

Testing social and biological scale compatibility in the Gulf of Maine Atlantic cod fishery

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Abstract

The Gulf of Maine Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*) fishery has suffered from stock collapse and an inability to recover. Managing cod stocks with regards to the biological scale of the fishery may have an impact on the recoverability of the stocks.

The objective of my study is to identify the possible existence of a localized Atlantic cod stock structure in the Downeast region of the Gulf of Maine using seasonal survey data, tagging data and potentially stock genetics data and evaluate the potential effectiveness of alternative spatial scales of area management strategies.

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