1993 - Maryland's Chesapeake Bay blue crab is 55 million pounds, a high water mark for the species

2000 – Crab harvest falls to 20.2 million pounds in 2000, the lowest since the state began keeping records. Crabbers agreed to a 15 percent reduction.

2002 = harvest is at 22 million and the state decides to put in restrictions. Watermen protest. Crabbers agree to another reduction.

2008 – Crabs harvest dips below the 34 percent needed to sustain future generations. The governors of Maryland and Virginia declare a state of emergency, and put more limits on female crabs.

2021 – Managers are talking about yet another cut to the harvest.

<iframe src='https://cdn.knightlab.com/libs/timeline3/latest/embed/index.html?source=1shtHm87iqepTGnlBqLqxFP-flUCkkTstbYUpd4z4p34&font=Default&lang=en&initial\_zoom=2&height=650' width='100%' height='650' ></iframe>

<https://cdn.knightlab.com/libs/timeline3/latest/embed/index.html?source=1shtHm87iqepTGnlBqLqxFP-flUCkkTstbYUpd4z4p34&font=Default&lang=en&initial_zoom=2&height=650>

<iframe title="Areas hit hard with crabbing restrictions" aria-label="map" id="datawrapper-chart-AbwoE" src="https://datawrapper.dwcdn.net/AbwoE/1/" scrolling="no" frameborder="0" style="width: 0; min-width: 100% !important; border: none;" height="502"></iframe><script type="text/javascript">!function(){"use strict";window.addEventListener("message",(function(e){if(void 0!==e.data["datawrapper-height"]){var t=document.querySelectorAll("iframe");for(var a in e.data["datawrapper-height"])for(var r=0;r<t.length;r++){if(t[r].contentWindow===e.source)t[r].style.height=e.data["datawrapper-height"][a]+"px"}}}))}();

</script>