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NEFSC, FSB

Northeast Fisheries Observer Program

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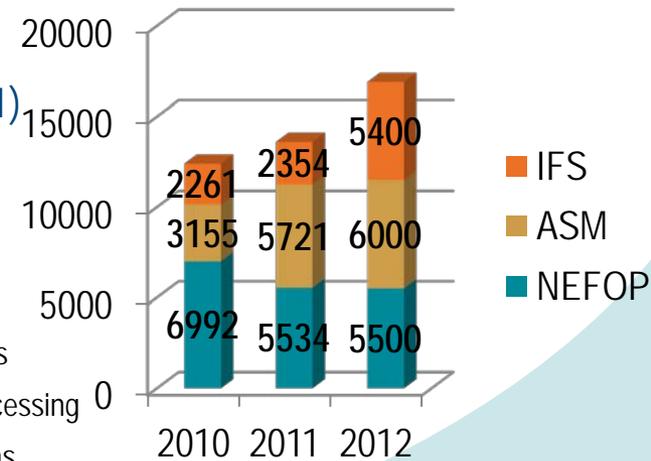
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Fishery Dependent Data Collection on Commercial Fishing Vessels

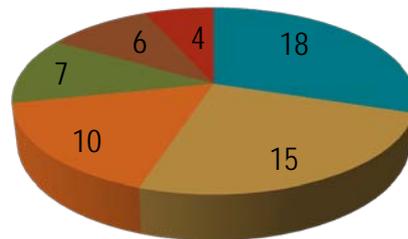
Programs & Number of Observers

- Northeast Fisheries Observer Program
MRAG Americas (47)
- Industry Funded Scallop Observer Program
AIS (24), EWTS (21), Fathoms (6)
- At-Sea Monitoring Program
AIS (31), EWTS (25), MRAG Americas (41)
- Electronic Monitoring Pilot Program
Archipelago Marine Research

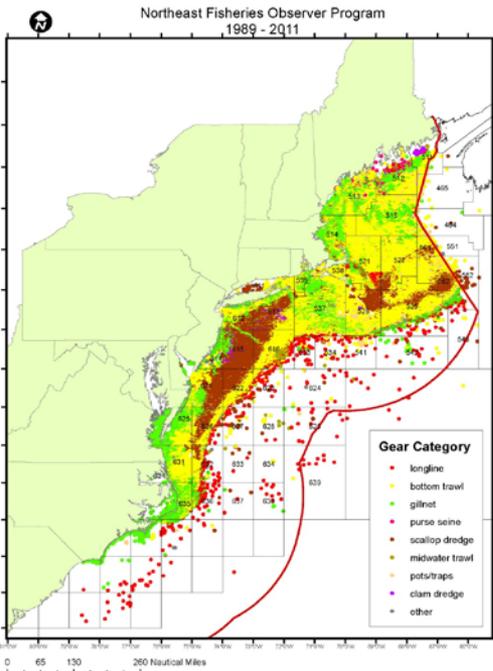
Seadays Per Fiscal Year



FSB Staff Members (60)



- Debriefers
- Data Processing
- Operations
- Training
- Admin Support
- Liaisons





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Data Quality Programs



Intensive and comprehensive training and certification process
Mentoring, feedback, validation, risk assessment

Data Availability

Preliminary: 72 hours

Fully audited: 45-90 days

Data Release Policy

Copies of Data for Fishermen (>1000/yr)

Fish-On-Line

Data Requests (>125/yr)

- Species Verification Program
- Shadow Trip Program
- Debriefings & Refresher Trainings
- Conflict Resolution Training and Industry Involvement
- Probation & Decertification Process
- Motion Calibrated Scale Program
- Captain Comment Card
- Fishermen Interviews
- Late Observer Policy
- Training Trips on Commercial Vessels
- Port Orientations
- Exit Interviews



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Uses of Observer Data

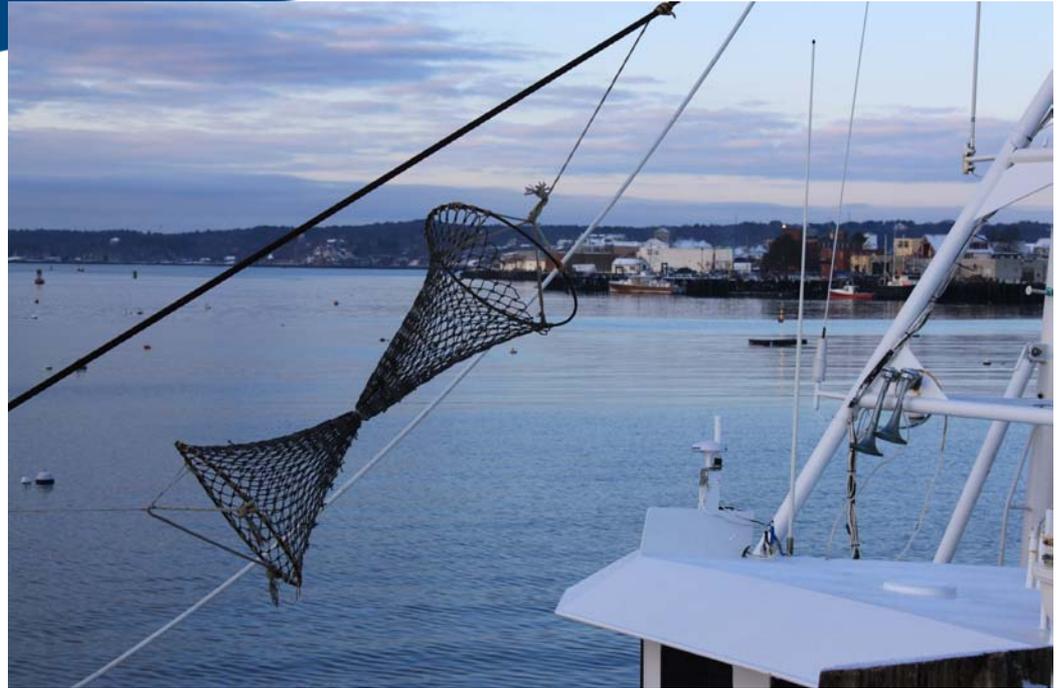
Stock Assessments, Fishery Management Decisions, and More...

- Catch rates with Haddock Separator, Ruhle Trawl, and Flounder Net – justification to fish in USC
 - Exemption requests for fisheries with low bycatch: redfish, skate, dogfish, and monkfish
 - Butterfish catch cap in the squid fishery
 - Haddock bycatch cap in the herring fishery
 - MSC Certification justifications
 - Opening of Great South Channel for scallop fishery
- Documentation of levels of sea turtle incidental takes w/implementation of turtle chain mats
 - Swordfish interaction to issue bycatch permit for the Illex fishery
- Emergency action to reduce haddock legal length from 19" to 18"
 - Life history, stock structure, contaminant, and disease studies





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If you hit the target every time, the target's too close.

- *Louis Pasteur*

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever has.” -*Margaret Mead*

“I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody.”

- *Bill Cosby*