

# RESOURCE SURVEY REPORT

## Preliminary Catch Summary

National Marine Fisheries Service  
Northeast Fisheries Science Center

### **Winter Bottom Trawl Survey**

Cape Hatteras - SE Georges Bank

February 3 - February 28, 2004

This report consists of field notes, station and catch summaries and a series of geographical plots of commercial and recreational important species caught during the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's 2004 winter bottom trawl survey aboard the *FRV ALBATROSS IV*. Tows were made with a standardized #36 Yankee flat trawl equipped with a rubber disc covered chain sweep, 30 fathom ground cables, 5 fathom legs and 1000 pound polyvalent doors. The cod end and upper belly were lined with 1/2-inch mesh to retain young-of-the-year fish.

Because of the 30-minute tow duration, and random selection of station locations, catches can be light compared to commercial tows. Also, vessel operations are on a 24-hour basis and catches have not been adjusted for day/night differences. Nevertheless, these data can provide useful information about distribution and relative abundance of species inhabiting the survey area (Cape Hatteras to Georges Bank).

The data are now summarized from audited catch files generated from the Fisheries Scientific Computer System (FSCS).

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