



THE STATE OF THE FISHERY

ATLANTIC HERRING

The commercial herring industry in New England developed along with lobster fishery, creating a market for bait and starting the canning industry.

Herring are harvested using "mobile" gear. Fishermen in large boats fish offshore with electronic equipment, purse seines, and mid-water trawls (nets behind the boat).



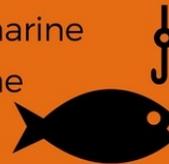
The Atlantic herring fishery is managed by the New England Fishery Management Council and the Atlantic States Maine Fisheries Commission.



Photo credit: NEFSC

Did you know that female herring can lay up to 200,000 eggs in one spawning season?

Atlantic herring are the base of the marine food web. They are food for marine mammals, birds, and other fish.



The over-harvesting of Atlantic herring in the 1960's led to a collapse of the fishery. Today, the stock has rebounded, so you can eat them without worrying. The fishery is robust and the management is effective.