



WEAKFISH

Cynoscion regalis

Description:

- ◆ dark olive brown to bluish gray above
- ◆ silvery sides and white belly
- ◆ many small dark spots on back extending down to lateral line
- ◆ pelvic and anal fins yellow; other fins may have yellow tint
- ◆ lower jaw extends beyond upper jaw
- ◆ 2 large canines at front of upper jaw

Size:

- ◆ up to 36 inches and 17.5 pounds

Range:

- ◆ Nova Scotia to Florida

Facts:

- ◆ spawn from May to October in inshore waters
- ◆ named for its fragile mouth structure which causes a hook to tear out rather easily
- ◆ important food and game fish
- ◆ may live as long as 17 years, but a 12 year lifespan is more likely

WEAKFISH CATCH TOTAL

Year	Total Caught
1980	4
1981	17
1982	10
1983	26
1984	2
1985	41
1986	26
1987	8
1988	7
1989	10
1990	11
1991	63
1992	78
1993	14
1994	9
1995	782
1996	48
1997	39
1998	21
1999	8
2000	24
2001	10
2002	4
2003	33
2004	6
2005	4
2006	6
2007	4
2009	6
2010	2
2011	13
2012	1
2014	17
Grand Total	1354

*weakfish were only caught during the years shown

For more information about weakfish, please check out these articles:

What Happened to Weakfish?

<http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2010/digmar6-10.pdf>

Species Profile: Weakfish

<http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2010/digmar20-27.pdf>

Anglers Unite with Biologists to Change Weakfish Management Plan

***click on link below and then scroll down to digest page 11**

<http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2003/digmar8-13.pdf>

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