

Stock: White Hake

Factor	Supporting Information
Stock Status and Uncertainty	
Biomass Stock Status	Rebuilding target: 2031
	<i>Awaiting updated assessment information</i>
	<i>Awaiting updated assessment information</i>
Recruitment	<i>Awaiting updated assessment information</i>
Assessment Type and Uncertainty	Analytical, ASAP, 2024
	<i>Awaiting updated assessment information</i>
	<i>Awaiting updated assessment information</i>
	<i>Awaiting updated assessment information</i>
Climate and Ecosystem	
Climate Vulnerability	high climate exposure + moderate biological sensitivity = moderate climate vulnerability negative directional effect of climate change
	22 prey categories: species in the gadidae family which could include pollock; silver hake; Atlantic cod; Atlantic mackerel; haddock; atlantic hagfish; Acadian redfish; species in the hake family; Atlantic herring and other fish in the clupeidae family; four beard rockling fish; squid; and 6 families of marine crustaceans.
Fish Condition	Poor fish condition based on the most frequent condition reported over the past three years for White hake sampled in GOM and GB
Economic and Community Importance	
Commercial Fishery Characterization	<u>Overall decline in landed groundfish pounds, groundfish revenue, and groundfish ex-vessel prices:</u> <i>Total groundfish landings:</i> 36.88 million pounds in FY2021; 33.26 million pounds in FY2022; 32.53 million pounds in FY2023 <i>Average groundfish ex-vessel prices:</i> \$1.38/lb in FY2021; \$1.34/lb in FY2022; \$1.28/lbs in FY2023
	<i>Commercial Groundfish Revenue for White Hake (2023\$):</i> \$6.2 million in FY2021; \$5.5 million in FY2022; \$4.8 million in FY2023; \$5.3 million 5-year average
	<i>Ex-vessel price/lb for White Hake (2023\$/lb):</i> \$1.98/lb in FY2021; \$1.82/lb in FY2022; \$1.68/lb in FY2023; \$1.72/lb 5-year average
	<i>Total catch of White Hake:</i> 1,941.6 mt in FY2021; 1,850.2 mt in FY2022; 1,765.9 mt in FY2023
	<i>Commercial groundfish fishery catch of White Hake:</i> 1,930.1 mt in FY2021; 1,843.4 mt in FY2022; 1,760.3 mt in FY2023
	The default management uncertainty buffer of 5% was applied to the commercial groundfish fishery in FY2025.
	<u>Overall downward trend in FY2023:</u> 811 commercial groundfish permitted vessels (33% inactive); 533 reported landings (active vessels landing any revenue across common pool and sectors); 46 dealers reported buying groundfish, and 79 dealers reported buying any species on groundfish trips.

Stock:

White Hake

Factor	Supporting Information
Commercial Fishery Characterization	The top 5 ports based on the Groundfish-Specific Commercial Engagement Indicator (2004-2023) are Gloucester, MA; New Bedford, MA; Boston, MA; Narragansett, RI; and Portland, ME.
	White hake is a constraining stock to the commercial groundfish fishery with over 90% utilization of its ACL in the most recent 3 years. The groundfish fishery on a whole relies on quota within the multispecies complex.
Recreational Fishery Characterization	White hake does not have a recreational fishery component; no recreational fishery trend data is available.
	The default management uncertainty buffer of 5% is applied to stocks with a recreational component in the groundfish fishery, but is not relevant for White hake as there is no recreational fishery component.
	Most of the top communities in recreational engagement in the Northeast are in the Mid-Atlantic region, except for Narragansett/Point Judith, RI. Recreational fishermen in these communities are unlikely to rely on Northeast Multispecies.
Other Economic/Social Considerations	<i>ACE lease prices modeled using a hedonic price model from inter-sector leases for FY2018-2023</i> In recent years, inter-sector ACE lease trades for white hake are not associated with prices greater than \$0.80.
Additional Information	
Reference Points	SSBMSY: SSB/R (40% MSP) Biomass Threshold: 1/2B _{target} Max. Fishing Mortality Threshold: F40% MSP
OFLs	2,591 in FY2025
ABCs	1,921 mt in FY2025
AMs	In-season closures and lb-lb for commercial groundfish fishery
Harvest Control Rule	Rebuild of 70% FMSY in FY2025 The commercial groundfish fishery utilized 96% of its FY2023 ACL and other fisheries utilized 29% of their FY2023 subcomponents.
Significant source of catch outside the directed federal fishery?	No significant catch outside the groundfish fishery.

Stock:

Ocean Pout

Factor	Supporting Information
Stock Status and Uncertainty	
Biomass Stock Status	Overfished; Rebuilding target: 2029
	Overfishing is not occurring
	Biomass proxy = 0.263 kg/tow (5% of SSBMSY proxy = 4.94 kg/tow)
Recruitment	Assessment does not account for recruitment due to its empirical nature
Assessment Type and Uncertainty	Exploitation ratio, empirical, 2021
	The 2020 spring NEFSC survey year was treated as missing.
	Exploitation ratio does not allow estimation of a retrospective pattern
	In spite of the no possession limit, stock size has not responded to low levels of catch.
	Additional assessment uncertainty will occur as only a data update will be provided for the stock in 2025.
Climate and Ecosystem	
Climate Vulnerability	high climate exposure + high biological sensitivity = high climate vulnerability negative directional effect of climate change
	13 prey categories of marine invertebrates such as sea stars, brittle stars, sea urchins, snails, mollusks, crabs, scallops, and marine worms
Fish Condition	Good fish condition based on the most frequent condition reported over the past three years for Ocean pout sampled in MAB, GOM and GB
Economic and Community Importance	
Commercial Fishery Characterization	Overall decline in landed groundfish pounds, groundfish revenue, and groundfish ex-vessel prices: <i>Total groundfish landings:</i> 36.88 million pounds in FY2021; 33.26 million pounds in FY2022; 32.53 million pounds in FY2023 <i>Average groundfish ex-vessel prices:</i> \$1.38/lb in FY2021; \$1.34/lb in FY2022; \$1.28/lbs in FY2023
	Ocean pout is managed as a zero-possession stock; there is no commercial groundfish revenue or ex-vessel price data available.🔒
	<i>Total catch of Ocean Pout:</i> 44.9 mt in FY2021; 55.5 mt in FY2022; 41.9 mt in FY2023
	<i>Commerical groundfish fishery catch of Ocean Pout:</i> 24.6 mt in FY2021; 32.4 mt in FY2022; 33.7 mt in FY2023
	A management uncertainty buffer of 7% was applied to the commercial groundfish fishery in FY2025.
	<u>Overall downward trend in FY2023:</u> 811 commercial groundfish permitted vessels (33% inactive); 533 reported landings (active vessels landing any revenue across common pool and sectors); 46 dealers reported buying groundfish, and 79 dealers reported buying any species on groundfish trips.

Stock:

Ocean Pout

Factor	Supporting Information
Commercial Fishery Characterization	The top 5 ports based on the Groundfish-Specific Commercial Engagement Indicator (2004-2023) are Gloucester, MA; New Bedford, MA; Boston, MA; Narragansett, RI; and Portland, ME.
	Ocean pout is a non-allocated stock and possession is not permitted; there is not a commercial fishery specific to ocean pout. The groundfish fishery on a whole relies on quota within the multispecies complex.
Recreational Fishery Characterization	Ocean pout is managed as a zero possession stock; there is no recreational fishery trend data available.
	The default management uncertainty buffer of 5% is applied to stocks with a recreational component in the groundfish fishery.
	Most of the top communities in recreational engagement in the Northeast are in the Mid-Atlantic region, except for Narragansett/Point Judith, RI. Recreational fishermen in these communities are unlikely to rely on Northeast Multispecies.
Other Economic/Social Considerations	<i>No other considerations to present.</i>
Additional Information	
Reference Points	SSBMSY: External Biomass Threshold: 1/2Btarget Max. Fishing Mortality Threshold: Rel F at replacement
OFLs	125 mt in FY2025
ABCs	87 mt in FY2025
AMs	If ACL and buffer for an unallocated stock is exceeded, groundfish vessels (common pool & sector) are subject to an area closure/ gear restriction in a future year.
Harvest Control Rule	Option 4 of the GF ABC CR in FY2025 The commercial groundfish fishery utilized 69% of its FY2023 ACL; state fisheries utilized 221% of their FY2023 subcomponent; and other fisheries utilized 21% of their FY2023 subcomponents.
Significant source of catch outside the directed federal fishery?	Scallop fishery catch of Ocean pout: 3.3 mt in FY2021, 4.1 mt in FY2022; 3.3 mt in FY2023 Summer flounder fishery catch of Ocean pout: 0.4 mt in FY2021, 3.1 mt in FY2022; 0.5 mt in FY2023 Squid fishery catch of Ocean pout: 13.6 mt in FY2021, 7.0 mt in FY2022; 1.5 mt in FY2023