



North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Division of Marine Fisheries

Beverly Eaves Perdue  
Governor

Dr. Louis B. Daniel III  
Director

Dee Freeman  
Secretary

**MEMORANDUM**

**To: N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission  
Dr. Louis Daniel, Director**

**From: Kathy Rawls, Biological Review Team Chair**

**Subject: Stock Status Report**

**Date: June 28, 2010**

Attached is the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries' 2010 Stock Status Report with the changes from last year outlined below. This annual report is intended to serve as a general barometer of the overall health of our fishery resources and is used to prioritize development of fishery management plans and subsequent plan amendments.

Spotted seatrout changed from Concern to Depleted based on the 2009 N.C. Spotted Seatrout Stock Assessment. The assessment indicated the stock is overfished and undergoing overfishing based on data from 1991-2008.

Spiny dogfish improved from Recovering to Viable. The Transboundary Resource Assessment Committee (TRAC) conducted a peer-reviewed stock assessment in January 2010. A group of peer reviewers selected new biomass targets based on data from the TRAC assessment. The new biomass targets were exceeded in 2008 and 2009 and were consistent with a rebuilt stock.

Species to watch in 2010-2011 are those species that have North Carolina fishery management plans under revision which include striped bass, blue crabs, striped mullet and southern flounder. Other species to monitor are those that have upcoming amendments or assessments through Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission or federal councils, including Atlantic Ocean striped bass, reef fish, Atlantic croaker and coastal sharks.