

Reports

7-1-2013

2013 Annual Report Estimating Relative Juvenile Abundance of Ecologically Important Finfish in the Virginia Portion of Chesapeake Bay Project Number: F-104-R-17

Troy D. Tuckey
Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Mary C. Fabrizio
Virginia Institute of Marine Science

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.wm.edu/reports>



Part of the [Aquaculture and Fisheries Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Tuckey, T. D., & Fabrizio, M. C. (2013) 2013 Annual Report Estimating Relative Juvenile Abundance of Ecologically Important Finfish in the Virginia Portion of Chesapeake Bay Project Number: F-104-R-17. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, William & Mary. <https://doi.org/10.21220/DEJV-A606>

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by W&M ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in Reports by an authorized administrator of W&M ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@wm.edu.



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Estimating Relative Juvenile Abundance of Ecologically Important Finfish in the Virginia Portion of Chesapeake Bay



Atlantic Croaker

Prepared by:
Troy D. Tuckey
Mary C. Fabrizio



2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Estimating Relative Juvenile Abundance of Ecologically Important Finfish in the Virginia Portion of Chesapeake Bay

Project Number: F-104-R-17

Submitted to:

Virginia Marine Resources Commission
P.O. Box 756
Newport News, VA 23607-0756



Prepared by:

Troy D. Tuckey and Mary C. Fabrizio

School of Marine Science, Virginia Institute of Marine Science
The College of William and Mary, Gloucester Point, Virginia 23072

July 2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	3
LIST OF TABLES.....	4
LIST OF FIGURES.....	6
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	8
INTRODUCTION.....	10
METHODS.....	12
RESULTS.....	18
DISCUSSION.....	27
LITERATURE CITED	31
TABLES.....	35
FIGURES	58
APPENDICES	88

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks to the many individuals who participated in the field collections, often under difficult circumstances, especially Wendy Lowery and Hank Brooks who serve as vessel captains and scientific crew, Aimee Comer, Jennifer Greaney, Ryan Norris, Lauren Nys, Ryan Schloesser, and Leonard Machut. Appreciation is expressed to Chris Bonzek for data management assistance.

We thank the marinas that provided monthly mooring facilities for the *R/V Fish Hawk*: Sunset Marina and Kingsmill Marina on the James River, and Norview Marina on the Rappahannock River.

This project was supported by the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, Project No. F-104-R-17.

DISCLAIMER

Some of the results contained in this report are preliminary and may therefore contain errors and/or need further refinement.

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. Spatial, temporal, and length criteria used to calculate indices.....	36
Table 2. Summary of samples collected, 1955 - May 2013.....	37
Table 3. VIMS Trawl Survey pooled catch from June 2012 to May 2013.....	38
Table 4. American Eel indices (1988–2012).....	40
Table 5. Atlantic Croaker spring indices (1988–2012).....	41
Table 6. Bay Anchovy indices (1988–2012).....	42
Table 7. Black Sea Bass indices (1988–2011).....	43
Table 8. Blue Catfish Juvenile indices (1989–2012).....	44
Table 9. Blue Catfish Age 1+ indices (1988–2013).....	45
Table 10. Channel Catfish Juvenile indices (1988–2012).....	46
Table 11. Channel Catfish Age 1+ indices (1988–2013).....	47
Table 12. Scup indices (1988–2011).....	48
Table 13. Silver Perch indices (1988–2012).....	49
Table 14. Spot indices (1988–2012).....	50
Table 15. Striped Bass indices (1988–2012).....	51
Table 16. Summer Flounder indices (1988–2012).....	52
Table 17. Weakfish indices (1988–2012).....	53
Table 18. White Catfish Juvenile indices (1988–2012).....	54
Table 19. White Catfish Age 1+ indices (1988–2013).....	55
Table 20. White Perch Juvenile indices (1988–2012).....	56
Table 21. White Perch Age 1+ indices (1988–2012).....	57

Appendix Table 1. VIMS Trawl Survey Advisory Service Requests88

Appendix Table 2. Mobjack Bay pooled catch June 2012 to December 2012.....89

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. The VIMS Trawl Survey random stratified design.....	59
Figure 2. American Eel random stratified index (RSI_{Δ}) and time series averages based on the RSI_{Δ} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.....	61
Figure 3. Distribution of American Eel from index strata and months.....	62
Figure 4. Spring juvenile Atlantic Croaker random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect (Rivers only - RO) indices, the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} , and distribution of juvenile Atlantic Croaker from index strata and months.....	63
Figure 5. Juvenile Bay Anchovy random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and fixed transect (Rivers only - RO) indices and the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} , and distribution of juvenile Bay Anchovy from index strata and months.....	64
Figure 6. Juvenile Black Sea Bass random stratified index (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and fixed transect (Rivers only - RO) index, the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} , and distribution of juvenile Black Sea Bass from index strata and months.....	65
Figure 7. Juvenile Blue Catfish random stratified index (RSI_{Δ}) and time series averages based on the RSI_{Δ} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.	66
Figure 8. Distribution of juvenile Blue Catfish from index strata and months.....	67
Figure 9. Age 1+ Blue Catfish random stratified index (RSI_{Δ}) and time series averages based on the RSI_{Δ} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.....	68
Figure 10. Distribution of Age 1+ Blue Catfish from index strata and months.....	69
Figure 11. Juvenile Channel Catfish random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages based on the RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.....	70
Figure 12. Distribution of juvenile Channel Catfish from index strata and months.....	71
Figure 13. Age 1+ Channel Catfish random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages based on the RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.....	72
Figure 14. Distribution of Age 1+ Channel Catfish from index strata and months.....	73
Figure 15. Juvenile Scup random stratified index (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and the time series average, and distribution of index-sized Scup from index strata and months.....	74
Figure 16. Juvenile Silver Perch random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect (Rivers only – RO), and Bay and fixed river station (BRI) indices and the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} , and distribution of juvenile Silver Perch from index strata and months.....	75

Figure 17. Juvenile Spot random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) fixed transect (Rivers only – RO), and Bay and fixed river station (BRI) indices and the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} , and distribution of juvenile Spot from index strata and months.....76

Figure 18. Juvenile Striped Bass random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and fixed transect (Rivers only – RO) indices and the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} , and distribution of juvenile Striped Bass from index strata and months.....77

Figure 19. Juvenile Summer Flounder random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect (Rivers only – RO), and Bay and fixed river station (BRI) indices and the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} (Top), and distribution of juvenile Summer Flounder from index strata and months.....78

Figure 20. Juvenile Weakfish random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect (Rivers only – RO), and Bay and fixed river station (BRI) indices and the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} , and distribution of juvenile Weakfish from index strata and months.....79

Figure 21. Juvenile White Catfish random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and times series averages based on RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.....80

Figure 22. Distribution of juvenile White Catfish from index strata and months.....81

Figure 23. Age 1+ White Catfish random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages based on RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.....82

Figure 24. Distribution of age 1+ White Catfish from index strata and months.....83

Figure 25. Juvenile White Perch random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages based on RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York and James rivers.....84

Figure 26. Distribution of juvenile White Perch from index strata and months.....85

Figure 27. Age 1+ White Perch random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages based on RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.....86

Figure 28. Distribution of age 1+ White Perch from index strata and months.....87

Appendix Figure 1. Length frequency distributions by species.....90

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

June 2012 – May 2013

The juvenile fish trawl survey conducted by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS) is the oldest continuing monitoring program (58 years) for marine and estuarine fishes in the United States. This survey provides a monthly assessment of abundance of juvenile marine and estuarine fishes and crustaceans in the tidal rivers and main stem of Chesapeake Bay. The survey provides crucial data to state, regional, and national fisheries management agencies, including the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC), the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (MAFMC), and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The MAFMC recognizes the VIMS Juvenile Trawl Survey as one of the key predictors of Summer Flounder recruitment.

Several annual indices of juvenile abundance have been generated from Trawl Survey data for species of key recreational, ecological, and commercial importance in the Virginia portion of Chesapeake Bay. These include Spot, Atlantic Croaker, Weakfish, Summer Flounder, Black Sea Bass, Scup, Striped Bass, White Perch, White Catfish, Channel Catfish, Blue Catfish, Silver Perch, American Eel, and Bay Anchovy. Historically, four estimates of relative abundance were developed and reported for each species in the survey. However, only the unconverted indices (Random Stratified Index – RSI, 1988 to present) for the target species are the focus of this report. We chose to use this index because it is based on data collected from a random stratified survey design with consistent spatial and temporal domains over the time period 1988 - present. Furthermore, gear changes since 1988 were minor and inconsequential (replacement of standard trawl doors with China-V doors in 1991), thus, the index can be calculated without the use of gear-conversion factors.

As a result of budget shortfalls in 2012-2013, we planned to reduce effort by 27 days (375 stations) eliminating collections from the James, York, and Rappahannock rivers during January and February (132 stations), the main stem Bay during February (39 stations), and all of Mobjack Bay (204 stations). Fortunately, we were able to obtain funding from other sources, on a one-time basis, to continue the full monthly survey (1,224 tows) and maintain a reduced targeted sampling of Mobjack Bay to evaluate the importance of this area to Summer Flounder recruitment. We completed 1,205 tows in 2012–2013 (or 98.4% of the full Survey), but were unable to complete our targeted sampling in the main stem Bay in November due to vessel mechanical issues and high winds.

We collected 649,911 fishes in the Trawl Survey in 2012–2013 and an additional 75,322 fishes from collections targeting Mobjack Bay. Bay Anchovy continues to be the most abundant species observed in the survey accounting for 62.3% of all fishes collected. Of the target species for which we provide indices of relative abundance, seven species showed below-average recruitment in 2012 – 2013 (American Eel, Channel Catfish, Scup, Striped Bass, Weakfish, juvenile White Perch, and White Catfish), two species exhibited average recruitment (Black Sea Bass and White Perch 1+), and five species had above-average recruitment (Atlantic Croaker, Bay Anchovy, Silver Perch, Spot, and Summer Flounder). The 2012 Atlantic Croaker RSI was the highest index value observed since 1988 and was 60% greater than the previous record (1991). The Summer Flounder RSI was the fourth largest index observed in the survey and followed the worst year of recruitment on record for this species (2011). Juvenile Blue Catfish exhibited varying levels of recruitment in 2012 with

below-average recruitment in the Rappahannock and James rivers and average recruitment in the York River. Adult Blue Catfish indices showed near-record levels of abundance in the York River and below-average levels in the Rappahannock and James rivers.

INTRODUCTION

Relative abundance estimates of early juvenile (age 0) fishes and invertebrates generated from fishery-independent survey programs provide a reliable and early indicator of year-class strength (Goodyear, 1985), and may be used to evaluate the efficacy of management actions. The Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee (CBSAC) reviewed available indices of juvenile abundance for important fishery resources in Chesapeake Bay (hereafter referred to as “Bay”) and recommended that "a unified, consistent trawl program should be one of the primary monitoring tools for finfish and crab stock assessment" (Chesapeake Bay Program Stock Assessment Plan, Chesapeake Executive Council, 1988). Subsequently, pilot studies directed at developing a comprehensive trawl survey for Chesapeake Bay began at VIMS with monthly trawl sampling in the main stem of the lower Bay. This effort complemented and expanded the monthly trawl sampling conducted in major Virginia tributaries (James, York, and Rappahannock rivers) by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS).

The present sampling program, which includes the Bay and its tributaries, ensures that data are of sufficient geographic coverage to generate relative abundance indices for recreationally, commercially, and ecologically important finfishes and invertebrates. The National Marine Fisheries Service Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey shows that recent recreational catches in Virginia are dominated by Atlantic Croaker (*Micropogonias undulatus*), Summer Flounder (*Paralichthys dentatus*), Spot (*Leiostomus xanthurus*), Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*), Black Sea Bass (*Centropristis striata*), Bluefish (*Pomatomus saltatrix*), Pigfish (*Orthopristis chrysoptera*), Weakfish (*Cynoscion regalis*), and Kingfishes (*Menticirrhus* spp.). These species depend on the lower Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries as nursery areas and, with the exception of Bluefish, are highly

vulnerable to bottom trawls. Additional species of recreational interest, such as Scup (*Stenotomus chrysops*), White Perch (*Morone americana*), Silver Perch (*Bairdiella chrysoura*), White Catfish (*Ameiurus catus*), Channel Catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*) and Blue Catfish (*I. furcatus*), are also taken with sufficient regularity during trawling operations to provide information suitable for the generation of juvenile abundance indices. Although annual juvenile indices are the primary focus of this project, survey results can be used to address other aspects of finfish population biology, such as habitat utilization, early growth and survival, environmental effects on recruitment, or disease prevalence. For example, episodic climatic events, such as hurricanes, affect recruitment of shelf spawning species such as Atlantic Croaker (Montane and Austin, 2005). Additionally, Tuckey and Fabrizio (2013) used trawl survey data to examine the influence of survey design on fish assemblages comparing fishes captured from fixed sites with those captured at random sites.

The development of juvenile indices requires a continuous time series of data to determine the most appropriate area-time sequences for index calculations. Provisional annual juvenile abundance indices were developed for Spot, Weakfish, Atlantic Croaker, Summer Flounder, and Black Sea Bass (Colvocoresses and Geer, 1991), followed by Scup (Colvocoresses et al., 1992), White Perch and Striped Bass (Geer et al., 1994), and White Catfish, Channel Catfish, and Silver Perch (Geer and Austin, 1994). More recently, Blue Catfish, American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*), and Bay Anchovy (*Anchoa mitchilli*) indices were developed. Through the use of gear conversion factors and post stratification, a time series of index values can be produced back to 1955 for many species (Geer and Austin, 1997).

Many species of interest are captured in significant numbers across several year classes. As a result, both juvenile and age 1+ (i.e., all fish older than age 0) indices are reported for White Perch, White Catfish, Channel Catfish, and Blue Catfish.

This report summarizes the activity of the VIMS Juvenile Finfish Trawl Survey from June 2012 through May 2013. Abundance indices are provided from 1988 to the present, along with the mean value estimated across the time series; indices for years prior to 1988 are available in previous reports.

METHODS

Field Sampling

A 30' (9.14m) semi-balloon otter trawl, with 1.5" (38.1mm) stretched mesh and 0.25" (6.35mm) cod-end liner, is towed along the bottom for 5 minutes during daylight hours. Sampling in the Bay occurs monthly except during January and March, when few target species are available. Sampling in the tributaries also occurs monthly, at both the random stratified and historical fixed (mid-channel) stations. The stratification system is based on depth and latitudinal regions in the Bay, or depth and longitudinal regions in the rivers. Each Bay region spans 15 latitudinal minutes and consists of six strata: western and eastern shore shallow (4-12 ft), western and eastern shoal (12-30 ft), central plain (30-42 ft), and deep channel (≥ 42 ft). Each tributary is partitioned into four regions of approximately ten longitudinal minutes, with four depth strata in each (4-12 ft, 12-30 ft, 30-42 ft, and ≥ 42 ft; Figure 1). Strata are collapsed in areas where certain depths are limited. Fixed stations were assigned to a stratum according to their location and depth. Additional details of the field sampling protocol are described in Lowery and Geer (2000).

With the exception of the fixed river stations, trawling sites within strata are selected randomly from the National Ocean Service's Chesapeake Bay bathymetric grid, a database of depth records measured or calculated at 15-cartographic-second intervals. Between two and four trawling sites are randomly selected for each Bay stratum each month, and the number varies seasonally. Exceptions include the shallow water strata where only a single station is sampled each month. For most river strata, one to two random stations are selected per month. Sampling in the York River has been altered slightly as of 1991 to make the deeper depth strata (30 ft +) similar to those in the James and Rappahannock rivers and main stem Bay. The stratification scheme for the tributaries was modified in January 1996 to create separate depth strata of 30-42 ft and ≥ 42 ft (Geer and Austin, 1996). Because tributary sampling had occurred at these depths prior to 1996, samples collected previously were reassigned to the strata established in 1996.

Fixed stations were sampled monthly (nearly continuously) since 1980 with sites in each tributary spaced at approximately 5-mile intervals from the river mouth up to the freshwater interface. From the mid-1950's (York River) and early-1960's (James and Rappahannock rivers) to 1972, fixed stations were sampled monthly using an unlined 30' trawl (gear code 010). During 1973-79, semi-annual random stratified sampling was performed by the VIMS Ichthyology Department, while the VIMS Crustaceology Department continued monitoring the fixed tributary stations on a limited monthly basis (May-November). Area-based weightings for the tributaries were previously assigned by dividing each river into two approximately equal length 'strata' by assuming that the stations in each stratum were representative of the channel areas in those reaches (see Lowery and Geer, 2000). As of 1996, all three tributaries were sampled with a random stratified design; the fixed stations were assigned to a stratum based on location and depth. The current design

(combined fixed and random stations) provides greater spatial coverage and a long-term historical reference.

At the completion of each tow, all fishes are identified to species, counted, and measured to the nearest millimeter fork length (FL), total length (TL), or total length centerline (TLC, Black Sea Bass only). Species that have varying size ranges are measured and counted by size class and large catches of a particular species are randomly subsampled, measured, and the remaining unmeasured catch is counted. In instances of extremely large catches (e.g., Bay Anchovy), subsampling is performed volumetrically.

Juvenile Index Computations

Many of the target species of this study are migratory and abundance estimation presents special difficulties, particularly if the timing and duration of migration varies annually. Juvenile fishes that use estuarine nursery areas are especially vulnerable to the vagaries of the environment, as many rely on wind-driven and tidal circulation patterns for transport into the estuaries as larvae and early juveniles (Norcross, 1983; Bodolus, 1994; Wood, 2000). The outward migration of some species from the nursery area may follow annually variable environmental cues (e.g., temperature changes). Ideally, juvenile abundance should be measured when young fish are fully recruited to the nursery area under study. In practice, however, this can only be accomplished if the time of maximal abundance and size at recruitment to the gear can be predicted (and surveys timed accordingly), or if surveys can be conducted with high frequency over the season of potential maximal abundance. Neither of these two approaches is practical. The period of maximal abundance and the spatial extent of the area occupied by juvenile fish have proven to be variable

among years and among species. This observation, coupled with multi-species monitoring objectives, precludes temporally intense surveys. Consequently, the survey is operated with a regular periodicity (monthly) and sample-site selection is performed using a standard sampling design for multispecies resource surveys.

A monthly size threshold value is applied to the length-frequency information collected for each target species to partition the catch data into young-of-year and older components for index calculation (Table 1). Threshold values vary among months for each species and are based on modal analyses of historical, composite length-frequency data and on reviews of ageing studies (Colvocoresses and Geer, 1991). For earlier months of the biological year, threshold values are usually arbitrary and fall between completely discrete modal size ranges. In the later part of the biological year, when the size of early spawned, rapidly growing individuals of the most recent year class may approach that of later spawned, slower growing individuals of the previous year class, threshold values were selected to preserve the numeric proportionality between year classes despite the potential misclassification of some individuals (Table 1). The extent of overlapping lengths and the proportion within that range attributable to each year class were estimated based on the shapes of the modal curve during the months prior to the occurrence of overlap. A length value was then selected, which preserves the proportional separation of year classes. Although this process involved considerable subjectivity and ignored possible interannual variability in average growth rates, the likelihood of significant error is small, because only a small fraction of the total number of young-of-year individuals falls within the zone of overlap, and furthermore, with a few exceptions, most of the data used to construct juvenile indices were drawn from months when no overlap was present.

After removing non-target individuals from consideration, monthly stratum-specific abundances and occurrence rates are calculated for each target species. Numbers of individuals captured are natural-log transformed ($\ln(n+1)$) prior to abundance calculations following Chittenden (1991). Average catch rates (and the approximate 95% confidence intervals as estimated by ± 2 standard errors of the mean) are then back-transformed to geometric means. The stratum-specific coefficient of variation is expressed as the standard deviation divided by the log-transformed mean catch: $STD/E[Y_{st}]$ (Cochran, 1977). The catch data were examined for area-time combinations that provided the best basis for juvenile index calculations. Criteria applied during the selection process included identification of maximal abundance levels, uniformity of distribution, minimization of overall variance, and avoidance of periods during which distribution patterns indicated migratory behavior. Although identification of areas most suitable for index calculations (primary nursery zones) was generally clear, selection of appropriate time windows was more complex. Surveys are timed on regular monthly intervals that may or may not coincide with periods of maximal recruitment to the nursery areas. The use of a single (maximal) month's survey result is therefore inappropriate and would decrease sample size, increase confidence intervals, and increase the risk of sampling artifacts. Conversely, the temporal series of data incorporated into index calculations should not be longer than necessary to capture the period of maximal juvenile use of the nursery area. With this approach, three- or four-month periods (but 6 months for Bay Anchovy) that provided reasonable abundance data for each species were identified (Table 1).

Using catch data from area-time combinations, an annual juvenile index is currently calculated as the weighted geometric mean catch per tow (Random Stratified Index, RSI_{GM}) for all species except American Eel and Blue Catfish. This is accomplished by calculating stratum-specific

means and variances and combining the stratum-specific estimates using weights based on stratum area (Cochran, 1977). Because stratum areas are not uniform, a weighted mean provides an index that more closely approximates actual population abundance. For American Eel and Blue Catfish, whose catches follow a lognormal distribution, an index is calculated assuming a delta lognormal approach (RSI_{Delta}). The delta lognormal index method calculates stratum-specific means on log-transformed positive values only and adjusts the stratum means by the proportion of positive tows. The stratified mean is then calculated in the usual manner. We are currently developing confidence interval estimates for the annual relative abundance index, but these are not available for this report.

The following indices are produced for each species for 1988 to the present: an index based on the current Bay strata plus the fixed tributary stations (Bay & River Index – BRI), an index based on the fixed tributary stations only (River Only – RO), and a random stratified index using all spatially appropriate data (Random Stratified Index – RSI_{GM} or RSI_{Delta} ; in previous reports, this index was called the Random Stratified Converted Index, RSCI). Data collected prior to 1988 are excluded from this report because results from the longer time series are considered provisional (i.e., indices prior to 1988 require both gear and vessel conversion factors, and concerns about conversion factors for this period have not yet been addressed). Multiple indices are presented in this report for completeness, but usually only the RSI will be described in detail.

Mobjack Bay

Sampling in Mobjack Bay, located on the western side of Chesapeake Bay and north of the York River entrance, continued from June to December 2012 (Figure 1). Nine stations were sampled

each month (three fixed stations and six random stations) with the depth stratification scheme of 4-12 ft and >12ft. All stations occurred in the main portion of Mobjack Bay.

RESULTS

A summary of tows completed from 1988 through May 2013 (Table 2) provides a comprehensive synopsis of the sampling completed for this report. For the 2012-2013 project year (June through May), 1,205 sites (98.4% of targeted tows) were sampled resulting in 649,911 fishes identified and enumerated from 108 different species (Table 3). We were unable to complete all targeted Bay stations during November due to mechanical issues and high winds. Bay Anchovy, Hogchoker, and Atlantic Croaker accounted for 82.1% of the catch by numbers. Ignoring Bay Anchovy and Hogchoker, six species – Atlantic Croaker, Spot, Striped Anchovy, Weakfish, White Perch, and Blue Catfish – represented 83.1% of the catch numerically (Table 3).

Indices were calculated and described for the following species: American Eel, Atlantic Croaker, Bay Anchovy, Black Sea Bass, Blue Catfish, Channel Catfish, Scup, Silver Perch, Striped Bass, Spot, Summer Flounder, Weakfish, White Catfish, and White Perch. Length frequency distributions for each species are shown in Appendix Figure 1 with index-sized fish indicated in gray. Actual relative abundance indices are calculated on a subset of the data as described below.

American Eel (*Anguilla rostrata*) – American Eel are present along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts of North America and inland in the St. Lawrence Seaway and Great Lakes (Murdy et al., 1997). This catadromous species is panmictic and supported throughout its range by a single spawning population (Haro et al., 2000). Spawning takes place during winter to early spring in the Sargasso Sea. The eggs hatch into leaf-shaped, ribbon-like larvae called leptocephali, which are

transported by ocean currents (over 9-12 months) in a generally northwesterly direction. Within a year, metamorphosis into the next life stage (glass eel) occurs in the Western Atlantic near the east coast of North America. Coastal currents and active migration transport the glass eels into rivers and estuaries from February to June in Virginia and Maryland. As growth continues, eels become pigmented (elver stage) and within 12 –14 months they acquire a dark color with underlying yellow (yellow eel stage). Many eels migrate upriver into freshwater rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds, while others remain in estuaries. Most of the eel's life is spent in these habitats as a yellow eel. Age at maturity varies greatly with location and latitude, and in Chesapeake Bay may range from 8 to 24 years, with most eels in the Bay area less than 7 years old (Owens and Geer, 2003). Eels from Chesapeake Bay mature and migrate at an earlier age than eels from northern areas (Hedgepeth, 1983). Metamorphosis into the silver eel stage occurs during the seaward migration that occurs from late summer through autumn, as mature eels migrate back to the Sargasso Sea to spawn and die (Haro et al., 2000).

The current American Eel index includes all eels (> 152 mm TL) collected in each of the major tributaries (Figure 1) during April through September. American Eel indices exhibited above-average abundance in the Rappahannock River (mean $RSI_{\Delta} = 2.29$) and the James River (mean $RSI_{\Delta} = 2.09$) in the late 1980's and early 1990's and below-average abundance thereafter (Table 4; Figure 2). In the York River, below-average abundance (mean $RSI_{\Delta} = 0.63$) has been observed since 1992. During the index period, American Eel are more abundant in the Rappahannock River compared with the James and York rivers (Figure 3).

Atlantic Croaker (*Micropogonias undulatus*) – Atlantic Croaker are typically captured in high abundance and are widely distributed throughout the survey area (Figure 4, bottom). Spawning

takes place over a protracted period, such that small juveniles (<30 mm TL) can be present in catches year-round (Norcross, 1983; Colvocoresses and Geer, 1991; Colvocoresses et al., 1992; Geer et al., 1994). For some year classes, peak abundance occurs in the fall at lengths less than 100 mm TL, but for other year classes, the peak occurs the following spring. Previously, we provided two estimates of the index: a juvenile fall index (October - December) based on catches in the tributaries, and a spring recruit index (May - August) based on catches in the Bay and tributaries combined. Because the fall index does not reflect over-winter mortality, only the spring index is presented. Aside from 1991 and 1993, the Atlantic Croaker spring RSI_{GM} remained average to below-average from 1988 to 2007, and has been above average for the past five years (Table 5 and Figure 4, top; mean $RSI_{GM} = 1.54$). The 2012 RSI is the highest value ever observed at 6.88 or 60% greater than the previous peak year of recruitment (4.12 in 1991).

Bay Anchovy (*Anchoa mitchilli*) – Bay Anchovy are the most abundant finfish in Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries, and are found in salinities ranging from 1-33 ‰ (Murdy et al., 1997). Bay Anchovy feed mostly on zooplankton and are an important prey of other Bay fishes (Murdy et al., 1997). In years of average freshwater inflow (e.g., 1997-2000), Atlantic Menhaden, Bay Anchovy, and Atlantic Croaker often dominate fish biomass in Chesapeake Bay (Jung, 2002). Bay Anchovy abundance has increased in recent years from a period of low recruitment observed during 2001 - 2007 (Table 6; Figure 5, top). Bay Anchovy exhibited an above-average year of abundance in 2012 ($RSI_{GM} = 51.53$, long-term mean $RSI_{GM} = 27.92$). As expected, Bay Anchovy are ubiquitous in trawl survey catches with many stations having more than 2,000 individuals and one station having 18,600 individuals in a single tow (Figure 5, bottom).

Black Sea Bass (*Centropristis striata*) – Black Sea Bass are seldom taken in large numbers but regularly occur in survey catches. Young-of-year Black Sea Bass occur throughout the Bay and appear occasionally in the lower portions of the tributaries. Index calculations are based on all Bay strata and the lower James stratum from May through July only (Figure 6, bottom). Although some early juveniles appear in the Bay during their first summer and fall, more young-of-year enter the estuary during the following spring. Black Sea Bass spawn in the summer in the Mid-Atlantic Bight (Musick and Mercer, 1977). Thus, the index is calculated for the year class spawned the previous calendar year (i.e., the index for the 2011 year class is based on catches from May to July 2012). The Black Sea Bass RSI_{GM} was generally above average (mean $RSI_{GM} = 0.72$) prior to 1995, but fell below average the following years with the exception of 2000 – 2001, 2007, and 2010 (Table 7; Figure 6, top). The Black Sea Bass index for 2011 was about average at 0.65.

Blue Catfish (*Ictalurus furcatus*) – The Blue Catfish, one of Virginia’s largest freshwater fishes (Jenkins and Burkhead, 1993), was introduced to the Chesapeake Bay area as a sportfish in the James, Rappahannock, and Mattaponi rivers between 1974 and 1989 (Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, 1989 as reported by Connelly, 2001). The Blue Catfish is a carnivorous bottom feeder that inhabits the main channels and backwaters of rivers (Murdy et al., 1997). Blue Catfish are distributed from the mesohaline portions of the major tributaries upstream into freshwater habitats, beyond the limits of the trawl survey (Figures 8; Schloesser et al. 2011). Because Blue Catfish are restricted in their distribution, an index of abundance is calculated for each tributary incorporating strata from portions of the lower river and all upper river strata. The James River typically has the highest juvenile Blue Catfish index with above-average recruitment (mean $RSI_{Delta} = 3.88$) in 1996, 1997, 2003 – 2006, and 2009 (Table 8; Figure 7). Recruitment of Blue Catfish juveniles

in the Rappahannock River in 2011 ($RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 17.21$) was more than 25 times higher than the previous record ($RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 0.67$ in 2003), whereas the 2012 index returned to below-average levels ($RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 0.86$). In the York River, Blue Catfish juveniles in 2011 ($RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 6.57$) were nearly 4 times more abundant than the previous record ($RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 1.68$ in 2004; Figure 7), and the 2012 index ($RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 0.62$) remained above average in this system. The James and Rappahannock rivers each had individual samples that contained 88 juvenile Blue Catfish in a single tow (Figure 8).

The abundance index for age 1+ Blue Catfish ($RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 4.32$) was below average (mean long-term $RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 11.07$; Table 9; Figure 9) in the Rappahannock River in 2013. In the York River, abundance indices for age 1+ Blue Catfish have been average or above average since 2005 (mean long-term $RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 0.64$; Table 9; Figure 9). Above-average abundance estimates for age 1+ Blue Catfish have been observed for six of the past eight years in the James River (mean long-term $RSI_{\text{Delta}} = 13.97$; Table 9; Figure 9).

Blue Catfish indices have been increasing since 1989 and the ecosystem effects of this introduced species are unknown (Schloesser et al., 2011). Age 1+ Blue Catfish reside in mesohaline portions of the Rappahannock, York and James rivers (Figure 10). Diets of small Blue Catfish are dominated by invertebrates (mostly amphipods, isopods and mud crabs), while larger Blue Catfish diets include invertebrates, Atlantic Menhaden (*Brevoortia tyrannus*), and Gizzard Shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*; Parthree et al., 2008). Other catfishes (White and Channel) have similar diets and may be competing with the introduced Blue Catfish for the same prey resources (Schloesser et al., 2011).

Channel Catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*) and **White Catfish** (*Ameiurus catus*) – Channel Catfish and White Catfish are usually found in the upper portions of the tributaries (Figures 12, 14, 22, and 24). Although each river system is unique, spawning typically occurs in late May through early July

in Virginia (Menzel, 1945); consequently, June was selected as the start of the biological year. The survey typically catches both species up to 600 mm FL with juveniles (≤ 50 mm FL) first recruiting to the gear in June. In most years, juvenile recruitment occurs from January to April for both species in the upriver strata only.

The Channel Catfish was introduced to Virginia in the late 1800s (Jenkins and Burkhead, 1993). Juvenile Channel Catfish exhibited low or failed recruitment in most years with a few notable peaks. In the past five years, only three juvenile Channel Catfish have been captured by the trawl survey, one in each of the three tributaries (Table 10, Figures 11 and 12). The age 1+ Channel Catfish RSI_{GM} has exhibited below-average values in the Rappahannock and James rivers since 2000 and index values have been consistently below average in the York River since 2003 (Table 11; Figures 13 and 14).

Similarly, RSI_{GM} 's for juvenile White Catfish indicate average or above-average recruitment most years prior to 1998 in the York and James rivers and variable recruitment in the Rappahannock River (Table 18; Figures 21 and 22). Failed recruitment occurred annually in all three rivers after 1998 with a few exceptions (2003 and 2009). Only one juvenile White Catfish was collected during the recruitment window in 2013 (James River; Figure 22). Abundance indices for age 1+ White Catfish exhibited below-average abundance since 2000 in the James River, below-average abundance since 2001 in the York River, and below-average abundance since 2005 in the Rappahannock River (Table 19; Figures 23 and 24).

Scup (*Stenotomus chrysops*) – Scup are primarily a marine, summer spawning species that use the Bay in a manner similar to Black Sea Bass. The estuary is rarely used as a nursery area by early juveniles, but older juveniles can be found in the Bay during their second summer. Early

juvenile Scup (25-40 mm FL) occasionally appear in survey catches in June. Older Scup first appear in catches in May, and by June, they range from 50 to 215 mm FL. Using the original length threshold for Scup that was based on ageing studies (Morse, 1978), trawl survey catches were found to typically include three age groups (age 0, age 1, and age 2+). Because catches of age 1 and age 2+ Scup are highly variable and low, index calculations using trawl survey catches are based on age-0 individuals only. Age-0 fish are present in the Bay and available to the gear for the entire summer and early fall.

During index months, Scup are predominantly collected in the lower Bay (Figure 15, bottom). Catch rates for Scup usually peak in July, and the index is calculated from catches taken in June to September. Scup indices have been above average in several recent years (2006, 2008 and 2009), and below average most other years since 1993 (mean long-term $RSI_{GM} = 1.41$; Table 12; Figure 15, top).

Silver Perch (*Bairdiella chrysoura*) – Silver Perch are found in all sampling strata (Figure 16, bottom). Spawning occurs in the deep waters of the Bay and offshore from May to July, and juveniles (≤ 100 mm TL) enter the Bay by July (Chao and Musick, 1977; Rhodes, 1971). Abundance indices for Silver Perch are consistent and stable (Table 13; Figure 16, top). The time series average RSI_{GM} index for Silver Perch is 0.65 with the 2012 $RSI_{GM} = 0.80$.

Spot (*Leiostomus xanthurus*) – Spot indices are calculated using all strata from July to October. Spot is often one of the most abundant recreational species captured by the survey and recent catches of Spot are similar to catches observed in the late 1980s and early 1990s, with below-average abundance between 1992 - 2007 (Table 14; Figure 17, top). The RSI_{GM} index in 2012

was above average (mean long-term $RSI_{GM} = 14.83$). Spot are widely distributed throughout the Bay and tributaries (Figure 17, bottom).

Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*) – Striped Bass use the upper tributaries of the Bay as spawning and nursery grounds; spawning occurs from early to mid-April through the end of May, in tidal freshwater areas just above the salt wedge. Juvenile Striped Bass often appear in catches from May to July in size classes less than 50 to 100 mm FL during years of greater abundance, but then diminish in abundance until the following winter. A second, stronger and more consistent period of juvenile abundance occurs in December and continues through February in the upper regions of the rivers. The trawl survey index for Striped Bass is based on this winter recruitment period. Index calculations are from those juvenile Striped Bass captured in the major tributaries only (Figure 18, bottom), although Striped Bass are encountered in other areas throughout the year.

Juvenile Striped Bass showed strong recruitment peaks for the 1989, 1993 and 2000 year classes but recruitment has declined in recent years (Table 15; Figure 18, top). Index values for the past 12 years have been at or below the time-series average (mean $RSI_{GM} = 0.80$).

Summer Flounder (*Paralichthys dentatus*) – Summer Flounder spawn on the continental shelf from September through January with a peak occurring in October and November (Murdy et al., 1997). Flounder larvae enter the Bay and other Virginia estuaries from October through May with juveniles using shallow fine-substrate areas adjacent to seagrass beds (Murdy et al., 1997; Wyanski, 1990). Low water temperatures can have significant effects on growth and survival of individuals that enter the estuary in the winter (Able and Fahay, 1998). Juvenile Summer Flounder first appear in catches in late March, which is used as the beginning of the biological year. Juvenile Summer Flounder abundance continues to increase steadily throughout the summer and early fall

to a late fall peak, and then trawl catches decline, presumably reflecting emigration of young fish during December. For our trawl survey, September, October, and November usually encompass the months of greatest abundance of juvenile Summer Flounder. Juvenile flounder are broadly distributed throughout the Bay and lower rivers. Consequently, index calculations are based on catches from the Bay and lower river strata during September, October, and November.

Juvenile Summer Flounder indices were greater during the early 1990s compared with recent years with notable peaks in 2004 and 2008 (Table 16; Figure 19, top). The 2011 index ($RSI_{GM} = 0.17$) was the lowest index value observed in the time series, while recruitment in 2012 is the fourth highest index value observed since 1988 ($RSI_{GM} = 2.03$). During index months, juvenile Summer Flounder were captured throughout the Bay and lower portions of the rivers (Figure 19, bottom), though juvenile Summer Flounder often occur upriver.

Weakfish (*Cynoscion regalis*) – Weakfish are one of the dominant species in trawl survey catches, and juveniles are found throughout the Bay and tributaries (Figure 20, bottom). Juveniles have occurred in catches in late May and June, with June considered the beginning of the biological year. Overall, the Weakfish index (RSI_{GM}) is consistent and indicates steady recruitment since 1988 (mean $RSI_{GM} = 6.60$; Table 17; Figure 20, top) though we observed below average recruitment in 2012 ($RSI_{GM} = 3.02$).

White Perch (*Morone americana*) – Spawning of White Perch occurs in the upper tributaries from March to July with a peak occurring from late April to early May. Index months include December to February for juveniles and November to February for age 1+. Index stations are from the upper river strata and a separate index is calculated for each river.

Juvenile White Perch recruitment has been stable in each of the rivers with high and low periods of recruitment (Table 20; Figure 25). The three rivers show different time series averages with most juvenile White Perch occurring in the James River (mean $RSI_{GM} = 2.98$) followed by the Rappahannock River (mean $RSI_{GM} = 0.75$) and the York River (mean $RSI_{GM} = 0.20$). Recruitment was below average in the James, York, and Rappahannock rivers in 2012 (Figure 25).

Abundance of age 1+ White Perch has been average in the Rappahannock River (mean $RSI_{GM} = 1.32$) for most of the time series (Table 21; Figure 27). In the York River, abundance of age 1+ White Perch was average or above average (mean $RSI_{GM} = 0.39$) prior to 1997 and below-average values have been observed since 1998 (Table 21; Figure 27). Abundance of age 1+ White Perch has been average in the James River (mean $RSI_{GM} = 3.55$) with notable peaks in 1988, 1989, 1991, and 1994 (Table 21; Figure 27). White Perch are collected throughout the upper rivers (Figure 28).

Mobjack Bay

A total of 75,322 fishes was collected in 63 tows in Mobjack Bay between June and December 2012 (Appendix Table 2). Fifty species were captured and Bay Anchovy was the most abundant species by number (63,717 individuals captured). All species captured in Mobjack Bay were also captured in Chesapeake Bay and tributaries to the bay.

DISCUSSION

Juvenile indices contribute to the assessment and management of important recreational and commercial species in Chesapeake Bay and the mid-Atlantic Bight. For example, the VIMS Trawl Survey was recognized by the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (MAFMC) as an important source of the Summer Flounder recruitment index; the VIMS index was instrumental in shaping

protective harvest regulations in Virginia. Other indices utilized by management agencies include those for Atlantic Croaker, Spot, and Weakfish. Although a bottom trawl is not the preferred gear with which to sample American Eel, Eel indices from the Trawl Survey played an important role in the 2006 ASMFC American Eel FMP (ASMFC, 2006) and the American Eel Status Review recently conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In addition to management needs, the VIMS Trawl Survey also fulfills data and specimen requests from a variety of agencies, institutes, and individuals for research and educational purposes (e.g., Woodland et al. 2012; Sobocinski et al. 2013; Appendix Table 1).

Efforts to improve recruitment indices continue and include evaluation of the size ranges and months (the index period) used in index calculations. A VIMS Master's thesis addressed the distributional assumptions of the catch of YOY Weakfish and Atlantic Croaker (Woodward, 2009). The results showed that the nonzero catch data for Weakfish can be described by a gamma distribution and those for Atlantic Croaker appear to follow a lognormal distribution. Such findings indicate that indices of abundance calculated for these species could benefit from further refinements. In addition, the use of different index months for Weakfish and Atlantic Croaker may improve YOY indices by ensuring fewer age 1+ fish are included in YOY index calculations. However, additional work needs to be conducted to address potential effects of depth on the distribution and catch of these species before refined indices can be recommended and adopted (Woodward, 2009; Tuckey and Fabrizio 2013).

The Trawl Survey provides more than relative abundance indices used to tune stock assessments and aid in management activities. The data can also be used to investigate factors that influence species abundance that operate on time periods beyond annual recruitment cycles. For

example, using fishery-independent survey data from 1968 – 2004 for estuarine-dependent species, Wood and Austin (2009) found that recruitment of anadromous species was negatively correlated with recruitment of species that spawn on the continental shelf. Furthermore, recruitment patterns favored one group over the other for periods greater than a decade and shifts between recruitment regimes occurred within a short period of time (2-3 years; Wood and Austin, 2009). Understanding that long-term recruitment cycles dominate for decades is an important development that could inform management options. For example, effects of regulations aimed at improving recruitment will be difficult to observe if regulations are enacted during a cycle of low recruitment.

Information from the Trawl Survey also provides a basis for monitoring species interactions. For example, annual catch rates of Channel Catfish and White Catfish have declined since 1991, while catches of the introduced Blue Catfish have increased dramatically (Schloesser et al. 2011). Because diets and distributions of these species overlap, the observed trends may be due to competition and thus, species interactions warrant further study. Furthermore, the shift in diet of older Blue Catfish to include other fishes may affect ecosystem function (Schloesser et al. 2011). An effort is underway in Chesapeake Bay to understand the biology and ecology of Blue Catfish and coordinate management throughout the bay through the Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team (coordinated by NOAA, Chesapeake Bay Office, and the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program).

Changes in catches of important recreational species may be associated with degradation of estuarine nursery habitats, overfishing, poor recruitment, or a combination of these factors (Murdy et al., 1997). Although it is not possible to determine the cause of recruitment variability from trawl survey data alone, some general observations are possible. Spot recruitment indices have declined

greatly over the past 50 years, but year-class strength of this oceanic spawner appears to be controlled by environmental factors occurring outside the Bay (Homer and Mihursky, 1991; Bodolus, 1994). Three of the largest Spot recruitment indices from the past 20 years have been observed within the past five years indicating favorable conditions for this species in recent years. Atlantic Croaker recruitment indices show significant interannual variability with fluctuations possibly related to environmental conditions that vary annually. Norcross (1983) found that cold winters increased mortality in overwintering juvenile Atlantic Croaker and during some years may “push” the spawning population further south, preventing access to nursery areas in Chesapeake Bay. The warm winter during 2011-2012 may have contributed to greater overwinter survival and the highest index of abundance for this species. Weakfish indices have remained stable since 1988, though a decline in adult abundance has been observed and may be attributed to increased total mortality (ASMFC, 2012). Observed declines in Summer Flounder abundance may have been due to overfishing or year-class failure (Terceiro, 2006), but spawning stock biomass has been steadily increasing in response to the rebuilding plan and now exceeds the target. In 2012, recruitment of Summer Flounder was high. Striped Bass display great recruitment variability and one or two strong year classes may dominate the population at any one time (Richards and Rago, 1999). Finally, White Catfish and Channel Catfish indices, while variable, have decreased over the past 20 years, possibly due to competition with the introduced Blue Catfish.

The VIMS trawl survey program supplies critical data for management of fishery resources that use Chesapeake Bay as a spawning or nursery ground. Because the Bay serves as a nursery area for many coastal migratory fish, annual recruitment data are critical for multi-state management efforts along the Atlantic Coast. Furthermore, the trawl survey serves as a foundation

to conduct research on basic biological characteristics of Bay and tributary fishes, as well as a platform from which emerging issues may be addressed.

LITERATURE CITED

- Able, K. W. and M. P. Fahay. 1998. The first year in the life of estuarine fishes in the middle Atlantic Bight. Rutgers University Press, New Jersey.
- ASMFC. 2006. Terms of Reference and Advisory Report to the American Eel Stock Assessment Peer Review. ASMFC American Eel Stock Assessment Review Panel. Stock Assessment Report No. 06-01 of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.
- ASMFC. 2012. Review of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Fishery Management Plan for Weakfish. Weakfish Plan Review Team. Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.
- Bodolus, D. A. 1994. Mechanisms of larval Spot transport and recruitment to the Chesapeake Bay. Ph. D. Dissertation. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Chao, L. N. and J. A. Musick. 1977. Life history, feeding habits, and functional morphology of juvenile sciaenid fishes in the York River estuary, Virginia. Fishery Bulletin 75:657-702.
- Chesapeake Executive Council. 1988. Chesapeake Bay Program Stock Assessment Plan. Agreement Commitment Report. Annapolis, MD.
- Chittenden, M. E., Jr. 1991. Evaluation of spatial/temporal sources of variation in nekton catch and the efficacy of stratified sampling in the Chesapeake Bay. Final report to Chesapeake Bay Stock Assessment Committee & NOAA/NMFS. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Cochran, W. G. 1977. Sampling techniques. John Wiley & Sons. New York.
- Colvocoresses, J. A. and P. J. Geer. 1991. Estimation of relative juvenile abundance of recreationally important finfish in the Virginia portion of Chesapeake Bay. Annual report to VMRC/USFWS Sportfish Restoration Project F104R1. July 1990 to June 1991. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Colvocoresses, J. A., P. J. Geer and C. F. Bonzek. 1992. Estimation of relative juvenile abundance of recreationally important finfish in the Virginia portion of Chesapeake Bay. Annual report to

- VMRC/USFWS Sportfish Restoration Project F104-2. July 1991 to June 1992. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Connelly, W. J. 2001. Growth patterns of three species of catfish (*Ictaluridae*) from three Virginia tributaries of the Chesapeake Bay. Master's Thesis. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Geer, P. J. and H. M. Austin. 1994. Estimation of relative abundance of recreationally important finfish in the Virginia portion of Chesapeake Bay. Annual report to VMRC/USFWS Sportfish Restoration Project F104R4. July 1993 to June 1994. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Geer, P. J. and H. M. Austin. 1996. Estimation of relative abundance of recreationally important finfish in the Virginia portion of Chesapeake Bay. Annual report to VMRC/USFWS Sportfish Restoration Project F104R6. July 1995 to June 1996. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Geer, P. J. and H. M. Austin. 1997. Estimation of relative abundance of recreationally important finfish in the Virginia portion of Chesapeake Bay. Annual report to VMRC/USFWS Sportfish Restoration Project F104R7. July 1996 to June 1997. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Geer, P. J., C. F. Bonzek, and H. M. Austin. 1994. Juvenile finfish and blue crab stock assessment program bottom trawl survey annual data summary report series. Volume 1993. Virginia Institute of Marine Science Special Scientific Report No. 124. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Goodyear, C. P. 1985. Relationship between reported commercial landings and abundance of young Striped Bass in Chesapeake Bay, Maryland. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 114: 92-96.
- Haro, A., W. Richkus, K. Whalen, W. D. Busch, S. Lary, T. Brush, and D. Dixon. 2000. Population decline of the American Eel: Implications for Research and Management. Fisheries 25(9): 7-16.
- Hedgepeth, M.Y. 1983. Age, growth and reproduction of American Eels, *Anguilla rostrata* (Lesueur), from the Chesapeake Bay area. Master's Thesis. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Homer, M. L. and J. A. Mihursky. 1991. Spot. Pages 11.1-11.19 in S.L. Funderburk, J.A. Mihursky, S. J. Jordan, and D. Reiley, eds., Habitat requirements for Chesapeake Bay Living Resources, 2nd Edition. Living Resources Subcommittee, Chesapeake Bay Program. Annapolis, MD.

- Jenkins, R. E. and N. M. Burkhead. 1993. Freshwater fishes of Virginia. American Fisheries Society, Bethesda, MD.
- Jung, S. 2002. Fish community structure and the temporal variability in recruitment and biomass production in Chesapeake Bay. Ph.D. Dissertation. University of Maryland, College Park, MD.
- Lowery, W. A. and P. J. Geer. 2000. Juvenile finfish and blue crab stock assessment program bottom trawl survey annual data summary report series. Volume 1999. Virginia Institute of Marine Science Special Scientific Report No. 124. Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Menzel, R.W. 1945. The catfishery of Virginia. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 73: 364-372.
- Montane, M. M. and H. M. Austin. 2005. Effects of hurricanes on Atlantic Croaker (*Micropogonias undulatus*) recruitment to Chesapeake Bay. Pages 185-192 in K. Sellner, ed., Hurricane Isabel in Perspective. Chesapeake Research Consortium, CRC Publication 05-160, Edgewater, MD.
- Morse, W. W. 1978. Biological and fisheries data on Scup, *Stenotomus chrysops* (Linnaeus). National Marine Fisheries Service, Sandy Hook Laboratory, Technical Series Report No. 12.
- Murdy, E. O., R. S. Birdsong and J. A. Musick. 1997. Fishes of Chesapeake Bay. Smithsonian Institution Press.
- Musick, J. A. and L. P. Mercer. 1977. Seasonal distribution of Black Sea Bass, *Centropristis striata*, in the Mid-Atlantic Bight with comments on the ecology and fisheries of the species. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 106:12-25.
- Norcross, B. L. 1983. Climate scale environmental factors affecting year-class fluctuations of Atlantic Croaker, *Micropogonias undulatus* in the Chesapeake Bay, VA. Ph.D Dissertation. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Owens, S. J. and P. J. Geer. 2003. Size and age structure of American Eels in tributaries of the Virginia portion of the Chesapeake Bay. Pages 117-124 in D. A. Dixon (Editor), Biology, Management and Protection of Catadromous Eels. American Fisheries Society Symposium Series 33, Bethesda, MD.
- Parthree, D. J., C. F. Bonzek and R. J. Latour. 2008. Chesapeake Bay Trophic Interactions Laboratory Services. Project NA06NMF4570299. VIMS, Gloucester Point, VA.
- Rhodes, S. F. 1971. Age and growth of the Silver Perch *Bairdiella chrysoura*. Master's Thesis. College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

- Richards, R. A., and P. J. Rago. 1999. A case history of effective fishery management: Chesapeake Bay Striped Bass. *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* 19:356-375.
- Schloesser, R. W., M. C. Fabrizio, R. J. Latour, G. C. Garman, B. Greenlee, M. Groves, and J. Gartland. 2011. Ecological role of Blue Catfish in Chesapeake Bay communities and implications for management. In P. Michaletz and V. Travnicek, eds., *Conservation, ecology, and management of worldwide catfish populations and habitats*. American Fisheries Society Symposium 77:369-382, Bethesda, MD.
- Sobocinski, K. L., R. J. Orth, M. C. Fabrizio, and R. J. Latour. 2013. Historical comparison of fish community structure in lower Chesapeake Bay seagrass habitats. *Estuaries and Coasts* 36:775-794.
- Terceiro, M. 2006. Summer Flounder assessment and biological reference point update for 2006. Northeast Fisheries Science Center Reference Document.
- Tuckey, T. D. and M. C. Fabrizio. 2013. Influence of survey design on fish assemblages: implications from a study in Chesapeake Bay tributaries. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 142:957-973.
- Wojcik, F. J. and W. A. Van Engel. 1988. A documentation of Virginia trawl surveys, 1955 – 1984, listing pertinent variables. Volume II – York River. College of William and Mary, VIMS, Gloucester Point, VA. 198 p. (cited in Table 2)
- Wood, R. J. 2000. Synoptic scale climatic forcing of multispecies recruitment patterns in Chesapeake Bay. Ph.D. Dissertation. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Wood, R. J. and H. M. Austin. 2009. Synchronous multidecadal fish recruitment patterns in Chesapeake Bay, USA. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 66:496-508.
- Woodland, R. J., D. H. Secor, M. C. Fabrizio, and M. J. Wilberg. 2012. Comparing the nursery role of inner continental shelf and estuarine habitats for temperate marine fishes. *Estuarine, Coastal, and Shelf Science* 99: 61-73.
- Woodward, J. R. 2009. Investigating the relationships between recruitment indices and estimates of adult abundance for Striped Bass, Weakfish, and Atlantic Croaker. Master's Thesis. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.
- Wyanski, D. M. 1990. Patterns of habitat utilization in 0-age Summer Flounder (*Paralichthys dentatus*). Master's Thesis. College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA.

TABLES

Table 1. Spatial, temporal, and length (mm) criteria used to calculate recruitment indices. Highlighted boxes indicate strata, months and sizes used to calculate indices. Cross-hatched boxes indicate that only a portion of those strata are used in index calculations.

		VIMS Trawl Survey - Area / Time / Size Values by Species																			
Species - Age	VIMS	Strata Used								Month											
	SP. CODE	Bay	James	York	Rapp	Size Cut-off Values (mm) - Darkened Areas Represent Index Months															
		B O T T O M	L O P P E R	U L P W E R	L U P W E R	L U P W E R	L U P W E R	L U P W E R	L U P W E R	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
American Eel 1+	0060									---	---	---	>152	>152	>152	>152	>152	>152	---	---	---
Atlantic Croaker (spring)	0005									0-100	0-100	0-100	0-110	0-135	0-160	0-180	0-220	0-50	0-80	0-100	0-100
Bay Anchovy Y-O-Y	0103									0-77	0-80	0-80	0-80	0-80	0-80	0-44	0-51	0-56	0-61	0-65	0-70
Black Seabass Y-O-Y	0002									0-110	0-110	0-110	0-110	0-110	0-150	0-175	0-70	0-85	0-100	0-105	0-110
Blue Catfish Y-O-Y	0314									0-165	0-165	0-165	0-175	0-225	0-250	0-250	0-115	0-125	0-140	0-150	0-165
Blue Catfish 1+	0314									>165	>165	>165	>175	>225	>250	>250	>115	>125	>140	>150	>165
Channel Catfish Y-O-Y	0040									0-130	0-130	0-130	0-140	0-150	0-50	0-80	0-105	0-120	0-130	0-130	0-130
Channel Catfish 1+	0040									>130	>130	>130	>140	>150	>50	>80	>105	>120	>130	>130	>130
Scup	0001									90-170	90-170	90-170	90-170	35-90	40-100	50-125	60-145	75-160	85-170	90-170	90-170
Silver Perch Y-O-Y	0213									0-160	0-160	0-160	0-160	0-165	0-170	0-100	0-130	0-150	0-160	0-160	0-160
Spot Y-O-Y	0033									0-200	0-200	0-50	0-75	0-100	0-135	0-160	0-180	0-200	0-200	0-200	0-200
Striped Bass Y-O-Y	0031									0-200	0-200	0-200	0-200	0-50	0-80	0-100	0-120	0-135	0-150	0-175	0-190
Summer Flounder Y-O-Y	0003									0-290	0-290	0-60	0-100	0-140	0-170	0-200	0-225	0-250	0-275	0-290	0-290
Weakfish Y-O-Y	0007									0-200	0-200	0-200	0-225	0-240	0-90	0-120	0-150	0-180	0-200	0-200	0-200
White Catfish Y-O-Y	0039									0-110	0-110	0-110	0-110	0-120	0-50	0-65	0-80	0-90	0-100	0-110	0-110
White Catfish 1+	0039									>110	>110	>110	>110	>120	>50	>65	>80	>90	>100	>110	>110
White Perch Y-O-Y	0032									0-85	0-85	0-85	0-95	0-35	0-65	0-73	0-80	0-85	0-85	0-85	0-85
White Perch 1+	0032									>86	>86	>86	>96	>36	>66	>74	>81	>86	>85	>86	>86

Table 2. Sample collection history of the VIMS Trawl Survey, 1988 – May 2013. Each entry in the table represents the number of completed tows for the regular survey (not including Mobjack Bay); YR is year, TOT is total, STAT. TYPE is station type. Other codes are below and are based on Wojcik and Van Engel (1988), Appendices A – C.

YR	TOT	MONTH												WATER SYSTEM						Vessel			Gear		STAT. TYPE		TOW DURATION/DISTANCE		
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	CL	JA	PO	RA	YK	ZZ	FH	JS	LN	070	108	F	R	5	OT	DIS
1988	889	69	69	62	48	82	82	82	82	82	80	69	576	97	0	105	111	0	0	889	0	889	0	313	576	885	0	4	
1989	840	61	61	61	66	76	76	76	76	76	76	59	479	108	0	124	129	0	0	840	0	840	0	361	479	840	0	0	
1990	827	61	61	61	61	76	76	77	75	76	69	76	473	108	0	119	127	0	279	548	0	827	0	354	473	826	0	1	
1991	930	61	25	61	61	73	94	95	95	97	97	74	411	108	0	120	291	0	930	0	0	0	930	357	573	928	1	1	
1992	982	79	47	79	79	97	88	88	88	88	88	72	404	110	0	124	344	0	982	0	0	0	982	361	621	975	7	0	
1993	915	40	73	40	71	88	89	88	88	88	88	75	370	110	0	126	309	0	915	0	0	0	915	365	550	914	1	0	
1994	911	40	73	40	73	88	88	88	88	88	88	69	368	110	0	124	309	0	911	0	0	0	911	363	548	906	5	0	
1995	993	40	73	40	73	92	88	88	88	105	105	102	411	96	0	201	285	0	993	0	0	0	993	314	679	984	9	0	
1996	1176	52	91	71	106	106	107	108	108	107	108	105	435	228	0	258	255	0	1176	0	0	0	1176	279	897	1168	6	2	
1997	1220	68	105	66	98	110	111	111	112	111	112	111	425	265	0	264	266	0	1220	0	0	0	1220	302	918	1217	3	0	
1998	1262	66	105	66	105	111	111	128	59	138	124	130	388	265	0	256	264	89	1262	0	0	0	1262	322	940	1261	1	0	
1999	1382	79	122	80	122	120	118	119	118	122	124	131	402	264	0	264	265	187	1382	0	0	0	1382	363	1019	1380	2	0	
2000	1367	52	129	85	101	158	111	128	125	121	141	111	433	250	17	266	265	136	1367	0	0	0	1367	363	1004	1367	0	0	
2001	1122	30	30	30	75	112	144	111	112	135	136	111	384	230	35	230	230	13	1017	0	105	0	1122	277	845	1119	1	2	
2002	1090	66	90	66	90	96	106	96	97	95	96	96	288	264	0	264	264	10	1090	0	0	0	1090	300	790	1089	1	0	
2003	1191	66	96	66	96	96	111	111	111	111	111	105	399	264	0	264	264	0	1191	0	0	0	1191	300	891	1191	0	0	
2004	1224	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	432	264	0	264	264	0	1224	0	0	0	1224	300	924	1224	0	0	
2005	1211	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	113	111	111	419	264	0	264	264	0	1211	0	0	0	1211	300	911	1211	0	0	
2006	1193	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	113	111	111	423	242	0	264	264	0	1193	0	0	0	1193	292	901	1193	0	0	
2007	1224	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	432	264	0	264	264	0	1224	0	0	0	1224	300	924	1224	0	0	
2008	1224	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	432	264	0	264	264	0	1224	0	0	0	1224	300	924	1224	0	0	
2009	1224	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	432	264	0	264	264	0	1224	0	0	0	1224	300	924	1224	0	0	
2010	1224	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	432	264	0	264	264	170	1224	0	0	0	1224	300	924	1224	0	0	
2011	1224	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	111	111	111	432	264	0	264	264	204	1224	0	0	0	1224	300	924	1224	0	0	
2012	1205	66	105	66	105	111	111	111	111	111	111	92	432	264	0	264	264	148	1205	0	0	0	1205	300	905	1205	0	0	
2013	453	66	105	66	105	111							123	110		110	110	0	453				453	125	328	453			
TOT	28,503	1,590	2,300	1,634	2,375	2,691	2,599	2,593	2,521	2,644	2,644	2,546	2,366	10,635	5,341	52	5,595	6,464	957	26,121	2,277	105	2,556	25,494	8,111	20,392	28,003	37	10

System: CL Lower Chesapeake Bay (Virginia Portion)
 JA James River
 PO Potomac River
 RA Rappahannock River
 YK York River
 ZZ includes: Atlantic Ocean (AT) - 1971, 78-79, 2002; Piankatank R. (PK) - 1970-71, 98-00; Mobjack Bay (MB) - 1970-73, 98-01, 10-12; Pocomoke Sound (CP) -1973-81, 98-01; Great Wicomico R. (GW) - 1998-00.

Gear Code:
 30' Gears 070 Lined, tickler chain, 60' bridle, 54"x24" doors
 108 Lined, tickler chain, 60' bridle, metal china-v doors

Station Type: F - Fixed
 R - Random

Tow Type: OT is tow duration in minutes for those not listed. DIS is distance.

Table 3. VIMS trawl survey pooled catch for June 2012 to May 2013 from 1,205 tows.

Adjusted Percent of Catch Excludes Bay Anchovy and Hogchoker

Species	Number of Fish (All)	Frequency	Percent of Catch	Catch Per Trawl	Adjusted Percent of Catch	Number of Fish YOY	Average Length (mm)	Standard Error (length)	Minimum Length (mm)	Maximum Length (mm)
Bay Anchovy	404,662	1035	62.26	335.82	.	339,996	51	0.06	18	97
Hogchoker	76,949	744	11.84	63.86	.	21,342	84	0.17	17	189
Atlantic Croaker	51,864	780	7.98	43.04	30.82	37,407	130	0.38	16	356
Spot	40,840	634	6.28	33.89	24.27	31,252	131	0.17	14	224
Striped Anchovy	13,557	148	2.09	11.25	8.06	13,488	65	0.40	21	127
Weakfish	12,443	449	1.91	10.33	7.39	10,803	99	0.57	13	338
White Perch	11,534	289	1.77	9.57	6.85	423	141	0.42	24	321
Blue Catfish	9,634	208	1.48	8.00	5.72	3,606	239	1.20	21	772
Spotted Hake	9,134	356	1.41	7.58	5.43	9,053	101	0.50	35	317
Silver Perch	3,226	281	0.50	2.68	1.92	2,731	121	0.55	21	209
Summer Flounder	1,946	467	0.30	1.61	1.16	1,668	165	1.30	19	574
Southern Kingfish	1,779	264	0.27	1.48	1.06	1,054	147	1.54	26	324
Blackcheek Tonguefish	1,670	329	0.26	1.39	0.99	1,139	100	0.84	46	191
Gizzard Shad	1,579	176	0.24	1.31	0.94	1,241	160	1.64	89	401
Northern Seabrobin	1,364	151	0.21	1.13	0.81	1,356	98	0.62	35	190
Atlantic Menhaden	716	202	0.11	0.59	0.43	520	104	3.16	26	323
Kingfish spp	599	142	0.09	0.50	0.36	560	80	2.22	17	345
American Shad	546	94	0.08	0.45	0.32	546	105	0.46	77	150
Oyster Toadfish	535	156	0.08	0.44	0.32	.	183	2.74	34	359
Smallmouth Flounder	503	111	0.08	0.42	0.3	493	79	0.72	39	136
Harvestfish	422	131	0.06	0.35	0.25	348	92	1.71	17	174
Blueback Herring	367	66	0.06	0.30	0.22	354	84	1.04	59	228
Striped Bass	360	144	0.06	0.30	0.21	58	261	5.67	32	614
Atlantic Thread Herring	354	26	0.05	0.29	0.21	.	54	0.94	33	190
Threadfin Shad	277	39	0.04	0.23	0.16	.	89	0.58	70	116
Butterfish	264	62	0.04	0.22	0.16	41	123	2.18	21	205
White Catfish	250	93	0.04	0.21	0.15	3	234	4.43	106	468
American Eel	218	82	0.03	0.18	0.13	.	273	5.76	147	640
Black Sea Bass	170	77	0.03	0.14	0.1	119	116	2.73	50	261
Alewife	165	58	0.03	0.14	0.1	162	120	1.33	74	239
Atlantic Spadefish	162	53	0.02	0.13	0.1	.	83	2.53	29	182
Windowpane	160	85	0.02	0.13	0.1	159	97	2.71	45	270
Northern Pipefish	141	84	0.02	0.12	0.08	.	158	3.88	67	258
Northern Puffer	141	76	0.02	0.12	0.08	98	101	3.44	17	203
Hickory Shad	103	39	0.02	0.09	0.06	.	120	5.96	54	326
Clearnose Skate	96	34	0.01	0.08	0.06	.	438	5.64	91	577
Red Hake	83	23	0.01	0.07	0.05	.	120	4.20	53	196
Red Drum	80	59	0.01	0.07	0.05	.	302	6.55	72	397
Naked Goby	77	54	0.01	0.06	0.05	.	42	0.89	25	57
Banded Drum	66	24	0.01	0.05	0.04	.	92	7.28	21	214
Lined Seahorse	65	49	0.01	0.05	0.04	.	78	3.43	28	124
Scup	65	24	0.01	0.05	0.04	55	111	3.20	40	173
Silver Seatrout	64	28	0.01	0.05	0.04	.	162	3.30	109	218
Silver Hake	44	19	0.01	0.04	0.03	.	125	4.60	75	215
Inshore Lizardfish	39	26	0.01	0.03	0.02	31	154	8.68	58	257
Feather Blenny	33	27	0.01	0.03	0.02	.	77	2.91	38	111
Northern Kingfish	32	14	0.00	0.03	0.02	9	151	10.10	42	268
Striped Seabrobin	31	19	0.00	0.03	0.02	.	94	6.03	44	176
Bluefish	30	19	0.00	0.02	0.02	.	187	14.00	57	393
Seaboard Goby	27	21	0.00	0.02	0.02	.	35	1.15	21	47
Longnose Gar	26	16	0.00	0.02	0.02	.	746	43.68	342	1164
Atlantic Cutlassfish	26	15	0.00	0.02	0.02	.	518	20.00	193	670
Pigfish	25	18	0.00	0.02	0.01	.	128	6.98	22	171
Atlantic Silverside	25	11	0.00	0.02	0.01	22	88	1.82	69	102
Star Drum	25	7	0.00	0.02	0.01	.	80	4.03	45	112
Spotted Seatrout	20	19	0.00	0.02	0.01	.	203	23.68	107	538
Fringed Flounder	20	14	0.00	0.02	0.01	.	93	3.72	66	142
Pinfish	20	8	0.00	0.02	0.01	.	125	2.74	104	156

Table 3 (continued)

Adjusted Percent of Catch Excludes Bay Anchovy and Hogchoker

Species	Number of Fish (All)	Frequency	Percent of Catch	Catch Per Trawl	Adjusted Percent of Catch	Number of Fish YOY	Average Length (mm)	Standard Error (length)	Minimum Length (mm)	Maximum Length (mm)
Spiny Butterfly Ray	18	15	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	553	16.36	448	679
Striped Mullet	18	3	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	218	5.86	179	267
Striped Cusk-eel	15	7	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	172	12.47	53	251
Smooth Butterfly Ray	14	14	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	536	58.46	255	898
Atlantic Stingray	14	13	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	255	19.84	156	406
Black Drum	14	10	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	202	8.30	146	265
Bluntnose Stingray	12	11	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	470	50.66	196	753
Chain Pipefish	12	10	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	259	15.94	142	315
Common Carp	12	2	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	555	31.48	375	755
Spiny Dogfish	11	9	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	632	79.82	211	840
Blue Runner	10	7	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	131	3.61	119	155
Green Goby	9	9	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	44	2.96	23	53
Sheepshead	9	8	0.00	0.01	0.01	.	441	62.85	105	565
Atlantic Moonfish	8	6	0.00	0.01	0	.	119	12.47	48	160
Striped Burrfish	6	6	0.00	0.00	0	.	181	11.22	129	207
Atlantic Herring	6	5	0.00	0.00	0	.	90	37.35	47	276
Southern Flounder	6	5	0.00	0.00	0	.	308	10.75	280	355
Conger Eel	5	5	0.00	0.00	0	.	422	36.93	287	511
Skilletfish	5	4	0.00	0.00	0	.	49	3.43	39	59
Smooth Dogfish	5	3	0.00	0.00	0	.	560	128.15	295	888
Brown Bullhead	4	4	0.00	0.00	0	.	123	22.28	88	188
Sea Lamprey	4	3	0.00	0.00	0	.	198	35.57	134	299
Channel Catfish	3	3	0.00	0.00	0	0	408	18.68	382	444
Bighead Searobin	3	3	0.00	0.00	0	.	114	35.74	43	154
Atlantic Bumper	3	3	0.00	0.00	0	.	46	7.69	31	55
Cobia	2	2	0.00	0.00	0	.	89	24.00	65	113
Florida Pompano	2	2	0.00	0.00	0	.	175	2.50	172	177
Striped Blenny	2	2	0.00	0.00	0	.	61	20.50	40	81
Southern Stingray	2	2	0.00	0.00	0	.	591	36.00	555	627
Cownose Ray	2	2	0.00	0.00	0	.	470	20.00	450	490
Lookdown	2	2	0.00	0.00	0	.	98	14.50	83	112
Gray Snapper	2	2	0.00	0.00	0	.	96	7.00	89	103
Spanish Mackerel	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	170	.	170	170
Bluespotted Cornetfish	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	177	.	177	177
Tessellated Darter	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	73	.	73	73
Eastern Silvery Minnow	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	101	.	101	101
Spottail Shiner	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	100	.	100	100
Banded Killifish	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	55	.	55	55
Rainwater Killifish	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	29	.	29	29
Dusky Pipefish	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	86	.	86	86
Inland Silverside	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	63	.	63	63
Little Skate	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	257	.	257	257
Winter Skate	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	405	.	405	405
Bullnose Ray	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	315	.	315	315
Northern Stargazer	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	339	.	339	339
White Mullet	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	128	.	128	128
Sharksucker	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	304	.	304	304
Silver Jenny	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	40	.	40	40
Ocellated Flounder	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	123	.	123	123
Whitefin Sharksucker	1	1	0.00	0.00	0	.	333	.	333	333
All Species Combined	649,911									

Table 4. American Eel indices (RSI_{Δ} , 1988–2012).

Year	Rappahannock			York			James		
	Index	Prop. pos.	N	Index	Prop. pos.	N	Index	Prop. pos.	N
1988	2.31	0.20	35	1.27	0.33	40	2.32	0.30	30
1989	11.82	0.37	43	3.50	0.27	49	6.08	0.37	38
1990	13.34	0.40	43	4.90	0.30	50	9.69	0.42	38
1991	4.89	0.38	42	0.64	0.18	49	1.82	0.26	38
1992	1.95	0.28	43	0.83	0.19	47	8.99	0.42	38
1993	1.87	0.30	43	0.33	0.16	49	5.74	0.42	38
1994	3.45	0.40	43	0.33	0.16	49	2.21	0.37	38
1995	2.83	0.37	43	0.33	0.18	49	1.74	0.37	46
1996	2.54	0.36	128	0.58	0.25	126	3.90	0.41	126
1997	2.71	0.45	132	0.47	0.19	132	1.77	0.36	132
1998	2.02	0.31	124	0.48	0.19	132	1.91	0.35	132
1999	0.71	0.23	132	0.23	0.14	133	1.16	0.31	132
2000	1.38	0.32	133	0.24	0.16	133	0.87	0.28	132
2001	0.58	0.18	133	0.16	0.14	133	0.58	0.23	134
2002	0.28	0.16	132	0.24	0.15	132	0.73	0.23	132
2003	0.61	0.20	132	0.14	0.11	132	0.57	0.23	132
2004	0.44	0.25	132	0.14	0.11	132	0.46	0.16	132
2005	0.14	0.11	132	0.09	0.05	132	0.26	0.17	132
2006	0.08	0.05	132	0.04	0.04	132	0.14	0.11	132
2007	0.20	0.11	132	0.08	0.06	132	0.11	0.10	132
2008	0.47	0.22	132	0.21	0.17	132	0.17	0.13	132
2009	0.48	0.17	132	0.14	0.12	132	0.33	0.16	132
2010	0.51	0.21	132	0.16	0.14	132	0.19	0.11	132
2011	0.85	0.30	132	0.10	0.10	132	0.34	0.17	132
2012	0.85	0.27	132	0.12	0.11	132	0.18	0.09	132
Average	2.29			0.63			2.09		

Table 5. Spring Atlantic Croaker indices (RSI_{GM}; 1988–2012).

Year	Random Stratified Index (RSI)				Original Index			
	Geo. Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N	Bay & River (BRI)	N	River Only (RO)	N
1988	0.36	0.21 - 0.44	16.05	234	0.38	234	2.22	84
1989	0.65	0.38 - 0.85	15.63	252	0.78	252	4.63	84
1990	0.48	0.23 - 0.67	20.56	252	0.52	252	2.98	85
1991	4.12	2.83 - 5.84	8.87	307	4.35	238	12.87	83
1992	1.17	0.77 - 1.67	13.17	309	1.34	240	10.26	84
1993	1.98	1.33 - 2.80	11.20	301	2.21	240	19.40	84
1994	0.86	0.56 - 1.22	14.33	300	0.95	240	2.98	84
1995	0.95	0.67 - 1.28	11.55	306	0.93	246	5.55	90
1996	0.19	0.11 - 0.28	19.63	405	0.16	242	0.36	88
1997	1.47	1.15 - 1.85	7.78	419	0.87	255	7.78	100
1998	1.19	0.95 - 1.47	7.51	374	0.48	214	6.21	96
1999	1.50	1.05 - 2.05	10.83	397	1.28	232	4.08	100
2000	0.60	0.42 - 0.80	12.68	413	0.44	245	1.39	97
2001	0.37	0.25 - 0.49	14.38	420	0.32	256	1.18	100
2002	1.59	1.07 - 2.22	11.59	361	1.11	197	4.80	100
2003	0.49	0.28 - 0.74	19.19	405	0.52	241	0.28	100
2004	0.96	0.73 - 1.22	9.34	420	0.70	255	4.42	99
2005	0.47	0.35 - 0.59	10.46	420	0.31	256	1.85	100
2006	1.27	1.00 - 1.59	7.90	420	0.77	256	3.92	100
2007	1.04	0.76 - 1.37	10.34	420	0.76	256	3.05	100
2008	4.10	3.04 - 5.45	7.16	420	2.84	256	18.62	100
2009	1.82	1.41 - 2.30	7.65	420	1.48	256	10.06	100
2010	2.12	1.52 - 2.86	9.34	420	1.83	256	3.44	100
2011	1.79	1.29 - 2.40	9.64	420	1.80	256	1.54	100
2012	6.88	5.24 - 8.96	5.65	420	5.14	256	14.78	100
Average	1.54							

Table 6. Bay Anchovy indices (RSI_{GM}; 1988–2012).

Year	Random Stratified Index (RSI)				Original Index			
	Geo. Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N	Bay & River (BRI)	N	River Only (RO)	N
1988	18.25	12.17 - 27.15	6.42	346	18.06	346	32.66	128
1989	52.47	36.27 - 75.71	4.54	374	51.59	374	22.74	128
1990	6.79	4.41 - 10.22	8.89	369	6.65	369	8.78	124
1991	22.51	15.05 - 33.43	6.04	491	22.83	350	33.41	125
1992	40.14	27.17 - 59.09	5.10	448	40.79	355	14.53	128
1993	43.31	28.80 - 64.89	5.23	449	42.71	360	28.93	132
1994	14.67	9.93 - 21.46	6.54	444	14.36	354	19.86	130
1995	18.36	12.84 - 26.07	5.66	540	18.52	362	18.57	138
1996	15.31	11.20 - 20.82	5.21	607	16.91	363	5.11	135
1997	18.96	13.63 - 26.23	5.19	625	17.33	378	12.64	150
1998	30.26	20.75 - 43.93	5.27	579	30.47	336	9.70	146
1999	15.47	11.20 - 21.22	5.35	606	14.38	360	21.26	150
2000	36.58	26.69 - 49.99	4.21	619	40.36	369	16.24	147
2001	9.55	6.93 - 13.04	6.06	627	9.23	377	4.56	150
2002	5.51	3.58 - 8.24	9.36	540	4.09	294	9.30	150
2003	18.03	13.17 - 24.56	5.01	624	20.65	378	3.41	150
2004	23.06	16.71 - 31.70	4.82	624	21.45	377	7.02	149
2005	22.27	16.01 - 30.85	4.98	613	21.26	367	8.43	150
2006	19.31	14.00 - 26.50	5.03	592	16.99	360	10.59	142
2007	23.76	17.33 - 32.44	4.69	624	21.15	378	10.27	150
2008	50.29	36.21 - 69.68	4.07	624	43.11	378	49.06	150
2009	30.12	22.30 - 40.55	4.21	624	25.64	378	25.09	150
2010	84.92	61.27 - 117.54	3.61	624	79.68	378	41.60	150
2011	26.56	19.20 - 36.59	4.68	624	24.10	378	24.37	150
2012	51.53	36.84 - 71.92	4.14	611	47.59	365	31.94	150
Average	27.92							

Table 7. Black Sea Bass indices (RSI_{GM} ; 1988–2011).

Year class	Random Stratified Index (RSI)				Original Index				
	Geo.	Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N	Bay & River (BRI)	N	River Only (RO)	N
1988		0.84	0.59 - 1.13	11.89	138	0.83	138	1.04	12
1989		2.36	1.70 - 3.17	8.93	138	2.36	138	1.52	12
1990		1.12	0.78 - 1.53	11.63	128	1.12	128	0.50	12
1991		1.28	0.91 - 1.72	10.76	129	1.29	129	2.35	12
1992		0.22	0.13 - 0.32	18.86	129	0.22	129	0.19	12
1993		1.05	0.74 - 1.42	11.46	129	1.04	129	0.76	12
1994		1.06	0.74 - 1.45	11.85	129	1.06	129	0.60	12
1995		0.50	0.33 - 0.69	14.47	151	0.54	127	0.62	12
1996		0.36	0.22 - 0.52	17.99	152	0.35	128	0.38	12
1997		0.46	0.31 - 0.63	14.63	153	0.47	129	0.23	12
1998		0.57	0.35 - 0.82	16.40	135	0.59	111	0.32	12
1999		0.58	0.41 - 0.77	12.22	146	0.60	122	0.48	12
2000		0.74	0.50 - 1.02	13.39	153	0.78	129	0.93	12
2001		1.29	0.85 - 1.84	12.89	108	1.33	84	1.31	12
2002		0.64	0.41 - 0.90	15.16	138	0.69	114	0.57	12
2003		0.12	0.06 - 0.18	25.11	153	0.11	129	0.12	12
2004		0.06	0.02 - 0.10	34.69	153	0.05	129	0.06	12
2005		0.19	0.12 - 0.26	17.66	153	0.20	129	0.06	12
2006		0.44	0.30 - 0.60	14.14	153	0.48	129	0.06	12
2007		0.83	0.53 - 1.18	14.68	153	0.90	129	0.49	12
2008		0.41	0.27 - 0.57	14.90	153	0.45	129	0.43	12
2009		0.32	0.19 - 0.47	19.23	153	0.35	129	0.16	12
2010		1.11	0.83 - 1.43	9.41	153	1.21	129	0.81	12
2011		0.65	0.47 - 0.85	11.61	153	0.71	129	0.43	12
Average		0.72							

Table 8. Blue Catfish juvenile indices (RSI_{Delta}; 1989–2012).

Year Class	Rappahannock			York			James		
	Index	Prop. pos.	N	Index	Prop. pos.	N	Index	Prop. pos.	N
1989	0.00	0.00	28	0.00	0.00	28	1.12	0.15	20
1990	0.25	0.04	28	0.00	0.00	27	2.13	0.10	20
1991	0.00	0.00	26	0.00	0.00	28	0.00	0.00	22
1992	0.00	0.00	28	0.00	0.00	28	0.04	0.04	24
1993	0.59	0.17	29	0.00	0.00	28	0.65	0.17	24
1994	0.00	0.00	27	0.00	0.00	28	1.58	0.13	23
1995	0.09	0.04	55	0.00	0.00	52	1.20	0.23	31
1996	0.44	0.09	64	0.00	0.00	60	6.99	0.35	60
1997	0.30	0.02	64	0.00	0.00	60	4.35	0.32	57
1998	0.00	0.00	64	0.00	0.00	60	0.25	0.08	59
1999	0.00	0.00	64	0.00	0.00	60	0.02	0.02	51
2000	0.00	0.00	46	0.02	0.02	45	0.02	0.02	45
2001	0.00	0.00	64	0.02	0.02	60	0.00	0.00	60
2002	0.00	0.00	64	0.02	0.02	60	0.33	0.13	60
2003	0.67	0.14	64	0.41	0.12	60	20.24	0.50	60
2004	0.05	0.03	64	1.68	0.12	60	13.50	0.47	60
2005	0.03	0.03	64	0.11	0.05	60	5.27	0.28	60
2006	0.60	0.05	64	1.17	0.07	60	21.60	0.33	60
2007	0.00	0.00	64	0.00	0.00	60	0.78	0.08	60
2008	0.00	0.00	64	0.00	0.00	60	0.78	0.07	60
2009	0.18	0.06	64	0.00	0.00	60	7.09	0.40	60
2010	0.17	0.03	64	0.05	0.03	60	0.80	0.10	60
2011	17.21	0.05	64	6.57	0.18	60	2.82	0.32	60
2012	0.14	0.02	64	0.62	0.10	60	1.52	0.10	60
Average	0.86			0.44			3.88		

Table 9. Blue Catfish age 1+ indices (RSI_{Δ} ; 1988–2013).

Year	Rappahannock			York			James		
	Index	Prop. pos.	N	Index	Prop. pos.	N	Index	Prop. pos.	N
1988	0.00	0.00	12	0.00	0.00	18	0.00	0.00	15
1989	0.00	0.00	26	0.00	0.00	25	0.00	0.00	22
1990	0.14	0.04	28	0.00	0.00	28	0.83	0.20	20
1991	3.11	0.11	28	0.00	0.00	27	3.13	0.20	20
1992	0.18	0.08	26	0.00	0.00	28	1.40	0.18	22
1993	0.33	0.18	28	0.00	0.00	28	2.63	0.17	24
1994	0.68	0.14	29	0.00	0.00	28	7.29	0.29	24
1995	2.32	0.15	27	0.00	0.00	28	3.24	0.30	23
1996	3.74	0.07	55	0.00	0.00	52	0.64	0.19	31
1997	8.10	0.30	64	0.05	0.03	60	2.08	0.33	60
1998	34.54	0.31	64	0.00	0.00	60	16.55	0.56	57
1999	64.21	0.20	64	0.00	0.00	60	22.81	0.39	59
2000	39.84	0.22	64	0.12	0.07	60	5.69	0.29	51
2001	0.75	0.09	46	0.29	0.04	45	2.02	0.27	45
2002	2.59	0.17	64	0.03	0.03	60	3.83	0.20	60
2003	0.56	0.05	64	0.02	0.02	60	0.44	0.23	60
2004	11.05	0.14	64	0.28	0.12	60	4.52	0.45	60
2005	13.09	0.39	64	1.50	0.15	60	12.72	0.68	60
2006	6.58	0.31	64	2.34	0.22	60	62.83	0.68	60
2007	13.53	0.36	64	2.94	0.30	60	92.31	0.62	60
2008	14.73	0.31	64	1.18	0.17	60	30.05	0.57	60
2009	8.48	0.13	64	1.08	0.18	60	21.90	0.52	60
2010	4.34	0.19	64	0.83	0.22	60	28.90	0.63	60
2011	18.73	0.20	64	0.68	0.23	60	5.22	0.47	60
2012	31.76	0.75	64	2.91	0.42	60	22.25	0.70	60
2013	4.32	0.27	64	2.35	0.25	60	10.02	0.63	60
Average	11.07			0.64			13.97		

Table 10. Channel Catfish juvenile indices (RSI_{GM}, 1988–2012).

Year class	Rappahannock				York				James			
	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.
1988	0.00	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.00	20		0	0.02	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.05
1989	0.02	16	69.87	0.00 - 0.04	0.05	19	58.09	0.00 - 0.11	1.74	16	17.94	0.91 - 2.94
1990	0.01	16	69.15	0.00 - 0.02	0.00	20	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.03	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.09
1991	0.00	16		0	0.00	20		0	0.03	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.09
1992	0.00	16		0	0.00	20		0	0.00	16		0
1993	0.00	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.00	20	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.04	16	88.50	0.00 - 0.11
1994	0.00	16		0	0.01	20	51.64	0.00 - 0.02	0.04	16	69.39	0.00 - 0.10
1995	0.00	41	68.31	0.00 - 0.01	0.01	40	82.13	0.00 - 0.04	0.20	28	36.13	0.05 - 0.38
1996	0.01	40	78.78	0.00 - 0.02	0.00	40		0	0.12	40	48.23	0.00 - 0.24
1997	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.05	40	65.74	0.00 - 0.11
1998	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.00	40	67.42	0.00 - 0.01	0.05	40	56.55	0.00 - 0.11
1999	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.00	34		0
2000	0.00	40		0	0.01	40	53.58	0.00 - 0.02	0.01	40	67.42	0.00 - 0.01
2001	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01
2002	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0
2003	0.01	40	68.89	0.00 - 0.02	0.02	40	39.07	0.00 - 0.04	0.28	40	26.13	0.13 - 0.46
2004	0.00	40		0	0.00	40	67.42	0.00 - 0.01	0.19	40	29.41	0.07 - 0.31
2005	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.02	40	56.41	0.00 - 0.05
2006	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.01	40	83.74	0.00 - 0.02
2007	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01
2008	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0
2009	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.01	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.02
2010	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0
2011	0.00	40		0	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.00	40		0
2012	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0
Average	0.00				0.00				0.12			

Table 11. Channel Catfish age 1+ indices (RSI_{GM} ; 1988–2013).

Year	Rappahannock				York				James			
	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.
1988	0.03	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.08	0.05	20	100.00	0.00 - 0.17	0.80	16	28.49	0.29 - 1.51
1989	0.08	16	35.63	0.02 - 0.14	0.00	20		0	1.22	16	9.35	0.91 - 1.58
1990	0.07	16	22.35	0.04 - 0.10	0.03	19	58.97	0.00 - 0.06	0.92	16	24.75	0.39 - 1.64
1991	0.67	16	5.09	0.58 - 0.76	0.01	20	67.42	0.00 - 0.01	1.19	16	17.22	0.67 - 1.86
1992	0.77	16	21.49	0.38 - 1.26	0.02	20	51.73	0.00 - 0.05	1.59	16	9.21	1.17 - 2.09
1993	0.72	16	4.41	0.64 - 0.80	0.00	20		0	0.81	16	19.59	0.44 - 1.29
1994	0.07	16	25.11	0.03 - 0.10	0.00	20	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.71	16	39.39	0.12 - 1.61
1995	0.22	16	9.19	0.17 - 0.26	0.01	20	54.14	0.00 - 0.03	0.49	16	25.42	0.22 - 0.83
1996	0.12	41	27.05	0.05 - 0.19	0.00	40	69.46	0.00 - 0.01	0.50	28	22.58	0.25 - 0.80
1997	0.21	40	37.27	0.05 - 0.40	0.01	40	49.51	0.00 - 0.02	0.70	40	20.53	0.37 - 1.12
1998	0.22	40	38.53	0.05 - 0.42	0.00	40	69.46	0.00 - 0.01	0.50	40	19.83	0.28 - 0.77
1999	0.13	40	28.36	0.06 - 0.22	0.01	40	57.60	0.00 - 0.03	0.55	40	21.67	0.28 - 0.88
2000	0.03	40	57.14	0.00 - 0.06	0.03	40	34.14	0.01 - 0.05	0.26	34	34.05	0.08 - 0.47
2001	0.07	40	72.44	0.00 - 0.18	0.00	40	67.42	0.00 - 0.01	0.16	40	22.63	0.09 - 0.25
2002	0.03	40	78.01	0.00 - 0.08	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.14	40	44.96	0.01 - 0.27
2003	0.13	40	24.80	0.06 - 0.20	0.01	40	52.22	0.00 - 0.02	0.20	40	41.61	0.03 - 0.40
2004	0.07	40	44.48	0.01 - 0.13	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.20	40	26.76	0.09 - 0.33
2005	0.02	40	69.54	0.00 - 0.06	0.00	40	67.42	0.00 - 0.01	0.28	40	28.65	0.11 - 0.48
2006	0.01	40	57.12	0.00 - 0.02	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.27	40	31.74	0.09 - 0.48
2007	0.04	40	51.20	0.00 - 0.07	0.00	40		0	0.17	40	29.20	0.07 - 0.28
2008	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.06	40	32.35	0.02 - 0.11
2009	0.00	40	100.00	0	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.05	40	35.13	0.02 - 0.09
2010	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.06	40	57.37	0.00 - 0.13
2011	0.01	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.02	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.02	40	41.84	0.00 - 0.04
2012	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.04	40	37.82	0.01 - 0.08
2013	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.01	40	61.47	0.00 - 0.03
Average	0.14				0.01				0.46			

Table 12. Scup indices (RSI_{GM} ; 1988–2011).

Year	Random Stratified Index (RSI)			
	Geo. Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N
1988	3.06	2.05 - 4.41	10.20	112
1989	4.92	3.14 - 7.45	10.03	112
1990	1.90	1.11 - 2.99	14.99	103
1991	0.65	0.41 - 0.93	15.67	104
1992	3.36	2.16 - 5.01	10.90	104
1993	0.90	0.53 - 1.35	16.67	104
1994	0.39	0.21 - 0.59	21.36	104
1995	0.54	0.29 - 0.83	20.37	104
1996	0.21	0.09 - 0.35	28.00	104
1997	0.50	0.27 - 0.75	19.83	79
1998	0.27	0.06 - 0.52	37.91	88
1999	0.13	0.02 - 0.25	41.14	105
2000	1.34	0.88 - 1.90	12.80	111
2001	0.24	0.11 - 0.37	24.52	64
2002	0.96	0.58 - 1.42	15.89	104
2003	0.46	0.28 - 0.67	17.38	104
2004	1.11	0.71 - 1.59	13.89	104
2005	1.58	0.99 - 2.36	13.77	104
2006	2.99	2.07 - 4.19	9.47	104
2007	0.20	0.09 - 0.31	25.12	104
2008	2.97	2.07 - 4.13	9.28	104
2009	4.11	2.79 - 5.89	9.14	104
2010	0.82	0.51 - 1.20	15.70	104
2011	0.22	0.07 - 0.39	33.06	104
Average	1.41			

Table 13. Silver Perch indices (RSI_{GM}; 1988–2012).

Year	Random Stratified Index (RSI)				Original Index			
	Geo. Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N	Bay & River (BRI)	N	River Only (RO)	N
1988	0.61	0.35 - 0.92	18.30	172	0.65	172	1.02	65
1989	0.53	0.33 - 0.76	16.32	189	0.56	189	1.63	63
1990	0.69	0.49 - 0.92	11.94	185	0.75	185	4.08	59
1991	0.35	0.21 - 0.51	17.33	179	0.40	179	1.47	62
1992	0.81	0.49 - 1.18	15.80	178	0.86	178	1.95	61
1993	0.45	0.29 - 0.63	16.01	180	0.45	180	0.60	63
1994	0.25	0.11 - 0.40	25.42	180	0.26	180	0.37	63
1995	0.58	0.34 - 0.87	15.65	180	0.65	180	1.81	67
1996	0.59	0.38 - 0.84	15.63	304	0.58	183	1.18	66
1997	0.71	0.50 - 0.94	12.07	316	0.79	192	1.43	75
1998	0.24	0.15 - 0.33	16.77	316	0.24	192	0.53	75
1999	0.70	0.49 - 0.94	12.42	309	0.74	186	2.51	75
2000	0.68	0.46 - 0.93	13.56	317	0.76	192	2.12	74
2001	0.70	0.47 - 0.97	13.77	327	0.85	200	3.17	75
2002	0.44	0.24 - 0.67	20.16	269	0.41	146	1.67	75
2003	0.63	0.40 - 0.90	15.49	315	0.66	192	0.71	75
2004	0.34	0.22 - 0.48	16.50	315	0.36	192	0.80	75
2005	0.76	0.52 - 1.03	12.64	315	0.77	192	2.20	75
2006	1.21	0.84 - 1.64	11.31	283	1.22	174	4.45	67
2007	0.75	0.50 - 1.03	13.53	315	0.68	192	2.26	75
2008	0.49	0.34 - 0.66	13.31	315	0.46	192	0.84	75
2009	1.00	0.72 - 1.32	10.83	315	0.92	192	1.74	75
2010	1.27	0.95 - 1.65	9.29	315	1.12	192	3.52	75
2011	0.77	0.53 - 1.04	12.41	315	0.77	192	1.75	75
2012	0.80	0.55 - 1.08	12.38	302	0.80	179	3.65	75
Average	0.65							

Table 14. Spot indices (RSI_{GM}; 1988–2012).

Year	Random Stratified Index (RSI)				Original Index			
	Geo. Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N	Bay & River (BRI)	N	River Only (RO)	N
1988	67.01	46.36 - 96.67	4.29	231	67.45	231	50.20	84
1989	31.41	24.51 - 40.18	3.44	252	32.27	252	54.19	84
1990	44.78	32.34 - 61.85	4.14	248	45.28	248	53.06	81
1991	16.83	12.28 - 21.60	4.66	238	16.56	238	21.44	83
1992	1.92	1.45 - 2.49	8.20	238	1.96	238	4.39	82
1993	9.78	7.23 - 13.13	5.68	240	9.74	240	11.85	84
1994	9.23	6.88 - 12.27	5.61	240	9.07	240	8.88	84
1995	1.56	1.15 - 2.05	9.25	248	1.52	248	2.37	92
1996	5.26	4.15 - 6.60	5.30	407	4.52	244	4.84	88
1997	11.50	9.11 - 14.45	4.20	421	8.63	256	19.68	100
1998	2.51	1.92 - 3.23	7.36	374	1.88	214	3.04	96
1999	4.72	3.63 - 6.07	6.07	402	3.98	238	6.61	100
2000	3.32	2.57 - 4.23	6.51	421	2.70	253	4.94	97
2001	3.09	2.45 - 3.85	6.06	432	2.83	264	3.69	100
2002	2.89	2.10 - 3.88	8.38	360	2.09	196	3.12	100
2003	2.85	2.25 - 3.56	6.32	420	2.58	256	2.32	100
2004	3.96	3.14 - 4.95	5.68	420	3.21	255	6.91	99
2005	12.12	9.80 - 14.94	3.78	420	8.91	256	16.58	100
2006	3.37	2.71 - 4.16	5.61	420	2.67	256	3.20	100
2007	9.17	7.38 - 11.35	4.18	420	7.79	256	12.75	100
2008	19.89	15.16 - 26.01	4.22	420	16.83	256	16.77	100
2009	6.08	4.96 - 7.40	4.39	420	4.74	256	9.05	100
2010	74.97	59.30 - 94.70	2.67	420	74.50	256	29.81	100
2011	5.29	4.22 - 6.57	5.05	420	4.33	256	6.72	100
2012	17.18	13.49 - 21.82	3.92	420	16.09	256	14.15	100
Average	14.83							

Table 15. Striped Bass indices (RSI_{GM} ; 1988–2012).

Year class	Random Stratified Index (RSI)				Original Index		
	Geo.	Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N	River Only (RO)	N
1988		1.24	0.65 - 2.06	19.19	35	1.93	35
1989		1.65	1.12 - 2.32	11.51	37	1.59	37
1990		1.06	0.49 - 1.84	22.33	36	1.14	36
1991		1.09	0.31 - 2.33	31.00	36	1.02	36
1992		1.22	0.76 - 1.81	13.18	39	2.15	39
1993		2.52	1.09 - 4.94	19.32	41	3.30	41
1994		1.31	0.85 - 1.87	12.58	39	1.07	39
1995		0.63	0.34 - 0.99	20.19	61	1.22	39
1996		0.61	0.32 - 0.95	20.56	90	1.19	39
1997		0.55	0.25 - 0.93	24.75	90	0.41	39
1998		0.89	0.44 - 1.47	21.30	90	1.22	39
1999		0.21	0.00 - 0.47	51.55	84	0.26	39
2000		1.54	0.76 - 2.67	19.70	90	2.72	39
2001		0.53	0.27 - 0.85	21.84	90	1.94	39
2002		0.71	0.42 - 1.07	17.34	90	1.68	39
2003		0.63	0.24 - 1.13	27.59	90	1.01	39
2004		0.33	0.17 - 0.52	22.68	90	0.45	39
2005		0.59	0.30 - 0.95	21.79	90	0.53	39
2006		0.27	0.13 - 0.42	23.65	90	0.55	39
2007		0.37	0.21 - 0.55	20.10	90	0.74	39
2008		0.62	0.22 - 1.15	29.31	90	1.58	39
2009		0.48	0.28 - 0.70	17.93	90	1.06	39
2010		0.33	0.19 - 0.48	19.31	90	1.28	39
2011		0.44	0.10 - 0.89	37.16	90	0.32	39
2012		0.14	0.07 - 0.22	25.07	90	0.20	39
Average		0.80					

Table 16. Summer Flounder indices (RSI_{GM} ; 1988–2012).

Year	Random Stratified Index (RSI)				Original Index			
	Geo. Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N	Bay & River (BRI)	N	River Only (RO)	N
1988	0.54	0.35 - 0.75	14.99	143	0.53	143	0.54	36
1989	1.24	0.94 - 1.58	8.77	162	1.23	162	0.96	36
1990	2.54	2.06 - 3.09	5.73	162	2.54	162	2.61	36
1991	2.79	2.26 - 3.41	5.66	153	2.78	153	1.42	36
1992	0.92	0.70 - 1.17	9.25	153	0.91	153	0.49	36
1993	0.52	0.38 - 0.68	11.87	153	0.53	153	0.49	36
1994	2.54	2.01 - 3.15	6.39	153	2.50	153	1.08	36
1995	0.71	0.52 - 0.92	10.89	149	0.72	149	0.74	36
1996	0.81	0.62 - 1.02	9.32	224	0.86	153	0.62	36
1997	0.89	0.69 - 1.12	8.77	226	0.97	153	0.70	36
1998	0.73	0.55 - 0.93	9.92	226	0.78	153	0.17	36
1999	0.53	0.41 - 0.67	9.94	219	0.58	147	0.36	36
2000	0.57	0.43 - 0.73	10.81	227	0.62	154	0.52	36
2001	0.47	0.34 - 0.61	11.84	236	0.52	161	0.53	36
2002	0.77	0.54 - 1.04	12.21	179	0.80	107	0.43	36
2003	0.44	0.33 - 0.56	10.95	225	0.43	153	0.50	36
2004	1.30	1.03 - 1.60	7.50	225	1.40	153	1.17	36
2005	0.35	0.25 - 0.46	13.18	225	0.36	153	0.29	36
2006	0.80	0.60 - 1.02	10.03	203	0.87	139	0.59	32
2007	1.00	0.78 - 1.24	8.22	225	1.04	153	0.53	36
2008	1.35	1.10 - 1.63	6.68	225	1.49	153	1.09	36
2009	0.75	0.58 - 0.92	8.76	225	0.82	153	0.84	36
2010	0.55	0.41 - 0.69	10.61	225	0.57	153	0.65	36
2011	0.17	0.11 - 0.23	17.54	225	0.18	153	0.08	36
2012	2.03	1.69 - 2.40	5.29	212	2.23	140	0.53	36
Average	1.01							

Table 17. Weakfish indices (RSI_{GM}; 1988–2012).

Year	Random Stratified Index (RSI)				Original Index			
	Geo. Mean	95% C.I.'s	C.V.	N	Bay & River (BRI)	N	River Only (RO)	N
1988	8.13	5.37 - 12.07	8.12	173	8.89	173	21.72	63
1989	11.74	8.18 - 16.88	6.44	189	12.22	189	21.27	63
1990	4.46	3.10 - 6.26	8.44	184	4.87	184	30.01	59
1991	3.16	2.32 - 4.21	7.92	179	3.56	179	15.32	62
1992	6.78	4.74 - 9.53	7.39	178	6.93	178	15.91	61
1993	5.81	4.06 - 8.17	7.76	180	6.12	180	15.42	63
1994	2.51	1.76 - 3.47	9.59	180	2.67	180	7.04	63
1995	5.95	4.26 - 8.18	7.20	186	6.07	186	11.00	69
1996	7.26	5.33 - 9.78	6.31	305	7.85	183	7.42	66
1997	6.81	5.26 - 8.74	5.38	316	7.15	192	14.82	75
1998	7.60	5.46 - 10.45	6.65	269	8.18	150	9.95	71
1999	6.78	5.01 - 9.06	6.28	303	7.38	180	16.25	75
2000	8.35	6.34 - 10.92	5.42	316	9.39	191	11.09	74
2001	5.09	3.74 - 6.82	6.93	327	5.14	200	11.52	75
2002	6.93	4.27 - 10.94	9.89	270	6.30	147	8.59	75
2003	9.23	6.72 - 12.54	6.04	315	9.34	192	5.42	75
2004	6.66	4.94 - 8.88	6.24	315	7.27	192	10.47	75
2005	5.69	4.26 - 7.50	6.31	315	5.93	192	7.10	75
2006	6.34	4.83 - 8.25	5.80	315	6.21	192	6.20	75
2007	5.35	3.99 - 7.08	6.51	315	5.30	192	14.37	75
2008	5.77	4.33 - 7.60	6.26	315	5.51	192	25.87	75
2009	6.18	4.75 - 7.96	5.63	315	6.25	192	11.44	75
2010	14.11	11.16 - 17.78	4.00	315	15.79	192	17.94	75
2011	5.23	3.86 - 6.99	6.78	315	5.71	192	7.67	75
2012	3.02	2.30 - 3.90	7.14	315	2.66	192	13.92	75
Average	6.60							

Table 18. White Catfish juvenile indices (RSI_{GM}, 1988–2012).

Year class	Rappahannock				York				James			
	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.
1988	0.01	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.03	0.12	20	25.19	0.06 - 0.19	0.10	16	53.10	0.00 - 0.22
1989	0.02	16	49.70	0.00 - 0.05	0.11	19	22.05	0.06 - 0.16	3.09	16	15.17	1.67 - 5.26
1990	0.01	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.04	0.09	20	28.16	0.04 - 0.14	0.59	16	10.45	0.45 - 0.76
1991	0.00	16		0	0.04	20	35.46	0.01 - 0.07	0.03	16	64.55	0.00 - 0.07
1992	0.00	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.06	20	29.09	0.02 - 0.10	0.70	16	9.59	0.54 - 0.88
1993	0.00	16	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.24	20	29.51	0.09 - 0.40	0.42	16	28.95	0.16 - 0.75
1994	0.00	16		0	0.21	20	5.77	0.19 - 0.24	0.04	16	66.82	0.00 - 0.09
1995	0.02	41	82.41	0.00 - 0.04	0.04	40	29.21	0.02 - 0.06	0.15	28	38.45	0.03 - 0.28
1996	0.01	40	76.61	0.00 - 0.01	0.09	40	13.88	0.06 - 0.11	0.24	40	30.98	0.09 - 0.42
1997	0.02	40	82.02	0.00 - 0.05	0.14	40	16.47	0.09 - 0.19	0.18	40	29.44	0.07 - 0.30
1998	0.00	40		0	0.05	40	22.69	0.03 - 0.07	0.02	40	55.01	0.00 - 0.04
1999	0.00	40		0	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.00	34		0
2000	0.00	40		0	0.01	40	54.94	0.00 - 0.02	0.04	40	69.29	0.00 - 0.11
2001	0.00	40		0	0.02	40	73.60	0.00 - 0.04	0.00	40		0
2002	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0
2003	0.03	40	55.35	0.00 - 0.07	0.06	40	24.39	0.03 - 0.08	0.18	40	26.06	0.08 - 0.29
2004	0.00	40		0	0.02	40	41.31	0.00 - 0.03	0.10	40	37.93	0.02 - 0.18
2005	0.00	40		0	0.01	40	48.39	0.00 - 0.02	0.03	40	58.96	0.00 - 0.07
2006	0.00	40		0	0.02	40	36.03	0.01 - 0.04	0.06	40	42.25	0.01 - 0.12
2007	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.02	40	46.28	0.00 - 0.04
2008	0.00	40		0	0.00	40	67.42	0.00 - 0.01	0.03	40	90.55	0.00 - 0.08
2009	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01	0.04	40	26.13	0.02 - 0.07	0.08	40	34.70	0.02 - 0.14
2010	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.00	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.01
2011	0.00	40		0	0.02	40	32.84	0.01 - 0.03	0.13	40	44.00	0.02 - 0.26
2012	0.00	40		0	0.00	40		0	0.01	40	100.00	0.00 - 0.02
Average	0.01				0.06				0.25			

Table 19. White Catfish age 1+ indices (RSI_{GM}, 1988–2013).

Year	Rappahannock				York				James			
	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.
1988	0.07	16	66.83	0.00 - 0.18	0.56	20	21.07	0.29 - 0.88	0.62	16	24.19	0.28 - 1.05
1989	0.11	16	27.53	0.05 - 0.17	0.24	20	21.13	0.13 - 0.36	1.10	16	13.65	0.71 - 1.57
1990	0.08	16	23.83	0.04 - 0.12	0.21	19	30.54	0.08 - 0.36	2.24	16	18.65	1.09 - 4.03
1991	0.77	16	4.68	0.68 - 0.87	0.19	20	20.61	0.11 - 0.27	1.12	16	22.77	0.51 - 1.99
1992	0.37	16	73.37	0.00 - 1.16	0.20	20	18.03	0.12 - 0.28	0.90	16	13.12	0.61 - 1.25
1993	0.52	16	6.86	0.43 - 0.61	0.11	20	21.86	0.06 - 0.16	2.13	16	7.15	1.66 - 2.68
1994	0.17	16	75.27	0.00 - 0.48	0.16	20	18.40	0.10 - 0.22	1.32	16	18.46	0.70 - 2.16
1995	0.11	16	27.27	0.05 - 0.17	0.25	20	12.12	0.18 - 0.31	1.02	16	14.87	0.64 - 1.49
1996	0.24	41	52.37	0.00 - 0.55	0.12	40	16.43	0.08 - 0.16	0.40	28	27.52	0.17 - 0.69
1997	0.15	40	27.52	0.07 - 0.25	0.19	40	13.43	0.13 - 0.24	0.50	40	15.48	0.32 - 0.70
1998	0.39	40	22.78	0.19 - 0.61	0.23	40	11.01	0.17 - 0.28	0.67	40	13.06	0.46 - 0.91
1999	0.21	40	15.76	0.14 - 0.28	0.15	40	16.00	0.10 - 0.20	0.59	40	23.28	0.28 - 0.97
2000	0.13	40	25.42	0.06 - 0.20	0.12	40	13.96	0.09 - 0.16	0.22	34	28.68	0.09 - 0.37
2001	0.06	40	68.56	0.00 - 0.14	0.07	40	21.46	0.04 - 0.10	0.14	40	32.12	0.05 - 0.23
2002	0.09	40	55.04	0.00 - 0.19	0.06	40	19.11	0.03 - 0.08	0.13	40	35.69	0.04 - 0.23
2003	0.13	40	76.56	0.00 - 0.37	0.07	40	22.51	0.04 - 0.10	0.12	40	31.04	0.04 - 0.20
2004	0.11	40	42.06	0.02 - 0.21	0.05	40	22.45	0.03 - 0.08	0.27	40	27.74	0.11 - 0.45
2005	0.06	40	42.11	0.01 - 0.12	0.06	40	33.81	0.02 - 0.10	0.14	40	32.81	0.05 - 0.24
2006	0.02	40	35.34	0.00 - 0.03	0.08	40	22.80	0.04 - 0.12	0.28	40	26.42	0.12 - 0.46
2007	0.03	40	33.60	0.01 - 0.05	0.07	40	20.60	0.04 - 0.10	0.22	40	22.33	0.11 - 0.33
2008	0.04	40	47.21	0.00 - 0.07	0.07	40	22.89	0.04 - 0.10	0.11	40	43.59	0.01 - 0.21
2009	0.04	40	63.91	0.00 - 0.09	0.05	40	20.36	0.03 - 0.07	0.09	40	35.03	0.03 - 0.17
2010	0.01	40	61.58	0.00 - 0.02	0.05	40	19.07	0.03 - 0.07	0.13	40	34.50	0.04 - 0.22
2011	0.01	40	46.32	0.00 - 0.02	0.02	40	46.13	0.00 - 0.04	0.09	40	48.16	0.00 - 0.18
2012	0.05	40	53.78	0.00 - 0.11	0.06	40	22.84	0.03 - 0.09	0.30	40	29.74	0.11 - 0.51
2013	0.03	40	55.15	0.00 - 0.06	0.06	40	21.26	0.03 - 0.09	0.17	40	31.01	0.06 - 0.28
Average	0.15				0.13				0.58			

Table 20. White Perch juvenile indices (RSI_{GM}, 1988–2012).

Year	Rappahannock				York				James			
	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.
1988	0.14	11	27.24	0.06 - 0.22	0.22	12	25.05	0.11 - 0.35	4.14	12	12.36	2.43 - 6.70
1989	0.94	12	15.16	0.59 - 1.38	0.44	15	22.85	0.22 - 0.69	3.99	10	16.62	1.93 - 7.52
1990	0.99	12	3.64	0.90 - 1.10	0.06	14	41.92	0.01 - 0.12	1.00	10	28.42	0.35 - 1.97
1991	1.28	11	6.52	1.05 - 1.54	0.13	15	16.73	0.08 - 0.18	1.00	10	56.13	0.00 - 3.34
1992	0.34	12	11.36	0.26 - 0.44	0.03	15	36.25	0.01 - 0.05	0.97	12	25.62	0.39 - 1.78
1993	0.74	14	40.57	0.11 - 1.73	0.20	15	18.51	0.12 - 0.29	8.67	12	22.74	2.44 - 26.14
1994	0.71	12	4.02	0.64 - 0.79	0.56	15	12.23	0.40 - 0.74	4.73	12	15.29	2.36 - 8.77
1995	0.75	24	22.88	0.36 - 1.27	0.06	25	30.75	0.02 - 0.10	0.93	12	25.60	0.38 - 1.70
1996	1.34	30	27.09	0.48 - 2.72	0.58	30	8.31	0.46 - 0.70	5.88	30	9.74	3.73 - 9.02
1997	0.82	30	20.61	0.42 - 1.32	0.23	30	10.58	0.18 - 0.28	3.64	30	9.51	2.46 - 5.21
1998	0.18	30	29.47	0.07 - 0.30	0.16	30	22.94	0.08 - 0.24	2.53	30	18.65	1.20 - 4.64
1999	0.34	30	29.18	0.13 - 0.60	0.01	30	73.10	0.00 - 0.02	0.28	24	29.71	0.11 - 0.49
2000	0.72	30	34.20	0.19 - 1.50	0.35	30	14.99	0.23 - 0.47	2.98	30	17.21	1.47 - 5.40
2001	0.28	30	36.59	0.07 - 0.54	0.18	30	25.24	0.08 - 0.28	0.94	30	26.55	0.36 - 1.76
2002	0.06	30	45.17	0.01 - 0.11	0.10	30	19.20	0.06 - 0.14	3.88	30	7.15	2.89 - 5.13
2003	2.24	30	28.04	0.68 - 5.27	0.40	30	11.56	0.30 - 0.51	4.06	30	10.41	2.61 - 6.09
2004	0.75	30	29.32	0.26 - 1.42	0.19	30	23.03	0.10 - 0.29	2.62	30	17.74	1.30 - 4.72
2005	1.06	30	29.98	0.34 - 2.19	0.23	30	17.01	0.14 - 0.31	4.04	30	7.64	2.94 - 5.45
2006	0.21	30	21.81	0.11 - 0.31	0.08	30	23.78	0.04 - 0.12	3.12	30	14.47	1.73 - 5.20
2007	0.81	30	31.27	0.25 - 1.63	0.03	30	40.75	0.00 - 0.05	1.20	30	23.33	0.52 - 2.19
2008	1.01	30	26.01	0.40 - 1.90	0.13	30	14.54	0.09 - 0.17	3.14	30	23.40	1.13 - 7.04
2009	0.70	30	32.18	0.21 - 1.40	0.05	30	29.63	0.02 - 0.09	3.58	30	12.20	2.16 - 5.63
2010	0.78	30	12.90	0.53 - 1.06	0.36	30	15.30	0.24 - 0.49	3.03	30	20.64	1.27 - 6.15
2011	1.49	30	25.17	0.57 - 2.95	0.25	30	15.40	0.16 - 0.33	3.72	30	13.82	2.07 - 6.25
2012	0.03	30	71.21	0.00 - 0.74	0.06	30	28.08	0.03 - 0.10	0.35	30	32.68	0.11 - 0.64
Average	0.75				0.20				2.98			

Table 21. White Perch age 1+ indices (RSI_{GM}, 1988–2012).

Year	Rappahannock				York				James			
	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.	RSI	N	CV	95% C.I.
1988	0.72	11	16.05	0.45 - 1.05	0.58	12	8.85	0.46 - 0.72	13.89	12	6.11	9.71 - 19.70
1989	1.00	12	11.10	0.72 - 1.34	0.70	15	6.97	0.58 - 0.82	6.00	10	7.42	4.25 - 8.34
1990	3.86	12	6.27	2.98 - 4.92	0.87	14	10.42	0.64 - 1.14	3.00	10	14.35	1.69 - 4.95
1991	2.96	11	8.63	2.13 - 4.03	0.47	15	15.89	0.30 - 0.67	5.94	10	4.47	4.83 - 7.25
1992	0.96	12	18.98	0.52 - 1.54	0.34	15	16.16	0.22 - 0.47	3.93	12	8.89	2.71 - 5.54
1993	0.92	14	46.79	0.04 - 2.52	0.49	15	7.95	0.40 - 0.58	3.12	12	11.16	2.00 - 4.65
1994	0.90	12	7.72	0.72 - 1.10	0.59	15	8.68	0.47 - 0.72	7.48	12	9.86	4.56 - 11.92
1995	2.14	24	26.31	0.72 - 4.73	0.55	25	11.58	0.40 - 0.71	2.27	12	13.38	1.38 - 3.48
1996	1.26	30	23.02	0.55 - 2.29	0.45	30	7.48	0.37 - 0.53	2.06	30	12.22	1.33 - 3.02
1997	2.15	30	17.30	1.12 - 3.69	0.44	30	5.27	0.38 - 0.49	3.50	30	13.36	2.01 - 5.73
1998	1.01	30	16.19	0.60 - 1.52	0.34	30	11.68	0.25 - 0.43	3.42	30	12.28	2.07 - 5.36
1999	1.13	30	16.81	0.65 - 1.74	0.29	30	8.62	0.24 - 0.35	3.14	24	14.54	1.74 - 5.25
2000	1.05	30	20.04	0.54 - 1.74	0.28	30	12.45	0.20 - 0.36	2.30	30	21.48	0.98 - 4.52
2001	0.71	30	16.40	0.43 - 1.03	0.31	30	12.57	0.22 - 0.40	1.51	30	22.84	0.65 - 2.83
2002	0.22	30	34.65	0.06 - 0.41	0.29	30	11.62	0.22 - 0.37	4.18	30	8.42	2.93 - 5.84
2003	2.19	30	20.29	0.99 - 4.10	0.37	30	10.06	0.29 - 0.46	3.60	30	12.50	2.14 - 5.74
2004	1.67	30	13.32	1.05 - 2.46	0.22	30	16.19	0.14 - 0.30	1.42	30	22.80	0.62 - 2.62
2005	1.12	30	21.87	0.53 - 1.95	0.29	30	10.29	0.22 - 0.36	2.44	30	9.04	1.75 - 3.30
2006	0.61	30	21.33	0.31 - 0.96	0.28	30	11.58	0.21 - 0.36	2.61	30	12.36	1.63 - 3.96
2007	1.33	30	18.84	0.70 - 2.21	0.24	30	10.03	0.19 - 0.29	1.59	30	14.73	0.96 - 2.43
2008	0.85	30	14.33	0.55 - 1.20	0.26	30	12.91	0.18 - 0.33	1.62	30	26.81	0.56 - 3.39
2009	0.87	30	21.23	0.44 - 1.45	0.24	30	14.33	0.16 - 0.32	2.71	30	12.40	1.68 - 4.14
2010	0.53	30	17.41	0.32 - 0.78	0.16	30	14.67	0.11 - 0.22	1.59	30	18.81	0.81 - 2.71
2011	1.73	30	14.87	1.02 - 2.67	0.30	30	11.02	0.23 - 0.38	3.08	30	11.81	1.93 - 4.68
2012	1.02	30	17.56	0.58 - 1.59	0.34	30	9.24	0.27 - 0.41	2.24	30	15.20	0.58 - 1.59
Average	1.32				0.39				3.55			

FIGURES

Figure 1. The VIMS trawl survey random stratified design in the Chesapeake Bay. Transect lines indicate geographic regions as designated below.

Chesapeake Bay	B1	Bottom Bay
	B2	Lower Bay
	B3	Upper Bay
James River	J1	Bottom James
	J2	Lower James
	J3	Upper James
	J4	Top James
York River	Y1	Bottom York
	Y2	Lower York
	Y3	Upper York
	Y4	Top York (lower Pamunkey River)
Rappahannock River	R1	Bottom Rappahannock
	R2	Lower Rappahannock
	R3	Upper Rappahannock
	R4	Top Rappahannock
Mobjack Bay	MB	Routine monitoring established March 2010 and ending December 2012

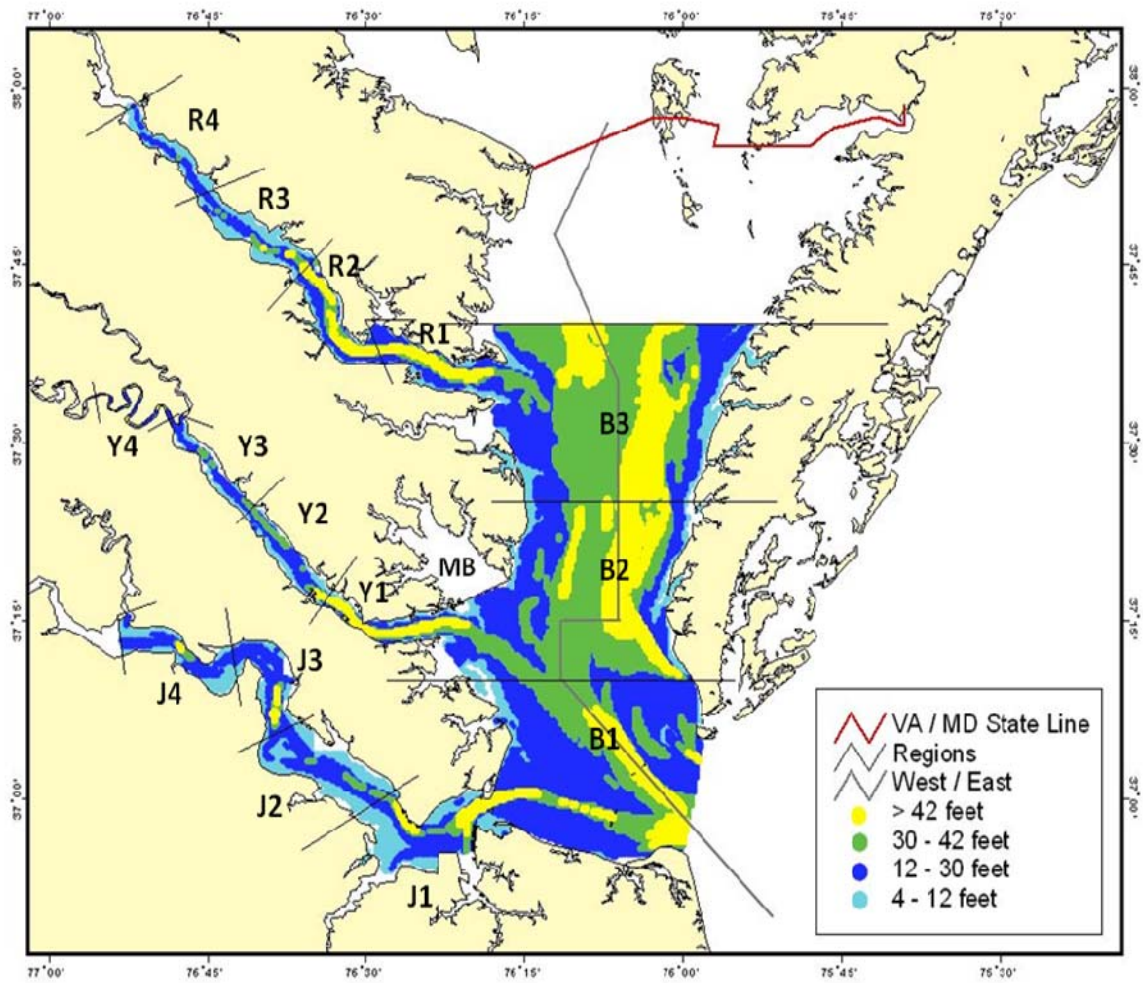


Figure 1 (continued)

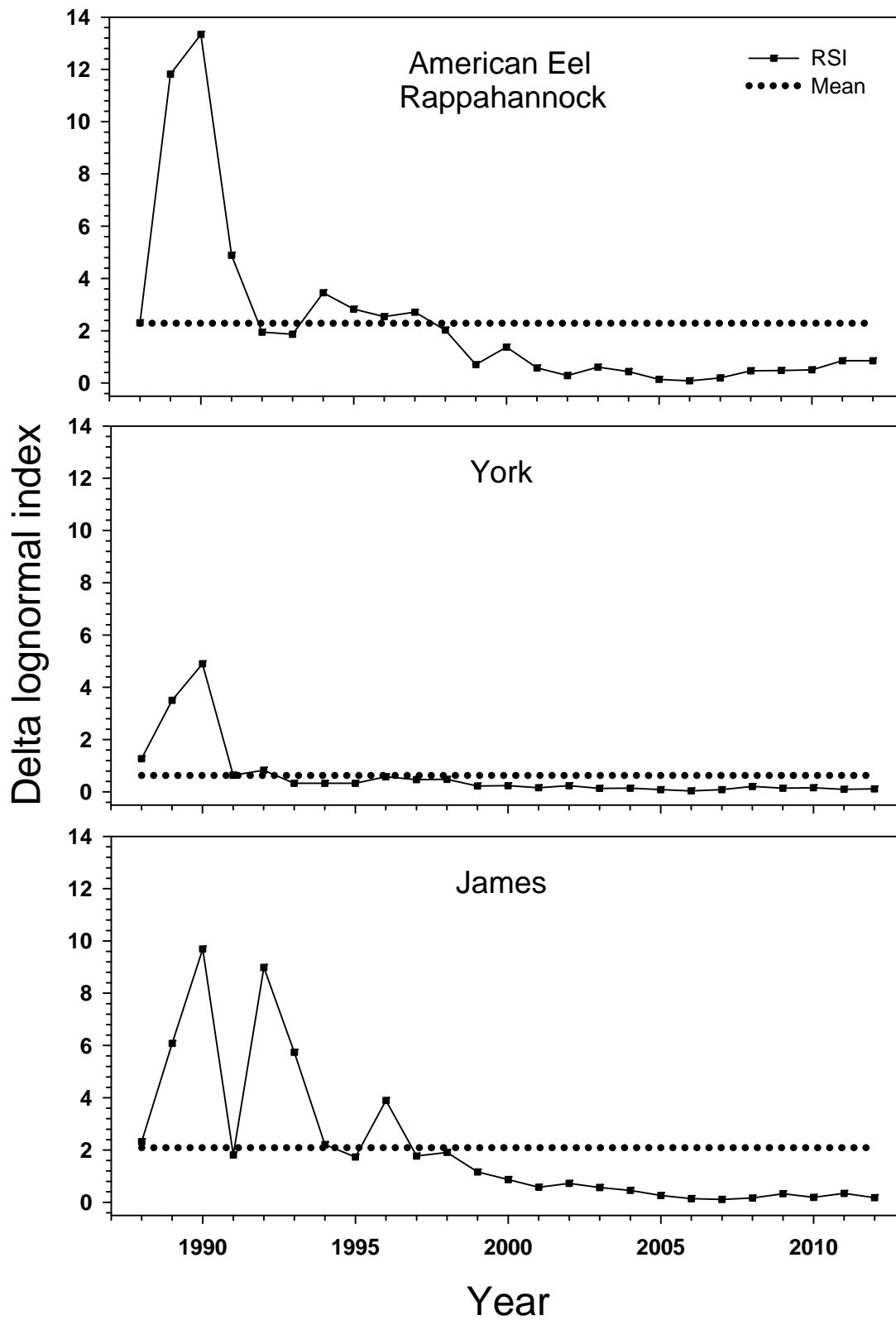


Figure 2. American Eel random stratified index (RSI_{Δ}) and time series averages (dotted line) based on the RSI_{Δ} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers.

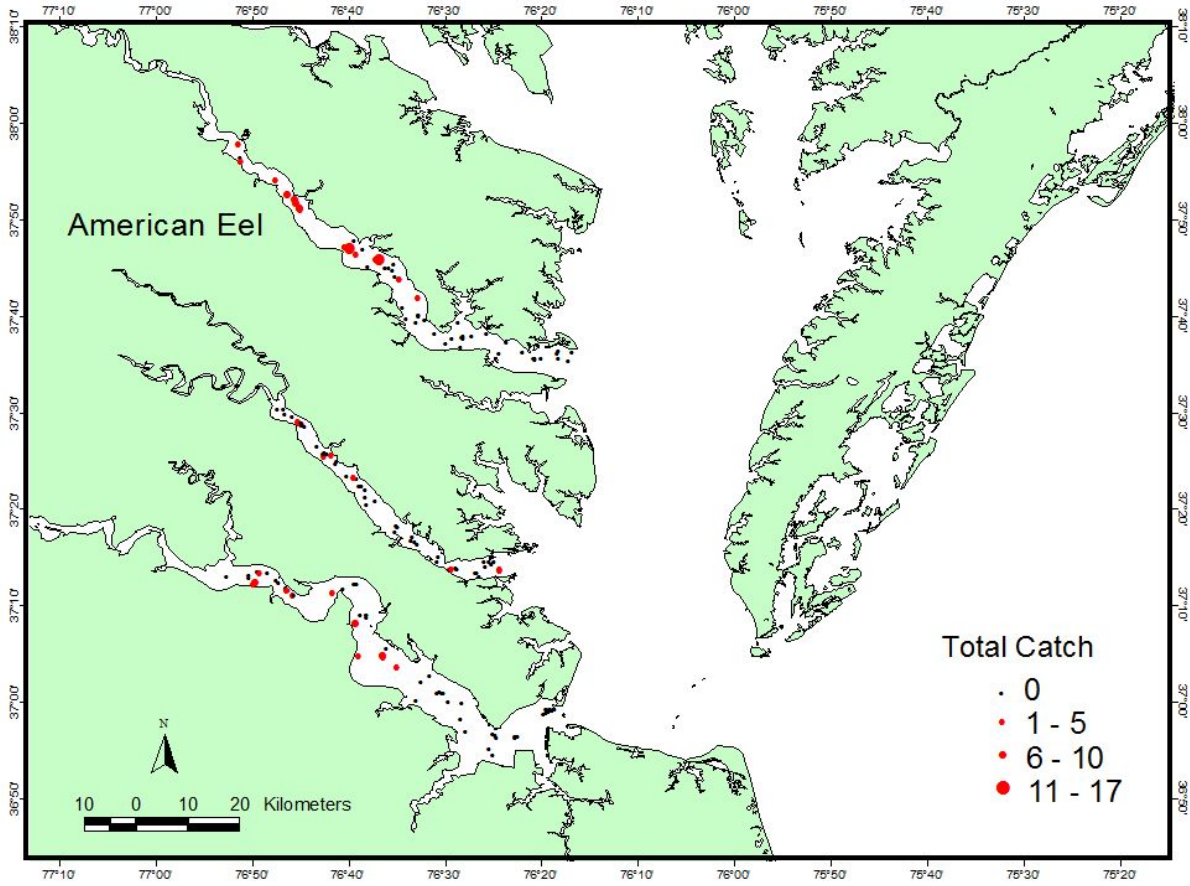


Figure 3. Distribution of index-sized American Eel from index strata and months.

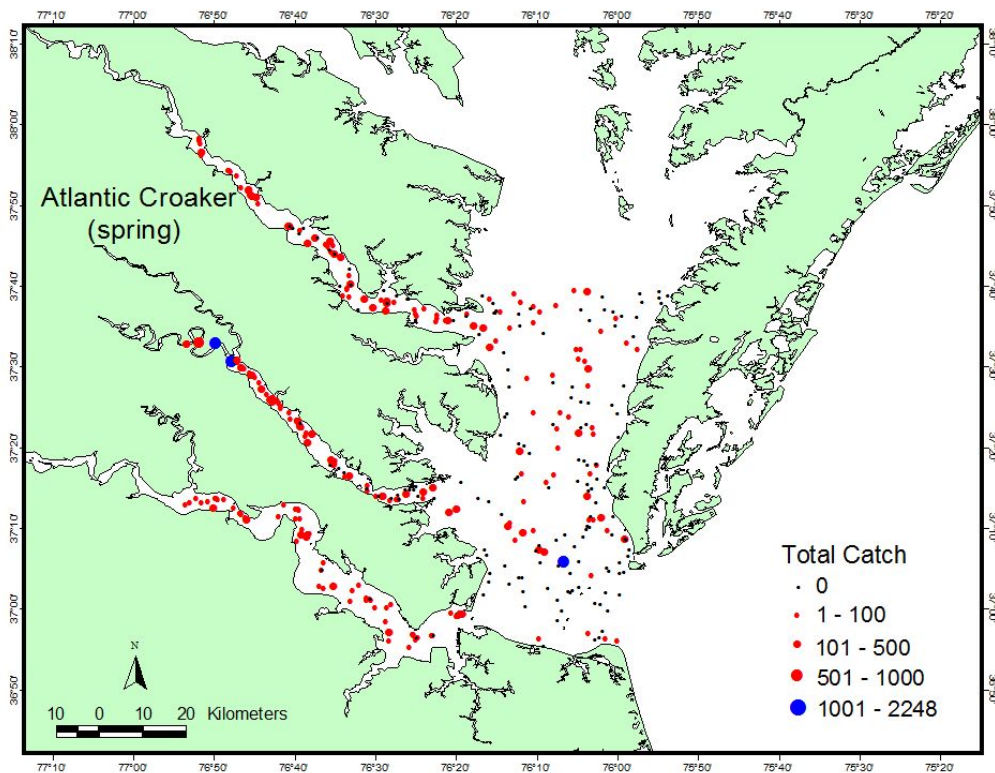
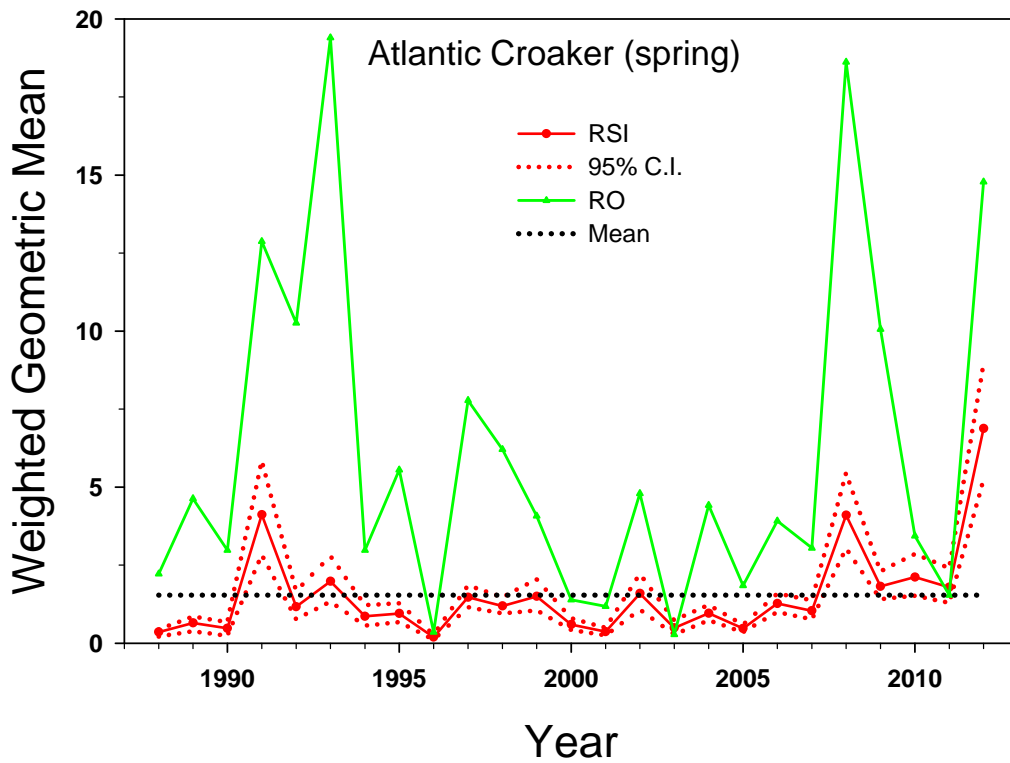


Figure 4. Spring juvenile Atlantic Croaker random stratified index (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect index (Rivers only - RO), the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} (dotted line, Top), and distribution of index-sized juvenile Atlantic Croaker from index strata and months (Bottom).

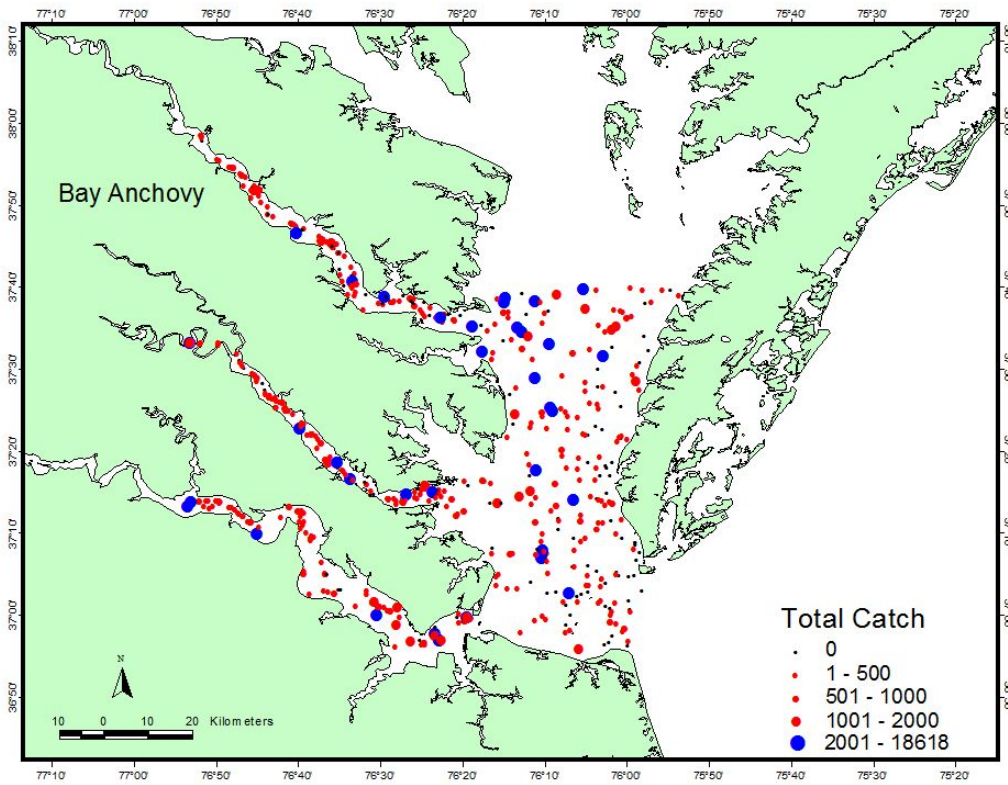
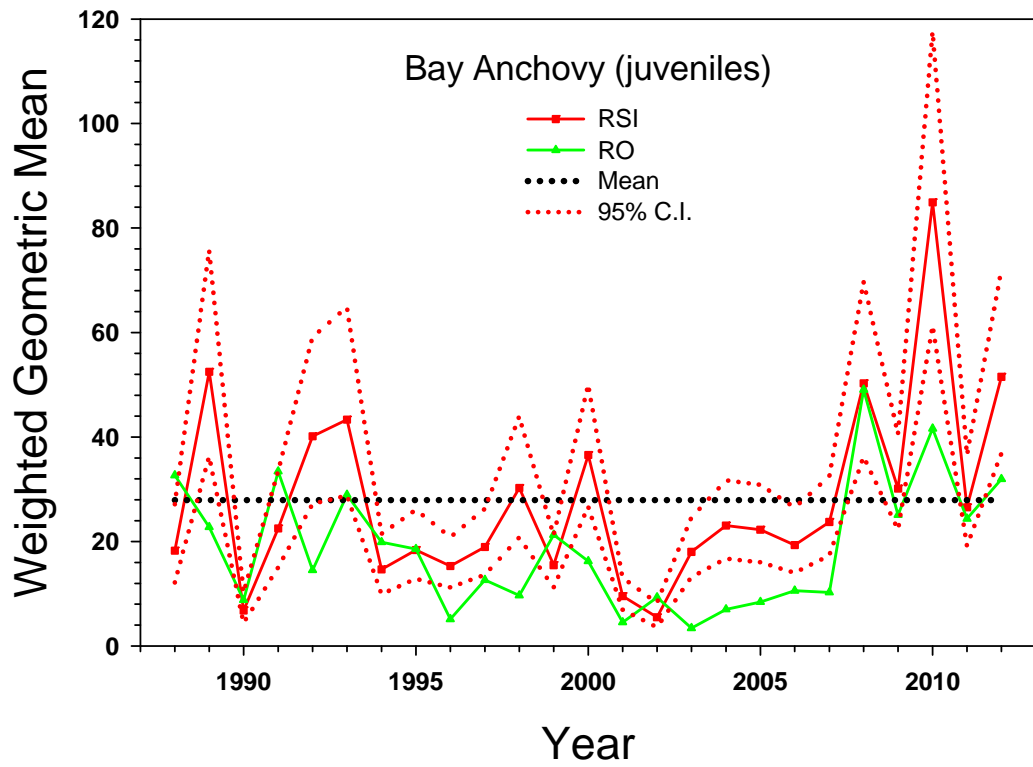


Figure 5. Juvenile Bay Anchovy random stratified index (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect index (Rivers only - RO), the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} (dotted line, Top), and distribution of Bay Anchovy from index strata and months (Bottom).

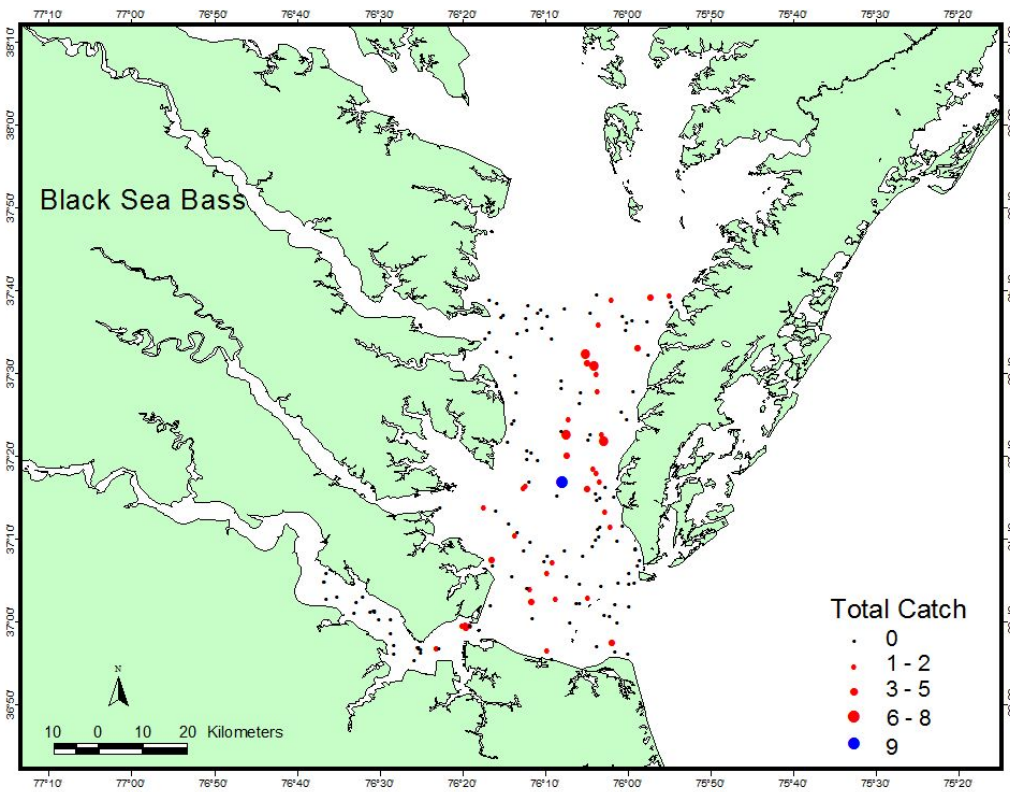
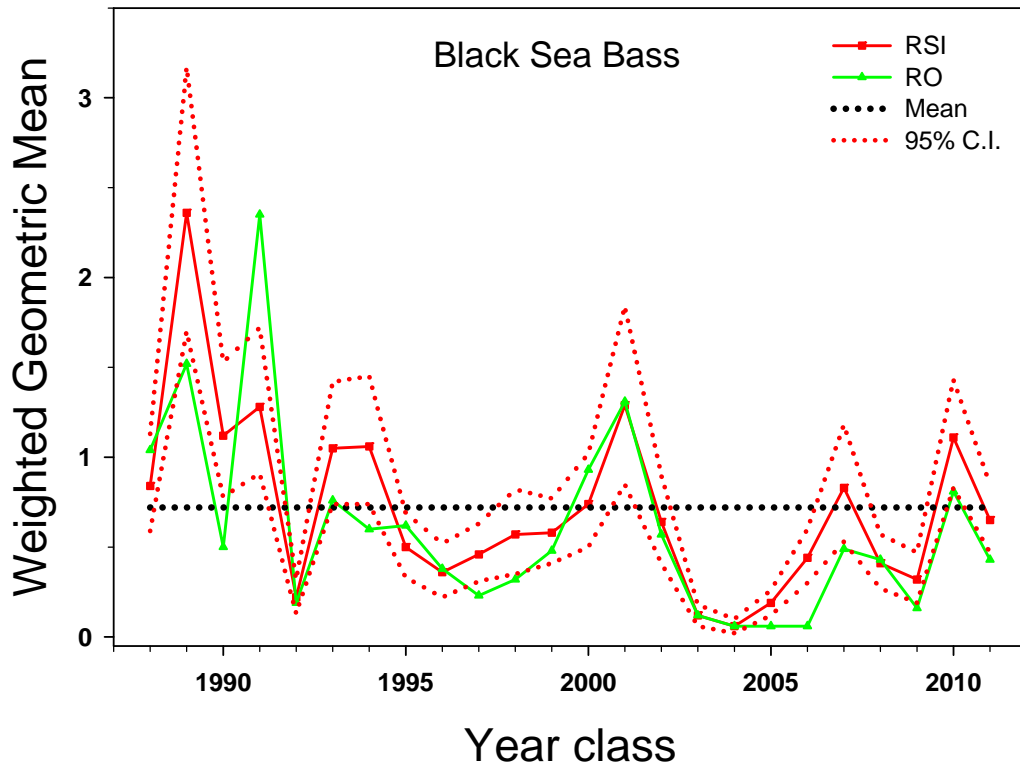


Figure 6. Black Sea Bass random stratified index (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect index (Rivers only - RO), the time series average based on the RSI_{GM} (dotted line, Top), and distribution of juvenile Black Sea Bass from index strata and months (Bottom).

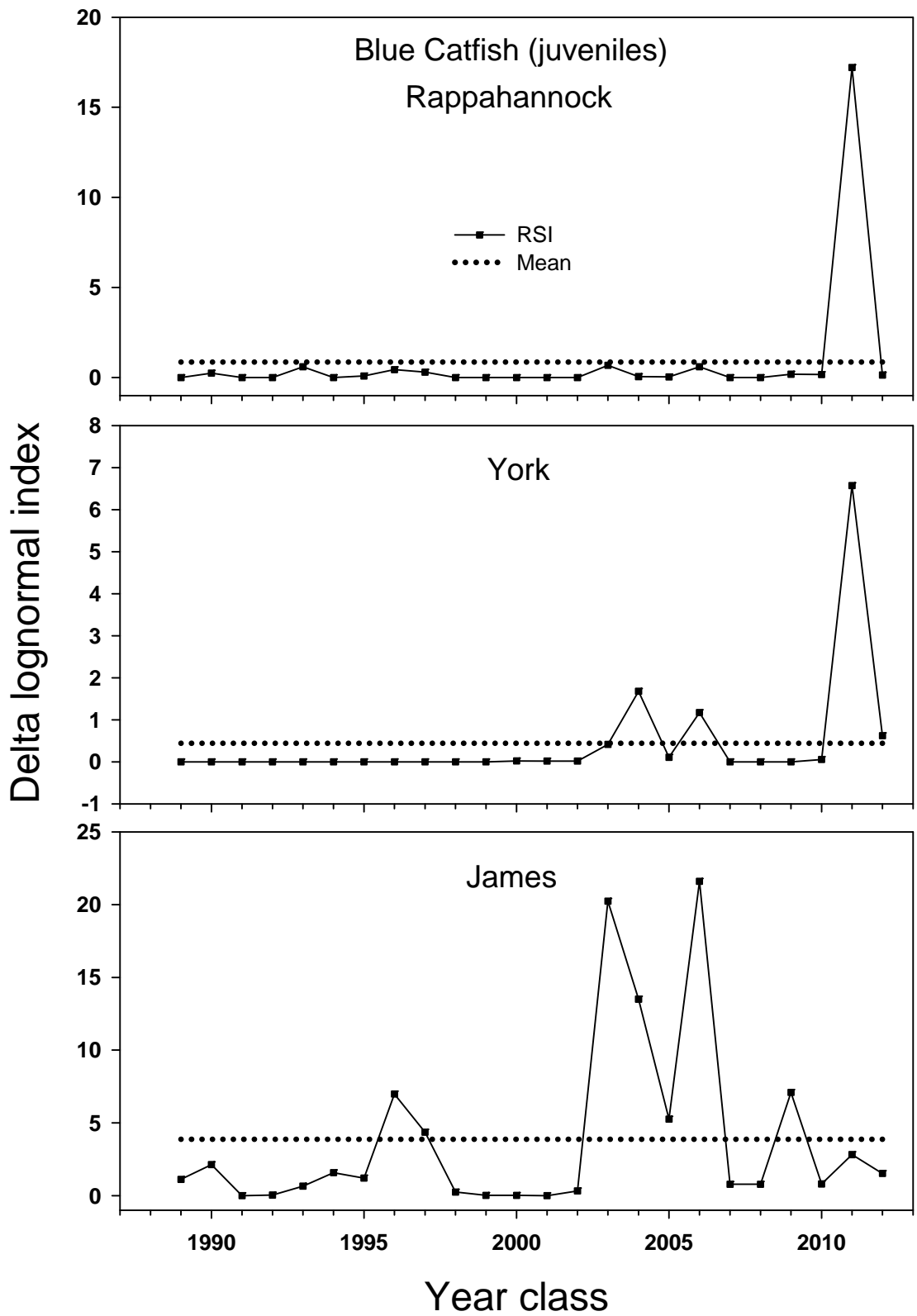


Figure 7. Juvenile Blue Catfish random stratified index (RSI_{Δ}) and time series averages (dotted line) based on the RSI_{Δ} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers. Note change in scale on y-axes.

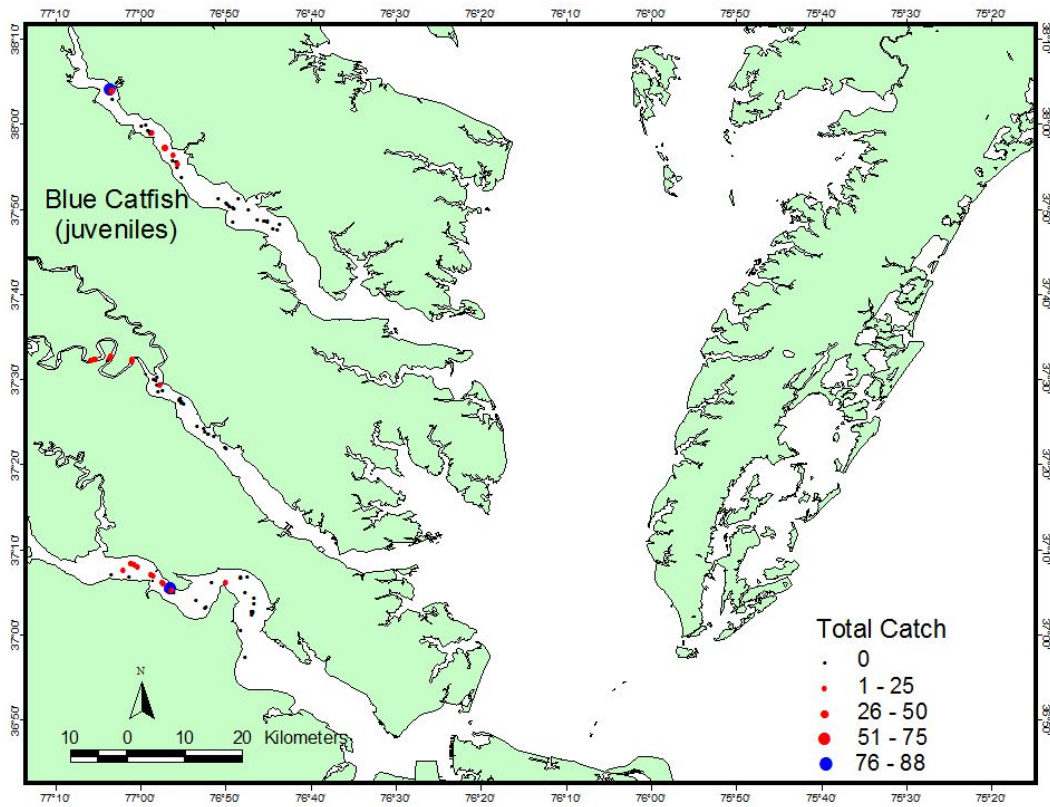


Figure 8. Distribution of index-sized juvenile Blue Catfish from index strata and months.

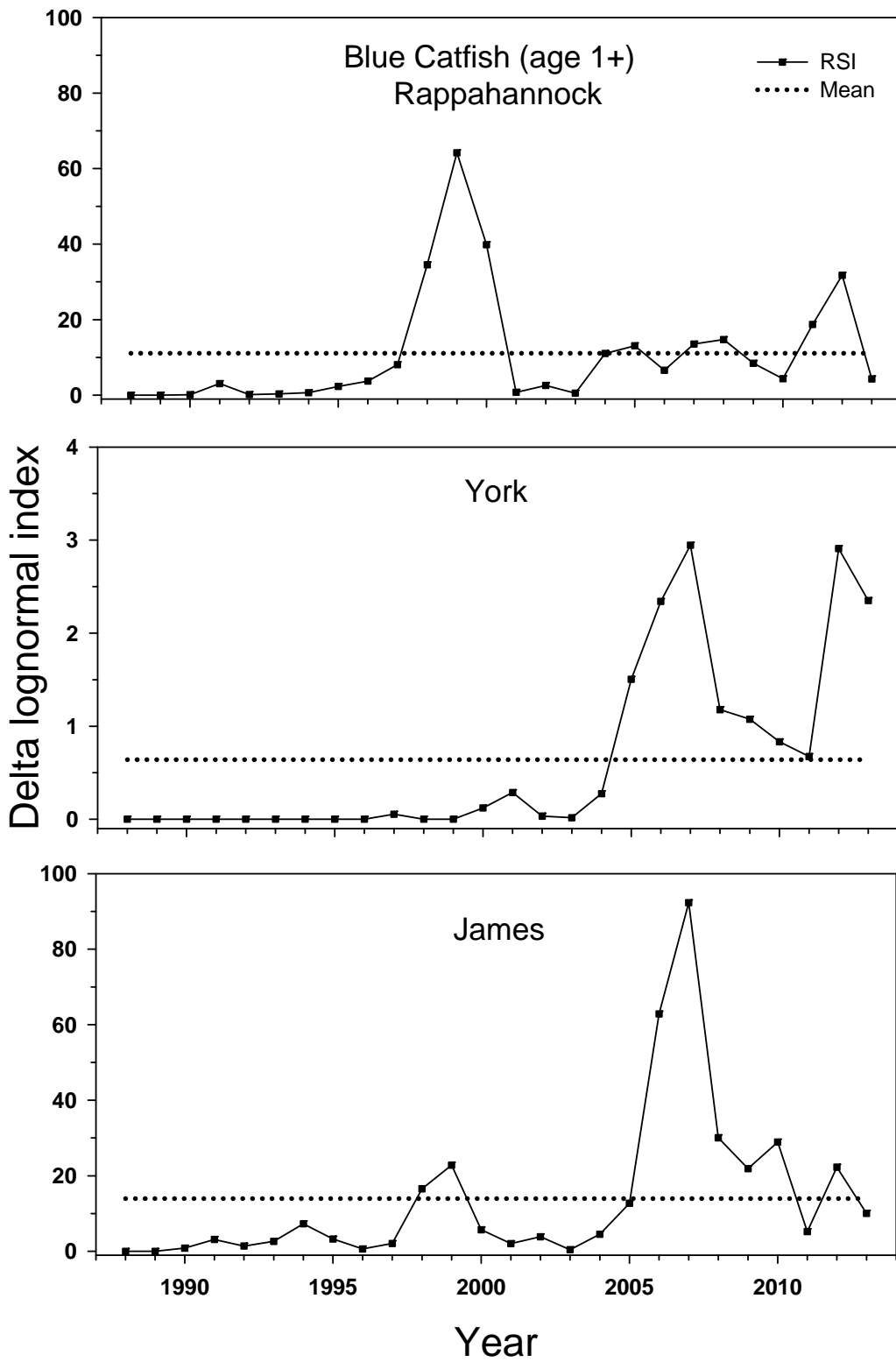


Figure 9. Age 1+ Blue Catfish random stratified index (RSI_{Δ}) and time series averages (dotted line) based on the RSI_{Δ} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers. Note change in scale on y-axes.

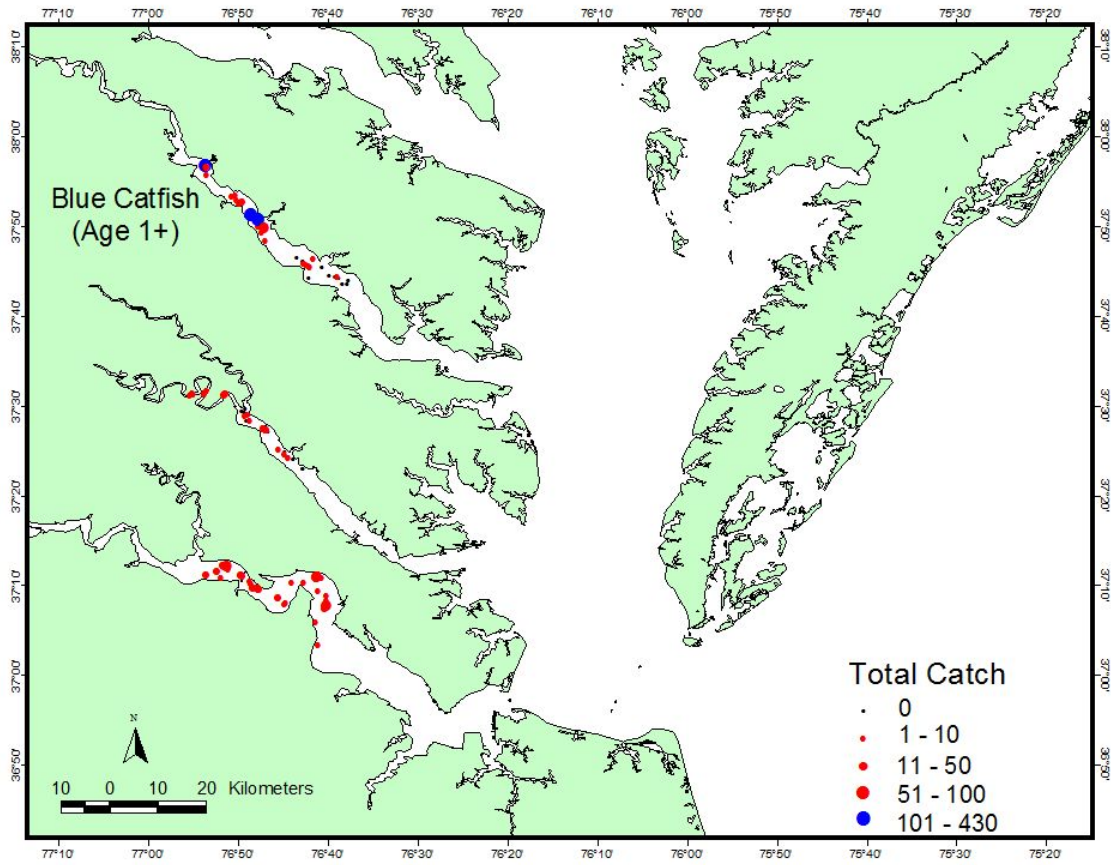


Figure 10. Distribution of Age 1+ Blue Catfish from index strata and months.

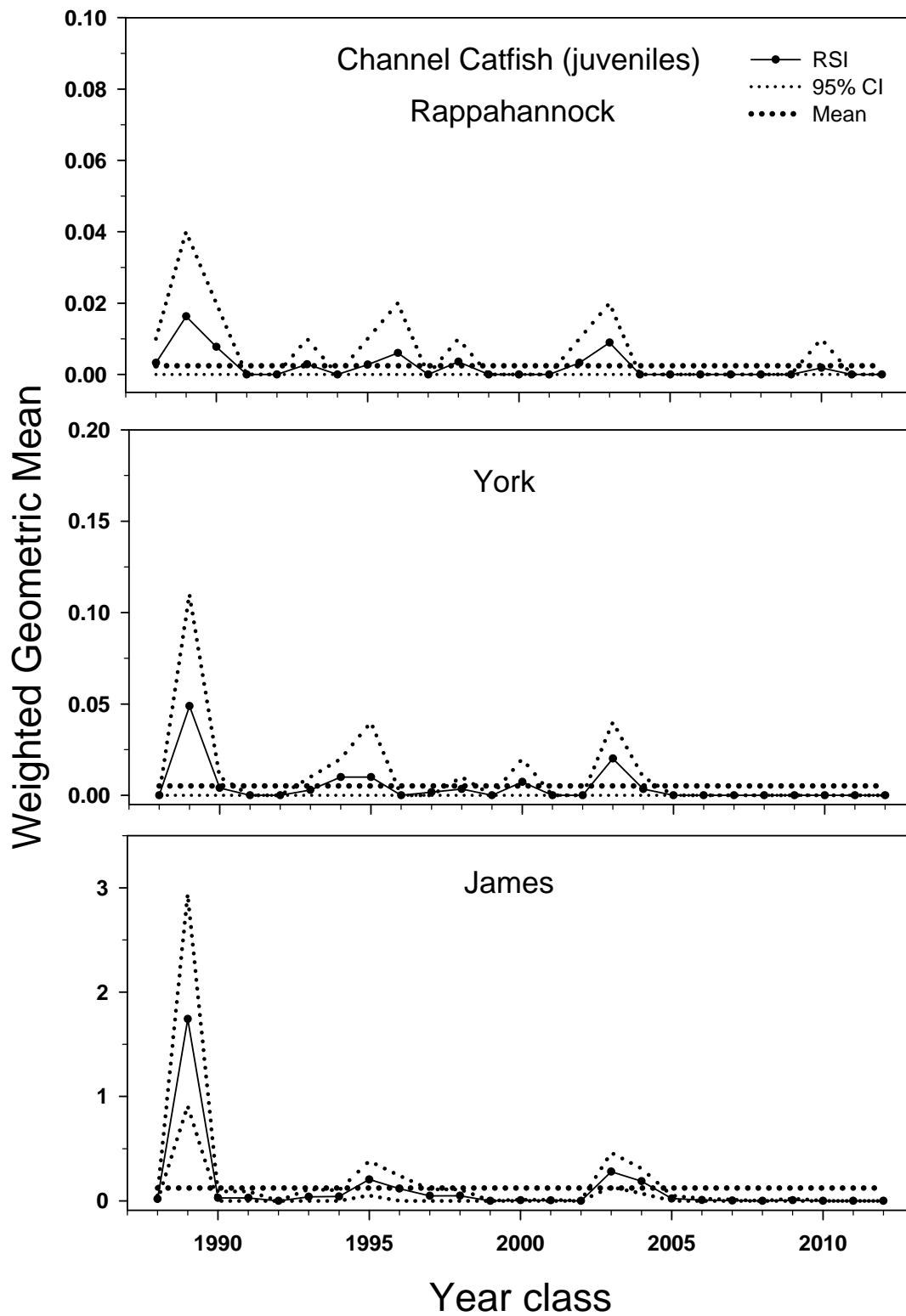


Figure 11. Juvenile Channel Catfish random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages (dotted line) based on the RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers. Note change in scale on y-axes.

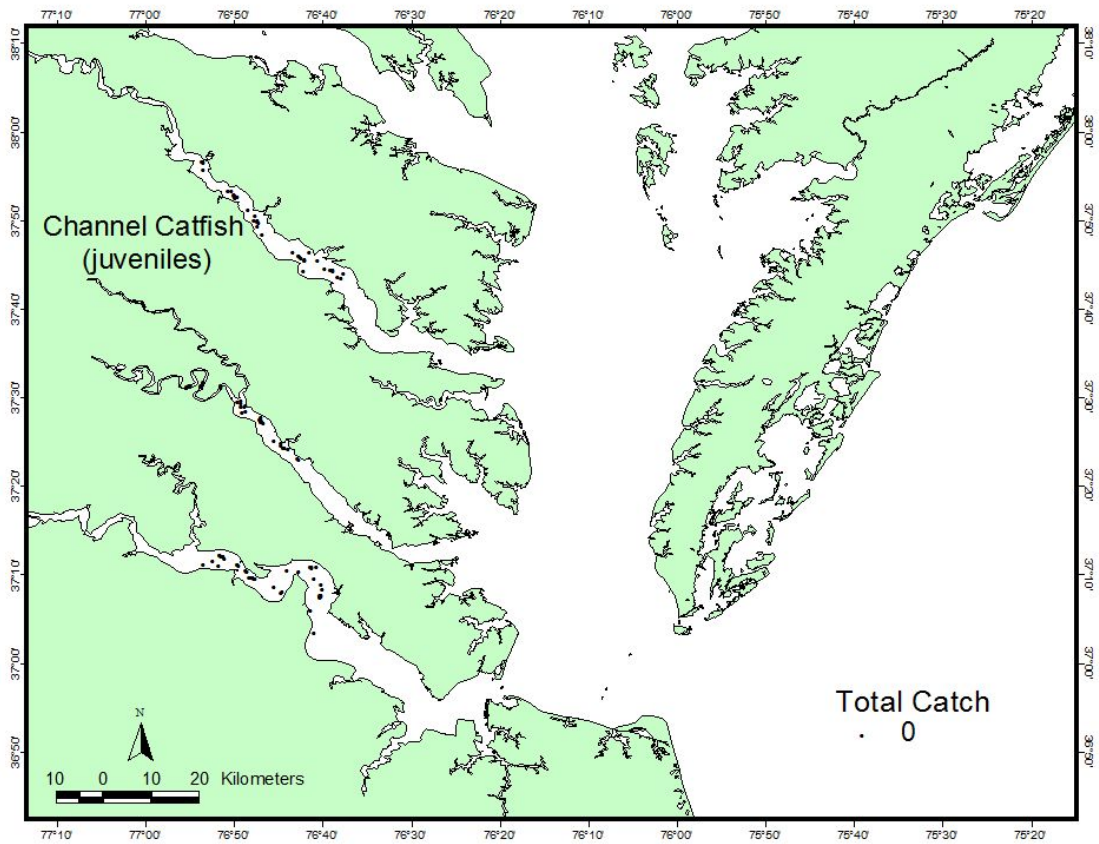


Figure 12. Distribution of juvenile Channel Catfish from index strata and months.

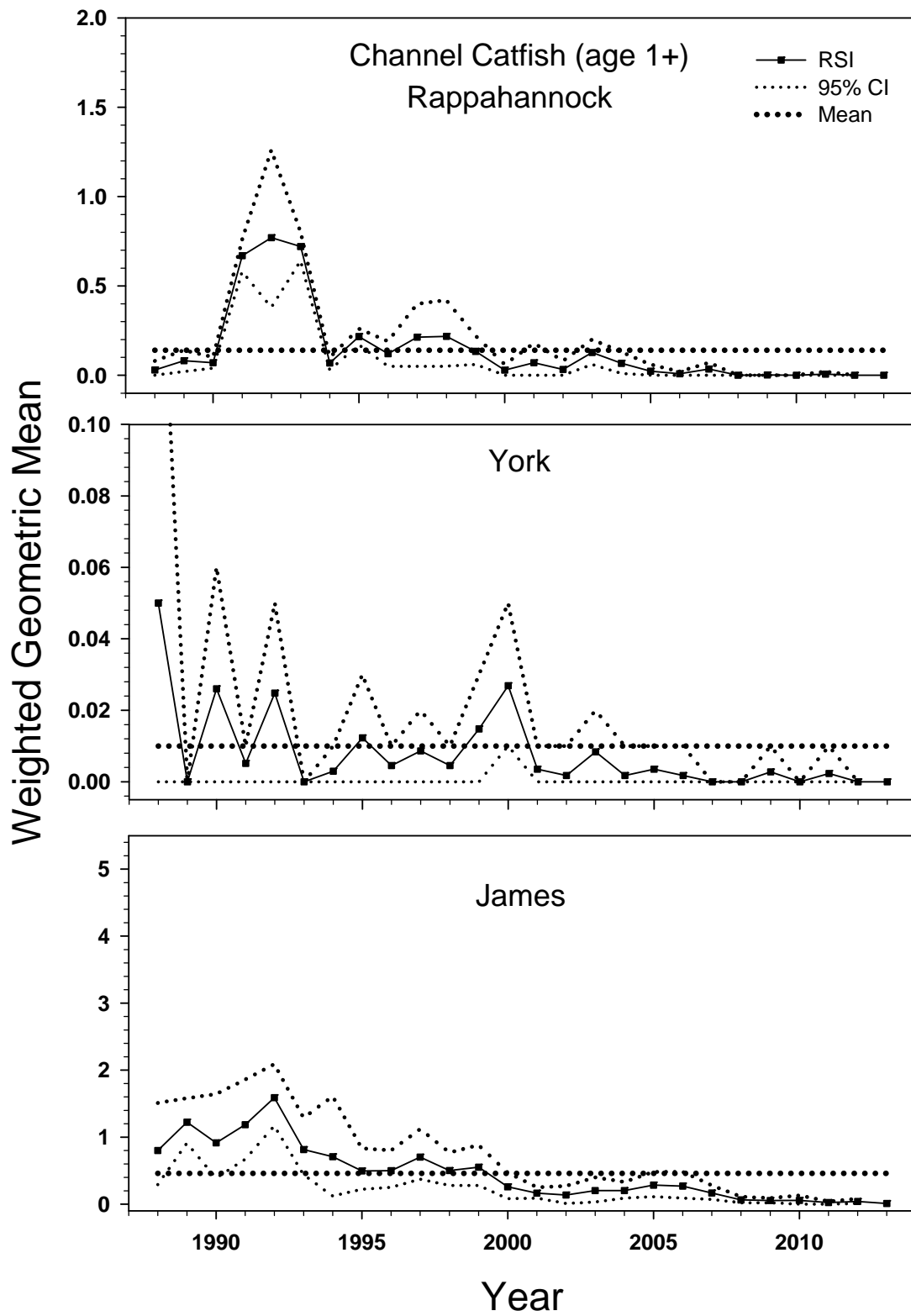


Figure 13. Age 1+ Channel Catfish random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages (dotted line) based on the RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers. Note the change in scale for the y-axes.

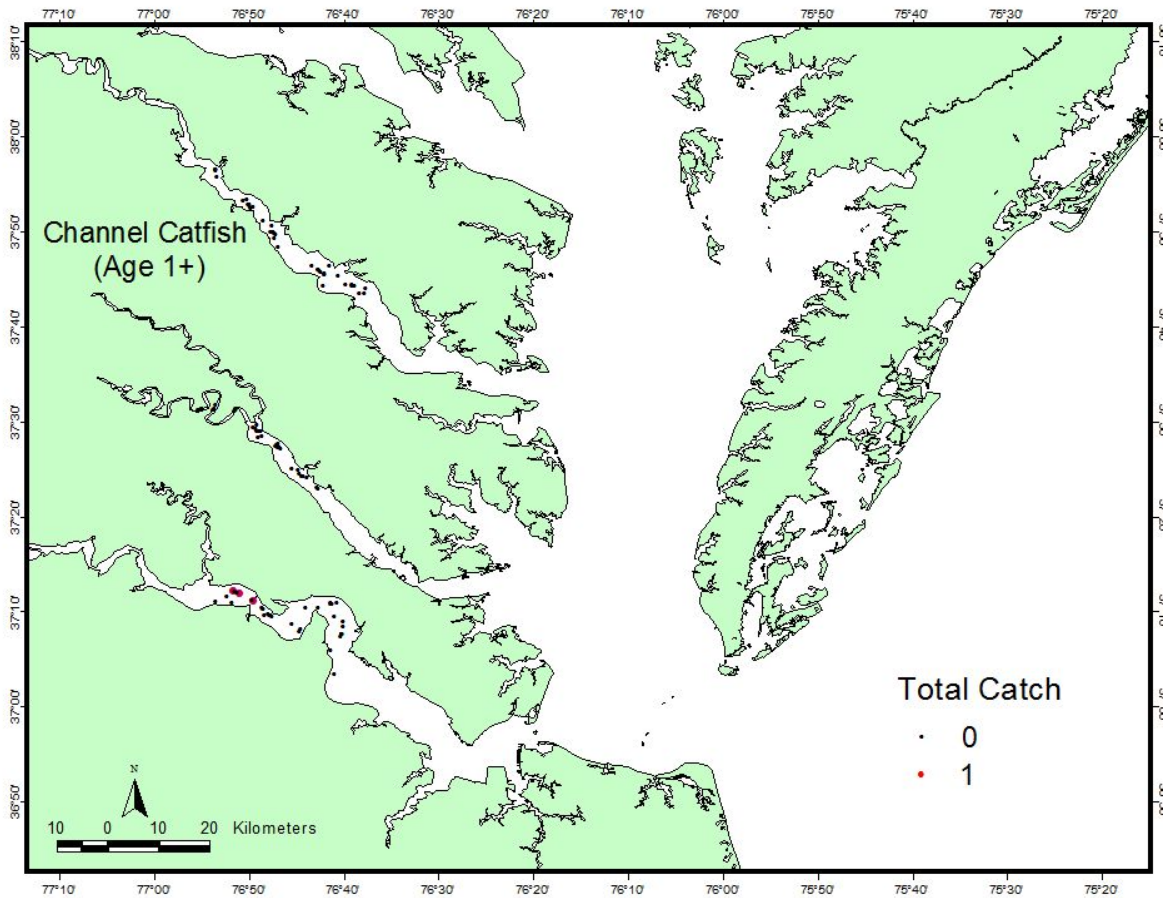


Figure 14. Distribution of Age 1+ Channel Catfish from index strata and months.

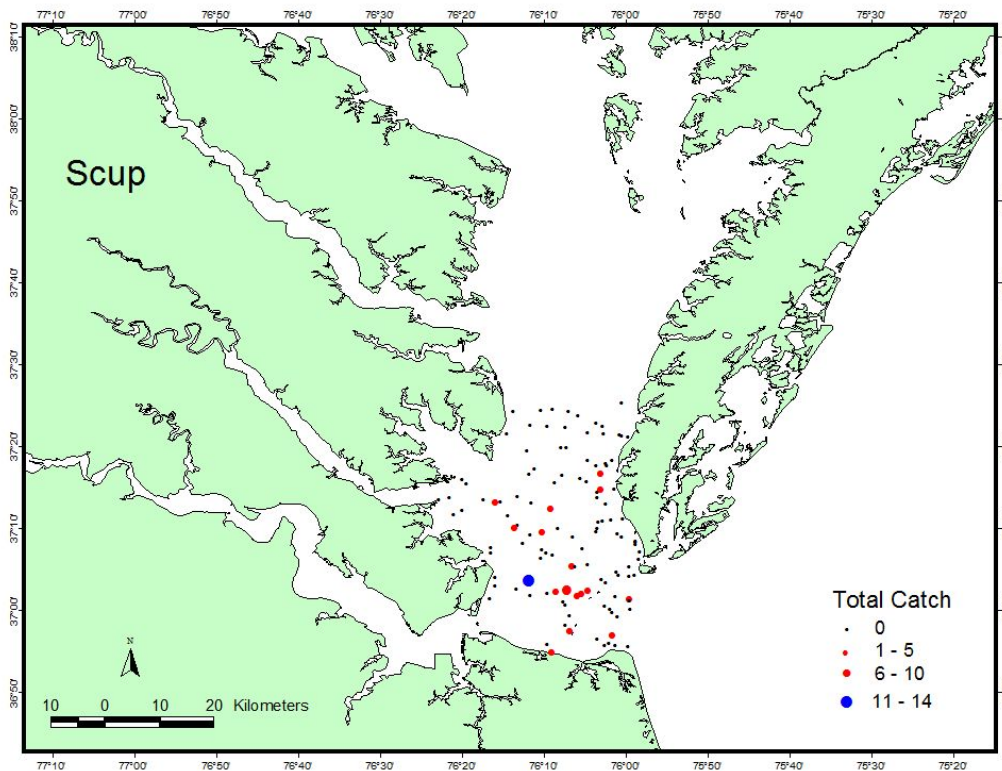
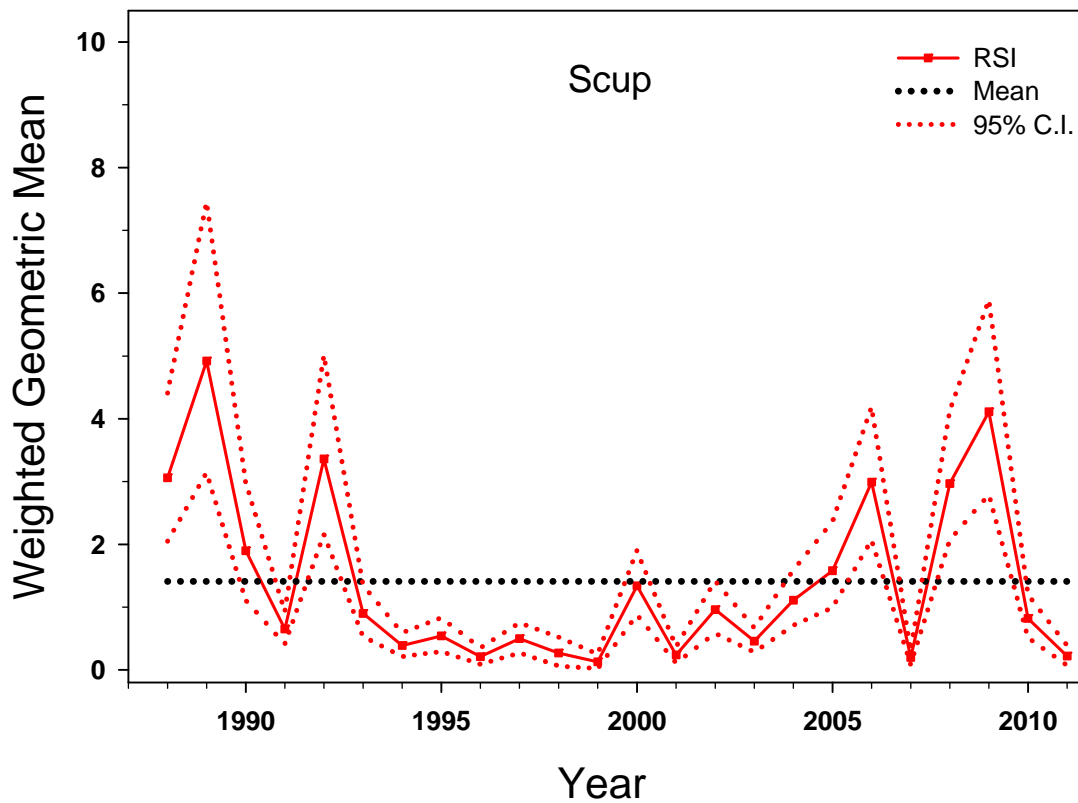


Figure 15. Juvenile Scup random stratified index (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and the time series average (dotted line, Top), and distribution of index-sized Scup from index strata and months (Bottom).

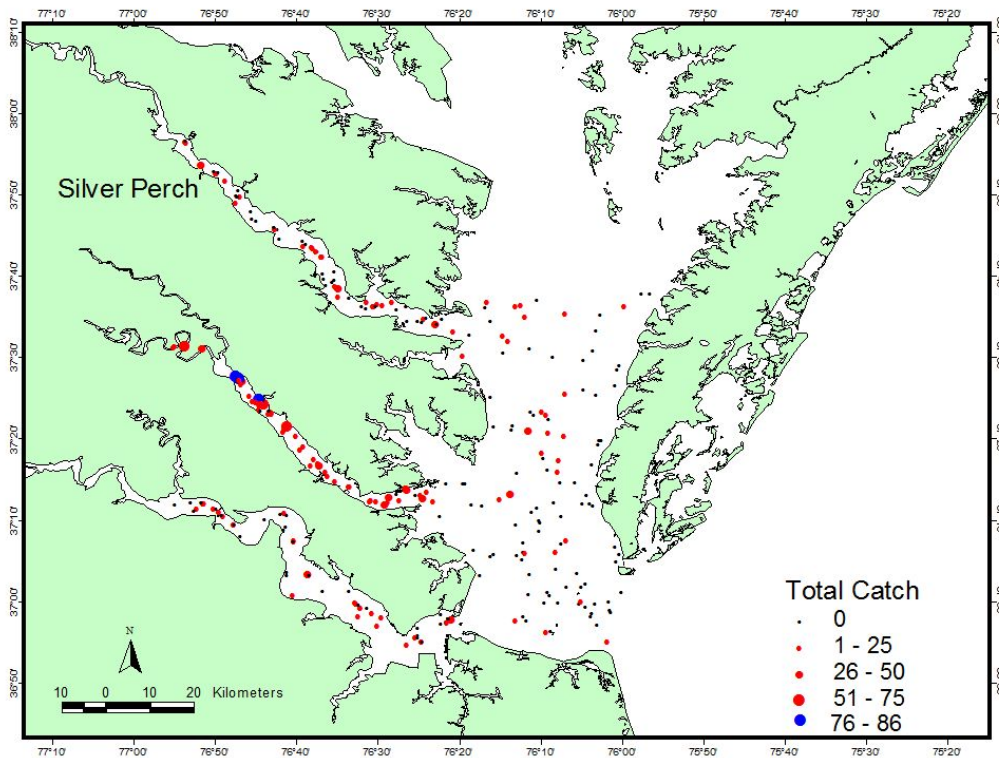
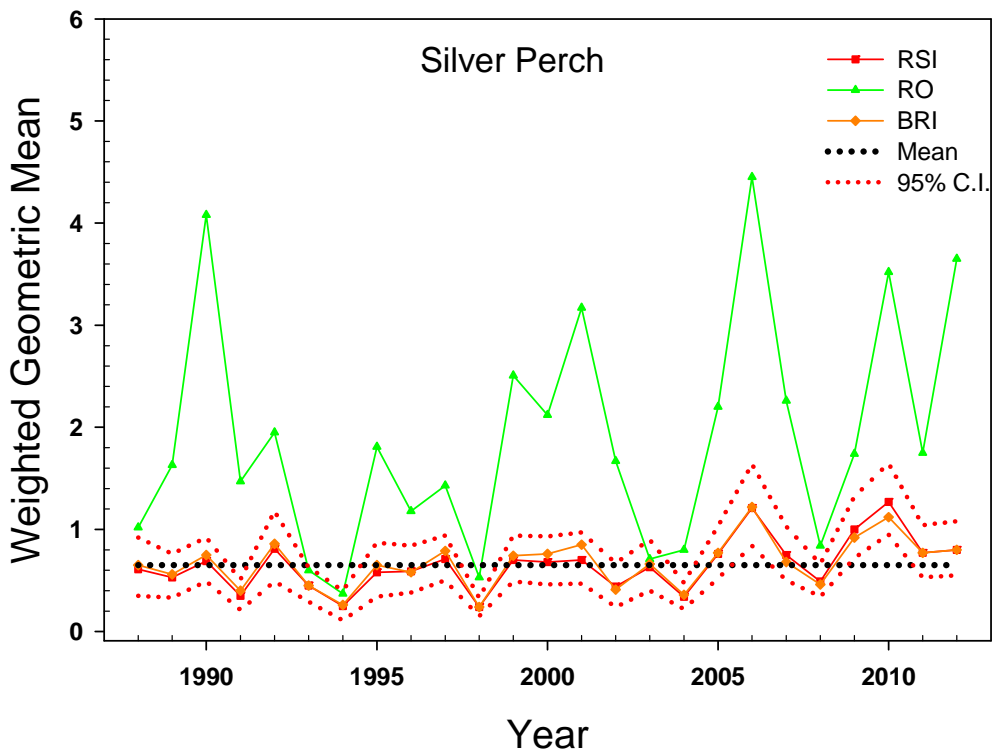


Figure 16. Juvenile Silver Perch random stratified (RSI_{GM}, 95% C.I.), fixed transect (Rivers only – RO), and Bay and fixed river station (BRI) indices and the time series average (dotted line) based on the RSI_{GM} (Top), and distribution of juvenile Silver Perch from index strata and months (Bottom).

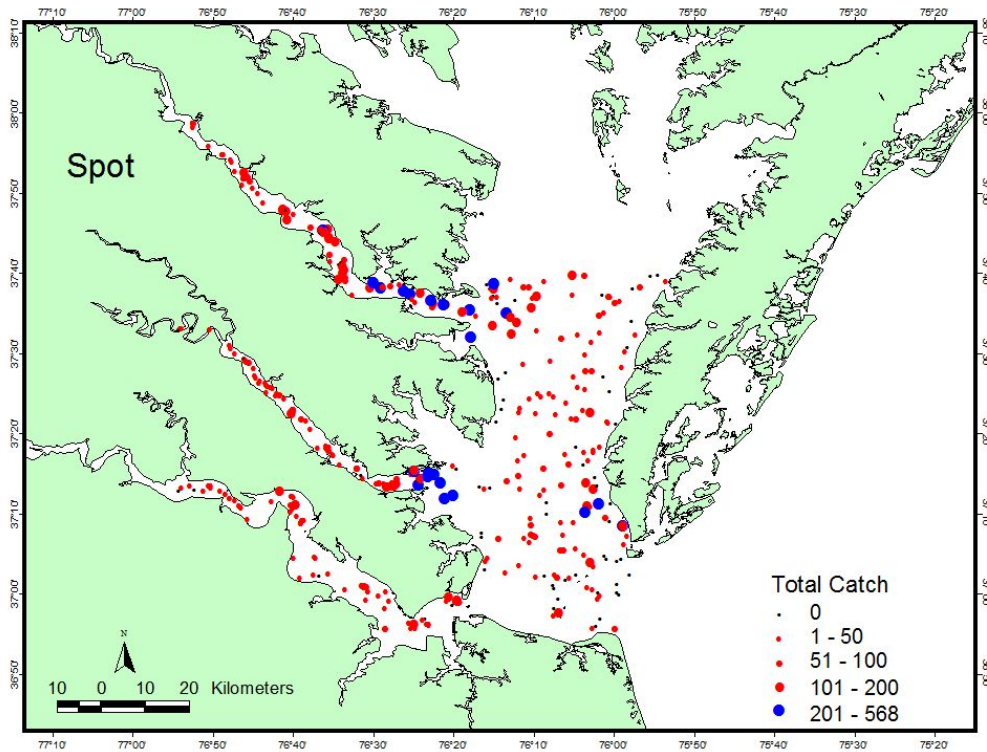
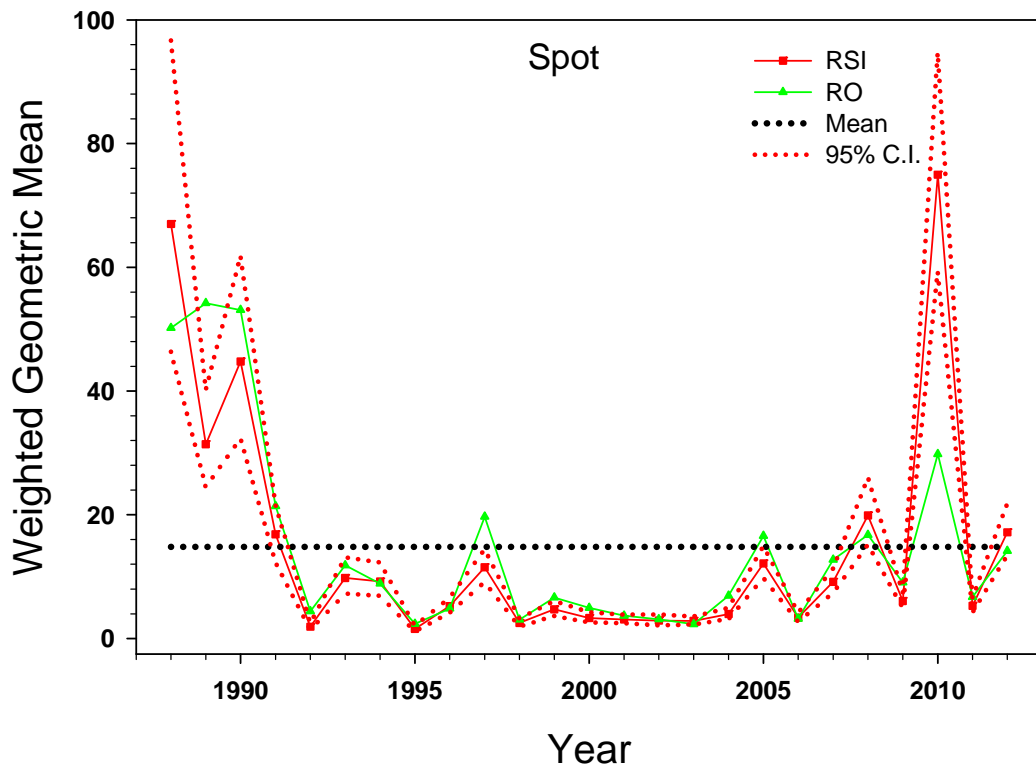


Figure 17. Juvenile Spot random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect (Rivers only – RO), and Bay and fixed river station (BRI) indices, the time series average (dotted line) based on the RSI_{GM} (Top), and distribution of juvenile Spot from index strata and months (Bottom).

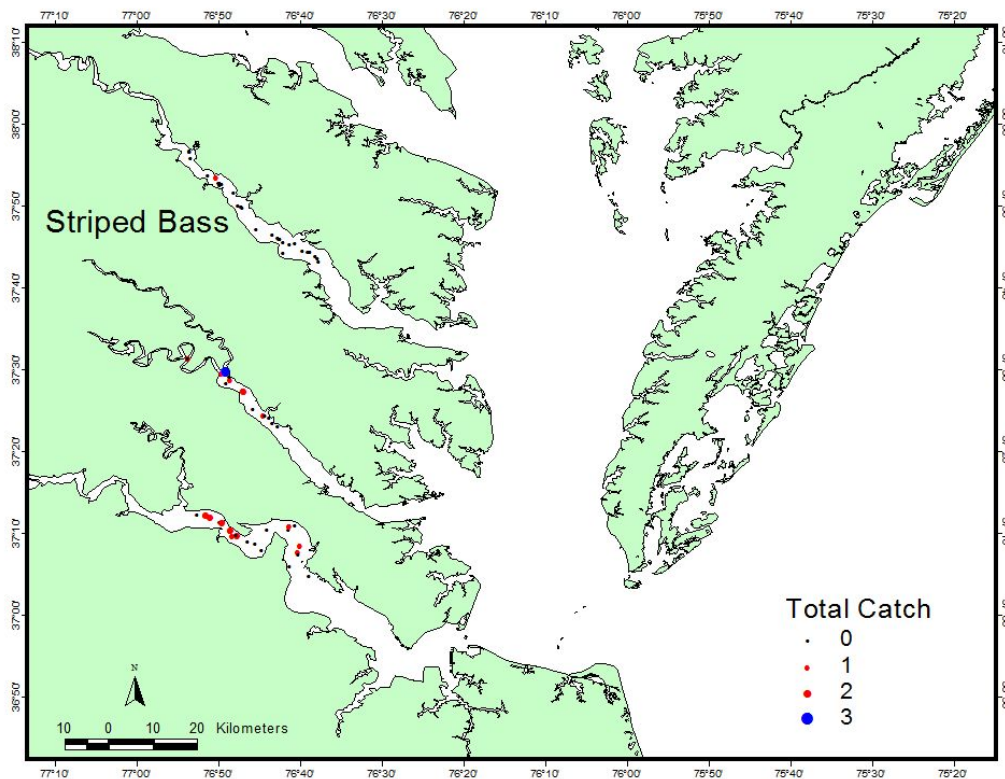
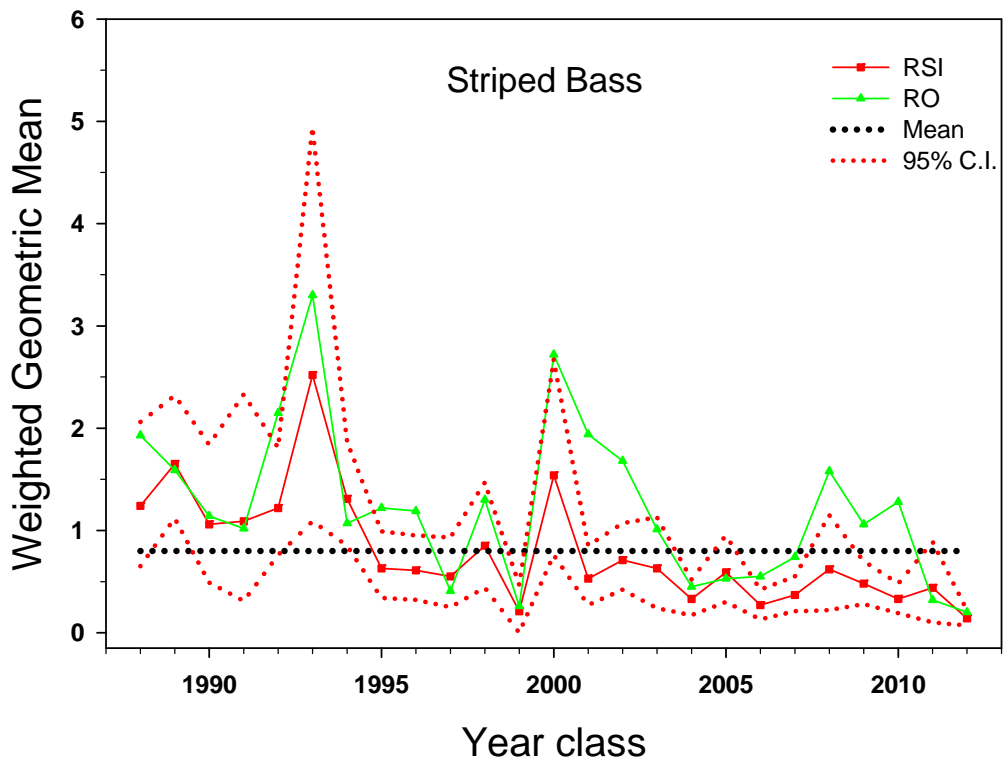


Figure 18. Juvenile Striped Bass random stratified index (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect index (Rivers only – RO), the time series average (dotted line) based on the RSI_{GM} (Top), and distribution of juvenile Striped Bass from index strata and months (Bottom).

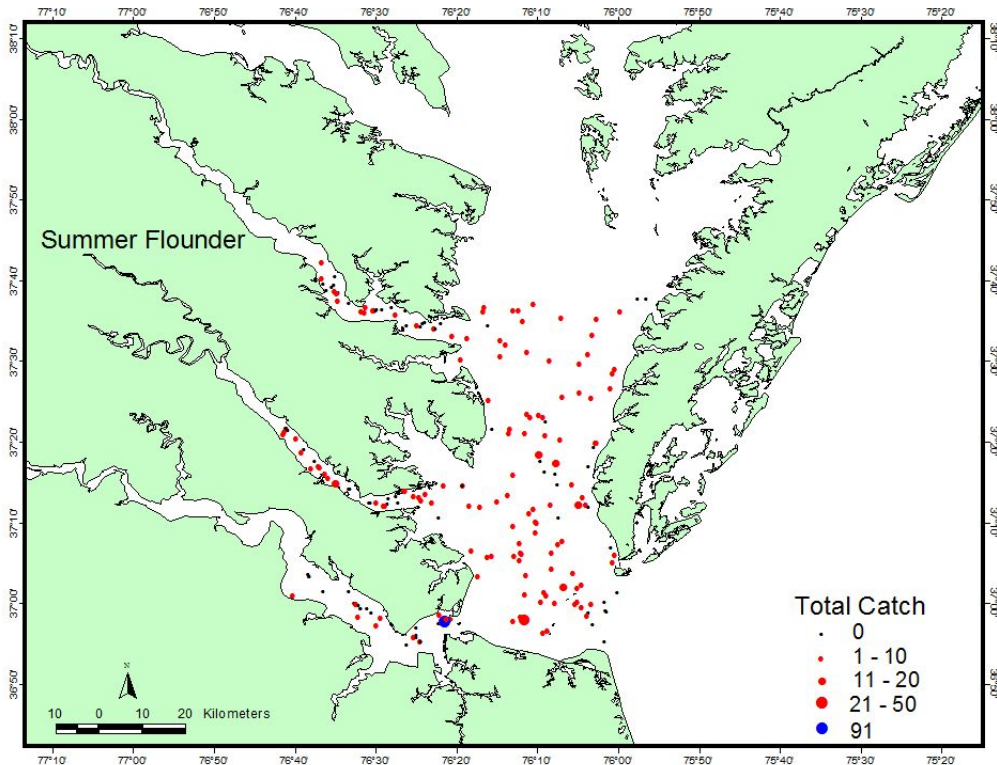
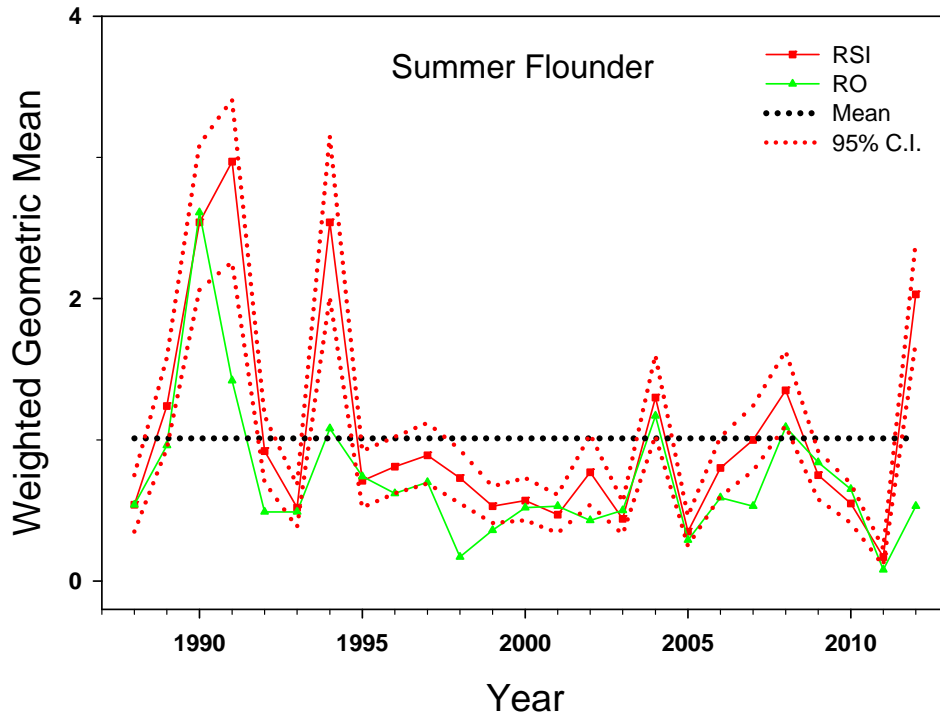


Figure 19. Juvenile Summer Flounder random stratified (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.), fixed transect (Rivers only – RO), and Bay and fixed river station (BRI) indices and the time series average (dotted line) based on the RSI_{GM} (Top), and distribution of juvenile Summer Flounder from index strata and months (Bottom).

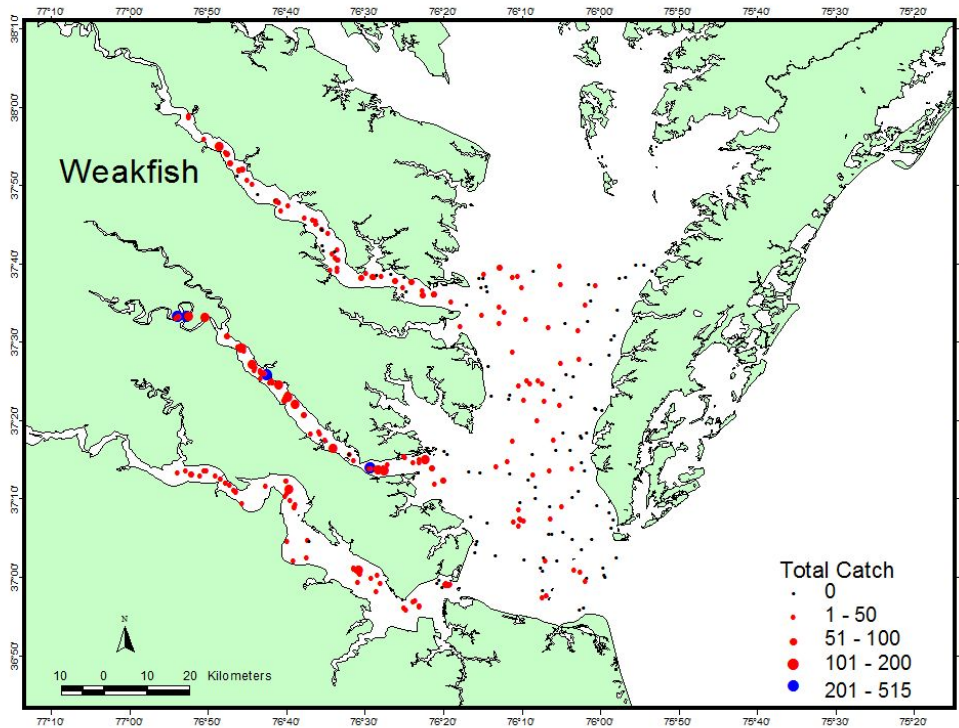
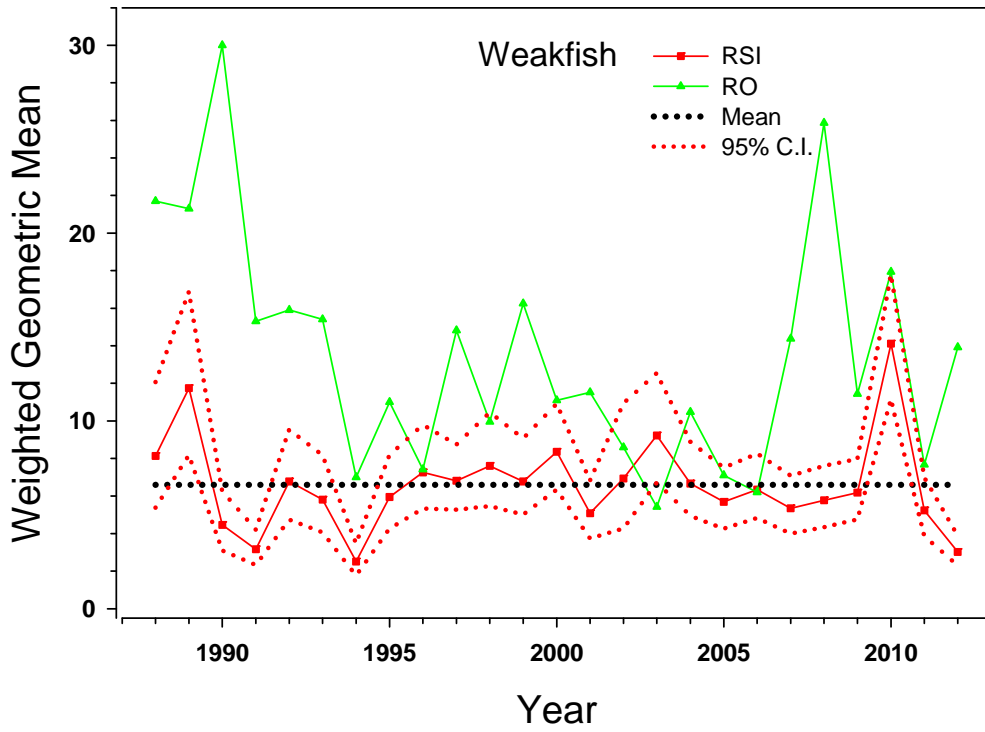


Figure 20. Juvenile Weakfish random stratified (RSI_{GM}, 95% C.I.), fixed transect (Rivers only – RO), and Bay and fixed river station (BRI) indices and the time series average (dotted line) based on the RSI_{GM} (Top), and distribution of juvenile Weakfish from index strata and months (Bottom).

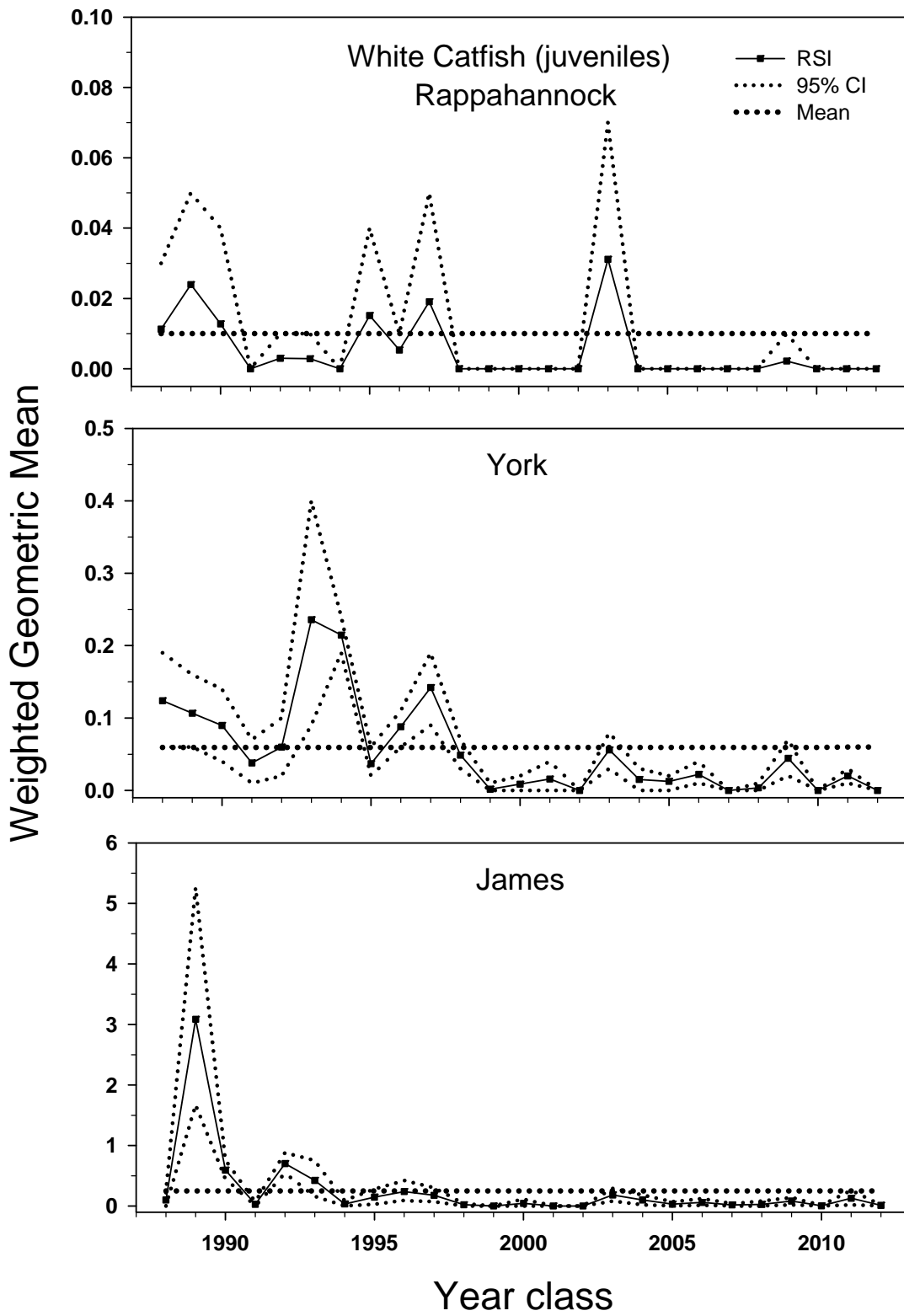


Figure 21. Juvenile White Catfish random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and times series averages (dotted line) based on RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers. Note change in scale on y-axes.

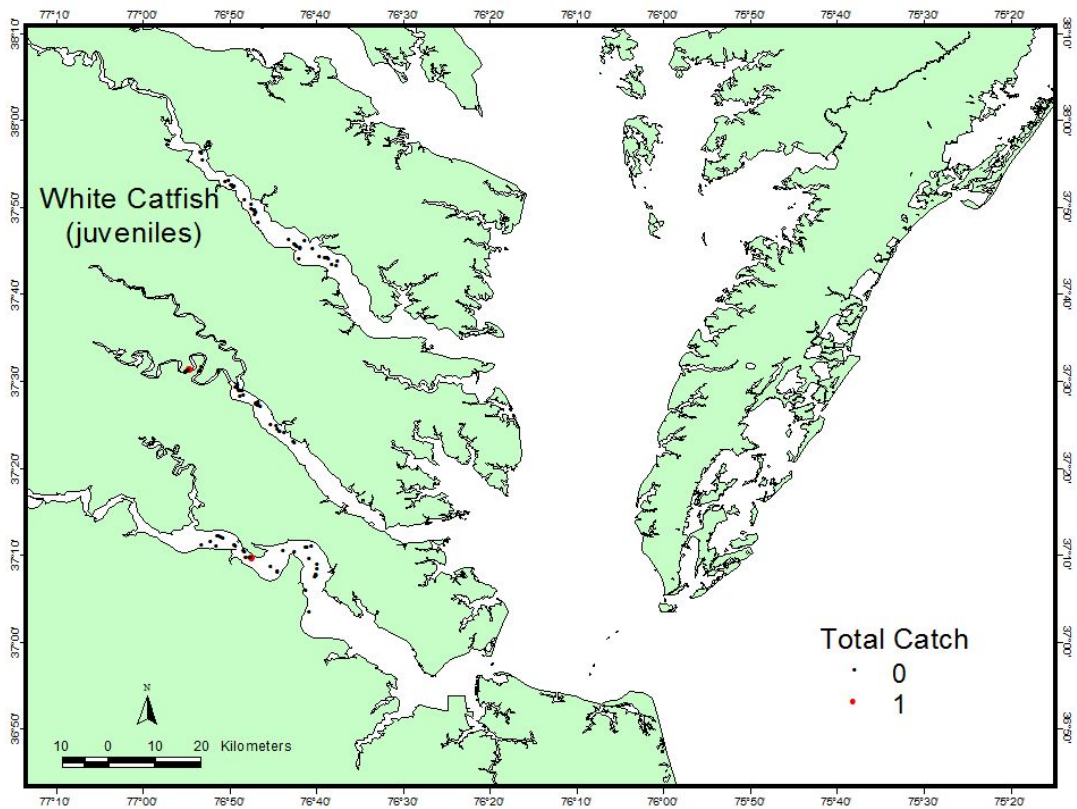


Figure 22. Distribution of juvenile White Catfish from index strata and months.

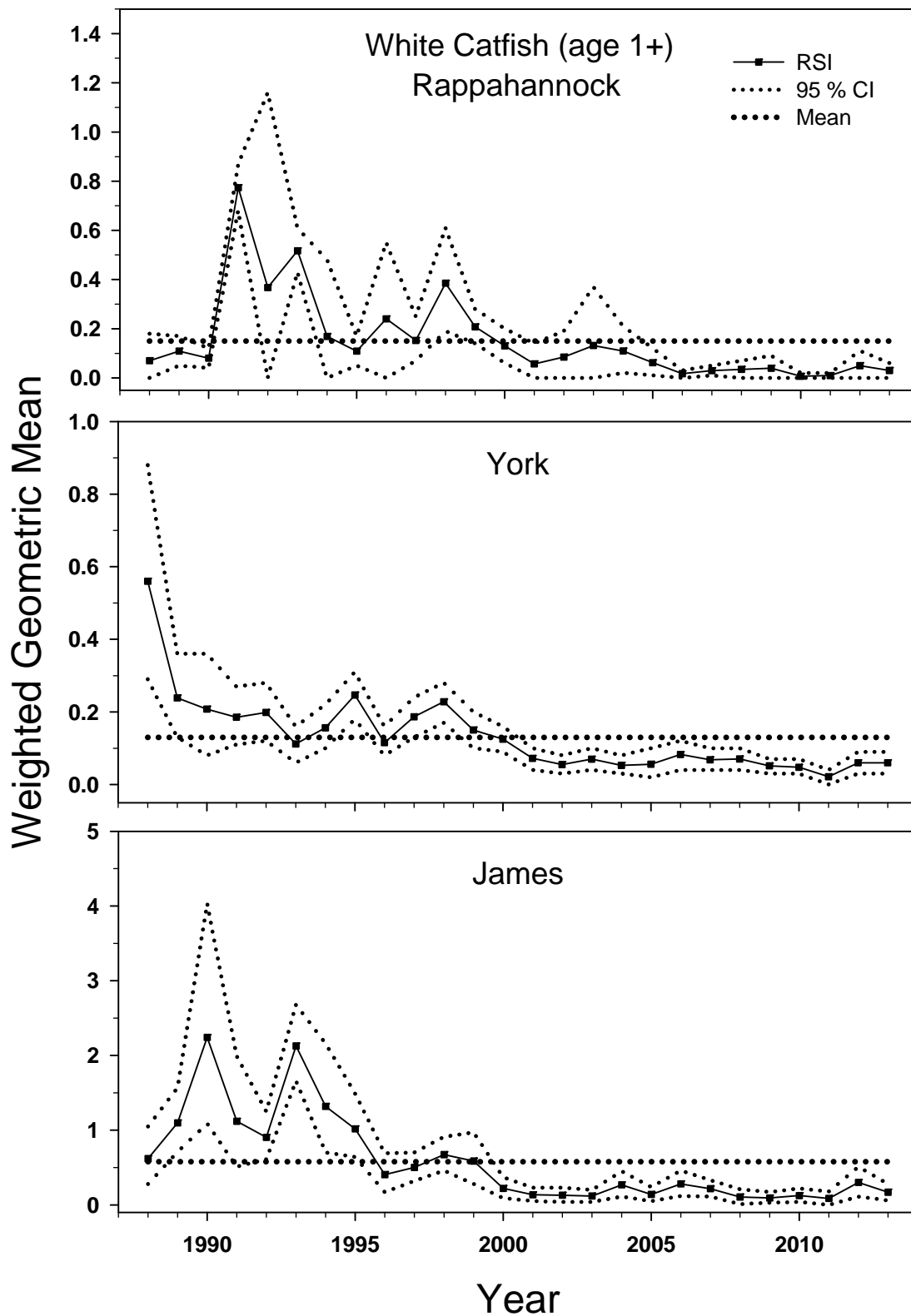


Figure 23. White Catfish age 1+ random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages (dotted line) based on RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers. Note change in scale on y-axes.

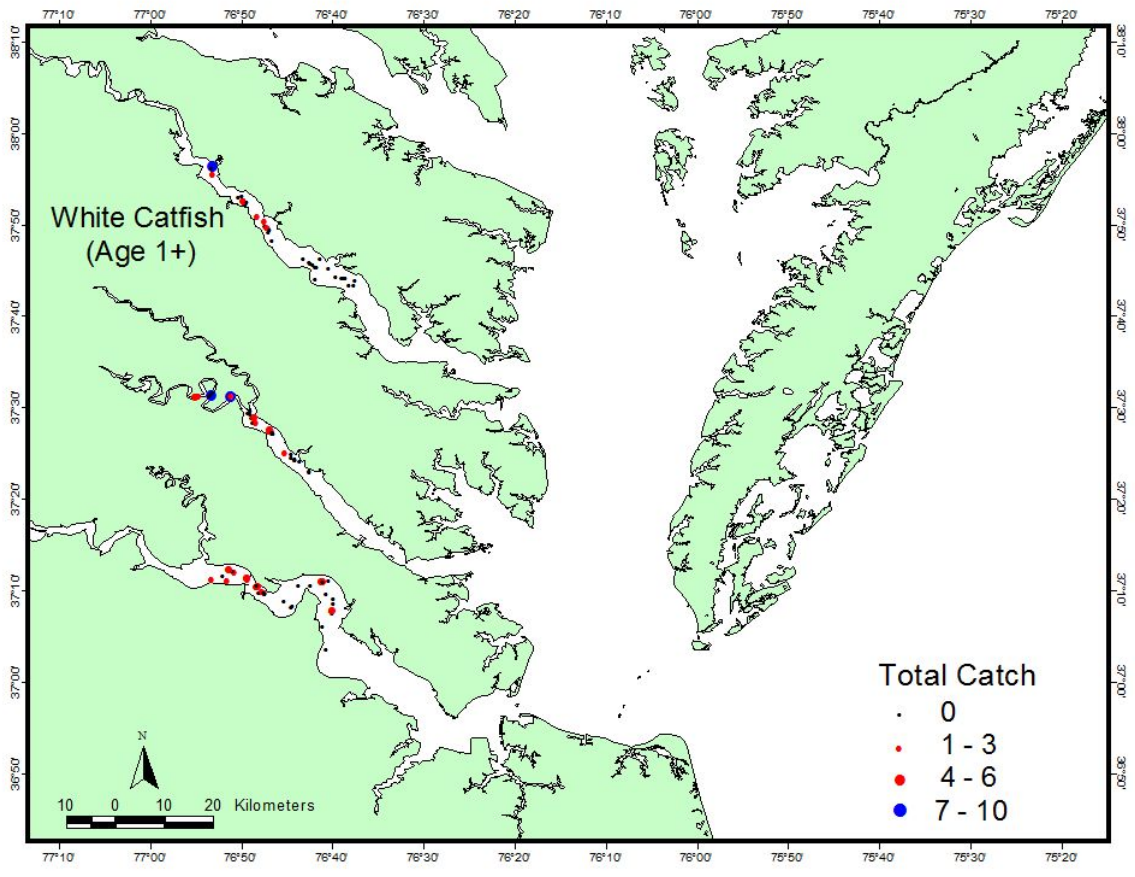


Figure 24. Distribution of White Catfish age 1+ from index strata and months.

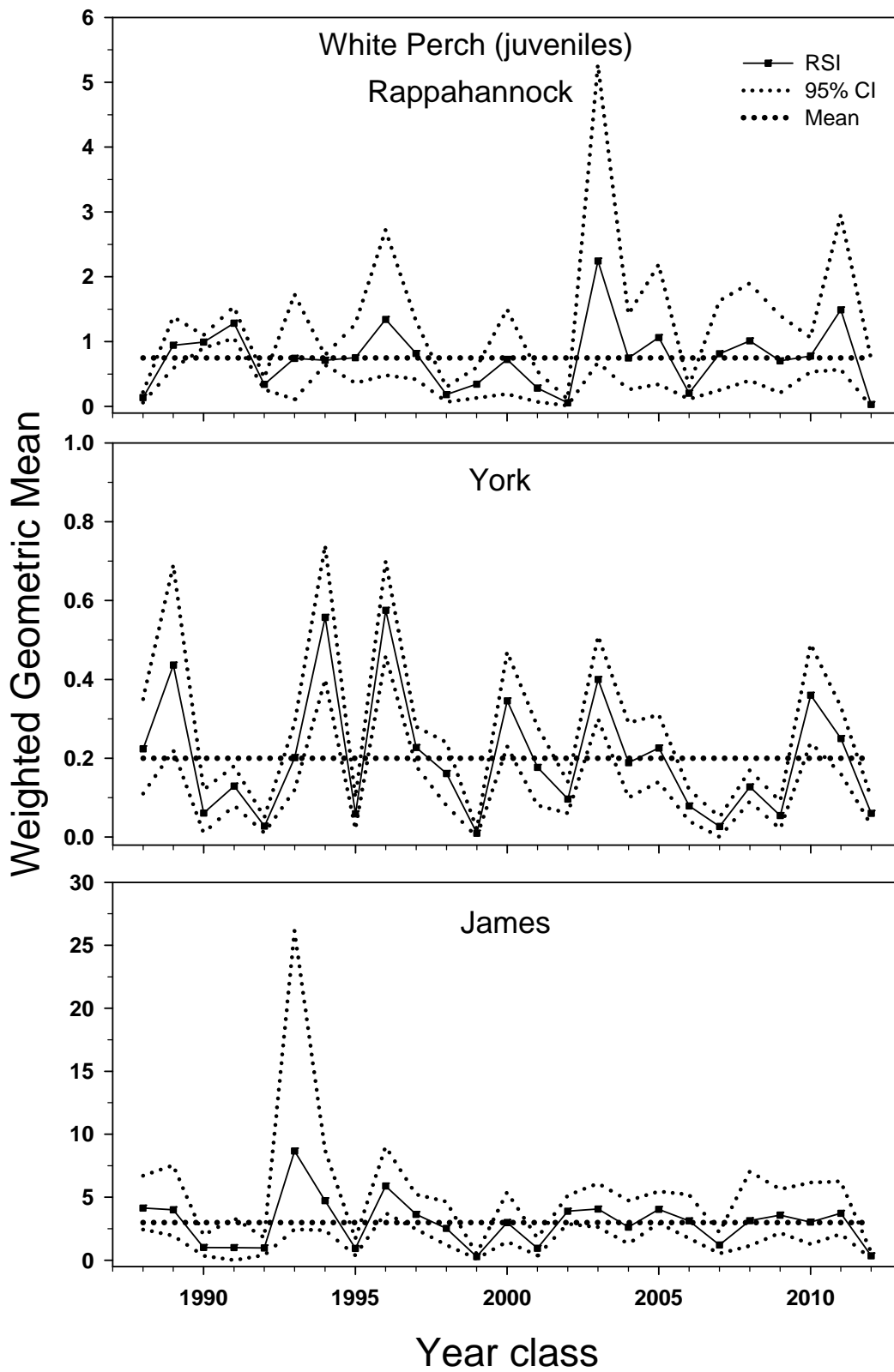


Figure 25. Juvenile White Perch random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages (dotted line) based on RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers. Note change in scale on y-axes.

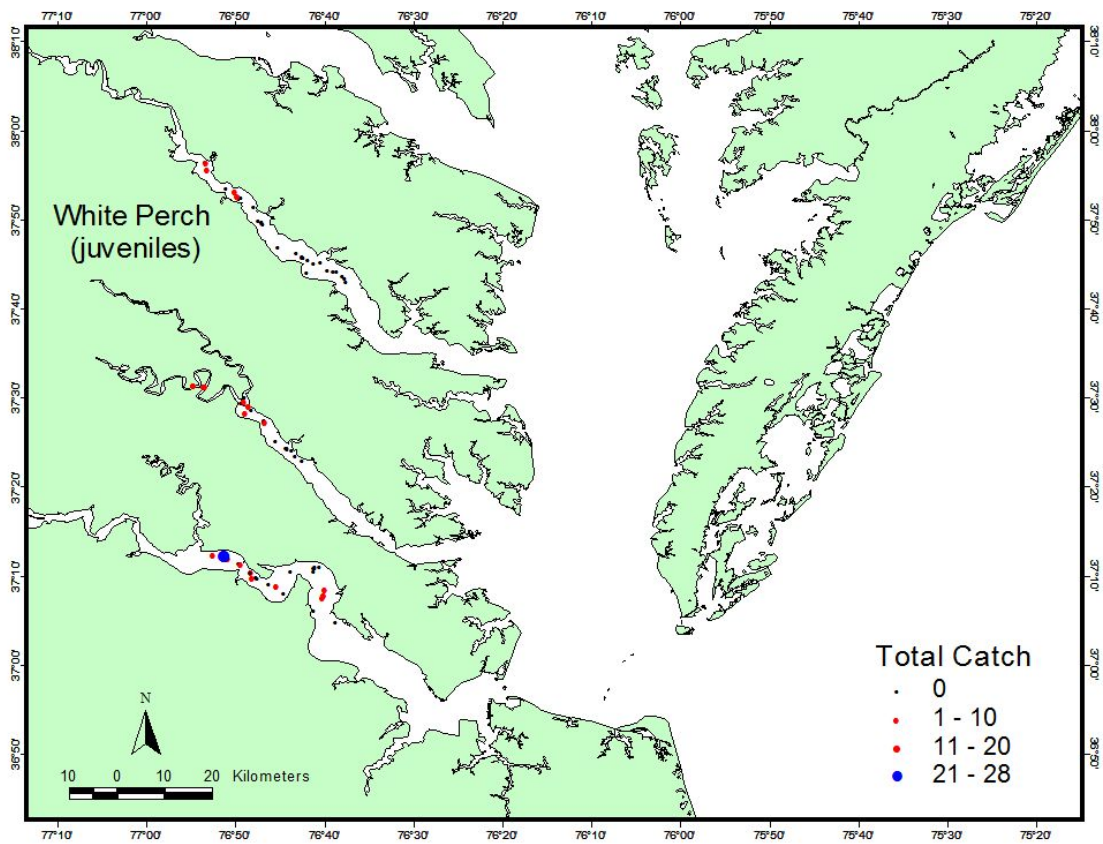


Figure 26. Distribution of juvenile White Perch from index strata and months.

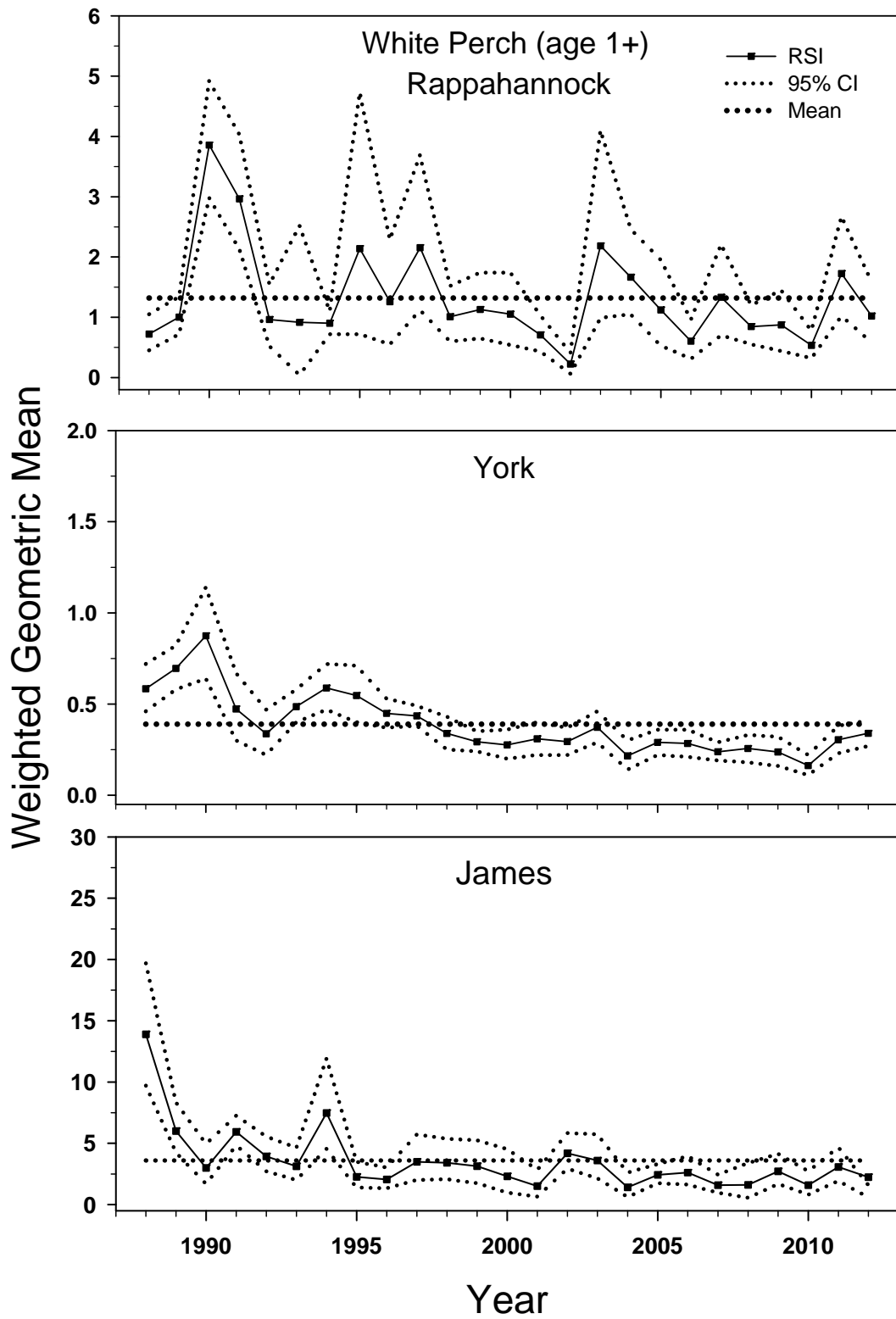


Figure 27. White Perch age 1+ random stratified indices (RSI_{GM} , 95% C.I.) and time series averages (dotted line) based on RSI_{GM} 's from the Rappahannock, York, and James rivers. Note change in scale on y-axes.

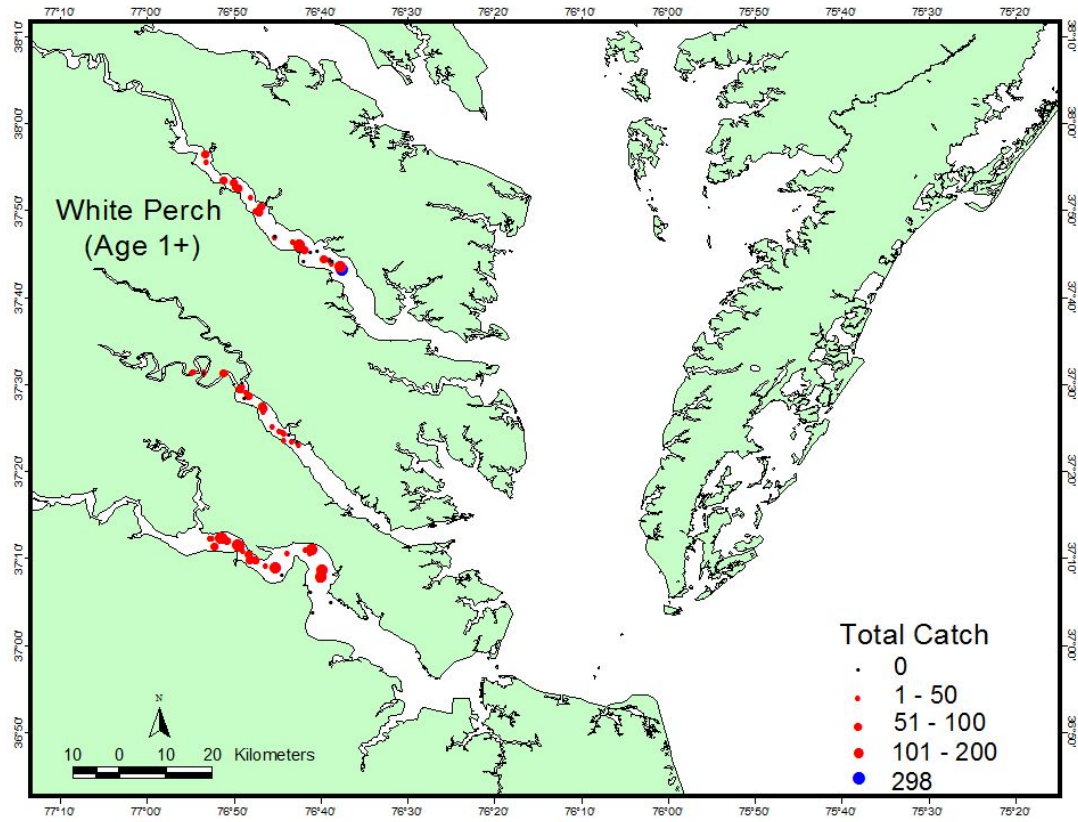


Figure 28. Distribution of White Perch age 1+ from index strata and months.

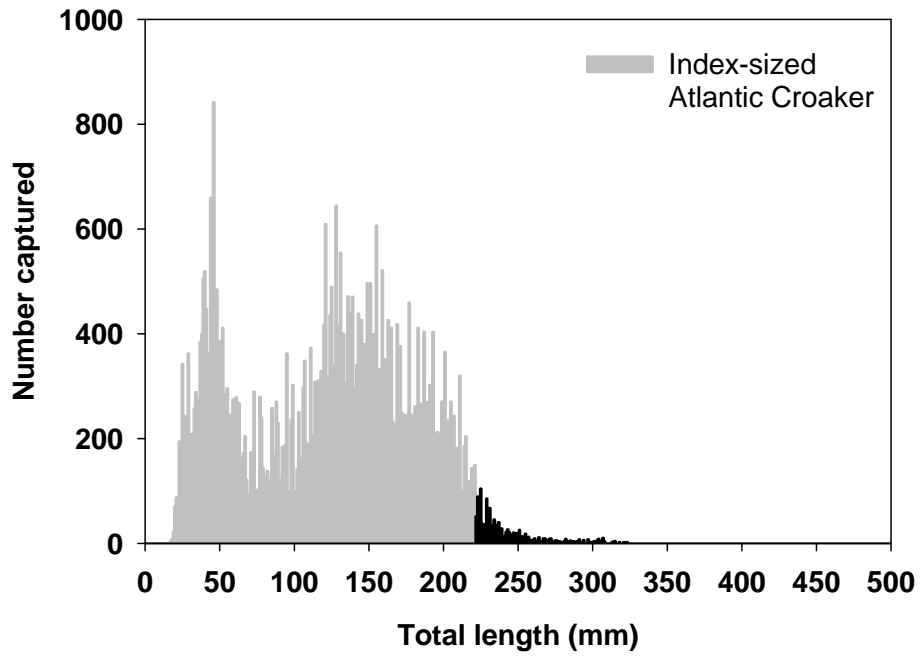
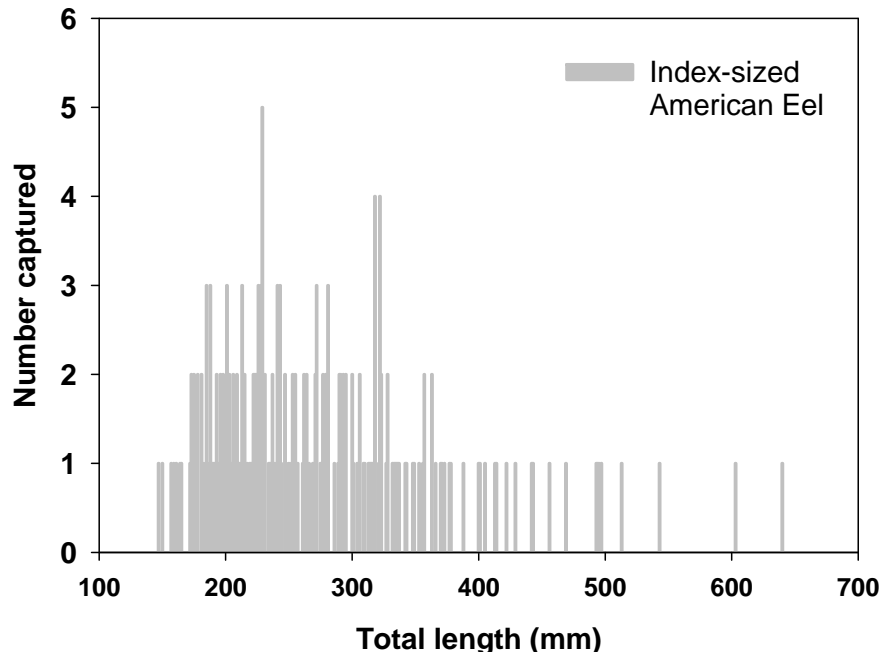
Appendix Table 1. Trawl survey advisory requests, data requests, and specimen requests from June 2012 to May 2013.

Name	Agency	Nature of request	2012					2013						
			J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M
Troy Tuckey	VIMS - Fisheries	White Perch juveniles												
Mike Newman	VIMS - EAAH	Hg study - Striped Bass												
Mike Newman	VIMS - EAAH	Hg study - Channel Catfish												
Lauren Nys	VIMS - Fisheries	Summer Flounder												
Troy Tuckey	VIMS - Fisheries	Atlantic Croaker												
Ryan Schloesser	VIMS - Fisheries	Summer Flounder												
Ryan Schloesser	VIMS - Fisheries	Atlantic Croaker												
Ryan Schloesser	VIMS - Fisheries	Striped Bass												
Dan Sennett	VIMS - Aquarium	Various spp.												
Rob Aguilar	SERC	Various spp.												
Sarah McGuire	CBNERRs	Various spp.												
Robert Latour	VIMS - Fisheries	Blue Catfish												
Eric Hilton	VIMS - Fisheries	American Shad data												
Eric Hilton	VIMS - Fisheries	Blueback Herring data												
Eric Hilton	VIMS - Fisheries	Alewife data												
Robert Hale	VIMS - EAAH	Blue Catfish												
Adam Kenyon	VMRC	Atlantic Croaker juvenile index												
Mark Terceiro	NOAA	Scup index												
Kristene Parsons	VIMS - Fisheries	All Butterfly Rays												
Rich Brill	VIMS - Fisheries	Summer Flounder												
Pat McGrath	Governor's School	Longnose Gar												
Brian Watkins	VIMS - Fisheries	American Shad												
Joe Cimino	VMRC	Tautog												

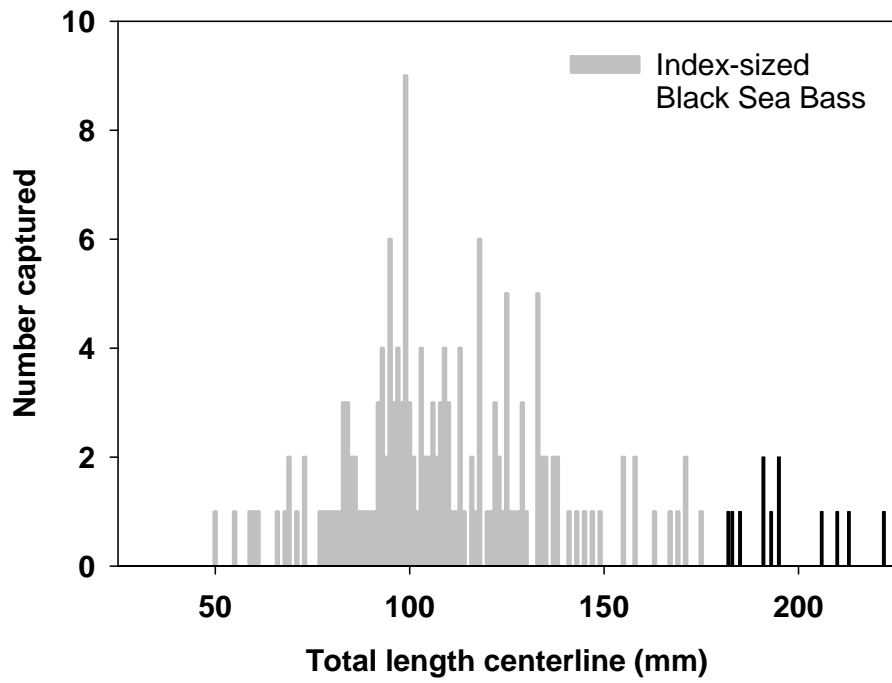
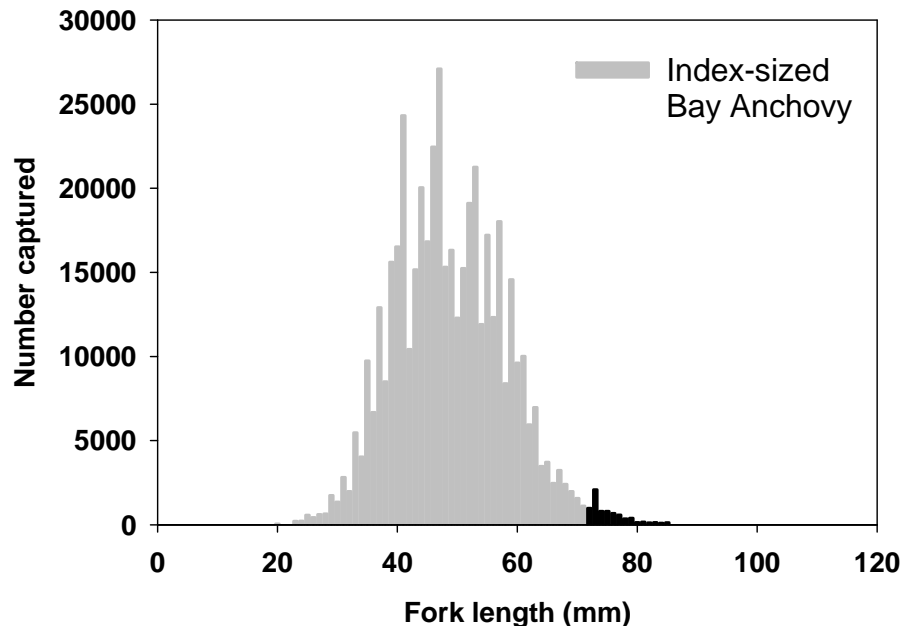
Appendix Table 2. Mobjack Bay pooled catch for June 2012 to Dec 2012 from 63 tows.

Species	Number of Fish (All)	Frequency	Percent of Catch	Catch Per Trawl	Adjusted Percent of Catch	Number of Fish YOY	Average Length (mm)	Standard Error (length)	Minimum Length (mm)	Maximum Length (mm)
Bay Anchovy	63,717	58	84.59	1011.38	.	54,910	51	0.25	20	82
Spot	6,286	40	8.35	99.78	55.56	6,135	125	0.52	65	215
Atlantic Croaker	1,630	38	2.16	25.87	14.41	1,128	150	0.94	25	270
Silver Perch	1,610	29	2.14	25.56	14.23	1,487	88	0.99	15	191
Weakfish	886	29	1.18	14.06	7.83	786	98	1.96	24	327
Hogchoker	292	36	0.39	4.63	.	2	102	0.8	33	151
Striped Anchovy	262	24	0.35	4.16	2.32	258	68	1.23	46	120
Summer Flounder	198	43	0.26	3.14	1.75	179	142	4.14	78	464
Southern Kingfish	115	30	0.15	1.83	1.02	85	132	5.86	54	305
Kingfish spp	54	12	0.07	0.86	0.48	49	63	2.29	27	101
Atlantic Spadefish	53	8	0.07	0.84	0.47	.	98	3.17	46	128
Harvestfish	37	10	0.05	0.59	0.33	26	95	4.76	32	135
Atlantic Thread Herring	19	3	0.03	0.3	0.17	.	60	7.94	41	162
Northern Puffer	15	11	0.02	0.24	0.13	12	89	13.36	24	163
Chain Pipefish	12	7	0.02	0.19	0.11	.	279	11.31	196	328
Feather Blenny	9	4	0.01	0.14	0.08	.	63	8.45	29	92
Bluefish	9	3	0.01	0.14	0.08	.	145	19.27	93	247
Inshore Lizardfish	8	5	0.01	0.13	0.07	3	178	31.13	45	318
Atlantic Menhaden	8	3	0.01	0.13	0.07	6	73	28.25	29	243
American Shad	8	1	0.01	0.13	0.07	8	94	1.3	88	101
Atlantic Cutlassfish	7	5	0.01	0.11	0.06	.	614	17.12	562	680
Silver Seatrout	7	3	0.01	0.11	0.06	.	179	2.73	169	187
Blackcheek Tonguefish	6	5	0.01	0.1	0.05	4	107	12.61	76	158
Spotted Seatrout	5	5	0.01	0.08	0.04	.	37	7.03	27	65
Northern Pipefish	5	5	0.01	0.08	0.04	.	153	20.23	79	203
Spotted Hake	5	4	0.01	0.08	0.04	5	59	2.11	53	64
Lined Seahorse	5	4	0.01	0.08	0.04	.	82	14.54	57	122
Atlantic Silverside	5	3	0.01	0.08	0.04	5	93	2.65	85	99
Black Sea Bass	4	4	0.01	0.06	0.04	2	134	21.78	93	195
Green Goby	4	4	0.01	0.06	0.04	.	39	5.12	24	48
Atlantic Moonfish	4	2	0.01	0.06	0.04	.	83	1.68	78	85
Butterfish	4	1	0.01	0.06	0.04	0	137	3.01	129	143
Blueback Herring	4	1	0.01	0.06	0.04	4	78	0.91	76	80
Naked Goby	3	3	0	0.05	0.03	.	40	1.53	38	43
Seaboard Goby	3	3	0	0.05	0.03	.	39	1.2	37	41
Red Drum	3	1	0	0.05	0.03	.	177	5.03	171	187
Northern Kingfish	3	1	0	0.05	0.03	0	173	6.89	165	187
Pigfish	2	2	0	0.03	0.02	.	128	2.5	125	130
Oyster Toadfish	2	2	0	0.03	0.02	.	123	65	58	188
Atlantic Stingray	2	2	0	0.03	0.02	.	301	3.5	297	304
Banded Drum	2	2	0	0.03	0.02	.	44	8	36	52
Hickory Shad	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	.	153	.	153	153
Black Drum	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	.	155	.	155	155
Cobia	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	.	141	.	141	141
Spanish Mackerel	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	.	177	.	177	177
Gizzard Shad	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	1	111	.	111	111
Florida Pompano	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	.	141	.	141	141
Striped Searobin	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	.	121	.	121	121
Fringed Flounder	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	.	91	.	91	91
Gray Snapper	1	1	0	0.02	0.01	.	116	.	116	116
All Species Combined	75,322									

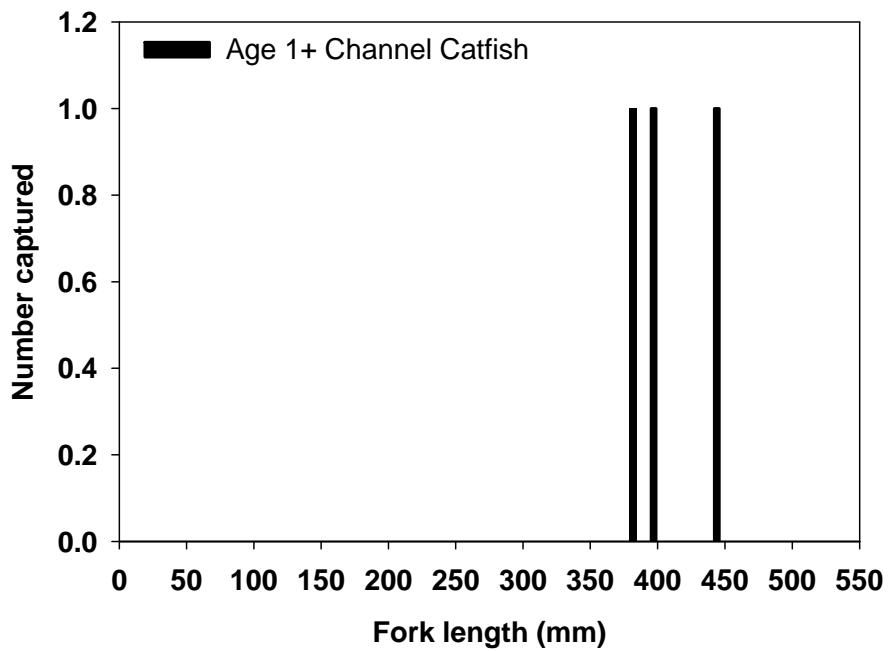
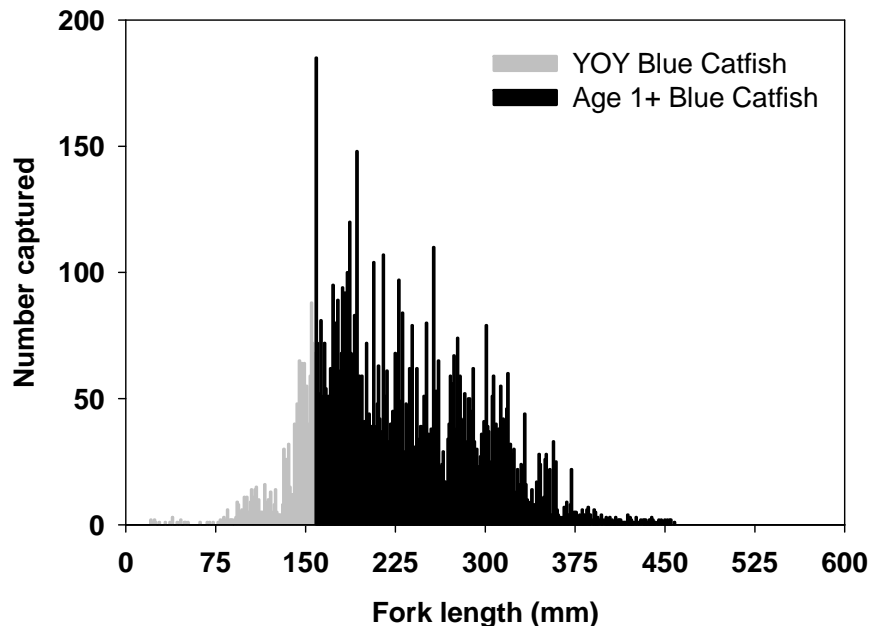
Appendix Figure 1. Length frequency distributions by species from June 2012 to May 2013.
(Note that actual indices are calculated using a subset of months and strata. Therefore, not all index-sized fish are included in index calculations.)



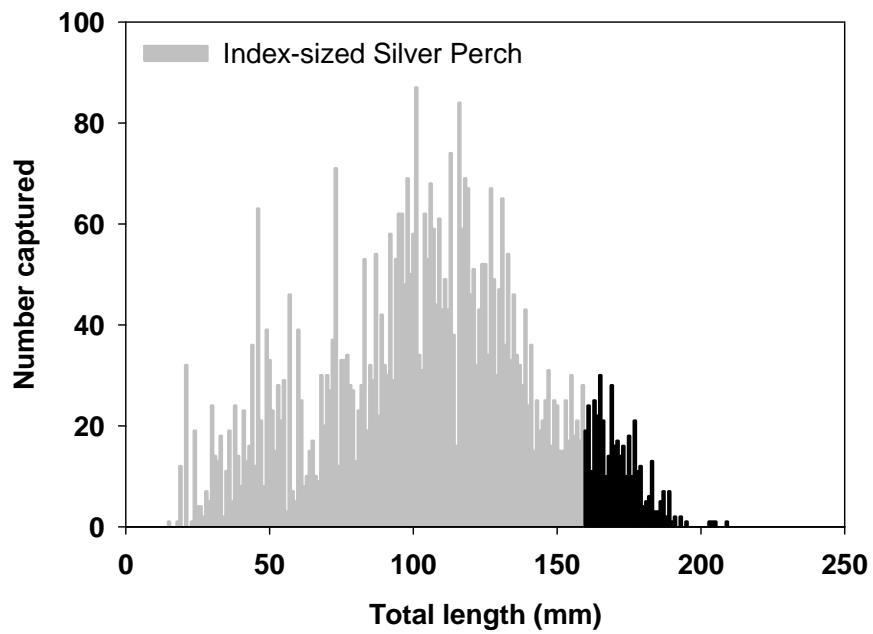
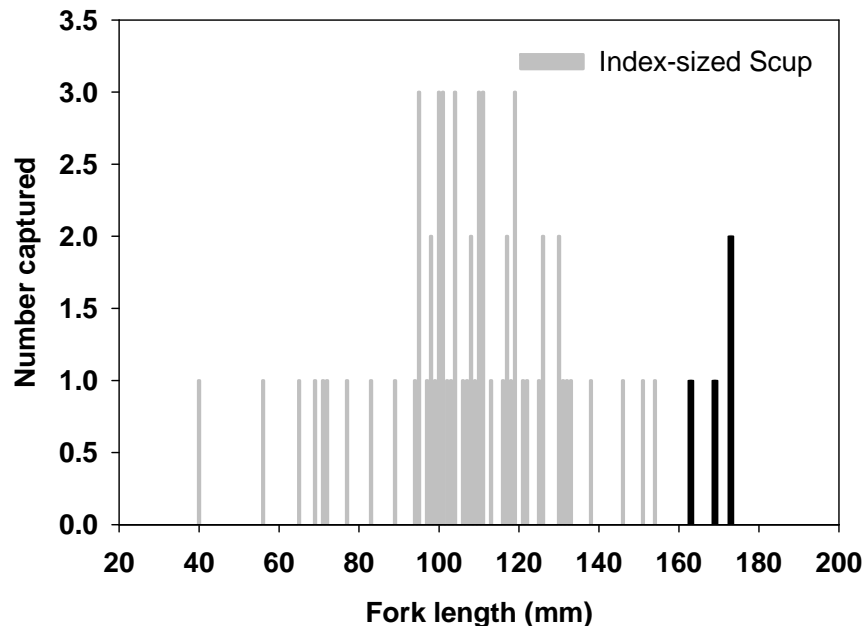
Appendix Figure 1. (continued)



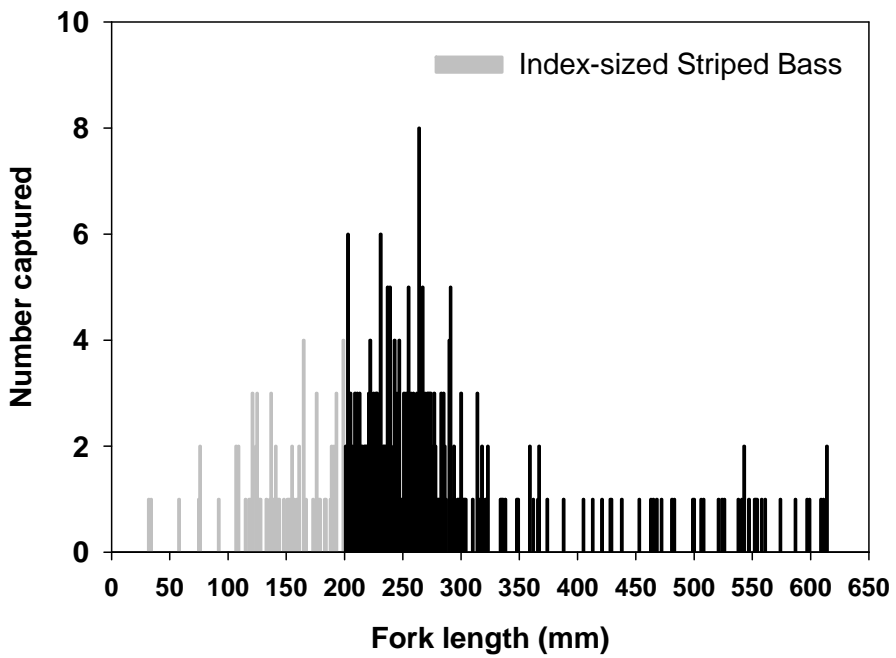
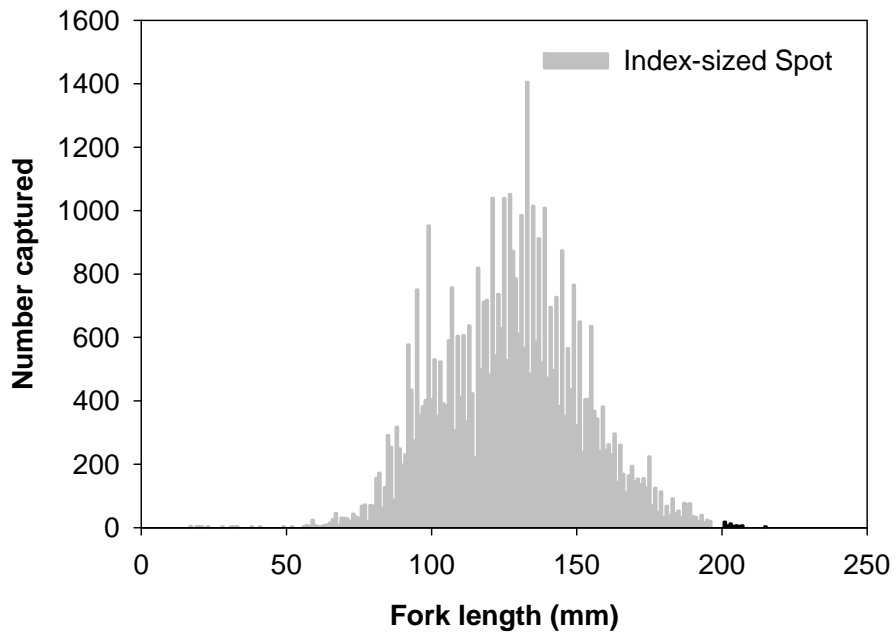
Appendix Figure 1. (continued)



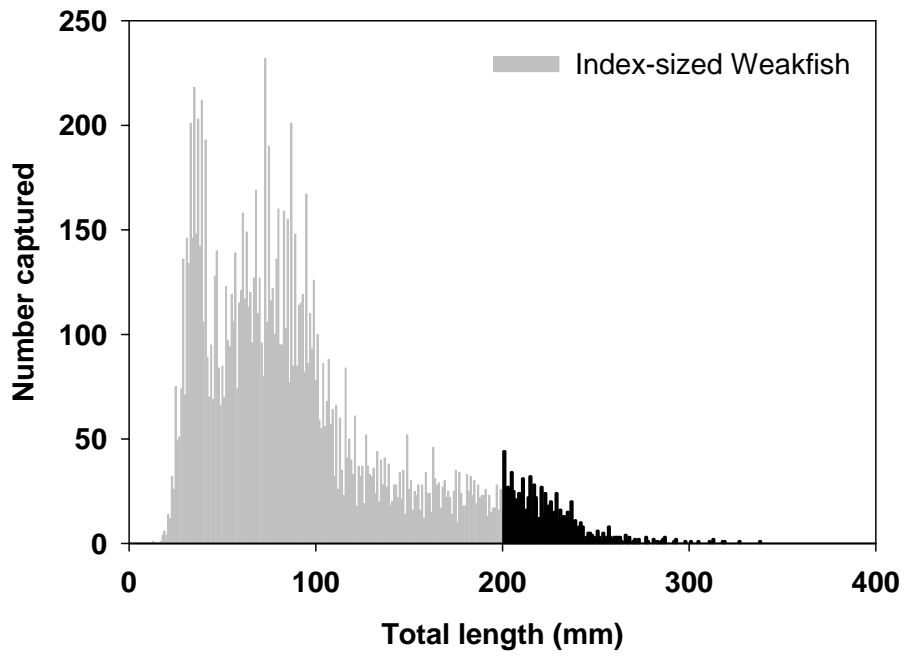
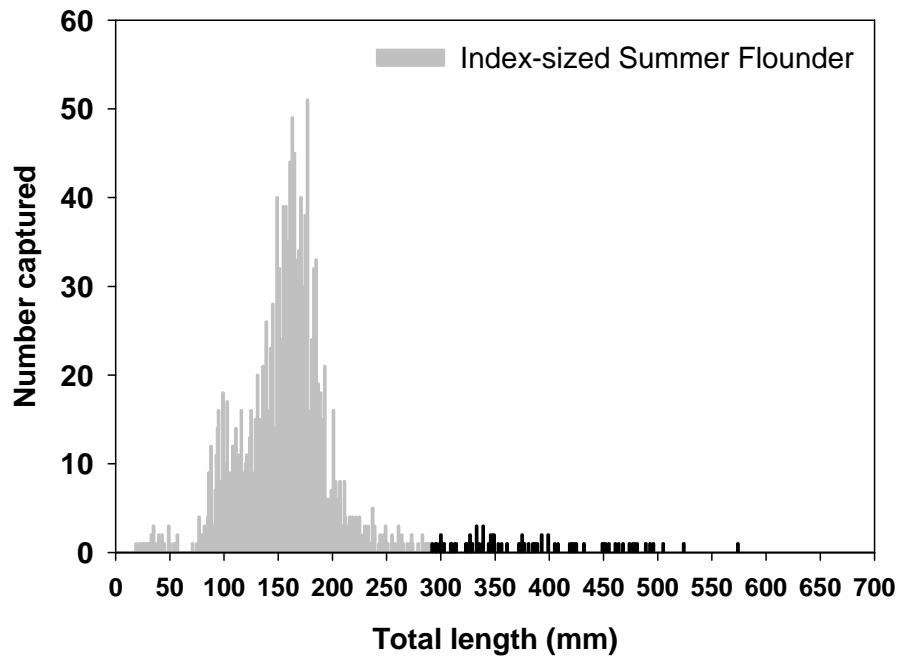
Appendix Figure 1 (continued). There were no index-sized juvenile Channel Catfish caught during the index period.



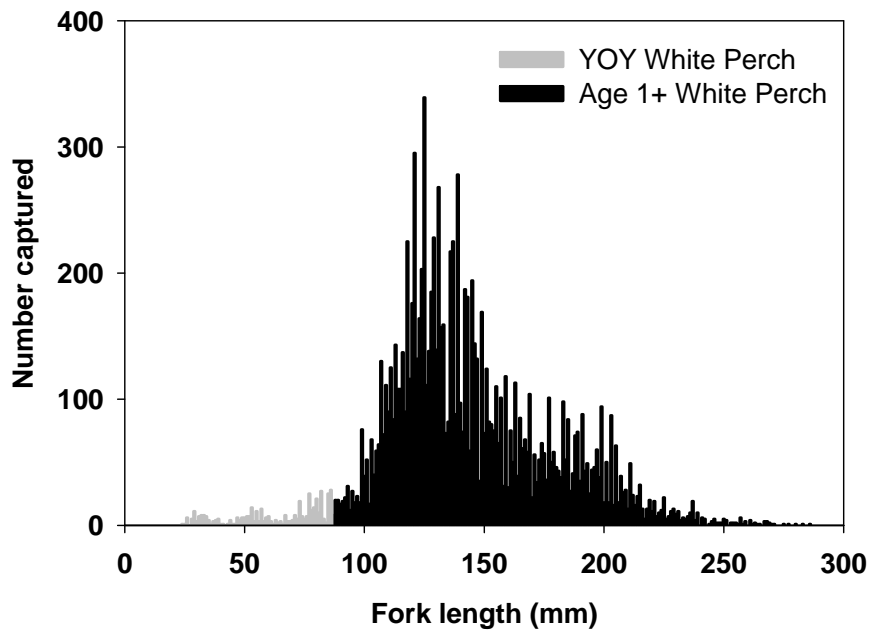
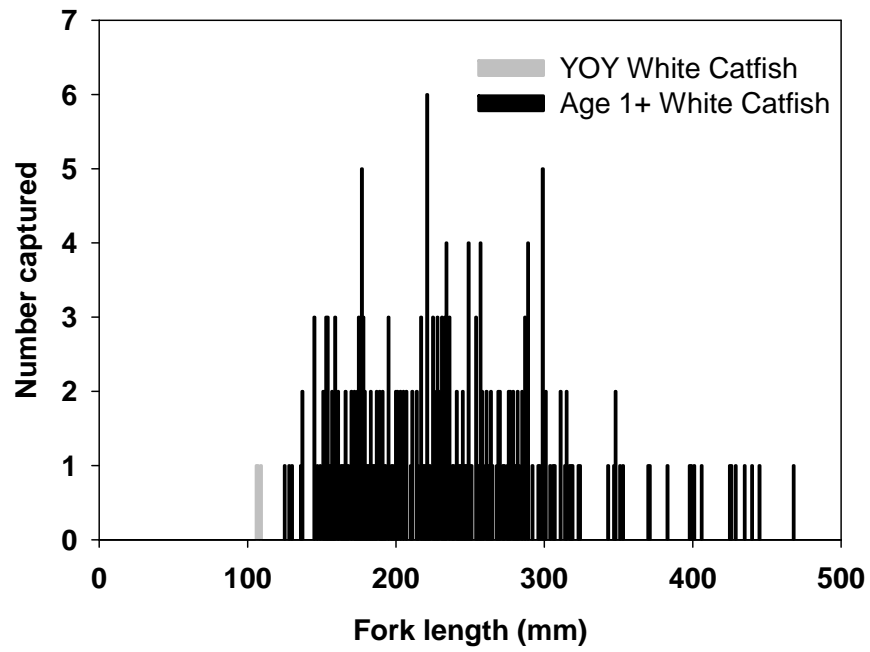
Appendix Figure 1. (continued)



Appendix Figure 1. (continued)



Appendix Figure 1. (continued)



Appendix Figure 1. (continued)