



NOAA FISHERIES

Sustainable Fisheries

2019 Quarter 4 Update through December 31, 2019

2019 Quarter 4 Score = 778.5 (October 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019)

NOTE: Stocks contained in the FSSI were revised, effective December 31, 2019. For more information, see the [Fish Stock Sustainability Index](#) page.

Overview

The Fish Stock Sustainability Index (FSSI) is a performance measure for the sustainability of 175 U.S. fish stocks¹ selected for their importance to commercial and recreational fisheries. The FSSI will increase as stock status becomes known, overfishing is ended, and stocks increase to the level that provides maximum sustainable yield.

Overview of FSSI stocks through December 31, 2019 (175 stocks)

Overfishing Status	Number of Stocks	Overfished Status	Number of Stocks
Known Status	155	Known Status	151
Not Subject to Overfishing	144	Not Overfished (includes 1 stock approaching an overfished condition)	129
Subject to Overfishing	11	Overfished	22
Unknown Status	20	Unknown Status	24

Summary of Changes for FSSI stocks from October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019

Stock	Jurisdiction	Previous Status	Current Status
Lane snapper – Gulf of Mexico	GMFMC	Subject to overfishing	Not subject to overfishing
Cabezon - Oregon	PFMC	Subject to overfishing	Not subject to overfishing
American plaice - Gulf of Maine / Georges Bank	NEFMC	Not overfished–rebuilding	Rebuilt
Yellowtail flounder - Cape Cod / Gulf of Maine	NEFMC	Subject to overfishing Overfished	Not subject to overfishing Not overfished-rebuilding
Yellowtail flounder - Southern New England / Mid-Atlantic	NEFMC	Subject to overfishing	Not subject to overfishing
White hake - Gulf of Maine / Georges Bank	NEFMC	Not overfished–rebuilding	Overfished

¹ The majority of species are assessed as a single stock; however, there are a few that are assessed as a stock complex, which contain a group of species with similar geographic distribution, co-occurrence in fisheries, and life history.

Stock	Jurisdiction	Previous Status	Current Status
Winter flounder – Georges Bank	NEFMC	Not overfished–rebuilding	Overfished
Tilefish - South Atlantic coast	SAFMC	Subject to overfishing	Not subject to overfishing
Gray snapper - Gulf of Mexico	GMFMC	Subject to overfishing	Not subject to overfishing
Gray triggerfish - Gulf of Mexico	GMFMC	Not subject to overfishing	Subject to overfishing
Greater amberjack - Gulf of Mexico	GMFMC	Not subject to overfishing	Subject to overfishing
Greater amberjack - Southern Atlantic coast	SAFMC	Not subject to overfishing	Subject to overfishing
Red grouper - South Atlantic	SAFMC	Not subject to overfishing	Subject to overfishing

Overview of non-FSSI stocks through December 31, 2019 (286 non-FSSI stocks)

Overfishing Status	Number of Stocks	Overfished Status	Number of Stocks
Known Status	166	Known Status	93
Not Subject to Overfishing	155	Not Overfished (includes 1 stock approaching an overfished condition)	69
Subject to Overfishing	11	Overfished	24
Unknown Status	120	Unknown Status	193

Summary of Changes for Non-FSSI stocks from October 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019

Stock	Jurisdiction	Previous Status	Current Status
White marlin – Atlantic	HMS	Subject to overfishing	Not subject to overfishing
Hogfish – Southeast Florida	SAFMC	Subject to overfishing	Not subject to overfishing
Cobia – Southern Atlantic coast	SAFMC	Not subject to overfishing Not overfished	Removed from federal management
Large Coastal Shark Complex	HMS	Overfishing – Unknown Overfished - Unknown	Stocks are now listed out individually: Spinner Shark, Silky Shark, Bull Shark, Tiger Shark, Lemon Shark (now FSSI), Nurse Shark, Great Hammerhead Shark (now FSSI), and Smooth Hammerhead Shark (now FSSI)
Pelagic Shark Complex	HMS	Overfishing – Unknown Overfished - Unknown	Stocks are now listed out individually: Oceanic Whitetip Shark and Thresher Shark

FSSI stock status updates are posted quarterly at:

http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/fisheries_eco/status_of_fisheries/