

## **YELLOW PERCH**

(06/05 ARCHIVE - NCDMF)

**Stock Status - *Concerned*** - Significant increase in effort and landings since 1991. Fish are targeted during the winter and early spring during spawning. Yellow perch populations are system specific and have been heavily targeted contributing to a 60 percent decline in 2004 commercial landings. Federal aid project F-80 began in March 2004 to fulfill data needs for upcoming FMP. Data are currently insufficient to evaluate status.

**Average Commercial Landings and Value 1995-2004** - 78,730 lbs./\$72,118

**2004 Commercial Landings and Value** - 39,785 lbs./\$37,976

**Average Recreational Landings 1995-2004** – Unknown, **2004** - Unknown

**Average Number of Award Citations 1995-2004** - N/A, **2004** - N/A

**Average RCGL Landings for 1995-2004** - N/A **2004** - N/A

**Status of Fisheries Management Plan** - No state or federal plan. State plan schedule 2010-2012

**Data/Research Needs** - All types of fishery dependent and independent data.

**Current Regulations (2005)** - None

**Harvest Season (2005)**- Open year round

**Size and Age at Maturity** – Males: 5 inches/2 years; Females: 6 inches/3 years-4 years

**Historical Maximum Age** - 13 years

**Juvenile Abundance index Average** (# of individuals pre unit of effort) **1995-2004** -Unknown, **2004** – 0.8

**Habits/Habitats** - Spawning occurs from late January to early March, depending on water temperatures, in rivers and creeks. Eggs are laid in a sticky gelatinous mass. Eggs will hatch into fry in 2 weeks-3 weeks, depending on water temperatures. The young form schools and utilize the rivers as a nursery area, as do the adults.

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