

three measures of crew employment increased from 2011 to 2012. Trends in the three indicators were mixed for the home port states Connecticut, New Hampshire, and New Jersey. In home port states Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island, all indicators of crew employment were at four year lows in 2012.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Northeast Multispecies Fishery, referred to as the groundfish fishery, is managed by the New England Fishery Management Council (NEFMC). The groundfish fishery is carried out using both fixed and trawl gears.¹ The groundfish resource is distributed throughout waters of the Gulf of Maine (GOM) and Georges Bank (GB) and, to a lesser extent, Southern New England (SNE) and the Mid-Atlantic Bight. Prior to Fishing Year 2010, the groundfish fishery was managed using effort controls, including Days at Sea (DAS). Amendment 13 to the groundfish Fishery Management Plan (FMP) was implemented in May 2004; it redefined initial allocations of DAS and allowed vessels to engage in DAS leasing and DAS transfers under certain conditions. Amendment 13 also introduced the “Sector Allocation” program, which gave fishermen the opportunity to voluntarily form sectors that would be constrained by quotas rather than DAS. Sectors could request exemption from many of the traditional input controls such as trip limits. This set the stage for Amendment 16 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan (FMP), implemented on 1 May 2010.

Fishing year 2012 was the third year in which the groundfish fishery operated under the catch share management program implemented by Amendment 16, which was designed to comply with catch limit requirements and stock rebuilding deadlines required under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 (MSA). The new groundfish management program contained two significant changes. The first consisted of “hard quota” annual catch limits (ACLs) for all 20 stocks in the groundfish complex. The second expanded the use of ‘sectors’, which are groups of fishing vessels allotted a share (quota) of the total groundfish ACL (sectors are allocated subdivisions of ACLs called Annual Catch Entitlements (ACE)). All permit holders with a limited access groundfish permit that was valid as of 01 May 2008 were eligible to participate in a sector, including holders of inactive permits currently held in Confirmation of Permit History (CPH).

Sectors, including state permit banks, receive ACE for nine of 13 groundfish species in the FMP and are exempt from many of the traditional effort controls.² Each limited access groundfish permit has a potential sector contribution (PSC) that, based on that permit’s fishing history, is a percentage of the total quota allocation for each allocated groundfish stock. When a fisherman becomes a sector member, his PSC is pooled with those of the other members of that sector. The pooled PSCs of the sector become the sector’s ACE. Fishermen may hold limited access eligibilities, which are linked to a Moratorium Rights Identifier (MRI), in Confirmation of

¹ Fixed gear includes gillnet and hook gears including bottom longline, tub trawls, and rod and reel.

² The nine allocated species are American plaice (*Hippoglossoides platessoides*), cod (*Gadus morhua*), haddock (*Melanogrammus aeglefinus*), pollock (*Pollachius virens*), redfish (*Sebastes fasciatus*), white hake (*Urophycis tenuis*), winter flounder (*Pseudopleuronectes americanus*), witch flounder (*Glyptocephalus cynoglossus*), and yellowtail flounder (*Limanda ferruginea*). The four non-allocated groundfish species are halibut (*Hippoglossus hippoglossus*), ocean pout (*Zoarces americanus*), windowpane flounder (*Scophthalmus aquosus*), and wolffish (*Anarhichas lupus*). All references to groundfish species include these 13 species unless there is specific mention of the nine allocated species. Non-groundfish species are any species other than the 13 groundfish species listed here.

Permit History (CPH). CPH permits are limited access groundfish eligibilities that are not attached to an actual vessel. An important consequence of Amendment 16 is that it allowed fishermen with permits in CPH to join sectors, or to remain in the common pool with the option of leasing DAS, which was granted by Amendment 13. When a fisherman holding a CPH joins a sector, the PSC associated with those permits becomes part of that sector's ACE. This is significant because it means that a fisherman can lease the PSC associated with his CPH permits to other sector members, or his sector can lease the PSC to other sectors through ACE trading. However, sectors are not permitted to transfer ACE to or from common pool vessels.

Fishing vessels owners may also opt to fish the quota associated with their groundfish permits, including permits they have placed in CPH, on fewer vessels (including a single vessel) to reduce the costs associated with operating multiple vessels. In 2010, approximately half (46%) of the vessels with limited access groundfish permits opted to remain in the common pool, probably because of their small individual potential contribution to a sector's total ACE. Common pool vessels act independently of one another; each vessel is constrained by the number of DAS it can fish, by trip limits, and by time and area closures designated in the FMP. These restrictions help ensure that the groundfish catch by common pool vessels does not exceed the common pool's allocation of the total ACL before the end of the fishing year. In 2012, nearly 42% of the vessels with limited access groundfish permits were common pool vessels.

Twenty sectors operated in 2012 (see 77 FR 26129, May 2, 2012).³ Four of these are "lease only" sectors⁴, which hold eligible permits with accumulated ACE or DAS that they can make available to fishermen that intend to actively fish for groundfish. Each sector establishes its own rules for using its allocations, but the allocated catch restrictions are applicable to the sector as a unit (i.e., not to individual vessels in the sector). Sector enrolled permits accounted for approximately 99 percent of the FY 2012 commercial groundfish sub-ACL. From 2011 to 2012, several commercial sub-ACLs were cut from their 2011 levels: Eastern Georges Bank Cod (-19%), Gulf of Maine Cod (-23.3%), Eastern Georges Bank Haddock (-28.6%), Western Georges Bank Haddock (-10.3%), Gulf of Maine Haddock (-16.1%), Georges Bank Yellowtail Flounder (-67.8%), Southern New England Winter Flounder (-58.3%), Pollock (-9.6%), Southern Windowpane Flounder (-53.2%) and Ocean Pout (-10.5%). Some stocks' sub-ACLs increased from their 2011 levels: Georges Bank Cod (+7.1%), Southern New England/Massachusetts Yellowtail Flounder (+45%), Cape Cod/Gulf of Maine Yellowtail Flounder (+11.3%), Plaice (+5.5%), Witch Flounder (+17.2%), Georges Bank Winter Flounder (+68.8%), Gulf of Maine Winter Flounder (+117.3%), Redfish (+10.4%), White Hake (+10.4%), Northern Windowpane Flounder (+17.3%), and Halibut (+9.1%). The sub-ACL for Wolfish remained unchanged from 2011 to 2012.⁵

³ These sectors were: The Fixed Gear Sector (FGS), the Maine Permit Bank Sector (MEPBS), the New Hampshire Permit Bank Sector (NHPBS), the Northeast Coastal Communities Sector (NCCS), Northeast Fishery Sectors II through XIII, the Port Clyde Community Groundfish Sector (PCCGS), Sustainable Harvest Sectors 1 and 3 (SHS1 and SHS3), and the Tri-State Sector (TSS). The Georges Bank Cod Hook Sector (operating since 2004) and the Georges Bank Cod Fixed Gear Sector (implemented in 2006) operated as separate sectors prior to fishing year 2010, when all members of the Georges Bank Cod Hook Sector joined FGS.

⁴ The Northeast Fishery Sector IV, Sustainable Harvest 3, Maine Permit Bank, and New Hampshire Permit Bank Sectors are lease only sectors. The Sustainable Harvest 3 Sector has not explicitly prohibited fishing activity, and may transfer permits to active vessels.

⁵ See NMFS Northeast Regional Office's website: <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/fso/MultiMonReports.htm>. This data does not include sector carryover.

This report provides an evaluation of the economic and social performance of the groundfish fishery for fishing year 2012 (1 May 2012 – 30 April 2013). In this report, all references to year are for the fishing year. The report presents year to year comparisons for the four year period of 2009-2012 to evaluate performance, with an emphasis on comparing performance in 2011 and 2012. Table 1 presents data on major trends in the groundfish fishery by total fleet, sector vessels and common pool vessels. Differences in the performance of sector and common pool vessels will be discussed in Section 1.2; thereafter, the report focuses on the performance of the total groundfish fleet.

This report falls under the fisheries performance measures program developed by the NEFSC Social Sciences Branch in 2009 with extensive consultation from stakeholders in the Northeast region (see Clay et al. 2010; Plante 2010). The broad performance measure categories identified are: financial viability, distributional outcomes, stewardship, governance, and well-being. There are multiple indicators within each category. The Northeast indicators are part of a NMFS-wide process of developing social and economic indicators for all US fisheries.⁶ This report includes a subset of indicators that are sufficiently developed for reporting. These cover aspects of financial viability (landings, revenue, number of vessels and effort, and average vessel performance) and distributional outcomes (employment and fleet diversity). Nominal revenues are based on landings and ex-vessel (first sale) prices and—together with fishing effort, operating costs, and quantities of fishing inputs—provide an indication of vessel performance. Employment opportunity is measured by the number of crew positions, crew-trips, and crew-days. Fleet diversity is measured by vessel size and vessel revenue categories, and by distributions of nominal revenues among individual vessels and vessel affiliations. Over time, additional indicators will be available for reporting as the NEFSC Social Sciences Branch's research and the National Performance Measures Program continue to develop.

Amendment 16 contains several broad goals and objectives, carried over from Amendment 13. This report does not provide a detailed analysis of progress towards achieving these goals and objectives. However, where possible, it addresses trends related to Goal 2, Goal 4, and Objective 7, particularly for economic efficiency and diversity of the groundfish fleet.⁷ For example, changes in economic efficiency may be reflected by changes in revenue per unit effort and revenue per vessel, and by changes in the Malmquist Index.⁸ The diversity of the groundfish fleet can be explored by examining trends in (a) the number of vessels and vessel affiliations by vessel length category and by port and state; (b) the geographic distribution of landings and revenues across ports and states; (c) employment indicators across ports and states; and (d) the distribution of nominal revenues among vessels and vessel affiliations.

The NEFSC released the first performance report for the FY2010 groundfish fishery in 2011 (see Kitts et al. 2011) and released a second performance report for FY 2011 in 2012 (see Murphy et al. 2012). In 2013, the net revenue estimation previously presented in the FY2011 report was extended to include the impact of quota leasing activities on the distribution of net

⁶ Contact Rita.Curtis@noaa.gov for more information on this national effort. The National Catch Shares Report released in August 2013 presents performance metrics for all catch share managed fisheries in the U.S and may be found at <https://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/economics/fisheries/commercial/catch-share-program/index>.

⁷ Goal 2 in Amendment 16 is “Create a management system so that fleet capacity will be commensurate with resources status so as to achieve goals of economic efficiency and biological conservation and that encourages diversity within the fishery”. Goal 4 is “Minimize to the extent practicable, adverse impacts on fishing communities and shoreside infrastructure”. Objective 7 states “To the extent possible, maintain a diverse groundfish fishery, including different gear types, vessel sizes, geographic locations, and levels of participation”.

⁸ The Malmquist Index is a technical measure of the rate at which inputs are transformed into outputs.

revenues in the fishery for FY2011 (see Kitts and Demarest 2013)⁹. This FY2012 report also includes an analysis of the impacts of quota leasing on the distribution of net revenues for different segments of the groundfish fleet, presented in Section 8.

Other efforts have been, and are being, undertaken in the Northeast to further the understanding of social and economic issues in the fisheries. A study of social capital among groundfish permit holders (Holland et al. 2010) has recently been repeated and the data collected from the second round of this study are being analyzed. The NEFSC implemented a revised vessel fixed costs survey in August 2012 and May 2013 that surveyed commercial fishing vessel owners in the Northeast, by vessel size and gear type. This effort resulted in cost data from over 800 commercial fishing vessels, which is being analyzed. The NEFSC also recently concluded the first year of its socio-economic survey of vessel crew; about 400 crew, including hired captains, were interviewed in ports in New England and the Mid-Atlantic. The first round of NEFSC's socio-economic survey of vessel owners is nearing completion. The socio-economic surveys of crew and owners were implemented to collect basic demographic data on the fishing community and to develop additional performance indicators, with an emphasis on indicators that measure how well fisheries are performing in the areas of stewardship, governance, and fishing community well-being.

See <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/read/socialsci> for more information on these and other NEFSC projects.

1.1. Data and Analytical Approach

The vessels whose activities are evaluated in this report are those with valid limited access multispecies permits during fishing years 2009-2012. An active vessel is defined as having revenue from the landing of any species on any trip while fishing under a limited access groundfish permit within the given fishing year. In this report, trips are defined as commercial trips in the Northeast Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This is an adjustment from previous reports which included other trips, primarily party/charter trips. It is not appropriate to include vessels that are exclusively party boat/charter vessels or charter trips because groundfish caught on these trips cannot be sold. For this FY2012 report, these charter vessels and charter trips were excluded from the analysis, and previously calculated measures for 2009 to 2011 were updated to reflect the exclusion. This correction, as well as the year to year minor corrections to the database, resulted in some metrics being slightly overestimated in the FY2011 and FY2010 reports (Murphy et al. 2012, Kitts et al. 2011). The number of active vessels in the GF fleet was overestimated in the FY2011 report by about 4% for 2009, 2010 and 2011. The FY2011 report overestimated total gross nominal revenue by 1.5% for 2009, 0.24% for 2010, and 0.02% for 2011 (Murphy et al. 2011). The FY2011 report contained additional metrics that were calculated from the number of active vessels and total gross nominal revenues for all species; this FY2012 report also adjusts for corrections to those metrics for 2009-2011. The performance indicator tables presented in this FY2012 report differ slightly from those posted on the Northeast Regional Office's website (in September 2013) due to additional data cleansing activities that took place as the NEFSC prepared this report.¹⁰ The evaluation includes only fish landed and

⁹ Available at <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/read/socialsci/pdf/QuotaTradingImpacts.pdf>

¹⁰ See the Northeast Regional Office's web site at:

http://www.nero.noaa.gov/ro/fso/reports/Sector_monitoring/FY12_Groundfish_Tables.pdf

sold. Weights are given in landed pounds (after heading/gutting) rather than in live pounds (whole fish) because prices are commonly calculated on a per landed pound basis. Nominal revenues also are based on what is landed and sold. Landings data in this report should not be used to conduct comparisons with sector sub-annual catch limits (ACLs) or the catch monitoring reports issued for sectors because the ACLs are calculated and monitored in live pounds and include both landings and discards.

A groundfish trip is defined as a trip where the vessel owner or operator declared, either through the vessel monitoring system (VMS) or through the interactive voice response system, that the vessel was making a groundfish trip. This includes trips on which groundfish days-at-sea (DAS) were used, including monkfish (*Lophius americanus*) trips that used groundfish DAS. Other trips were also counted as groundfish trips if the dealer or vessel reported that groundfish was landed (e.g., trips with monkfish declarations that were not also using groundfish DAS).

Some statistics are reported by both home port and port of landing. “Home port” does not necessarily identify the port where fish are landed, but rather is the information on “city and state where vessel is moored” provided by vessel owners on the vessel permit applications. Most often, the home port is the port where supplies are purchased and crew is hired, although this does not apply in all cases.¹¹ Landed port is the actual port where fish are landed. We report by home port and by landed port because the implications of each are different. For example, revenue by home port gives an indication of the benefits received by vessel owners and crew (and some fishing-related businesses such as gear suppliers) based in that port. Revenue by landed port gives an indication of the benefits that other fishing related businesses (primarily businesses that handle fish, such as dealers and processors) derive from landings in their port. We identified the top six home ports and landed ports in the Northeast, and also examined changes by home port and landed port at the state level.

Some indicators in the report use a measure of time called a “day absent.” A day absent is defined as the number of days (24 hours each) a vessel is “absent” from port, and is calculated by subtracting the sail date/time from the land date/time as entered on vessel logbook records, called vessel trip reports (VTRs). For comparative purposes, many measures have been calculated for both groundfish landings and all species landings. “All species” refers to the total of all species of fish or shellfish landed, including groundfish. The home port and length of a vessel are provided by the vessel owner on the vessel’s yearly permit application. Data on vessel landings, nominal prices, and nominal revenues come from seafood dealer reports. Information about the number of fishing trips, and crew size are from VTRs.¹² In addition to mean values, standard deviations are provided to show the degree of variability in the data. Some standard deviations

¹¹ Alternative port affiliation data are available. Principal port declaration and the vessel owner’s mailing address are also entered on the permit application. However, actual landings by port may vary widely from what a vessel owner thinks his principal port of landing will be before the fishing year begins. Also, an owner’s mailing address can be different from a vessel’s base of operation. Therefore, home port is typically used in social and economic studies to establish port affiliation (as in this report). As the home port listed for a vessel can change over the year depending on what is declared on permits, this report assigns a vessel’s home port to be the first home port that is used during FY2012.

¹² All data are from the NERO’s fishing years 2009 – 2012 Data Matching Imputation System, or “DMIS” database (a combination of seafood dealer reports, vessel trips reports, and quota monitoring reports) as of June 2013. Differences in results reported for fishing years 2009 and 2010 in the FY2010 Groundfish Report (Kitts et al 2011), for fishing years 2009-2011 in the FY2011 Groundfish Report (Murphy et al 2012) and in this FY2012 report are due to updates and corrections to the DMIS database.

are large relative to the mean, indicating that the values are widely dispersed. Therefore, care should be used when comparing mean values that have large standard deviations.

The figures generated by the Northeast Regional Office (NERO) for monitoring the total catch in the multispecies fishery differ from the figures in this report for several reasons: 1) NERO reports both landings and discards whereas this report examines landings only; 2) NERO reports live pounds since ACLs are specified, and catch is monitored, in live pounds (live weight of fish is higher than landed weight because landed fish are often gutted, headed, etc.); and 3) the year-end figures posted by NERO include both limited access and open access multispecies vessels.

Several performance metrics in this report, including effort and revenue metrics, are examined by vessel size category using four vessel length classes: under 30' in length, 30' to less than 50' in length, 50' to less than 75' in length, and 75' and longer. Many of the vessels in the under 30' vessel length class are considered to be 'skiffs', a colloquial term used by fishermen and fishery managers to refer to small vessels, generally unseaworthy, used only for the attaching of a permit. Although skiffs may appear as inactive vessels in the database, the quota or DAS associated with their permits is commonly transferred to other vessels.

Some of the metrics in this report are presented at both the individual vessel level and at the affiliated vessel level. To evaluate changes at the affiliated vessel level, vessels were grouped according to ownership patterns. Permit applicants are required to list all persons and entities that have an ownership interest in the vessel for which a permit is being registered. Using this database, it is possible to find affiliations among vessels. We define "vessel affiliations" as networks of vessels connected through common owners. Vessels connected to one another through ownership, for the purpose of data analyses, are deemed a single vessel affiliation. For example, two vessels owned by one person are considered to be in one vessel affiliation. Further, a vessel owned in partnership is considered to be in the same vessel affiliation with a second vessel if that second vessel is owned by one of the partners. A vessel affiliation could have multiple vessels and/or multiple owners or it could consist of a single vessel and a single owner. A vessel affiliation can include vessels in multiple sectors and/or the common pool. It is likely that vessels in the same vessel affiliation are subject to some degree of joint decision making among common owners.

1.2. Performance of Sector and Common Pool Vessels

There are fundamental differences in the characteristics of sector and common pool vessels, and in the ACE and DAS allocations.¹³ A large number of common pool vessels have few or no DAS, while some common pool vessels have small vessel exemption permits (Category C) or hand gear permits (HA) excluding them from DAS constraints. Common pool vessels are regulated not only by DAS, but also by additional measures, some of which changed during the 2010 fishing year. Finally, vessels opting into the common pool landed significantly less groundfish during the landings qualification period of 1996 through 2006 than those electing to operate in sectors, which resulted in the common pool being allocated only 1-2% of the total

¹³ These may include differences in physical characteristics of the vessel, different fishing histories, and different attitudes about sector management. Also, fishermen presumably opted to join a sector or remain in the common pool based on their analysis of the advantages and disadvantages to them of each regimen.

ACL for all stocks. In 2012, sector vessels accounted for 99.1% of the total value of groundfish landed (Table 1).

This section discusses major trends in performance, broken down by sector and common pool vessels, as presented in Table 1. Differences in these performance measures should not serve alone as the basis for an evaluation of catch share versus DAS management regimes. In Sections 2-7 of this report, performance indicators are reported for the active groundfish fleet as a whole, with sector and common pool vessels combined.

The total number of active groundfish vessels continues to decline; the fishery lost 152, or 16.6%, of its active vessels over the 2009-2012 period (Table 1). Possible reasons for the declining number of active groundfish vessels will be addressed in Section 6. The percentage of active groundfish vessels enrolled in sectors has been increasing and the percentage enrolled in the common pool has been decreasing. In 2012, there were 764 active vessels in the limited access groundfish fleet, with 446 vessels (58%) enrolled in sectors and 320 vessels (42%) remaining in the common pool. Compared to 2011, with 776 active vessels in the fleet, sector enrollment increased by 4 vessels and the common pool decreased by 17 vessels (Table 1).

Sector and common pool vessels both had declining total gross nominal revenue for all species (groundfish and non-groundfish) in 2012 compared to 2011, with total revenue for the common pool vessels at a three year low. Total all species gross nominal revenue for the entire fleet was \$305.5 million, a 7.7% decrease from 2011. Total all species gross nominal revenue fell by \$25.1 million (10.7%) from 2011 to 2012 for vessels enrolled in sectors. Common pool vessels saw total all species gross nominal revenue fall by \$230,554 (0.2%) (Table 1).

Declines in total revenues for both sector and common pool vessels were driven primarily by the declines in groundfish revenues that occurred for both groups. In 2012, sector vessels had \$69.8 million dollars in gross nominal groundfish revenues, the lowest groundfish revenues for sector vessels since the implementation of catch shares in 2010. Groundfish revenues were \$20.5 million (22.8%) lower in 2012 than in 2011 for sector vessels, and declining groundfish revenue accounted for 82% of the decline in total all species revenue for these vessels. Total non-groundfish revenues also decreased for sector vessels, but this decrease was more modest, with non-groundfish revenues declining by \$4.6 million (3.2%) from 2011 to 2012 (Table 1).

Common pool vessels also experienced declines in revenues from both groundfish and non-groundfish in 2012. Groundfish nominal revenues for common pool vessels were \$642,414 in 2012, the lowest they have been in the 2010-2012 period and \$207,112 (24.4%) lower than they were in 2011. For common pool vessels, declining groundfish revenue accounted for 89.5% of the drop in total revenues for all species. Common pool vessels also saw a small drop in their non-groundfish revenues from 2011 to 2012; total non-groundfish revenues were \$95.6 million in 2012, 0.03% lower than in 2011 (Table 1). Common pool fishermen are often characterized as not being primarily groundfish fishermen due to their relatively low allocations of quota. However, in 2012 common pool fishermen were certainly impacted by declining groundfish revenue. Neither groundfish fishermen in sectors nor those in the common pool were able to substitute landings and revenue from non-groundfish to compensate for groundfish losses.

Average groundfish price increased in 2012 for both sector and common pool vessels, reaching a three year high. Common pool vessels continued to receive a higher average price at the dock for groundfish than sector vessels in 2012, as they did in 2010 and 2011. Average non-groundfish price is at a three year low, \$1.11 per pound, in 2012 for the fleet as a whole. However, while average non-groundfish price decreased for sector vessels in 2012, it increased by 1 cent per pound for common pool vessels (Table 1).

Effort in the groundfish fishery is represented in part by the number of active vessels, the number of trips taken and by days absent on trips. The number of groundfish trips taken and the number of days absent on groundfish trips decreased in 2012 from 2011 for both sector and common pool vessels, in addition to the overall decrease in the number of active groundfish vessels (Table 1). For sector vessels, the number of groundfish trips taken fell by 736 trips (5.4%) and the number of days absent on groundfish trips fell by 999 days absent (5%) from 2011 to 2012. Common pool vessels took 726 (31.9%) fewer groundfish trips, with 531 (35.4%) fewer days absent on groundfish trips. Non-groundfish effort increased slightly for sector vessels and decreased for common pool vessels from 2011 to 2012. Sector vessels took 295 (1.8%) more non-groundfish trips, with 705 (4.6%) more days absent on these trips. Common pool vessels took 1,447 (8.6%) fewer non-groundfish trips, with 71 (0.6%) fewer days absent on these trips (Table 1).

2. LANDINGS AND NOMINAL REVENUES

Nominal revenues are an important indicator of financial performance, all other things being equal. In commercial fishing, gross nominal revenues are a function of the amount of fish landed and the price paid at the time of sale. Prices paid by dealers vary by species and may fluctuate as a result of short and long term market changes. Annual changes in gross nominal revenues can result from three different factors: changes in prices paid for fish at the dock, changes in quantity of landings, and changes in the species composition of the landings. Flexibility to target specific species and/or market categories at times when market values are high can be important in maximizing gross fishing revenues. Information is provided below on landings, overall nominal revenues, and nominal prices in 2012 compared to those in 2009 through 2011. Aggregate revenues in Table 2 are also provided in 2010 (real) dollars using the GDP Implicit Price Deflator.

2.1. Landings

The groundfish fleet experienced a marked decline in groundfish landings in 2012, with little growth in non-groundfish landings from 2011. Total landings of all species on all trips were 258.3 million pounds in 2012, a decrease from 2011 (272.9 million pounds), but higher than in 2009 (254 million pounds) and 2010 (232.4 million pounds) (Table 2). Total groundfish landings on all trips decreased to a four-year low of 46.3 million pounds in 2012, compared with 61.7 million pounds in 2011, 58.2 million pounds in 2010, and 68.4 million pounds in 2009. Total non-groundfish landings on all trips in 2012 were 212 million pounds, a four-year high, but less than 1% greater than in 2011. Groundfish landings accounted for only 18% of total landings in 2012 down from 23% of total landings in 2011 (Table 2).

Total landings in 2012 of all species on groundfish trips decreased to a four-year low of 73.8 million pounds (Table 3). Groundfish landings on groundfish trips also decreased to a four-year low of 46.2 million pounds¹⁴. Non-groundfish landings on groundfish trips decreased to 27.5 million pounds, compared with 28.8 million pounds in 2011, 23.1 million pounds in 2010,

¹⁴ Note that almost 100% of groundfish landings occurred on groundfish trips. For that reason, groundfish landing values for all trips and groundfish trips are nearly identical.