

Oyster Management Plan 2022 Amendment

Aquaculture Coordinating Council
Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission
Tidal Fisheries Advisory Commission

July 2022



Background

Background on Fishery Management Plans

- Serve as a framework for conserving and wisely using fishery resources
- Basic goal is to protect the reproductive capacity of a resource while allowing optimal harvest
- Plan defines goals, objectives, strategies and options/actions for managing the resource and addressing problems/issues
- Need to be broad and general to allow for flexibility in management via regulations over the next 10+ years

Oyster Fishery Management Plan last updated in May 2019



OMP Amendment

- Incorporate the OAC's package of consensus recommendations into the 2019 Oyster Management Plan
- Some new actions were drafted
- Some parts of the package of consensus recommendation were already being addressed in the 2019 OMP - no new action required.



OMP Amendment

Recommendation - DNR should develop tools to mark navigation hazards and oyster management boundaries.

Not being addressed in the 2019 OMP

Added a new Action in the amendment

Action 8.0.9

Continue supporting a mobile mapping application related to shellfish management.



OMP Amendment

Recommendation - Conduct a comprehensive survey of the Maryland Bay bottom with a focus on describing the current amount, quality, and location of oyster habitat.

Currently being addressed in the OMP with Action 3.0.6 and Action 6.1.1

- *Develop comprehensive maps of current oyster habitat within Maryland's Chesapeake Bay that include updated oyster bar boundaries and utilize best available data to locate oyster habitat and ground-truth the best areas for placing available substrate.*
- *Conduct a new bay bottom survey in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay and delineate the boundaries of oyster bars.*



Timeline

1. Amendment is reviewed by the Oyster Advisory Commission, Tidal and Sport Fisheries Advisory Commissions, and the Aquaculture Coordinating Council. Feedback is received and reviewed, and amendment is revised if necessary.
2. Amendment undergoes a 30-day public comment period. Feedback is received and reviewed, and amendment is revised if necessary.
3. The amendment is adopted
4. Department follows regulatory process to incorporate the amendment into regulation



Feedback

Please provide the department with feedback on the draft OMP amendment by:

August 31, 2022

Send comments to:

fisheriespubliccomment.dnr@maryland.gov

ASMFC & MAFMC

Updates and Announcements



Presented By:
Michael Luisi & Lynn Fegley
July 19, 2022

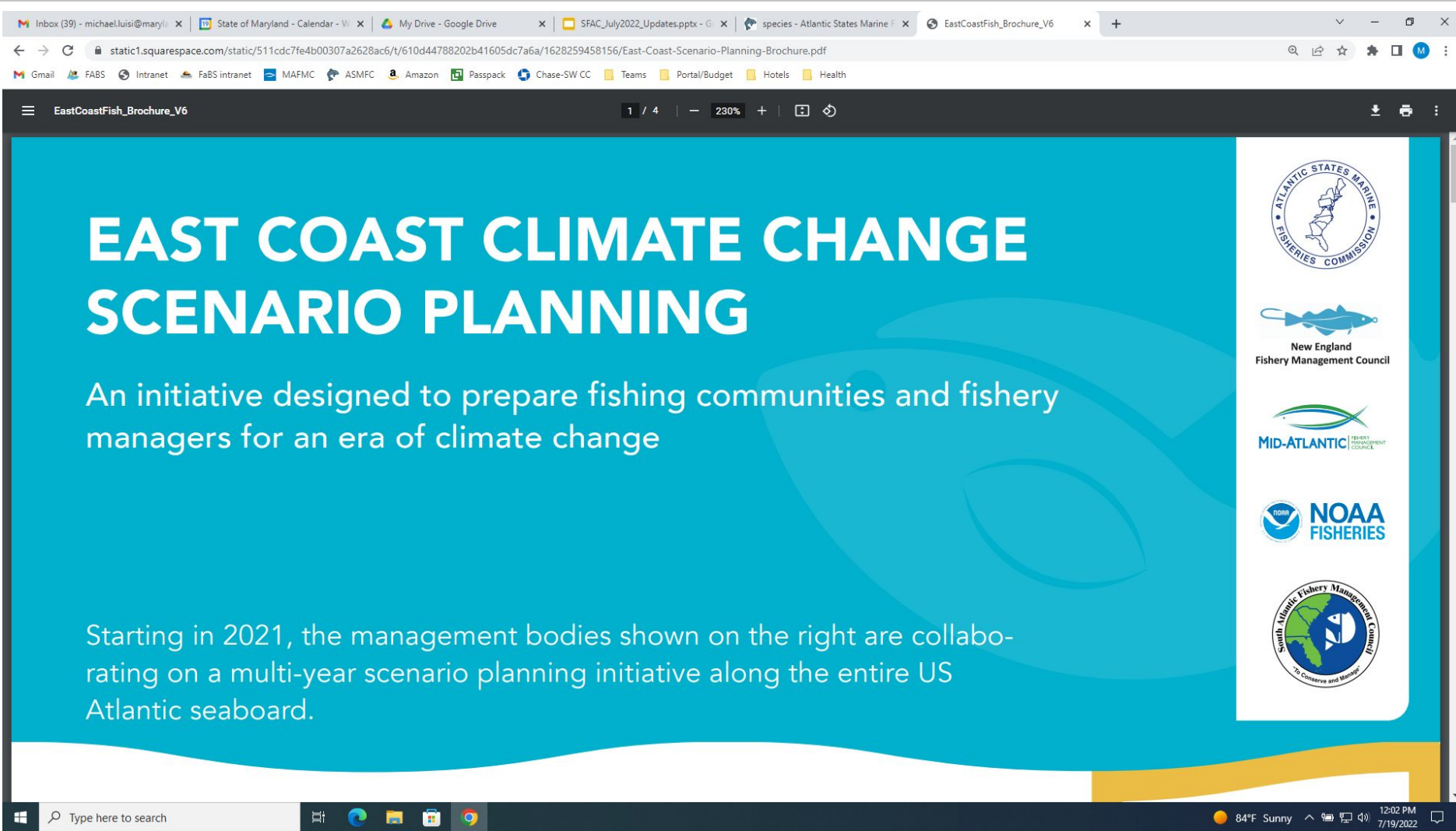
Recreational Harvest Control Rule - Final Action



BSB, SF, Scup and Bluefish



- Joint meeting of the Mid-Atl. Council and ASMFC Policy Board - June 2022
- Decided to move forward with an option to set recreational management measures (season, bag, and size limits) - **Percent Change Approach.**
- The new management program aims to provide greater stability and predictability in recreational measures from year-to-year while accounting for uncertainty in recreational catch estimates (MRIP).
- Managers will now be able to use multiple years of catch data to determine if the current measures will keep the recreational fishery from exceeding the target.
- Also, managers will consider the most recent estimate of stock size relative to the target stock size. These two factors, in combination, will be used to determine the percentage change in harvest that management measures should aim to achieve.
- Expected to be applied for the 2023 recreational fishery.



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following elements:

- Browser Tabs:** Includes 'Inbox (39) - michael.luisi@maryl...', 'State of Maryland - Calendar - W...', 'My Drive - Google Drive', 'SFAC_July2022_Updates.pptx - G...', 'species - Atlantic States Marine F...', and 'EastCoastFish_Brochure_V6'.
- Address Bar:** Shows the URL 'static1.squarespace.com/static/511cdc7fe4b00307a2628ac6/t/610d44788202b41605dc7a6a/1628259458156/East-Coast-Scenario-Planning-Brochure.pdf'.
- Page Title:** 'EastCoastFish_Brochure_V6'.
- Page Content:**
 - # EAST COAST CLIMATE CHANGE SCENARIO PLANNING
 - An initiative designed to prepare fishing communities and fishery managers for an era of climate change
 - Starting in 2021, the management bodies shown on the right are collaborating on a multi-year scenario planning initiative along the entire US Atlantic seaboard.
- Logos on the Right:**
 - ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
 - New England Fishery Management Council
 - MID-ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
 - NOAA FISHERIES
 - South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
- Taskbar:** Shows search, task view, and application icons (Edge, File Explorer, Mail, Chrome). System tray includes '84°F Sunny', '12:02 PM 7/19/2022', and notification icons.

(ASMFC) Striped Bass - Finalized Amendment 7

Changes and Next Steps (Timeline)

- Board finalized Amendment 7 in May 2022
 - Establishes a more conservative recruitment trigger (sensitive to low recruitment - requires action to reduce fishing mortality)
 - If the SSb is below the threshold - Board must implement a rebuilding plan within 2 years
 - Establishes limitation on the use of Conservation Equivalency (CE) and MRIP estimates when determining recreational measures while the stock is considered overfished
 - AM7 prohibits gaffing and fish caught using prohibited methods (J-hook and bait) must be returned to the water
- *August Meeting Highlights*
- *Updated Stock Assessment & Next Steps*



(ASMFC) Striped Bass - Finalized Amendment 7

Changes and Next Steps (Timeline)

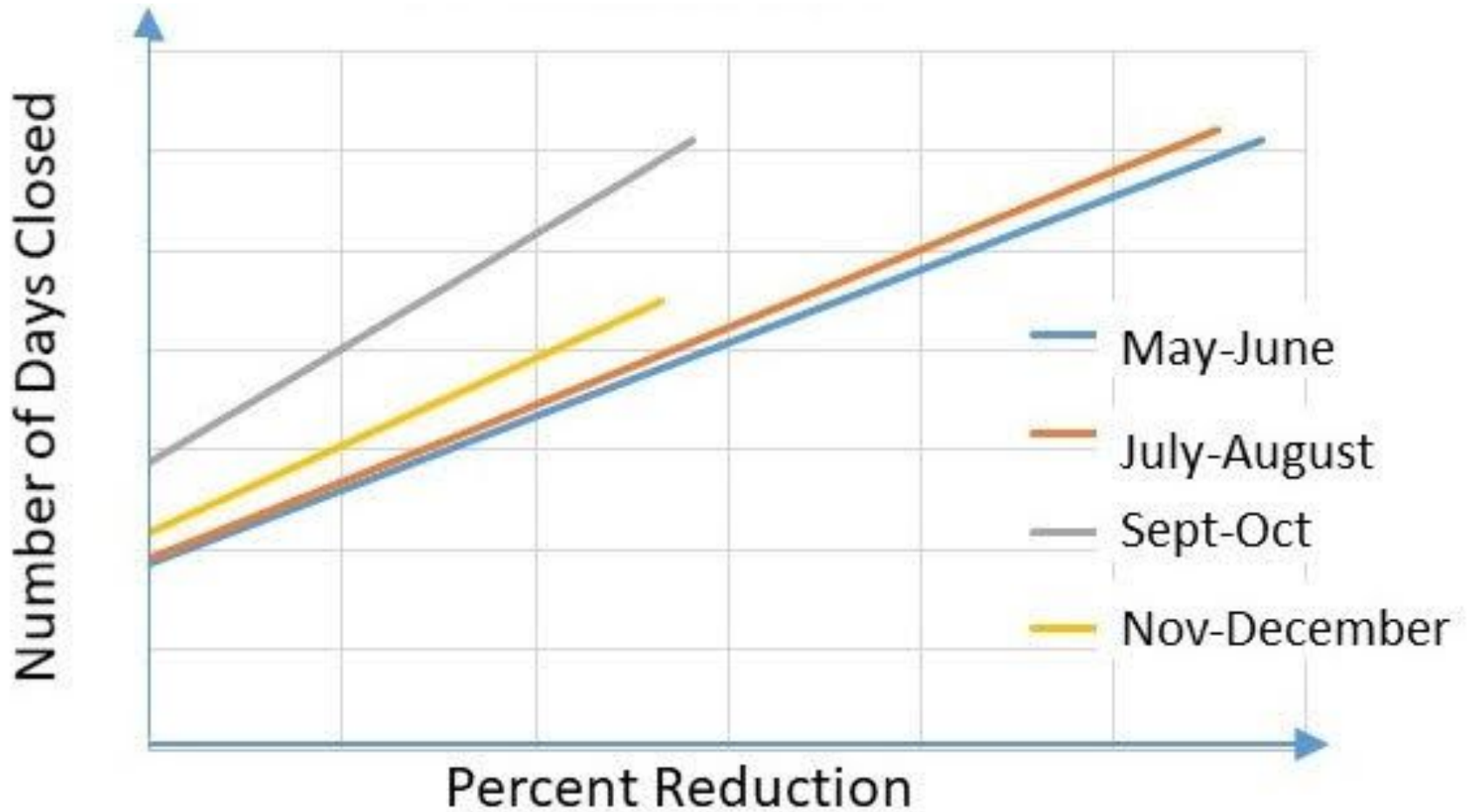
- August Meeting Highlights
 - Board will be providing guidance to the Technical Committee (TC) on types of options that will be available to the Board following the 2022 update to the stock assessment
 - DNR will be asking TC to provide management options that include:
 - Split bag limits (Charter and Private sectors)
 - Seasonal modifications (closures) accounting for regional differences in the Ches Bay (VA, MD and PRFC)



(ASMFC) Striped Bass - Finalized Amendment 7 *Changes and Next Steps (Timeline)*

- Updated Stock Assessment & Next Steps
 - Stock Assessment Update will be presented to the Board at the Annual ASMFC meeting in November - Long Branch, NJ
 - Depending on the outcome of the assessment...reductions in fishing mortality may be required
 - Meetings with MD stakeholders after the Board meeting before the new year
 - Decision on new recreational measures and commercial quotas will be implemented for 2023 fishing year.

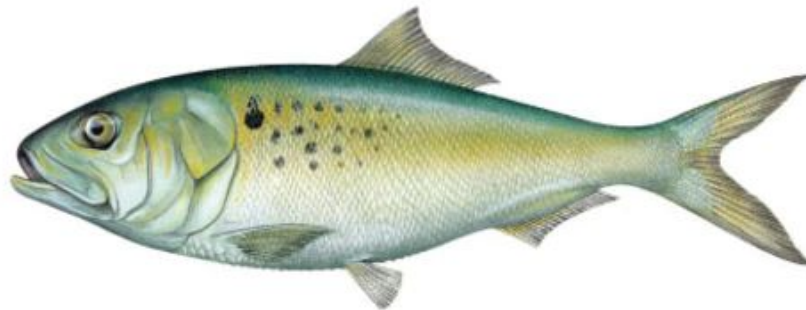




(ASMFC) Menhaden - Allocation Addendum

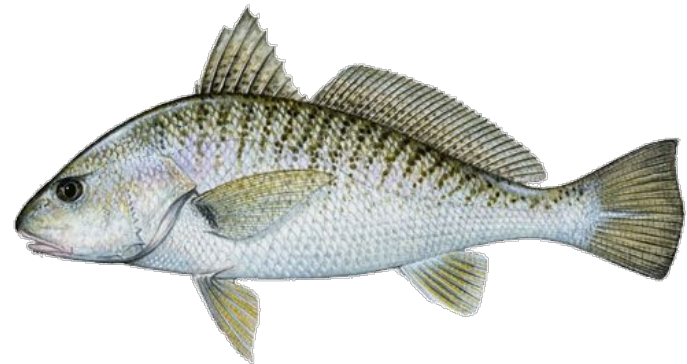
- Consider draft Addendum I of Amendment 3 to the Menhaden Management Plan - ALLOCATION!!
- Document will likely be approved - expect hearings in late summer.
- New Allocation on the ground for 2023

- Single species stock assessment update



(ASMFC) Sciaenids - Spot, Croaker, Drum

- Updated Traffic Light Analysis for Spot and Croaker
- Hear about efforts to model Spot abundance in Chesapeake Bay



Commercial Shrimp Pilot Program

- Program will be designed specific to Coastal Waters (Ocean) out to 3 miles
- Maximum of 6 permits
- Fishing limitations focused on the distance from the beach, time of day and gear used while operating in the pilot
- Observers will be used to collect data on shrimp and unintended bycatch
- Application process is planned for early August
- Season is planned for September 15, 2022 - January 31, 2023



Websites and Contact Information



www.asmfc.org



www.mafmc.org

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