

1. On the Atlantic coast, multiple species are experiencing stock migrations northward, presumably following temperature changes and/or prey shifts. Some recreationally important examples that have shifted are black sea bass, Spanish and king mackerel, cobia, and many snapper grouper species. The New England, Mid-Atlantic and South Atlantic Federal Fisheries Management Councils and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission recognize that there are scientific and jurisdictional challenges associated with these stock changes that make current and appropriate management difficult. Timely and relevant fisheries information forms the basis of management decisions and is critical to making educated quota and allocation decisions. Accurate collection of this information becomes more difficult when species move out of their historic geographic range and up-to-date allocations are unlikely, leading to reductions in access.
2. As ASMFC Director Bob Beal stated at the [2019 South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council Meeting](#), "Allocation is hard, no matter how you do it, and reallocation is even worse." With changes in the distribution of fisheries stocks comes an enhanced need for adjusting established allocations in response to new information. Atlantic black sea bass illustrate the difficulty in making these changes as there are overlapping jurisdictional boundaries between Councils and the Commission, and quota is allocated by state; thus, as the species' center moves north, some states are unable to reach their quota while others exceed it due to the abundance of fish.