



HICKORY SHAD

Alosa mediocris

Description:

- ◆ gray/green back
- ◆ dark blotch on shoulder followed by a row of lighter spots
- ◆ lower jaw projects significantly past upper jaw
- ◆ deep belly

Size:

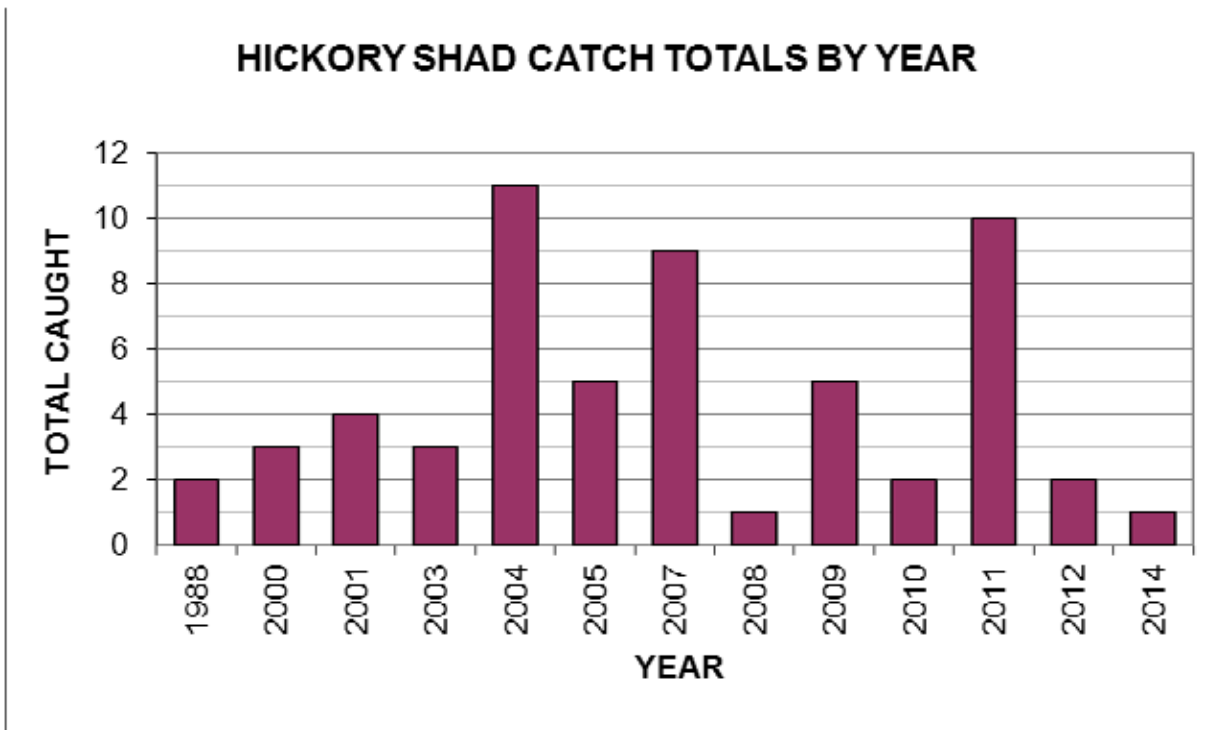
- ◆ up to 24 inches

Range:

- ◆ Atlantic coast from the mouth of the Bay of Fundy, New Brunswick to Florida (rarely found north of Cape Cod, Massachusetts)

Facts:

- ◆ enter the bays in spring to spawn in tidal freshwater tributaries
- ◆ return to coastal waters after spawning
- ◆ young make their way out to the ocean by fall
- ◆ feed on small fish, fish eggs, squid, small crabs, and pelagic crustaceans
- ◆ anadromous fish species
- ◆ “repeat” spawning (spawning several times in a lifetime) is common



*hickory shad were only caught in the years shown

NJ Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Fish and Wildlife
Bureau of Marine Fisheries
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