

As indicated in Table X-2, seven of the stocks managed under the Northeast Multispecies FMP are classified as overfished, including redfish (*Sebastes* spp.), the southern New England and Middle Atlantic stocks of yellowtail flounder, white hake (*Urophycis tenuis*), ocean pout (*Macrozoarces americanus*), Atlantic halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*), and the Southern Georges Bank stock of silver hake (*Merluccius bilinearis*). Other stocks are in the process of being rebuilt from levels below the maximum sustainable

yield, including the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank stocks of Atlantic cod and haddock, the Cape Cod stock of yellowtail flounder, the Georges Bank stock of winter flounder, and the Gulf of Maine/Northern Georges Bank stock of silver hake (NMFS, 2002).

Stocks of another 12 North Atlantic species are under the jurisdiction of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) and are not included in federal FMPs. These stocks and their status are given in Table X-3.

Offshore fisheries for crustaceans and molluscs, particularly American lobster (*Homarus americanus*) and sea scallop (*Placopecten magellanicus*), are among the most valuable fisheries in the Northeast (NMFS, 1999a). Surfclams (*Spisula solidissima*), ocean quahogs (*Arctica islandica*), squids (*Loligo pealeii* and *Illex illecebrosus*), northern shrimp (*Pandalus borealis*), and red crab (*Chaceon quinque-dens*) also provide important invertebrate fisheries.

TABLE X-3.—SUMMARY OF STOCK STATUS OF HARVESTED SPECIES OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC REGION UNDER AFSCM JURISDICTION AND NOT INCLUDED IN FEDERAL FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLANS

| Stock (species in bold are major stocks, with annual landings over 200,000 pounds) | Overfishing? (fishing mortality above threshold) | Overfished? (stock size below threshold) | Approaching overfished condition? |
|--|--|---|---|
| American Eel | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| American Lobster | Yes | Undefined | Unknown |
| Atlantic Croaker | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| Atlantic Menhaden | No | No | Unknown |
| Atlantic Sturgeon | No | Yes | N/A |
| Horseshoe Crab | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| Northern Shrimp | Yes | Undefined | Unknown |
| Spot | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| Spotted Seatrout | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |
| Striped Bass | No | No | Unknown |
| Tautog | Yes | Undefined | Unknown |
| Weakfish | Undefined | No | No |

Source: Table 6 in NMFS (2002).

The Northeast lobster fishery is second in commercial value after the multispecies groundfish fishery. The most recent comprehensive stock assessment, completed in 1996, indicated that lobster fishing mortality rates for both inshore and offshore populations greatly exceed the levels needed to provide maximum yields

(NMFS, 1999a). Lobster fishing mortality in the Gulf of Maine was almost double the overfishing level. Inshore from Cape Cod through Long Island Sound fishing mortality was three times the overfishing level.

2. Impingement and Entrainment Results

Table X-4 provides a list of impinged and entrained species for the North Atlantic region that EPA was able to evaluate at the time of the NODA. The life history data used in EPA's analysis and associated data sources are provided in "Appendix 1: Life History Parameter Values Used to Evaluate I & E in the North Atlantic Region."

TABLE X-4.—SPECIES GROUPS AND ASSOCIATED SPECIES FOR THE NORTH ATLANTIC REGION

| Species | Commercial | Recreational | Forage |
|----------------------------------|------------|--------------|--------|
| Alewife | X | ..... | ..... |
| American fourspot flounder ..... | ..... | ..... | X |
| American plaice | X | ..... | ..... |
| American sand lance ..... | ..... | ..... | X |
| American shad | X | X | ..... |
| Atlantic tomcod ..... | ..... | ..... | X |
| Atlantic cod | X | X | ..... |
| Atlantic seasnail ..... | ..... | ..... | X |
| Atlantic silverside | X | ..... | ..... |
| Atlantic menhaden | X | ..... | ..... |
| Atlantic mackerel | X | X | ..... |
| Atlantic herring | X | ..... | X |
| Bay anchovy ..... | ..... | ..... | X |
| Blackspotted stickleback ..... | ..... | ..... | X |
| Blue mussel | X | X | ..... |
| Blueback herring | X | X | ..... |
| Bluefish | X | X | ..... |
| Butterfish ..... | ..... | ..... | X |
| Clearence skate | X | ..... | ..... |
| Cunner | X | X | ..... |
| Cusk ..... | ..... | ..... | X |
| Fourbeard rockling ..... | ..... | ..... | X |