River herring / shad catch by Atlantic mackerel vessels

Report run on : December 28, 2015

Data reported through: December 27, 2015

Quota period: 1/1/15 to 12/31/15

Month	Monthly estimated river herring/shad catch (mt)	Cumulative estimated river herring/shad catch (mt)	Cumulative percent of quota (89 mt)
JANUARY	3.09	3.09	3.47%
FEBRUARY	0.70	3.79	4.26%
MARCH	3.95	7.74	8.70%
APRIL	1.10	8.84	9.93%
MAY	0.79	9.63	10.82%
JUNE	0.00	9.63	10.82%
JULY	0.00	9.63	10.82%
AUGUST	0.00	9.63	10.82%
SEPTEMBER	0.00	9.63	10.82%
OCTOBER	0.00	9.63	10.82%
NOVEMBER	2.45	12.08	13.57%
DECEMBER	0.65	12.73	14.30%

Effective 4/20/2015:

Final 2015 Atlantic mackerel specifications reduced the river herring and shad cap from 236 mt to 89 mt. Initially the cap is set at 89 mt, but will increase to 155 mt if Atlantic mackerel landings surpass 10,000 mt.

NOTICE

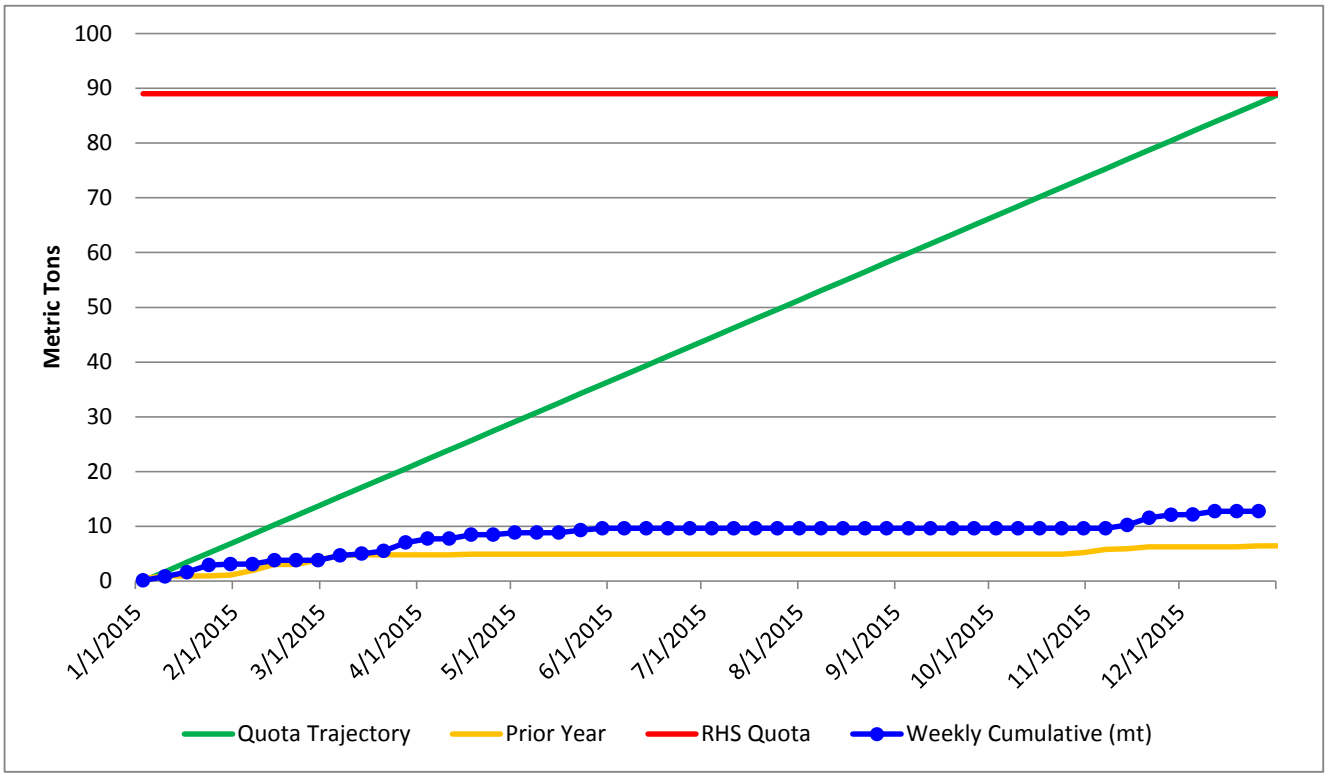
The river herring / shad (RHS) incidental catch cap is monitored based on the calendar year (January 1-December 31). Once the RHS incidental catch is caught, the Atlantic mackerel fishery will close for the remainder of the year.

The method for estimating river herring/shad (RHS) catch by Atlantic mackerel vessels is similar to the method for estimating catch and discards in the multispecies fisheries. This method replaces estimated pounds with observed pounds where available.

The cumulative method uses catch from the entire year to estimate a coast-wide RHS catch ratio. The RHS catch ratio is calculated by dividing observed RHS catch for the year by the observed kept-all (total amount of all species) for the year.

RHS pounds per unobserved trip are then estimated by multiplying the catch ratio by the kept all from unobserved Atlantic mackerel vessels.

For questions regarding Atlantic mackerel management, please contact the Sustainable Fisheries Division at 978-281-9315. For guidance on the most recent notification and reporting requirements please **click here**.

More information on this methodology can be found at **click here**.

These data are the best available to NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) when this report was compiled. Data for this report are supplied to NMFS from vessels via the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), the Vessel Trip Report System (VTR), dealer reports, and the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program. Data may be preliminary. Discrepancies with previous reports are due to corrections made to the database.