



Monterey Bay Aquarium Seafood Watch

New and Updated Ratings

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New ratings

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Bass, White	<i>Morone chrysops</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Set gillnets	Yellow	<p>White bass caught in Lake Erie is rated yellow. The white bass population is overfished, and harvest levels are fluctuating around a key indicator used to determine when fishing occurs sustainably. In addition, two of the three fisheries that harvest white bass also catch other species of concern. Lake Erie's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, with all but one fishery effectively managed overall, including those that catch white bass. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place.</p> <p>The Lake Erie freshwater fish assessment includes three new ratings for white bass.</p>
Bass, White	<i>Morone chrysops</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Yellow	
Bass, White	<i>Morone chrysops</i>	United States - Ohio, Lake Erie	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Yellow	
Perch, White	<i>Morone americana</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Set gillnets	Yellow	<p>White perch caught in Lake Erie is rated yellow. White perch is a nonnative species, so its harvest is not an ecological concern. However, overfished white bass is also caught. Lake Erie's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, with all but one fishery effectively managed overall, including those that catch white perch. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place.</p> <p>The Lake Erie freshwater fish assessment includes three new ratings for white perch.</p>
Perch, White	<i>Morone americana</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Yellow	

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Perch, White	<i>Morone americana</i>	United States - Ohio, Lake Erie	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Yellow	
Tuna, Pacific Bluefin	<i>Thunnus orientalis</i>	Mexico - Eastern Central Pacific Ocean (Bluefin fishery)	Unassociated purse seine (non-FAD)	Yellow	Pacific bluefin tuna caught in Mexico with unassociated purse seines (non-FAD) is rated yellow. The Pacific bluefin tuna stock is no longer considered overfished, but it's uncertain if current fishing levels are sustainable. In addition, bycatch of other species is minimal in this fishery. Management is moderately effective overall. The rebuilding targets for Pacific bluefin tuna have been met, but more precautionary and long-term measures are needed to ensure it's harvested sustainably. Some measures are in place to protect the ecosystem, but they don't fully protect the important ecological role of large tunas. Purse seines don't typically contact the seafloor, so there are minimal to no habitat impacts.
Tuna, Pacific Bluefin	<i>Thunnus orientalis</i>	United States - Eastern Central and Northeast Pacific Ocean	Handlines and hand-operated pole-and-lines	Yellow	Pacific bluefin tuna caught in the U.S. with handlines and hand-operated pole-and-lines is rated yellow. The Pacific bluefin tuna stock is no longer considered overfished, but it's uncertain if current fishing levels are sustainable. In addition, bycatch of other species is minimal in this fishery. Management is moderately effective overall. The rebuilding targets for Pacific bluefin tuna have been met, but more precautionary and long-term measures are needed to ensure it's harvested sustainably. Some measures are in place to protect the ecosystem, but they don't fully protect the important ecological role of large tunas. Pole-and-line gears don't typically contact the seafloor, so there are minimal to no habitat impacts.
Tuna, Pacific Bluefin	<i>Thunnus orientalis</i>	United States - California, Eastern Central and Northeast Pacific Ocean (U.S. coastal purse seine fishery)	Unassociated purse seine (non-FAD)	Yellow	Pacific bluefin tuna caught in California with unassociated purse seines (non-FAD) is rated yellow. The Pacific bluefin tuna stock is no longer considered overfished, but it's uncertain if current fishing levels are sustainable. Bycatch of sharks may occur in this fishery, but population-level impacts are a low concern. Management is moderately effective overall. The rebuilding targets for Pacific bluefin tuna have been met, but more precautionary and long-term measures are needed to ensure it's harvested sustainably. Some measures are in place to protect the ecosystem, but they don't fully protect the important ecological role of large tunas. Purse seines don't typically contact the seafloor, so there are minimal to no habitat impacts.

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Tuna, Skipjack	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	United States - California, Eastern Central and Northeast Pacific Ocean (U.S. coastal purse seine fishery)	Unassociated purse seine (non-FAD)	Green	Skipjack tuna caught in California with unassociated purse seines (non-FAD) is rated green. The skipjack tuna stock is considered healthy, and overfishing is not occurring. This fishery also opportunistically targets Pacific bluefin tuna, and it's uncertain if current fishing levels are sustainable. In addition, bycatch of sharks may occur in this fishery, but population-level impacts are a low concern. Management is moderately effective overall. The rebuilding targets for Pacific bluefin tuna have been met, but more precautionary and long-term measures are needed to ensure it's harvested sustainably. Some measures are in place to protect the ecosystem, but they don't fully protect the important ecological role of large tunas. Purse seines don't typically contact the seafloor, so there are minimal to no habitat impacts.
Tuna, Yellowfin	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	United States - California, Eastern Central and Northeast Pacific Ocean (U.S. coastal purse seine fishery)	Unassociated purse seine (non-FAD)	Green	Yellowfin tuna caught in California with unassociated purse seines (non-FAD) is rated green. The yellowfin tuna stock is considered healthy, and overfishing is not occurring. This fishery also opportunistically targets Pacific bluefin tuna, and it's uncertain if current fishing levels are sustainable. In addition, bycatch of sharks may occur in this fishery, but population-level impacts are a low concern. Management is moderately effective overall. The rebuilding targets for Pacific bluefin tuna have been met, but more precautionary and long-term measures are needed to ensure it's harvested sustainably. Some measures are in place to protect the ecosystem, but they don't fully protect the important ecological role of large tunas. Purse seines don't typically contact the seafloor, so there are minimal to no habitat impacts.

Updated ratings

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Previous Rating	Updated Rating	Justification
Perch, Yellow	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Set gillnets	Yellow	Yellow	<p>Yellow perch caught in Lake Erie is rated yellow. The population is healthy, and overfishing isn't occurring. However, overfished white bass is also caught. Lake Erie's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, with all but one fishery effectively managed overall, including those that catch yellow perch. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place.</p> <p>The Lake Erie freshwater fish assessment updates three ratings for yellow perch.</p>
Perch, Yellow	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Green	Yellow	
Perch, Yellow	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	United States - Ohio, Lake Erie	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Yellow	Yellow	
Perch, Yellow	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	Canada - Lake Ontario	Set gillnets	Yellow	Red	<p>Yellow perch caught in Lake Ontario is rated red. Yellow perch is susceptible to overfishing, and a key indicator for determining its population abundance has not been established. In addition, it's harvested with other species of concern. Lake Ontario's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, and management is moderately effective overall because the measures to prevent overfishing need strengthening. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place.</p> <p>The Lake Ontario freshwater fish assessment updates three ratings for yellow perch.</p>
Perch, Yellow	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	Canada - Lake Ontario and Saint Lawrence River	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Yellow	Red	

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Previous Rating	Updated Rating	Justification
Perch, Yellow	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	United States - New York, Lake Ontario	Set gillnets	Green	Red	
Smelt, Rainbow	<i>Osmerus mordax</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Bottom trawls	Green	Green	<p>Rainbow smelt caught in Lake Erie is rated green. Rainbow smelt is a nonnative species, so its harvest is not an ecological concern. In addition, bycatch impacts are minimal. Lake Erie's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, with all but one fishery effectively managed overall. Management for Ontario, Canada's rainbow trout fishery is moderately effective overall because this nonnative species isn't stocked or seeded, and harvesting prevents increases in the stock's size. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place.</p> <p>The Lake Erie freshwater fish assessment updates one rating for rainbow smelt.</p>
Snapper, Squirefish	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	New Zealand - Southwest Pacific Ocean (SNA1)	Bottom trawls, Danish seines, Set longlines	Red	Yellow	<p>Squirefish (a.k.a. tai snapper) caught in New Zealand is rated yellow. Squirefish isn't depleted, and overfishing is unlikely. However, bycatch of at-risk or overfished species is a significant concern in all but one fishery. Management for the SNA1 area is considered effective overall, but it's moderately effective overall for the other areas because many captured species lack reference points. Reference points are used to determine when stocks are healthy and when fishing is occurring sustainably. Trawling mainly occurs in more resilient sand, mud, and gravel habitats, and other fisheries may operate in rocky and reef areas. However, the government has taken significant steps to understand and minimize habitat impacts, including implementing area and seasonal closures. Policies to protect ecosystems are being implemented, and more time is needed to understand their effectiveness.</p> <p>The New Zealand squirefish assessment updates nine ratings.</p>
Snapper, Squirefish	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	New Zealand - Southwest Pacific Ocean (SNA2)	Bottom trawls	Red	Yellow	

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Previous Rating	Updated Rating	Justification
Snapper, Squirefish	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	New Zealand - Southwest Pacific Ocean (SNA7)	Bottom trawls, Set longlines	Yellow	Yellow	
Snapper, Squirefish	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	New Zealand - Southwest Pacific Ocean (SNA8)	Bottom trawls, Danish seines, Set longlines	Yellow	Yellow	
Walleye	<i>Sander vitreus</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Set gillnets	Yellow	Yellow	<p>Walleye caught in Lake Erie is rated yellow. The population is healthy, and overfishing isn't occurring. However, overfished white bass is also caught. Lake Erie's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, with all but one fishery effectively managed overall, including the one that catches walleye. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place.</p> <p>The Lake Erie freshwater fish assessment updates one rating for walleye.</p>
Walleye	<i>Sander vitreus</i>	Canada - Lake Ontario	Set gillnets	Yellow	Yellow	<p>Walleye caught in Lake Ontario is rated yellow. According to the available data, the stock is healthy. However, the current annual quota may not be sufficient to prevent overfishing. In addition, it's harvested with other species of concern. Lake Ontario's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, and management is moderately effective overall because the measures to prevent overfishing need strengthening. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place.</p>
Walleye	<i>Sander vitreus</i>	Canada - Lake Ontario	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Yellow	Yellow	<p>The Lake Ontario freshwater fish assessment updates two ratings for walleye.</p>

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Previous Rating	Updated Rating	Justification
Whitefish, Lake	<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>	Canada - Lake Erie	Set gillnets	Yellow	Yellow	Lake whitefish caught in Lake Erie is rated yellow. There are concerns about the population's abundance and if fishing is occurring at a sustainable level. In addition, overfished white bass is also caught. Lake Erie's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, with all but one fishery effectively managed overall, including those that catch lake whitefish. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place. The Lake Erie freshwater fish assessment updates two ratings for lake whitefish.
Whitefish, Lake	<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>	United States - Ohio, Lake Erie	Stationary uncovered pound nets	Yellow	Yellow	Lake whitefish caught in Lake Ontario is rated red. According to the available data, the population is stable. However, lake whitefish is more susceptible to overfishing, and a key indicator for determining when fishing is sustainable hasn't been established. In addition, it's harvested with other species of concern. Lake Ontario's fisheries are comprehensively managed by the relevant federal and state agencies, and management is moderately effective overall because the measures to prevent overfishing need strengthening. There are no serious habitat impacts, and measures to protect the ecosystem are in place. The Lake Ontario freshwater fish assessment updates one rating for lake whitefish.

To be archived

Species	Scientific Name	Location	Method	Rating	Justification
Perch, Yellow	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	United States - New York, Lake Erie	Barriers, fences, weirs, corrals, etc.	Green	Significant volumes are not harvested.
Perch, Yellow	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	United States - Pennsylvania, Lake Erie	Barriers, fences, weirs, corrals, etc.	Green	Significant volumes are not harvested.
Whitefish, Lake	<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>	United States - Michigan, Lake Erie	Barriers, fences, weirs, corrals, etc.	Yellow	Significant volumes are not harvested.