**Stock Status**-- *Overfished.* Aggregate weight of mature females is declining. Less than 1% of the landed fish are over age 5. Total stock size is near record-low abundance levels.

**Average Commercial Landings and Value 1991-2000**-- 53,060 lb, $19,326

**2000 Commercial Landings and Value** -- none reported

**Average Recreational Landings 1991-2000**-- 3,041 lb. **2000** -- 64 lb

**Status of Fisheries Management Plan**-- Currently managed under the joint ASMFC/MAFMC Fishery Management Plan for Scup. Management measures include commercial quotas, minimum mesh sizes for trawls, and minimum fish size limits.

**Research and Data Needs**-- continue monitoring of catches.

**Current Limits**-- 9 inches (TL) commercial, 8 inches (TL) and 50 per day recreational.

**Harvest Season**-- commercial season closes after quota is met.

**Size and Age at Maturity** -- 7 inches TL, 2 years old

**Historical and Current Maximum Age**--19 years old, 10 years old

**Juvenile Abundance Index** -- not available

**Habits/Habitats**-- Scup are a schooling continental shelf species found in depths from 40 to 100 fathoms. Scup are found off North Carolina in late January through April near the canyon areas. This species spawns from May through August in near shore ocean waters from Southern New England to Long Island.

For more information, see [DMF Species Leads page](#)