippoglossoides platessoides	PLA	1,510.7	4X 4.6; 5Y 1,248.0; 5Zu 254.3; 5Zw 0.1; 6A 3.7	-
American angler	Lophius americanus	ANG	6,053.9	4X 98.5; 5Y 3,941.1; 5Zu 1,540.2; 5Zw 364.9; 6A 104.9; 6B 3.2; 6C 1.1	unspec. 0.1
American conger	Conger oceanicus	COA	11.8	5Zw 1.4; 6A 4.0; 6B 5.4; 6C 1.0	unspec. 0.3
American cupped oyster	Crassostrea virginica	OYA	41,811.6	5Y 6,699.2; 5Zu 325.8; 5Zw 2,317.3; 6A 61.0; 6B 28,722.4; 6C 3,685.9	outside 64.0
American eel	Anguilla rostrata	ELA	139.8	4X 0.2; 5Y 4.4; 5Zw 0.5; 6A 8.1; 6B 126.5; 6C 0.1	unspec. 10.8
American gizzard shad	Dorosoma cepedianum	SHG	277.3	6B 277.1; 6C 0.2	-
American harvestfish	Peprilus paru	ERP	20.0	5Zw 0.1; 6B 0.2; 6C 19.7	outside 10.1
American lobster	Homarus americanus	LBA	49,211.2	3K 18.5; 4X 948.0; 5Y 42,083.4; 5Zu 4,969.0; 5Zw 751.9; 6A 385.1; 6B 53.0; 6C 0.3; 6D 2.0	unspec. 8.3
American sea scallop	Placopecten magellanicus	SCA	80,358.4	3K 1.5; 4X 412.6; 5Y 5,534.1; 5Zu 61,715.3; 5Zw 3,165.4; 6A 8,780.6; 6B 710.7; 6C 38.2	unspec. 119.8
American shad	Alosa sapidissima	SHA	12.7	5Y 0.1; 6A 7.8; 6B 3.1; 6C 1.7	-

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
American slipper-limpet	Crepidula fornicata	KDF	0.8	5Zw 0.8	-
American yellow perch	Perca flavescens	FPY	7.8	6B 7.7; 6C 0.1	unspec. 17.8
Aquatic invertebrates nei	Litopenaeus setiferus	INV	1,735.3	5Zu 103.4; 5Zw 176.9; 6A 0.6; 6B 4.8; 6C 1,449.6	outside 472.2
Atl.jackknife(=Atl.razor clam)	Ensis directus	CLR	269.7	5Y 248.8; 5Zu 15.5; 5Zw 0.2; 6A 5.2	-
Atlantic bay scallop	Argopecten irradians	SCB	320.6	4X 0.2; 5Y 4.7; 5Zu 36.3; 5Zw 279.3; 6A 0.1	-
Atlantic bigeye	Priacanthus arenatus	PQR	0.4	5Zw 0.1; 6A 0.1; 6B 0.2	-
Atlantic bluefin tuna	Thunnus thynnus	BFT	855.6	5Y 306.2; 5Zu 61.7; 5Zw 184.6; 6A 60.7; 6B 38.9; 6C 203.4; 6D 0.1	outside 51.5; unspec. 1,393.9
Atlantic bonito	Sarda sarda	BON	22.0	5Zw 8.9; 6A 2.0; 6B 0.2; 6C 10.9	outside 4.6; unspec. 395.0
Atlantic butterfish	Peprilus triacanthus	BUT	1,503.2	5Y 0.8; 5Zu 205.8; 5Zw 862.9; 6A 325.0; 6B 107.5; 6C 1.2	unspec. 0.2
Atlantic chub mackerel	Scomber colias	VMA	43.1	5Zu 1.1; 5Zw 0.2; 6A 0.6; 6B 40.4; 6C 0.8	-
Atlantic cod	Gadus morhua	COD	375.3	4X 0.6; 5Y 226.0; 5Zu 148.0; 5Zw 0.5; 6A 0.2	unspec. 51.0
Atlantic croaker	Micropogonias undulatus	CKA	236.3	5Zw 1.7; 6A 10.2; 6B 60.3; 6C 164.1	outside 17.7; unspec. 331.2
Atlantic halibut	Hippoglossus hippoglossus	HAL	39.7	3K 0.2; 4X 1.7; 5Y 29.9; 5Zu 7.8; 5Zw 0.1	-
Atlantic herring	Clupea harengus	HER	3,136.6	4X 0.4; 5Y 1,764.0; 5Zu 1,304.3; 5Zw 29.2; 6A 38.7	unspec. 36.3
Atlantic mackerel	Scomber scombrus	MAC	1,559.0	5Y 840.0; 5Zu 343.7; 5Zw 282.1; 6A 86.9; 6B 0.5; 6C 5.8	outside 0.1; unspec. 1,819.5
Atlantic menhaden	Brevoortia tyrannus	MHA	133,263.0	5Y 16,060.8; 5Zw 121.9; 6A 7,261.9; 6B 109,715.7; 6C 102.7	outside 3.2; unspec. 203.5

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Atlantic needlefish	Strongylura marina	NFA	3.6	6C 3.6	-
Atlantic puffers nei	Sphoeroides	PUA	0.1	6C 0.1	-
Atlantic rock crab	Cancer irroratus	CRK	656.7	3K 0.4; 4X 18.6; 5Y 606.7; 5Zu 0.7; 5Zw 29.5; 6A 0.2; 6B 0.6	-
Atlantic salmon	Salmo salar	SAL	0.0	-	unspec. 5,839.3
Atlantic searobins	Prionotus evolans	SRA	0.0	-	unspec. 73.7
Atlantic sharpnose shark	Rhizoprionodon terraenovae	RHT	19.7	6A 0.3; 6B 1.0; 6C 18.4	outside 1.6
Atlantic silverside	Menidia menidia	SSA	42.0	6A 42.0	-
Atlantic spadefish	Chaetodipterus faber	HRF	0.0	-	unspec. 86.1
Atlantic Spanish mackerel	Scomberomorus maculatus	SSM	435.2	6A 1.7; 6B 118.6; 6C 314.9	outside 43.2; unspec. 124.5
Atlantic stingray	Dasyatis sabina	JDS	0.1	5Zw 0.1	-
Atlantic surf clam	Spisula solidissima	CLB	50,085.6	5Y 986.5; 5Zu 9,966.1; 5Zw 3,235.2; 6A 31,726.6; 6B 3,862.2; 6C 309.0	-
Babberlocks	Alaria esculenta	AJC	8.4	5Y 8.4	-
Banded rudderfish	Seriola zonata	RLZ	0.1	6C 0.1	outside 0.7; unspec. 0.3
Barndoor skate	Dipturus laevis	RJL	295.8	5Y 11.2; 5Zu 31.3; 5Zw 250.9; 6A 2.4	-
Barracudas, etc. nei	Sphyraenidae	BAZ	0.5	6C 0.5	outside 1.0
Barrelfish	Hyperoglyphe perciformis	HYW	0.6	6B 0.1; 6C 0.5	outside 0.6
Bastard halibuts nei	Paralichthys	BAX	46.4	5Zw 9.5; 6A 27.3; 6B 5.4; 6C 4.2	outside 1.8
Bay anchovy	Anchoa mitchilli	ANB	0.7	6A 0.7	-

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Bigeye tuna	Thunnus obesus	BET	196.1	5Y 4.1; 5Zu 5.8; 5Zw 27.2; 6A 31.7; 6B 9.5; 6C 117.7; 6D 0.1	outside 1.1; unspec. 0.2
Black dogfish	Centroscyllium fabricii	CFB	1.1	5Y 1.1	-
Black drum	Pogonias cromis	BDM	48.0	6A 0.2; 6B 23.6; 6C 24.2	outside 6.6; unspec. 214.6
Black grouper	Mycteroperca bonaci	MAB	0.0	-	outside 0.2
Black seabass	Centropristis striata	BSB	2,186.9	5Y 21.2; 5Zu 34.5; 5Zw 724.6; 6A 1,060.7; 6B 271.5; 6C 74.4	outside 15.3; unspec. 3,002.2
Black stone crab	Menippe mercenaria	STC	0.4	6C 0.4	outside 0.2
Blackbelly rosefish	Helicolenus dactylopterus	BRF	0.4	6C 0.4	outside 1.5
Blackfin snapper	Lutjanus buccanella	LJU	0.0	-	outside 0.5
Blackfin tuna	Thunnus atlanticus	BLF	9.1	6C 9.1	outside 0.4
Blacktip shark	Carcharhinus limbatus	CCL	11.6	6A 0.2; 6B 5.5; 6C 5.9	outside 2.4
Blood ark	Anadara ovalis	NDZ	6.9	5Y 5.0; 5Zu 1.5; 5Zw 0.2; 6B 0.1; 6C 0.1	-
Bloodworm	Glycera dibranchiata	GLD	45.1	4X 0.2; 5Y 44.9	unspec. 26.1
Blue catfish	Ictalurus furcatus	ITF	3,975.5	6B 3,912.3; 6C 63.2	unspec. 2,140.6
Blue crab	Callinectes sapidus	CRB	21,654.5	5Zw 0.1; 6A 363.2; 6B 19,246.5; 6C 2,044.7	outside 10.8
Blue mussel	Mytilus edulis	MUS	3,750.1	4X 415.9; 5Y 3,333.1; 5Zu 0.6; 5Zw 0.5	-
Blue runner	Caranx crysos	RUB	0.3	6C 0.3	-
Blueback shad	Alosa aestivalis	BBH	0.2	5Zw 0.2	unspec. 0.2
Bluefish	Pomatomus saltatrix	BLU	701.7	5Y 29.5; 5Zu 7.2; 5Zw 37.9; 6A 144.6; 6B 119.8; 6C 362.7	outside 100.9;

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
					unspec. 1,680.4
Bluegill	Lepomis macrochirus	LMM	0.0	-	unspec. 2.3
Bull shark	Carcharhinus leucas	CCE	1.2	6B 0.2; 6C 1.0	-
Bullet tuna	Auxis rochei	BLT	0.1	6C 0.1	-
Capelin	Mallotus villosus	CAP	0.1	5Zu 0.1	-
Caribbean spiny lobster	Panulirus argus	SLC	0.3	5Zw 0.2; 6A 0.1	outside 0.1
Channel catfish	Ictalurus punctatus	ITP	606.7	6B 606.4; 6C 0.3	outside 0.4; unspec. 630.0
Channeled whelk	Busycotypus canaliculatus	WKQ	1,028.0	5Y 54.4; 5Zu 19.7; 5Zw 447.4; 6A 187.6; 6B 308.8; 6C 10.1	-
Clearnose skate	Raja eglanteria	JFE	13.7	5Zu 1.0; 5Zw 0.3; 6A 12.0; 6B 0.4	unspec. 19.2
Cobia	Rachycentron canadum	CBA	17.3	5Y 0.1; 6A 0.5; 6B 9.7; 6C 7.0	outside 1.4; unspec. 303.6
Common carp	Cyprinus carpio	FCP	65.6	6A 5.9; 6B 59.4; 6C 0.3	unspec. 14.4
Common dolphinfish	Coryphaena hippurus	DOL	1.2	6A 1.2	outside 1.2; unspec. 650.0
Common hermit crab	Pagurus	PZW	8.2	5Zu 8.2	-
Conch shells nei	Strombidae	JTX	442.5	5Zu 0.5; 5Zw 11.6; 6A 317.4; 6B 112.4; 6C 0.6	-
Cownose ray	Rhinoptera bonasus	MRB	0.9	6A 0.9	-
Crevalle jack	Caranx hippos	CVJ	1.6	5Zw 0.1; 6A 0.2; 6C 1.3	outside 0.3
Croakers, drums nei	Sciaenidae	CDX	0.1	6B 0.1	unspec. 0.0
Cunner	Tautogolabrus adspersus	CUN	1.6	5Y 0.1; 5Zw 1.0; 6A 0.1; 6B 0.4	unspec. 234.1

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Dealfish	Trachipterus arcticus	TPA	2.7	6B 2.7	-
Dolphinfishes nei	Coryphaena	DOX	11.1	5Zu 0.2; 5Zw 1.8; 6A 3.4; 6B 1.3; 6C 4.4	outside 1.8
Dories nei	Zeiformes	ZEX	3.3	5Zu 0.3; 5Zw 0.4; 6A 1.1; 6B 1.3; 6C 0.2	-
Dulse	Palmaria palmata	RHP	0.1	4X 0.1	-
Dusky smooth-hound	Mustelus canis	CTI	364.3	5Zu 2.7; 5Zw 42.1; 6A 224.0; 6B 32.7; 6C 62.8	unspec. 84.6
Escolar	Lepidocybium flavobrunneum	LEC	0.6	5Zw 0.2; 6A 0.2; 6C 0.2	outside 0.5; unspec. 0.2
Finetooth shark	Carcharhinus isodon	CCO	0.1	6C 0.1	-
Finfishes nei	Pomoxis	FIN	112.7	6A 3.5; 6B 75.3; 6C 33.9	outside 4.5; unspec. 272.4
Flathead catfish	Pylodictis olivaris	IPO	7.6	6B 7.6	-
Flathead grey mullet	Mugil cephalus	MUF	357.8	6B 3.9; 6C 353.9	outside 256.1; unspec. 46.3
Florida pompano	Trachinotus carolinus	POM	1.5	6B 0.2; 6C 1.3	outside 0.9; unspec. 14.0
Fourspot flounder	Paralichthys oblongus	YSO	1.6	6A 1.6	unspec. 0.2
Frigate tuna	Auxis thazard	FRI	1.4	6C 1.4	-
Gag	Mycteroperca microlepis	MKM	3.8	6C 3.8	outside 33.0
Gars nei	Lepisosteidae	LXS	1.5	6B 1.4; 6C 0.1	-
Grass carp(=White amur)	Ctenopharyngodon idella	FCG	0.1	6B 0.1	-
Graysby	Cephalopholis cruentata	CFL	0.0	-	outside 0.2
Great hammerhead	Sphyrna mokarran	SPK	14.2	6C 14.2	outside 1.1

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Great Northern tilefish	Lopholatilus chamaeleonticeps	TIL	811.9	5Zu 1.9; 5Zw 340.9; 6A 418.1; 6B 38.8; 6C 12.2	outside 20.8; unspec. 1,631.9
Greater amberjack	Seriola dumerili	AMB	28.2	6C 28.2	outside 43.8
Green crab	Carcinus maenas	CRG	114.1	5Y 104.2; 5Zu 0.9; 5Zw 6.6; 6A 2.4	unspec. 0.3
Grey snapper	Lutjanus griseus	LJI	0.0	-	outside 0.2
Grey tilefish	Caulolatilus microps	ULM	50.0	5Zw 0.7; 6A 2.3; 6B 7.3; 6C 39.7	outside 1.9; unspec. 137.2
Grey triggerfish	Balistes capriscus	TRG	3.7	5Zw 0.1; 6A 0.4; 6B 1.6; 6C 1.6	outside 11.0; unspec. 259.9
Groundfishes nei	Gephyroberyx darwini	GRO	0.2	5Zu 0.2	-
Grunts, sweetlips nei	Haemulidae	GRX	0.4	6C 0.4	outside 1.3
Gurnards, searobins nei	Triglidae	GUX	5.7	5Zw 1.6; 6A 3.5; 6B 0.6	-
Haddock	Melanogrammus aeglefinus	HAD	2,594.5	4X 31.7; 5Y 1,257.6; 5Zu 1,304.8; 5Zw 0.4	unspec. 333.1
Hagfishes nei	Myxinidae	MYX	742.3	5Zu 657.3; 5Zw 41.9; 6C 43.1	-
Herrings, sardines nei	Clupeinae	CLP	9.9	5Y 1.1; 5Zw 8.8	-
Hickory shad	Alosa mediocris	SHH	32.9	5Zw 2.5; 6A 0.2; 6B 1.5; 6C 28.7	outside 0.1; unspec. 2.6
Hogfish	Lachnolaimus maximus	LCX	0.2	6B 0.2	outside 1.6
Horseshoe crab	Limulus polyphemus	HSC	655.1	5Y 1.5; 5Zu 157.1; 5Zw 231.8; 6A 37.3; 6B 226.6; 6C 0.8	-
Inshore squids nei	Loliginidae	SQZ	1.1	6A 0.7; 6B 0.1; 6C 0.3	outside 0.2
Jolthead porgy	Calamus bajonado	CBD	0.5	6A 0.5	outside 0.2

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Jonah crab	Cancer borealis	CRJ	6,032.1	3K 3.9; 4X 73.9; 5Y 1,197.7; 5Zu 1,372.1; 5Zw 3,090.6; 6A 163.6; 6B 120.3; 6C 10.0	-
King mackerel	Scomberomorus cavalla	KGM	101.0	6B 0.2; 6C 100.8	outside 32.2; unspec. 6.6
Knobbed whelk	Busycon carica	WJT	620.5	5Y 3.4; 5Zu 5.4; 5Zw 12.6; 6A 431.9; 6B 167.2	-
Ladyfish	Elops saurus	LAD	0.6	6C 0.6	outside 0.6
Largehead hairtail	Trichiurus lepturus	LHT	306.3	5Zw 8.8; 6B 3.6; 6C 293.9	outside 16.2; unspec. 0.5
Largemouth black bass	Micropterus salmoides	MPS	0.0	-	unspec. 21.9
Lemon shark	Negaprion brevirostris	NGB	0.5	6B 0.5	-
Lesser amberjack	Seriola fasciata	RLF	0.1	6C 0.1	outside 0.1
Little skate	Leucoraja erinacea	RJD	2,609.1	5Y 0.8; 5Zu 0.1; 5Zw 2,179.8; 6A 427.6; 6B 0.8	-
Little tunny(=Atl.black skipj)	Euthynnus alletteratus	LTA	30.7	5Zu 0.1; 5Zw 0.6; 6A 0.3; 6B 0.5; 6C 29.2	outside 6.9; unspec. 176.9
Longfin squid	Loligo pealeii	SQL	13,644.5	5Y 42.6; 5Zu 665.0; 5Zw 5,047.3; 6A 5,193.6; 6B 2,568.9; 6C 127.1	outside 0.1; unspec. 0.1
Longfin yellowtail	Seriola rivoliana	YTL	15.2	6A 0.1; 6B 0.1; 6C 15.0	outside 14.8; unspec. 0.1
Longhorn sculpin	Myoxocephalus octodecemspinosus	MXO	0.0	-	unspec. 0.3
Lookdown	Selene vomer	LNM	0.8	6C 0.8	-
Maja spider crabs nei	Majidae	JCX	0.4	5Y 0.4	-
Marine molluscs nei	Melongenidae	MOL	61.5	5Zw 0.2; 6A 34.8; 6B 16.6; 6C 9.9	outside 0.9
Marine worms	Nereis	WOR	48.1	5Y 48.1	unspec. 20.9

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Mullets nei	Mugilidae	MUL	10.1	6A 0.3; 6B 9.4; 6C 0.4	-
Mutton snapper	Lutjanus analis	LJN	0.1	6C 0.1	outside 0.6
Narrowfin smooth-hound	Mustelus norrisi	MTR	0.2	6B 0.2	-
Nori nei	Porphyra	FYS	0.4	4X 0.4	-
North Atlantic rockweed	Ascophyllum nodosum scorpioides	ASN	5,323.2	4X 0.2; 5Y 5,323.0	unspec. 13.2
Northern kingfish	Menticirrhus saxatilis	KGF	153.7	5Y 0.1; 5Zu 1.7; 5Zw 0.9; 6A 0.8; 6B 4.8; 6C 145.4	outside 41.5; unspec. 6.5
Northern puffer	Sphoeroides maculatus	PUF	7.9	6A 3.3; 6B 4.6	unspec. 41.8
Northern quahog(=Hard clam)	Mercenaria mercenaria	CLH	117,298.8	5Y 921.6; 5Zu 581.4; 5Zw 1,333.3; 6B 114,462.4; 6C 0.1	-
Northern red snapper	Lutjanus campechanus	SNR	8.2	5Y 6.4; 6C 1.8	outside 8.4
Northern searobin	Prionotus carolinus	PQC	0.8	5Zw 0.3; 6A 0.5	unspec. 2.7
Northern shortfin squid	Illex illecebrosus	SQI	19,273.9	5Y 0.1; 5Zu 1,941.5; 5Zw 1,221.5; 6A 301.9; 6B 12,963.9; 6C 2,844.5; 6D 0.5	outside 0.1
Ocean quahog	Arctica islandica	CLQ	69,068.0	5Y 364.1; 5Zu 32,974.3; 5Zw 340.0; 6A 32,627.0; 6B 2,527.9; 6C 234.7	-
Ocean sunfishes nei	Centrarchidae	JHX	0.6	6B 0.6	-
Offshore silver hake	Merluccius albidus	HOF	4.3	5Y 0.2; 5Zw 1.8; 6A 2.3	-
Oilfish	Ruvettus pretiosus	OIL	0.0	-	outside 0.1
Opah	Lampris guttatus	LAG	1.0	5Zw 0.4; 6A 0.3; 6B 0.3	-
Pacific chub mackerel	Scomber japonicus	MAS	0.0	-	unspec. 5.4
Penaeid shrimps nei	Penaeidae	PEZ	13.4	5Zw 0.1; 6A 0.4; 6B 0.1; 6C 12.8	-

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Periwinkles nei	Littorinidae	PER	9.7	4X 3.8; 5Y 5.9	-
Picked dogfish	Squalus acanthias	DGS	3,849.0	5Y 36.9; 5Zu 655.3; 5Zw 17.6; 6A 261.4; 6B 967.6; 6C 1,910.2	unspec. 8.7
Pigfish	Orthopristis chrysoptera	PIG	0.1	6C 0.1	outside 1.7; unspec. 26.3
Pinfish	Lagodon rhomboides	LGO	0.0	-	unspec. 2.1
Pomfrets, ocean breams nei	Bramidae	BRZ	0.9	5Zw 0.1; 6A 0.1; 6B 0.1; 6C 0.5; 6D 0.1	unspec. 0.1
Porbeagle	Lamna nasus	POR	0.2	5Y 0.2	-
Porgies, seabreams nei	Calamus nodosus	SBX	0.0	-	outside 0.8
Puffers nei	Tetraodontidae	PUX	0.2	6A 0.2	-
Queen triggerfish	Balistes vetula	BLV	0.0	-	outside 0.2
Rainbow trout	Oncorhynchus mykiss	TRR	0.1	6A 0.1	-
Rays and skates nei	Rajidae	RAJ	500.7	4X 1.3; 5Y 3.0; 5Zu 3.6; 5Zw 377.0; 6A 104.6; 6B 11.2	-
Red crab	Chaceon quinquedens	CRR	1,569.6	5Zu 107.5; 5Zw 399.8; 6A 424.0; 6B 566.7; 6C 71.6	-
Red drum	Sciaenops ocellatus	RDM	62.8	6B 13.3; 6C 49.5	outside 9.7; unspec. 706.5
Red grouper	Epinephelus morio	GPR	0.8	6C 0.8	outside 1.9
Red hake	Urophycis chuss	HKR	196.2	5Y 13.3; 5Zu 40.0; 5Zw 108.3; 6A 33.6; 6B 1.0	unspec. 247.5
Red hind	Epinephelus guttatus	EEU	0.0	-	outside 0.7
Red porgy	Pagrus pagrus	RPG	11.1	6A 10.1; 6C 1.0	outside 3.8
Ribbonfishes	Trachipteridae	TRX	46.8	5Zw 0.1; 6A 3.4; 6B 43.3	-
River and lake turtles nei	Chelydra serpentina	TUL	11.4	6B 11.4	-

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Rock hind	Epinephelus adscensionis	EFD	0.1	6C 0.1	outside 0.3
Royal red shrimp	Pleoticus robustus	RRS	34.8	5Zw 9.6; 6A 25.2	-
Saithe(=Pollock)	Pollachius virens	POK	2,386.5	4X 196.1; 5Y 1,792.8; 5Zu 397.6	unspec. 177.9
Sand gaper	Mya arenaria	CLS	3,649.7	4X 370.3; 5Y 3,072.0; 5Zu 187.0; 5Zw 16.0; 6B 4.4	-
Sand tilefish	Malacanthus plumieri	MWP	0.1	5Zw 0.1	outside 0.2
Sand weakfish	Cynoscion arenarius	YNR	0.0	-	outside 0.5
Sandbar shark	Carcharhinus plumbeus	CCP	0.4	6B 0.4	-
Sandeels(=Sandlances) nei	Ammodytes	SAN	2.5	6A 2.5	-
Scaled herring	Harengula jaguana	HCG	0.3	5Zw 0.3	-
Scalloped hammerhead	Sphyrna lewini	SPL	12.5	5Zw 0.2; 6A 0.1; 6B 0.2; 6C 12.0	-
Scamp	Mycteroperca phenax	MKH	1.2	6C 1.2	outside 7.9
Scorpionfishes, redfishes nei	Scorpaenidae	SCO	0.1	6C 0.1	outside 0.1
Scup	Stenotomus chrysops	SCP	6,452.0	5Y 3.7; 5Zu 8.3; 5Zw 1,904.0; 6A 3,607.9; 6B 912.1; 6C 16.0	unspec. 5,113.4
Sea catfishes nei	Ariidae	CAX	27.7	6B 27.7	-
Sea lettuce	Ulva lactuca	UVU	0.1	4X 0.1	-
Sea urchins nei	Strongylocentrotus	URC	253.8	4X 108.4; 5Y 144.7; 5Zw 0.7	-
Seaweeds nei	Phaeophyta	SWX	281.8	4X 1.4; 5Y 280.4	-
Shads nei	Alosa	SHZ	0.8	5Y 0.8	-
Sheepshead	Archosargus probatocephalus	SPH	45.3	6A 0.4; 6B 2.8; 6C 42.1	outside 3.5; unspec. 473.1

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Silk snapper	Lutjanus vivanus	LTJ	0.2	6A 0.1; 6C 0.1	outside 6.4
Silver hake	Merluccius bilinearis	HKS	4,782.8	4X 0.9; 5Y 213.1; 5Zu 1,693.8; 5Zw 2,392.5; 6A 477.6; 6B 2.3; 6C 2.6	unspec. 34.9
Silversides(=Sand smelts) nei	Atherinidae	SIL	0.6	6A 0.1; 6B 0.5	-
Silvery John dory	Zenopsis conchifera	JOS	28.4	5Zu 5.9; 5Zw 6.6; 6A 8.4; 6B 7.3; 6C 0.2	-
Skipjack tuna	Katsuwonus pelamis	SKJ	0.4	6C 0.4	outside 0.2; unspec. 4.1
Smallmouth bass	Micropterus dolomieu	MPJ	0.0	-	unspec. 1.0
Smooth skate	Malacoraja senta	RJS	103.0	5Zu 1.5; 5Zw 62.3; 6A 38.3; 6B 0.9	-
Snakehead	Channa argus	CNA	1.9	6B 1.9	-
Snowy grouper	Epinephelus niveatus	EFV	15.0	6A 0.1; 6C 14.9	outside 12.0
Southern flounder	Paralichthys lethostigma	YSH	55.2	6A 1.1; 6C 54.1	outside 5.4
Spadefishes nei	Ephippidae	SPA	2.5	6B 1.0; 6C 1.5	outside 0.1
Spinner shark	Carcharhinus brevipinna	CCB	23.5	5Zw 0.1; 6A 3.0; 6B 0.5; 6C 19.9	-
Spot croaker	Leiostomus xanthurus	SPT	828.9	5Zw 14.3; 6A 59.8; 6B 718.5; 6C 36.3	outside 51.7; unspec. 1,756.4
Spottail seabream	Diplodus holbrookii	DIH	0.0	-	outside 0.3
Spotted codling	Urophycis regia	URG	0.6	6A 0.6	unspec. 0.1
Spotted weakfish	Cynoscion nebulosus	SWF	64.1	6A 0.1; 6B 23.5; 6C 40.5	outside 21.7; unspec. 172.1
Squeteague(=Gray weakfish)	Cynoscion regalis	STG	32.2	5Zw 4.5; 6A 12.1; 6B 5.7; 6C 9.9	outside 11.5; unspec. 56.2
Squirrelfishes nei	Holocentridae	HCZ	0.1	6C 0.1	outside 0.1

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
Starry ray	Amblyraja radiata	RJR	1.6	5Y 0.9; 5Zw 0.7	-
Stomatopods nei	Stomatopoda	SVX	35.7	5Zw 20.6; 6A 15.1	-
Striped bass	Morone saxatilis	STB	1,982.4	5Y 258.0; 5Zu 22.8; 5Zw 85.7; 6A 243.4; 6B 1,369.2; 6C 3.3	unspec. 4,971.0
Summer flounder	Paralichthys dentatus	FLS	3,472.8	5Y 19.6; 5Zu 67.2; 5Zw 1,335.2; 6A 1,631.3; 6B 282.0; 6C 137.5	outside 10.9; unspec. 3,211.3
Swordfish	Xiphias gladius	SWO	214.2	5Y 1.3; 5Zu 2.9; 5Zw 11.2; 6A 47.6; 6B 87.4; 6C 63.4; 6D 0.4	outside 122.6; unspec. 6.4
Tangle	Laminaria digitata	LQD	0.1	4X 0.1	-
Tautog	Tautoga onitis	TAU	129.2	5Y 3.7; 5Zw 49.9; 6A 72.1; 6B 2.8; 6C 0.7	unspec. 4,353.3
Thresher	Alopias vulpinus	ALV	24.8	5Zw 1.6; 6A 7.4; 6B 6.2; 6C 9.6	outside 0.3
Tiger shark	Galeocerdo cuvier	TIG	0.1	6C 0.1	-
Toadfishes, etc. nei	Batrachoididae	TFD	9.6	6B 8.5; 6C 1.1	-
Triggerfishes, durgons nei	Balistidae	TRI	7.3	5Zw 4.5; 6A 0.8; 6B 1.8; 6C 0.2	-
Tripletail	Lobotes surinamensis	LOB	0.0	-	unspec. 1.2
Tusk(=Cusk)	Brosme brosme	USK	24.9	4X 0.7; 5Y 18.1; 5Zu 6.0; 5Zw 0.1	unspec. 116.5
Various squids nei	Teuthoidea	SQU	1.4	6A 1.4	-
Vermilion snapper	Rhomboplites aurorubens	RPU	4.1	6B 0.1; 6C 4.0	outside 51.2
Wahoo	Acanthocybium solandri	WAH	1.0	5Zw 0.1; 6A 0.2; 6C 0.7	outside 1.9
Whelk	Buccinum undatum	WHE	0.4	5Y 0.4	-
White grunt	Haemulon plumieri	HLI	0.0	-	outside 0.6
White hake	Urophycis tenuis	HKW	1,708.7	4X 45.4; 5Y 1,405.7; 5Zu 257.1; 5Zw 0.3; 6A 0.2	unspec. 13.6

English name	Scientific name	Code	SA 3–6 (t)	Catch by Division (t)	Other (t)
White mullet	Mugil curema	MGU	0.0	-	unspec. 40.5
White perch	Morone americana	PEW	142.5	6A 4.7; 6B 132.5; 6C 5.3	unspec. 599.8
Windowpane flounder	Scophthalmus aquosus	FLD	28.6	6A 28.6	unspec. 6.1
Winter flounder	Pseudopleuronectes americanus	FLW	664.3	4X 5.6; 5Y 162.9; 5Zu 463.6; 5Zw 29.8; 6A 2.4	-
Winter skate	Leucoraja ocellata	RJT	8,052.8	4X 5.3; 5Y 30.3; 5Zu 4,390.5; 5Zw 2,285.1; 6A 1,335.0; 6B 5.7; 6C 0.9	-
Witch flounder	Glyptocephalus cynoglossus	WIT	1,048.8	4X 11.6; 5Y 779.4; 5Zu 257.7; 5Zw 0.1	-
Wreckfish	Polyprion americanus	WRF	0.0	-	outside 22.3
Yellowedge grouper	Epinephelus flavolimbatus	EEL	0.9	6C 0.9	outside 0.3
Yellowfin tuna	Thunnus albacares	YFT	275.0	5Y 3.0; 5Zu 8.0; 5Zw 35.1; 6A 71.8; 6B 16.1; 6C 139.8; 6D 1.2	outside 44.1; unspec. 1,305.0
Yellowmouth grouper	Mycteroperca interstitialis	MKN	0.0	-	outside 0.3
Yellowtail flounder	Limanda ferruginea	YEL	181.4	5Y 177.6; 5Zu 3.7; 5Zw 0.1	-

Figures

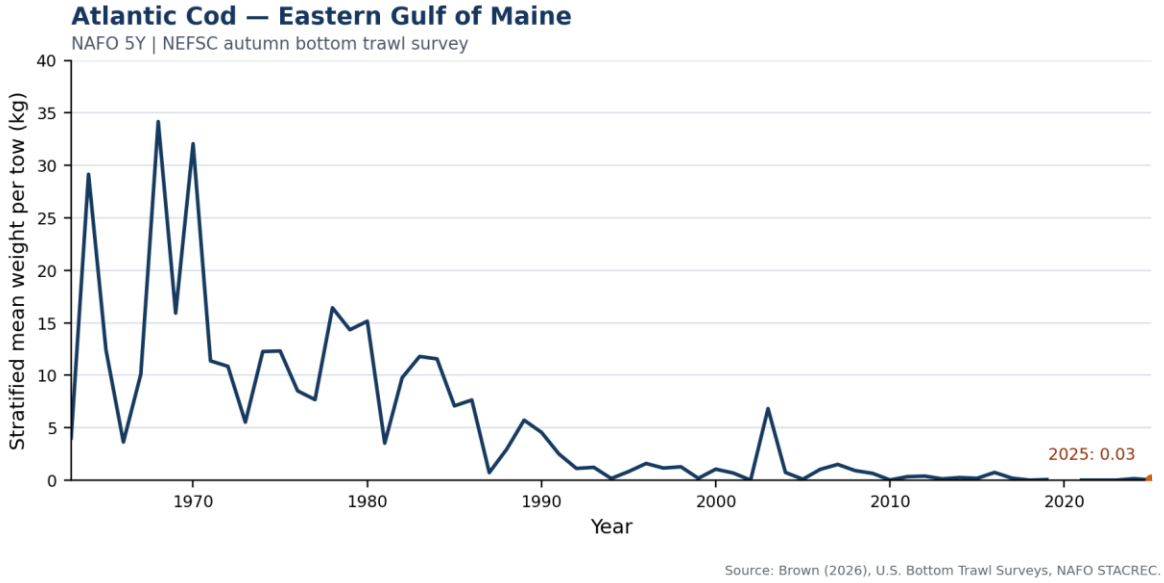


Figure 1. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for Atlantic cod, eastern Gulf of Maine (approximately NAFO Div. 5Y). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

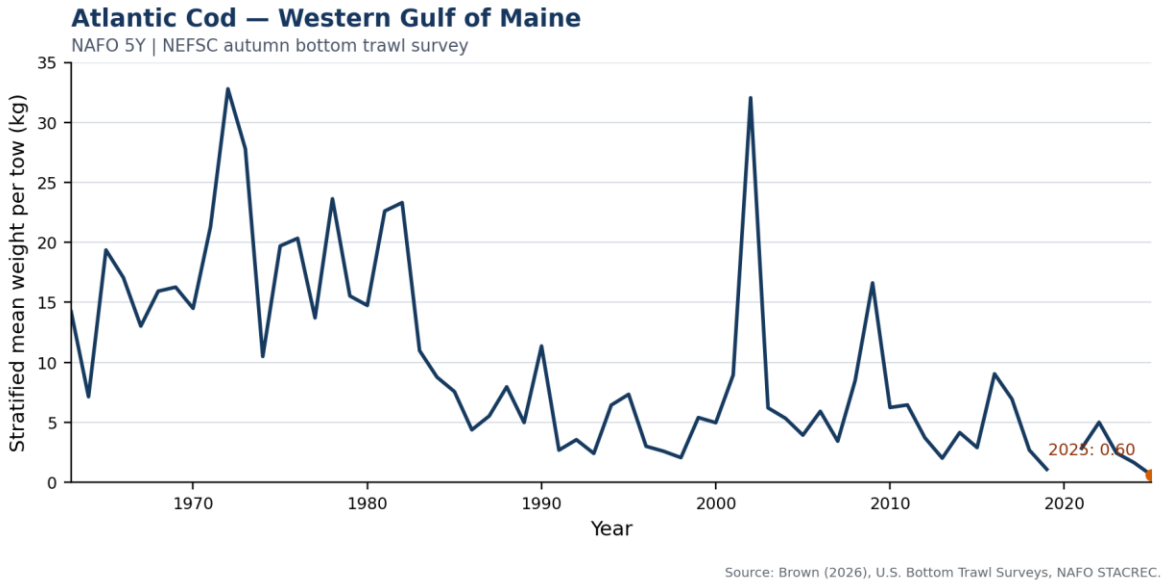


Figure 2. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for Atlantic cod, western Gulf of Maine (approximately NAFO Div. 5Y). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

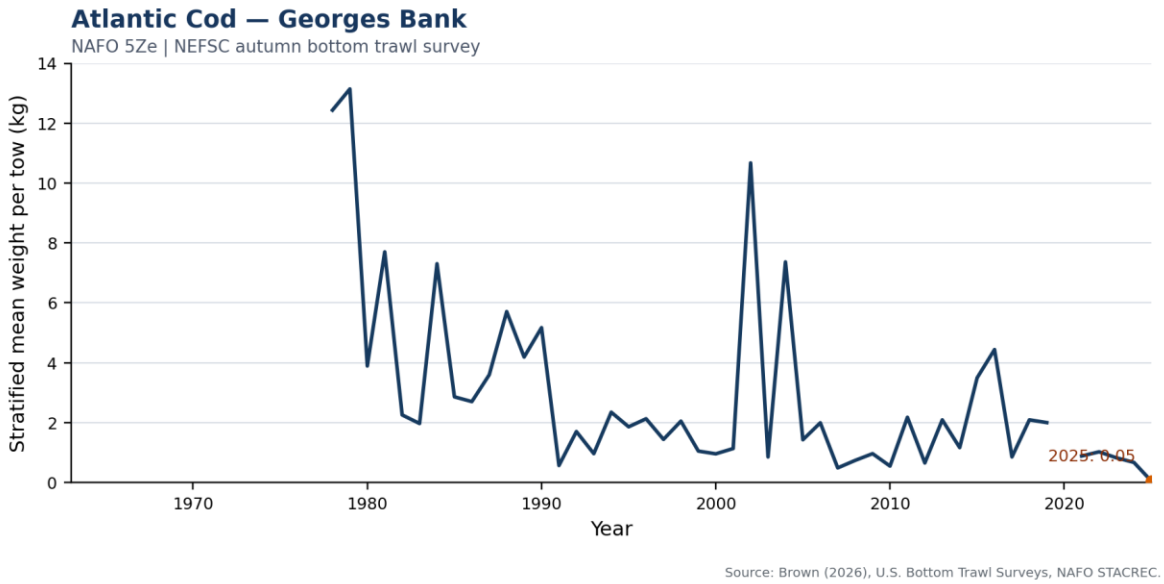


Figure 3. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for Atlantic cod, Georges Bank (approximately NAFO Subdiv. 5Zu). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

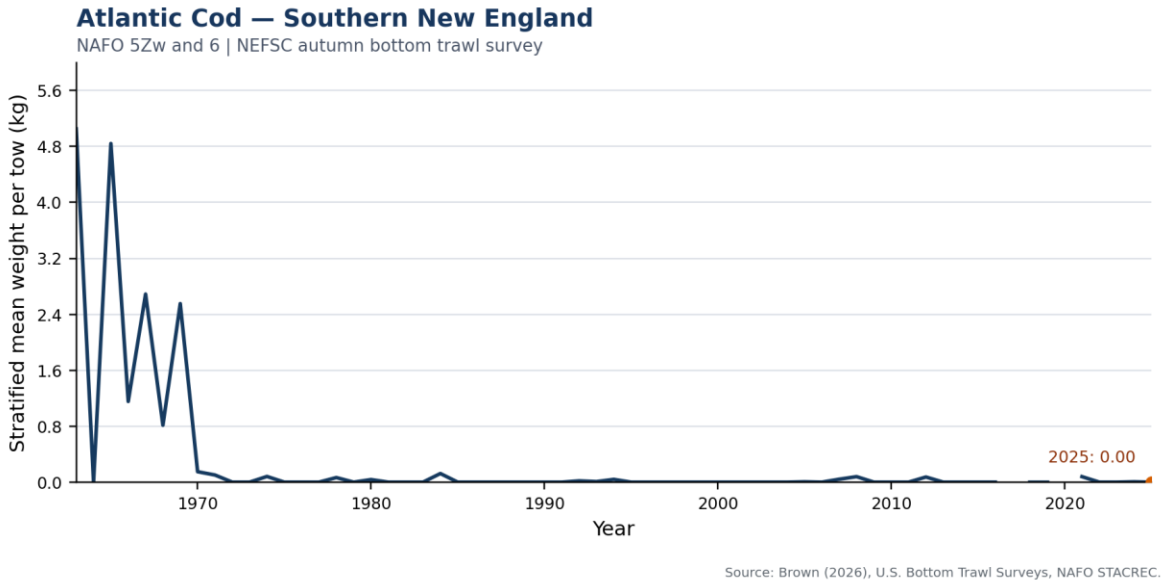


Figure 4. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for Atlantic cod, southern New England (approximately NAFO Div. 5Zw and Subarea 6). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

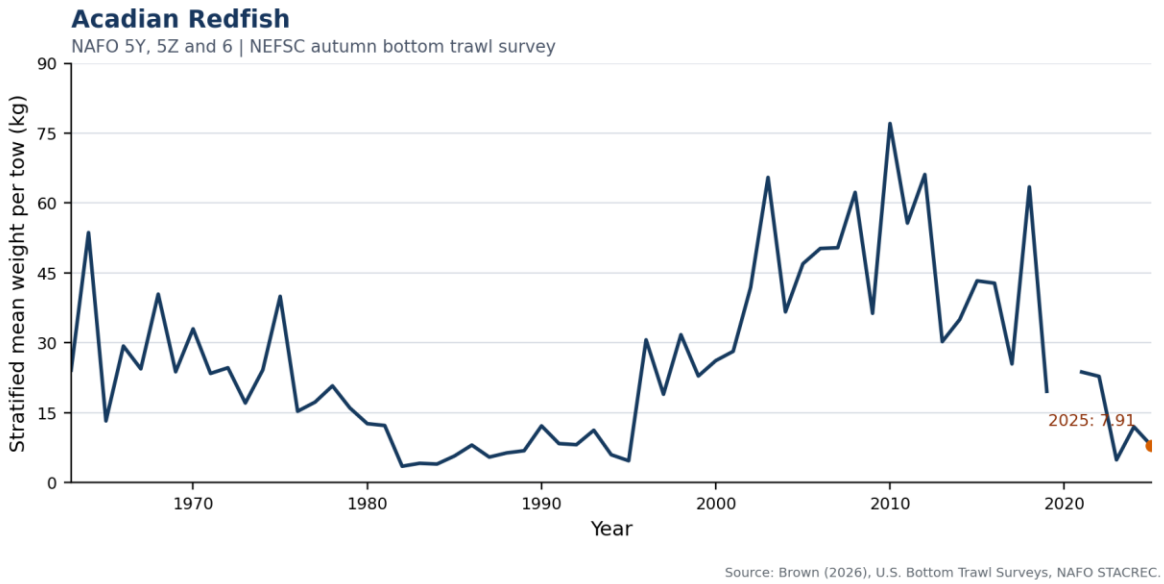


Figure 5. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for Acadian redfish (NAFO Div. 5Y, 5Z and Subarea 6). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

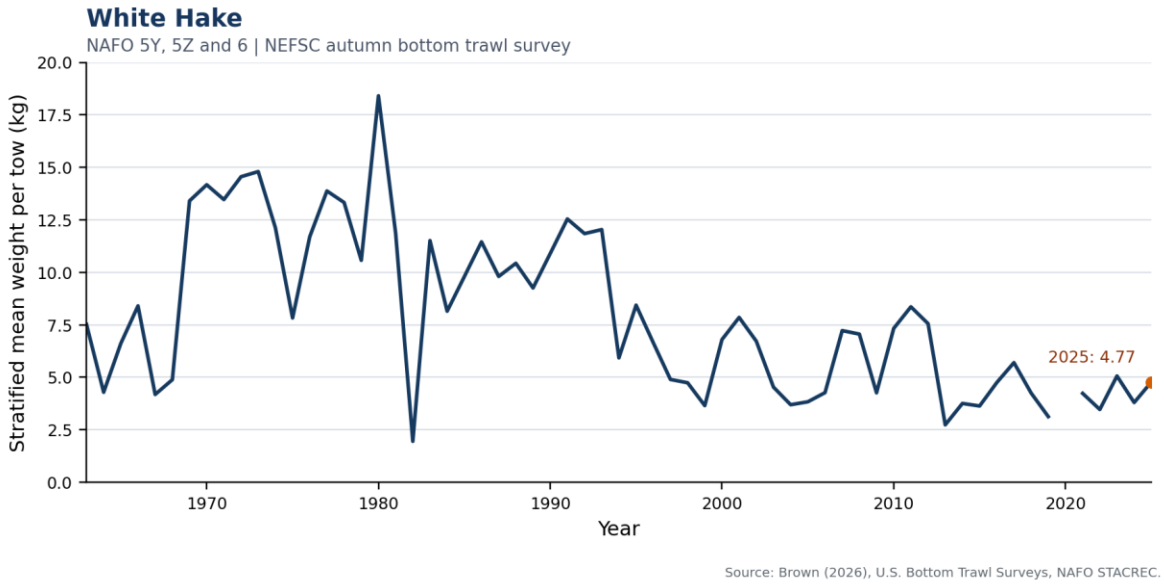


Figure 6. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for white hake (NAFO Div. 5Y, 5Z and Subarea 6). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

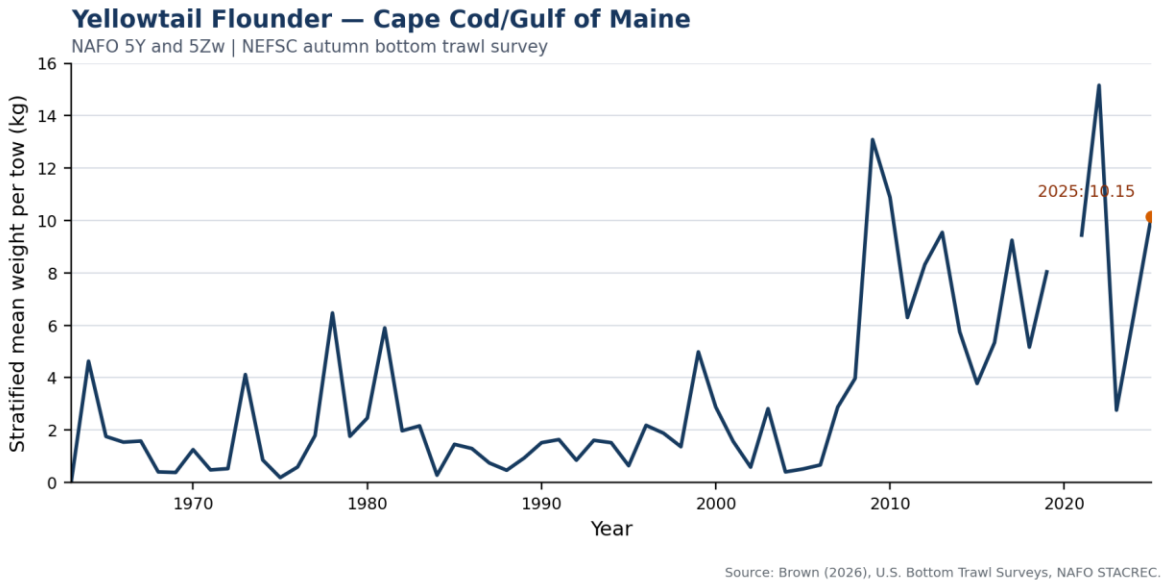


Figure 7. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for yellowtail flounder, Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine (approximately NAFO Div. 5Y and 5Zw). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

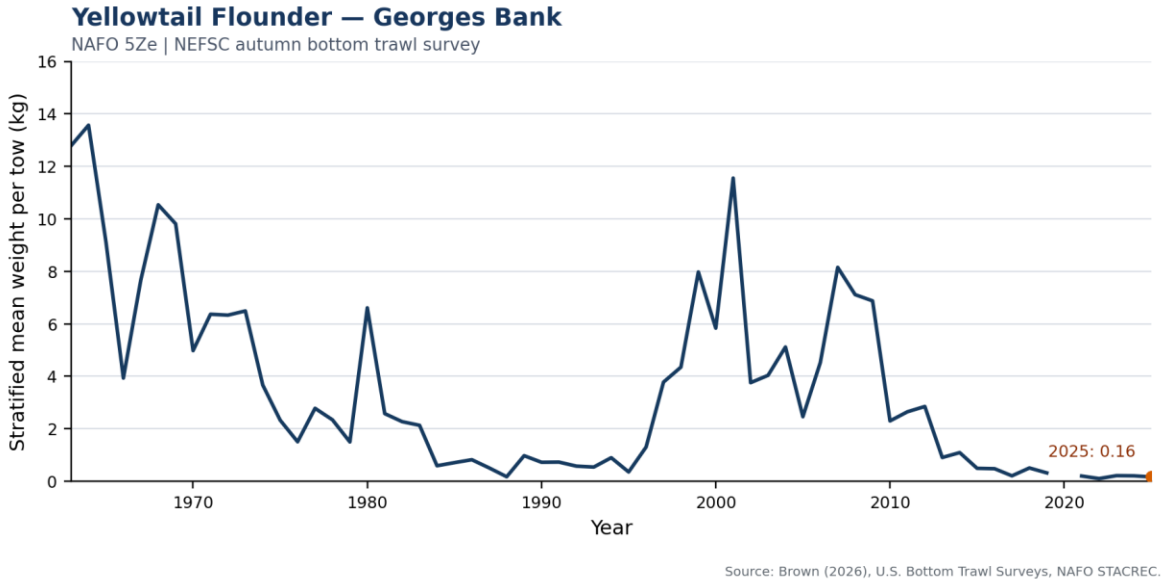


Figure 8. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for yellowtail flounder, Georges Bank (approximately NAFO Subdiv. 5Zu). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

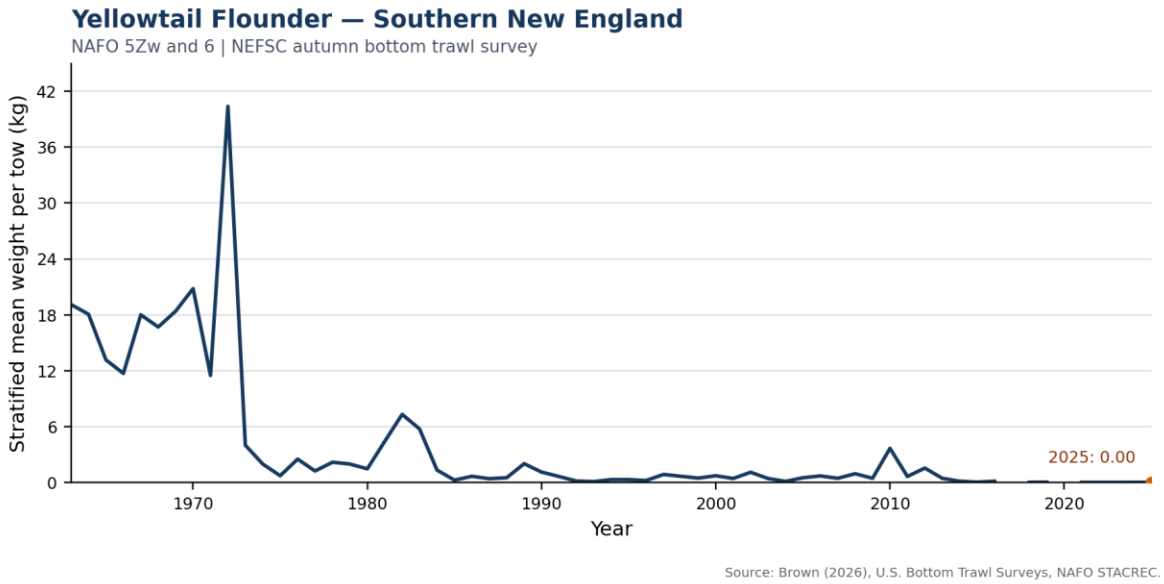


Figure 9. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for yellowtail flounder, southern New England (approximately NAFO Div. 5Zw and Subarea 6). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.



Figure 10. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for American plaice (NAFO Div. 5Y, 5Z and Subarea 6). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

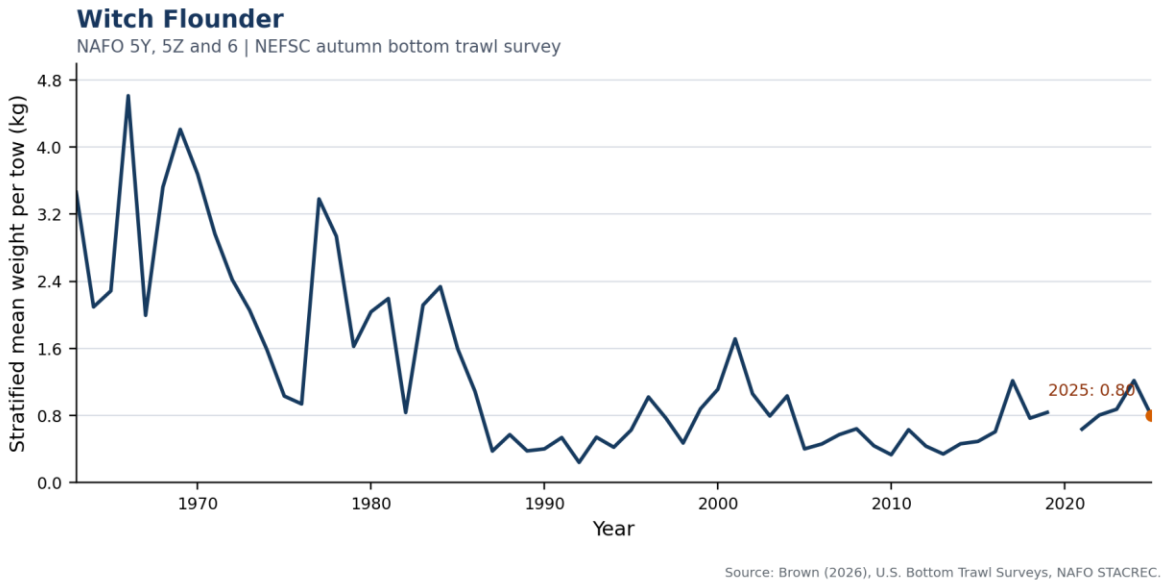


Figure 11. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for witch flounder (NAFO Div. 5Y, 5Z and Subarea 6). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

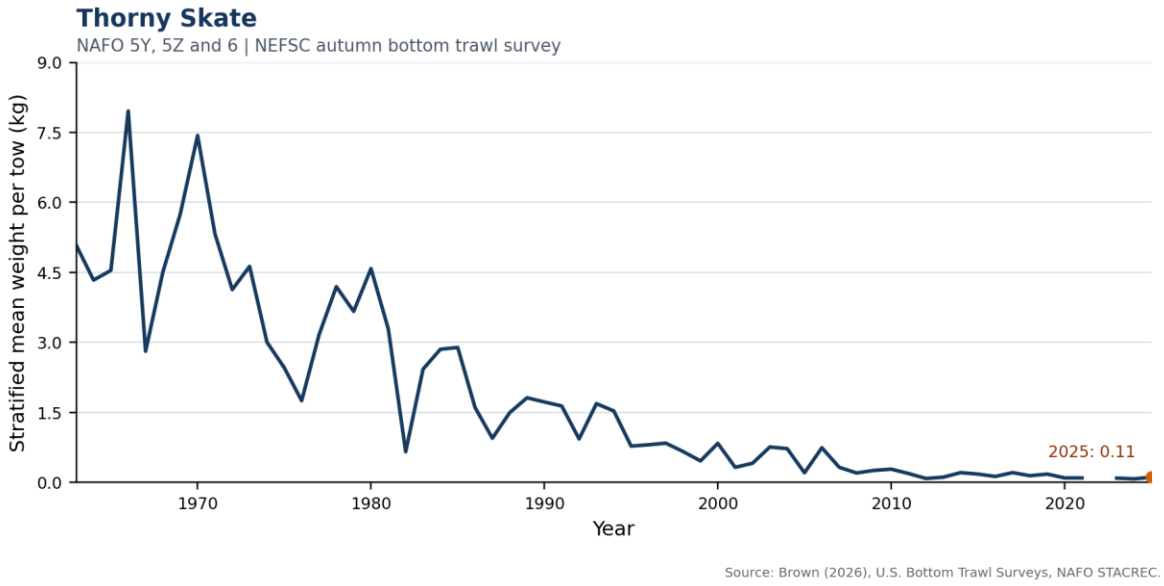


Figure 12. NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey biomass indices for thorny skate, reported in STATLANT 21A as starry ray (NAFO Div. 5Y, 5Z and Subarea 6). NEFSC autumn bottom trawl survey stratified mean weight per tow through 2025. Reconstructed from Brown (2026); presentation-level precision.

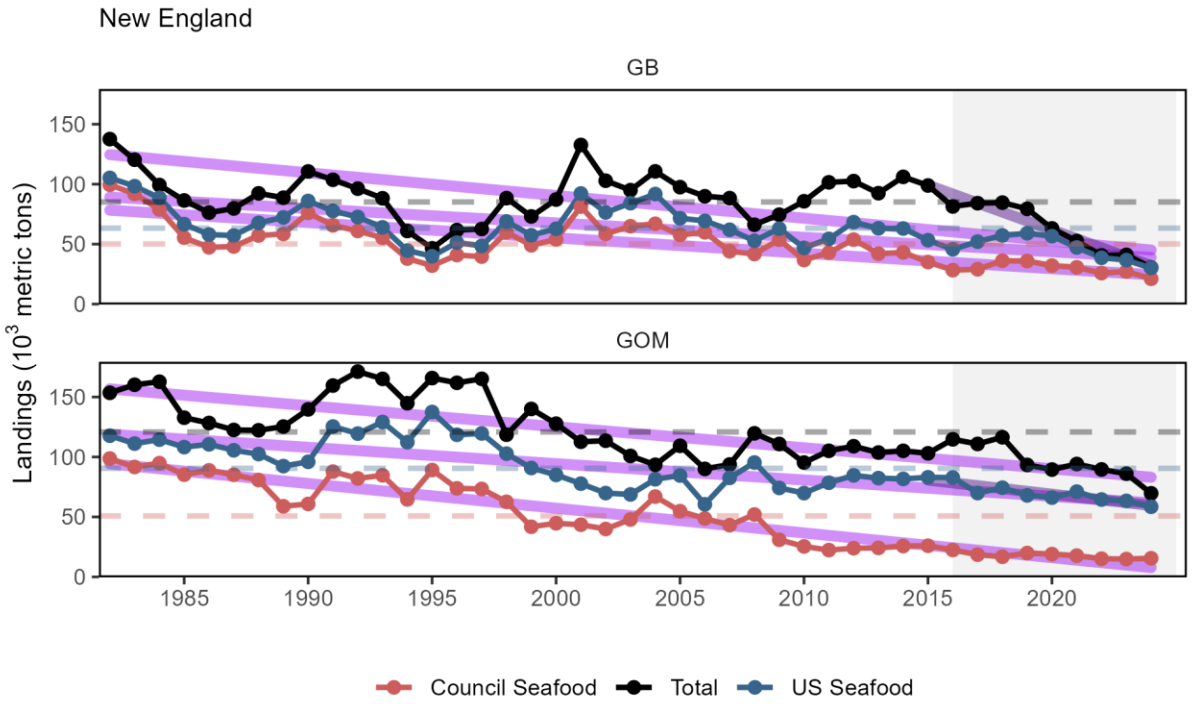


Figure 13. Total commercial landings (black), total United States seafood landings (blue) and New England Fishery Management Council-managed United States seafood landings (red) for Georges Bank (top) and the Gulf of Maine (bottom). Purple lines denote significant long-term declines. Reproduced from NEFSC (2026), Figure 2.

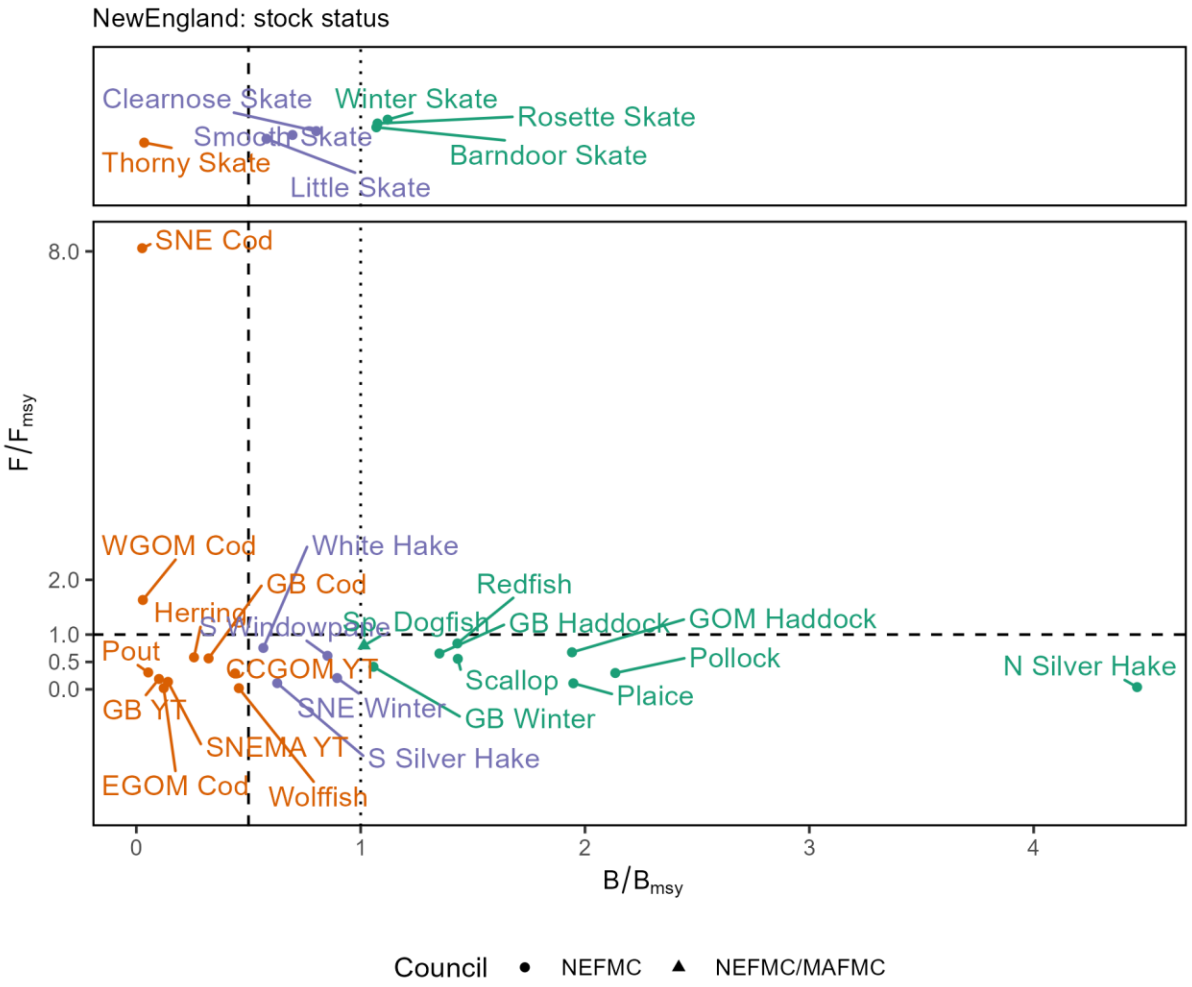


Figure 14. Summary of single-species status for New England Fishery Management Council and jointly managed stocks. The dotted vertical line at one is the biomass target reference point; dashed lines are the biomass and fishing mortality thresholds. Reproduced from NEFSC (2026), Figure 7.

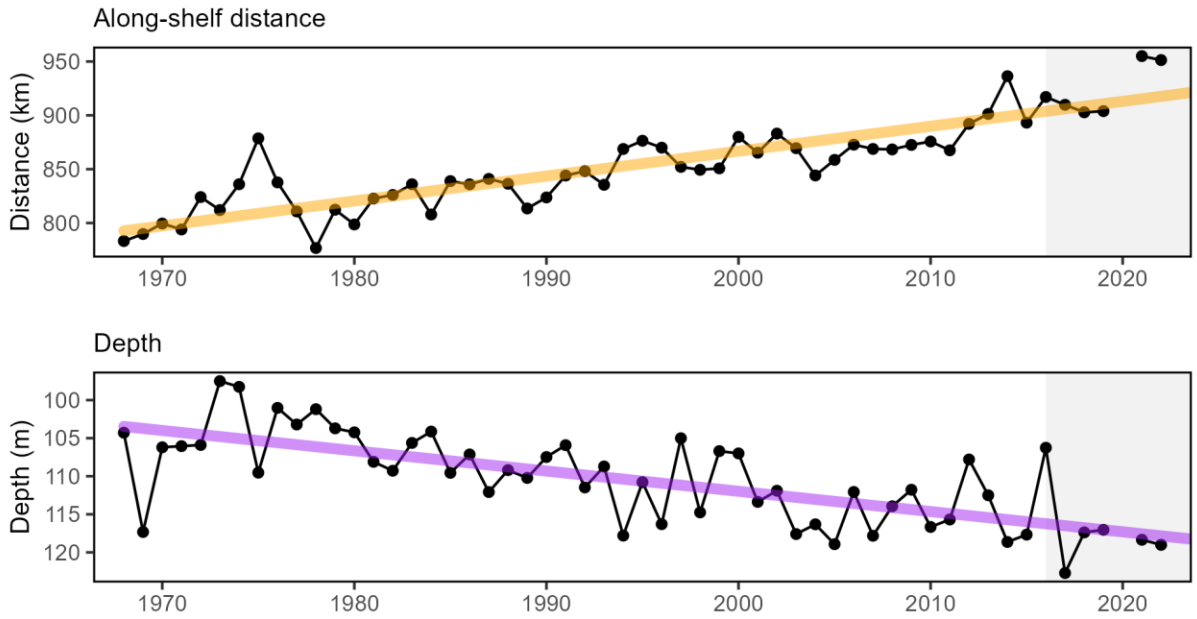


Figure 15. Aggregate species distribution metrics for 48 species in the Northeast Large Marine Ecosystem: along-shelf distance, with a long-term increasing trend (orange), and depth, with a long-term trend indicating movement into deeper water (purple). Reproduced from NEFSC (2026), Figure 34.

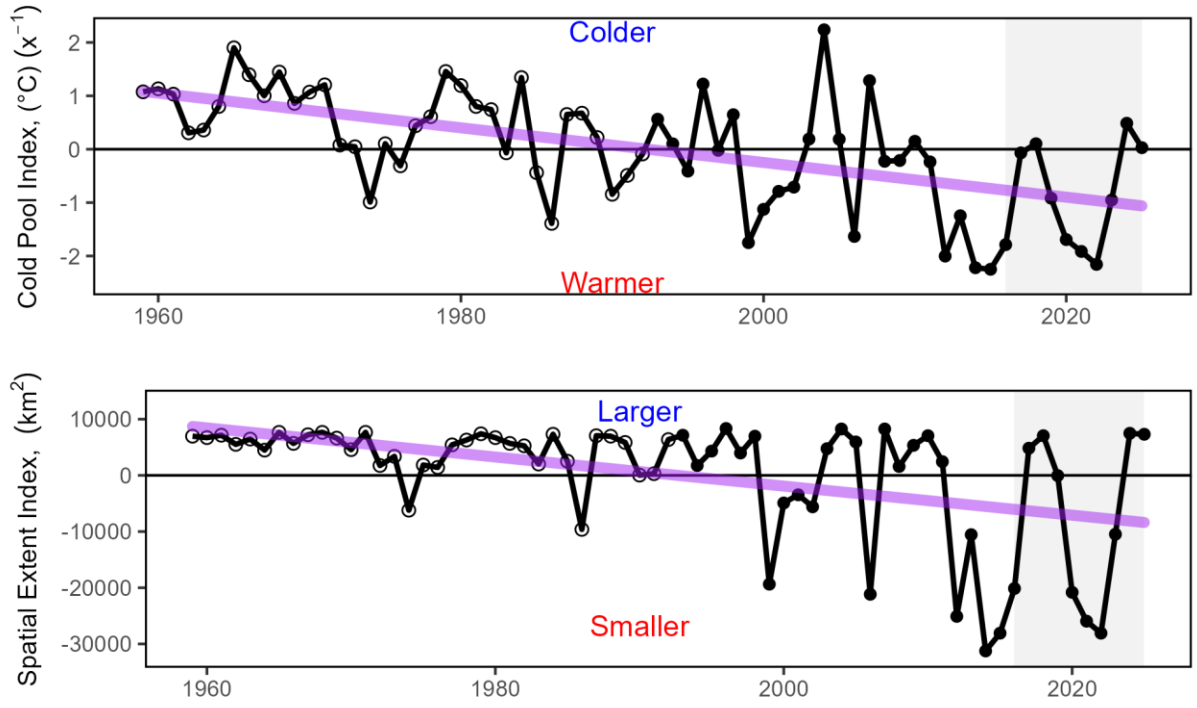


Figure 16. Seasonal Mid-Atlantic Bight Cold Pool mean temperature (top) and spatial extent index (bottom), with significant long-term declining trends (purple). Reproduced from NEFSC (2026), Figure 47.

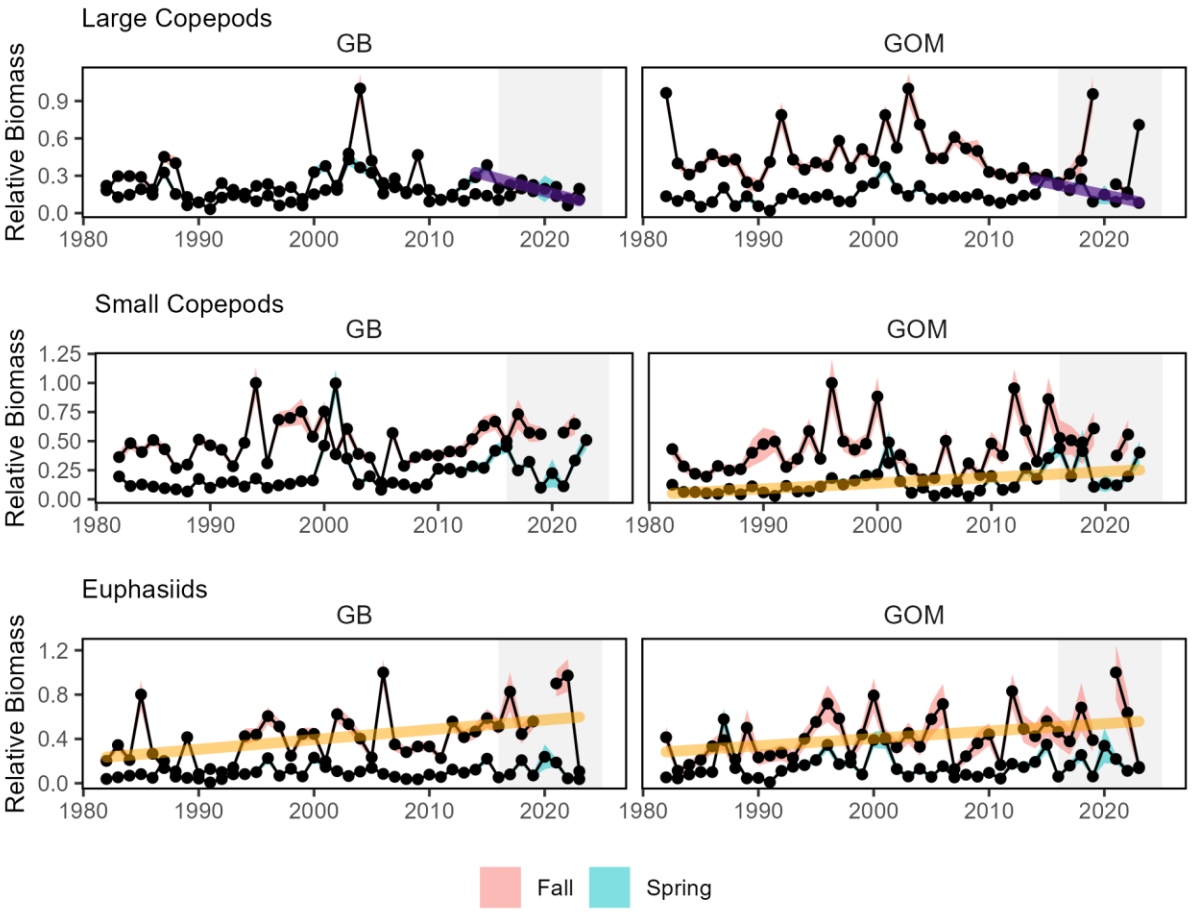


Figure 17. Abundance anomalies of large copepods (including Calanus finmarchicus, top), small copepods (middle) and euphausiids (bottom) on Georges Bank (left) and in the Gulf of Maine (right). Reproduced from NEFSC (2026), Figure 59.

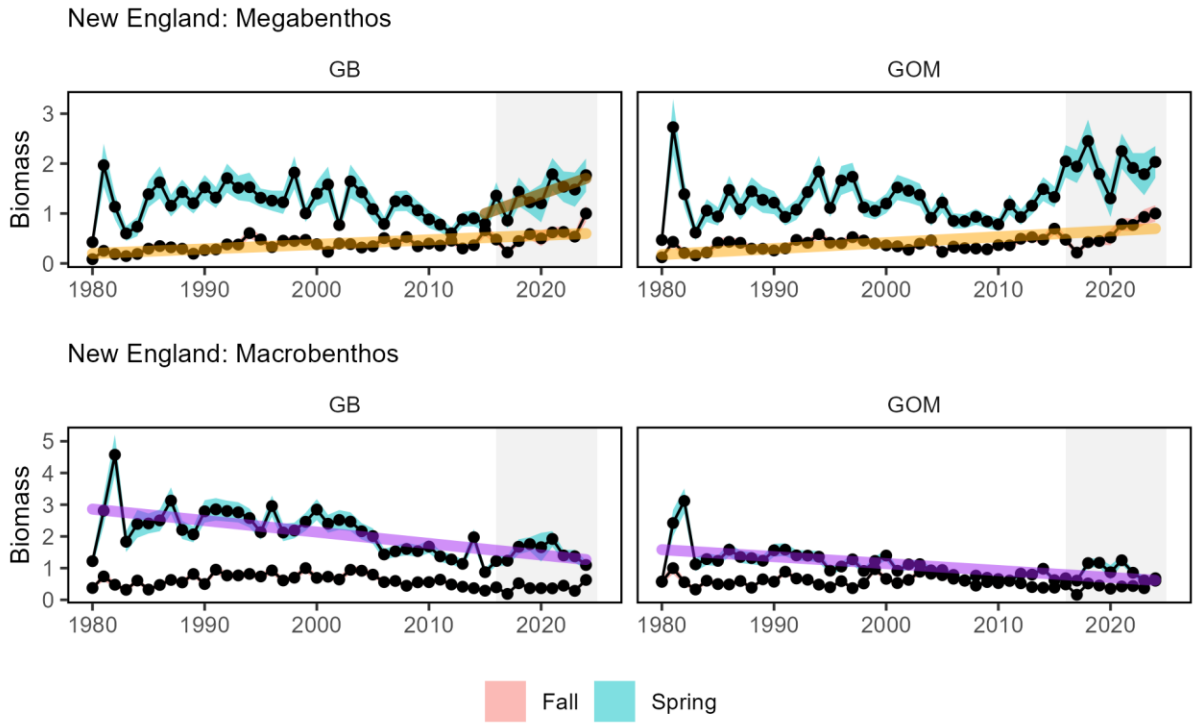


Figure 18. Spring (blue) and autumn (red) benthos abundance in New England for megabenthos (top) and macrobenthos (bottom), with significant long-term increasing (orange), short-term increasing (dark orange) and long-term decreasing (purple) trends. Reproduced from NEFSC (2026), Figure 58.

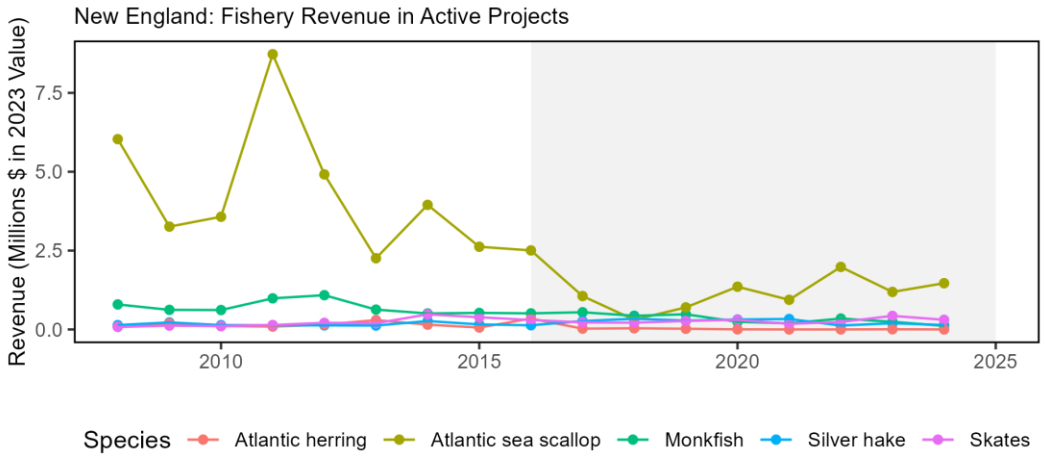


Figure 19. Revenue of species managed by the New England Fishery Management Council from fishing trips within offshore wind lease areas, with significant long-term declines (purple) in Atlantic sea scallop, Atlantic herring, monkfish and silver hake. Reproduced from NEFSC (2026), Figure 66.