FISHERMEN'S REPORT

National Marine Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Science Center

Winter Bottom Trawl Survey
Preliminary Catch Summary
Cape Hatteras - SE Georges Bank
January 29 - February 23, 2001

The enclosed listed and plotted data are of commercially and recreationally important species caught during the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's 2001 winter bottom trawl survey aboard the *FRV Albatross IV*. Tows were made with a standardized #36 Yankee flat trawl equipped with a rubber disc covered chain sweep, 30 fathom ground cables, 5 fathom legs and 1000 pound polyvalent doors. The codend and upper belly were lined with 1/2-inch mesh to retain young-of-the-year fish.

Because of the 30-minute tow duration, and random selection of station locations, catches can be light compared to commercial tows. Also, vessel operations are on a 24-hour basis and catches have not been adjusted for day/night catchability differences. Nevertheless, these data can provide useful information about distribution and relative abundance of fish from Cape Hatteras to Georges Bank.

In an effort to make this report timely, the data are summarized from unaudited catch files. Therefore, data records in this report are provisional and subject to change.

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