Warming Trends & Impacts in the Gulf of Maine



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Science. Education. Community.

Outline



- Temperature trends in the Gulf of Maine
- Temperature & lobsters
- Temperature & cod

Acknowledgements:

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NSR













Gulf of Maine SST



































Gulf of Maine Research Institute



Temperature and Landings









- linear models for 4 buoys + average
- randomly draw model coefficients and apply
- yields probability of start date in a time window



Hindcasts

	Early Se	eason		20	09		Late	e Season		
	Extremely Early	Very Early	Early	Nor	al	Late	Very Late	Extremely Late	_	
March 1	0%	0%	0.97%	93.2	%	5.67%	0.07%	0%	First Forecast	
March 15	0%	0%	1.69%	83.¢	%	14.62%	0%	0%		
April 1	0%	0%	2.45%	42.2	%	54.87%	0.45%	0%		
April 15	0%	0%	1.77%	76.4	%	21.56%	0.18%	0%		
May 1	0%	0%	13.35%	82.2	%	4.4%	0%	0%		
May 15	0%	0%	19.05%	77.	6	3.35%	0%	0%	Last Forecast	
6/	12 6/	19 6/	26 7/	3	7/1	10 7/ [.]	17 7/	24 7	/31	

Hindcasts



	Early Se	eason		2012	2	Season		
	Extremely Early	Very Early	Early	Normal	Late	Very Late	Extremely Late	
March 1	47.74%	51.4%	0.85%	0%	0%	0%	0%	First Forecast
March 15	81.74%	17.92%	0.34%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
April 1	73.61%	26.27%	0.13%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
April 15	88.34%	11.45%	0.21%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
May 1	77.3%	21.57%	1.13%	0%	0%	0%	0%	↓
May 15	19.72%	70.65% 19 6/	9.63% 26 7/	0%	0% 10 7/	0% 17 7/	0% 24 7/3	Last Forecast

Hindcasts

	Early Se	eason	2003			Late Season			
	Extremely Early	Very Early	Early	Normal	Late	Ver	Late	Extremely Late	
March 1	0%	0%	20%	39.3%	36.97%	3.	3%	0%	First Forecast
March 15	0%	0%	0%	20%	52.15%	23	2%	3.93%	
April 1	0%	0%	17.86%	9.15%	52.43%	18	1%	2.15%	
April 15	0%	0%	0%	19.64%	42.71%	26	7%	11.37%	
May 1	0%	0%	0%	33.48%	39.95%	2.	7%	1.87%	↓
May 15	0%	0%	0.13%	57.79%	25.45%	14	5%	2.39%	Last Forecast



www.gmri.org/lobster-forecast



- 4/15—warming
- still cold
- late season, with a chance of very late







Data from 2014 stock assessment (Palmer, 2014)



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Data from 2014 stock assessment (Palmer, 2014)

Future of Cod



Conclusion

- The Gulf of Maine is warming rapidly
- Warming has impacted
 - fish distributions
 - fisheries management
 - fishermen
- Climate adaptation
 - incorporate environmental factors in decision-making
 - information and forecast tools
 - understand how humans make decisions

Pershing et al. 2015. Slow adaptation in the face of rapid warming leads to collapse of the Gulf of Maine cod fishery. Science, 350: 809-812.

Mills et al. 2013. Fisheries management in a changing climate: lessons from the 2012 ocean heat wave. Oceanography, 26: 191-195.

