

**2000 REVIEW OF THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN  
FOR ATLANTIC CROAKER  
(*Micropogonias undulatus*)**

Prepared by:

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inch diamond or 3-inch square mesh. Also, North Carolina banned flynet fishing in waters south of Cape Hatteras. This requirement should reduce the catch of small croaker.

The states of Florida through North Carolina have promoted and require the use of TED's (turtle excluder devices) and BRD's (bycatch reduction devices) in state waters. None of the states have minimum trawl mesh sizes or culling panels in directed gears. Evaluation of the beneficial effects of BRD's to croaker stocks which are a component of a mixed species fishery, may be available from work conducted on weakfish during preparation of Amendment 3 to that FMP and should be compiled. A target reduction in bycatch of croaker may be a suitable objective criteria in an amended plan. Size limits that are in place in the states have been there for several years and do not represent a response to the FMP.

**Table 4. Current state and federal Atlantic croaker regulations.**

State/Agency	Recreational	Commercial	Other
New Jersey		trawling prohibited from 0-2 miles from shore	
Delaware	8"	8"	
Maryland	9"; 25 fish limit	9", trawling restricted in Chesapeake Bay	
PRFC	10"; 20 fish limit	10"	
Virginia		trawling prohibited in state waters	
North Carolina		gear-related restrictions; TED/BRD requirements	
South Carolina		gear-related restrictions; TED/BRD requirements	
Georgia	8"; 25 fish limit	8"; 25 fish limit; BRD requirement; no trawling in sounds	
Florida		net ban in state waters	
Federal (EEZ waters)			

## **VII. Current State-by-State Implementation of FMP Compliance Requirements as of June 1, 1998**

There are no regulatory compliance requirements in the 1987 Atlantic Croaker FMP.