

**ACT No. 205**

2015 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 303

BY REPRESENTATIVE GISCLAIR

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 56:325.4(D), relative to stock assessments of certain finfish; to remove the requirement that the assessments for black drum, sheepshead, and flounder contain certain information for each species; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 56:325.4(D) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

§325.4. Commercial taking of other saltwater finfish; exceptions; mesh size

\* \* \*

D.(1) The commission shall monitor and evaluate the condition of the black drum, sheepshead, and flounder species in Louisiana waters and establish management targets to ensure a sustainable population. A ~~peer reviewed~~ report of the ~~findings of the evaluation~~ status of each stock and an evaluation of management measures shall be submitted every five years to the legislature no later than March first of ~~each~~ that year. ~~The report shall contain the following information for each species:~~

- (a) ~~The spawning potential ratio.~~
- (b) ~~A biological condition and profile of the species and a stock assessment.~~

(2) If data indicate that ~~the spawning potential ratio is below thirty percent~~ a fishery is not meeting or is likely not to meet the established targets, the department shall, ~~within two weeks after such finding is confirmed, close the season for a period of at least one year, or shall provide; for the commission's consideration;~~ management options ~~derived from data that indicate that the spawning potential ratio~~

1           is estimated to have at least a fifty percent chance of recovery to a thirty percent ratio  
2           ~~within ten years or some other appropriate recovery period based on the biology of~~  
3           ~~the stock of the fish, environmental conditions, and the needs of the fishing~~  
4           ~~communities.~~ to ensure that the species can meet the management targets established  
5           for that species.

---

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

---

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

---

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_