

INACTIVE US Jonah crab- pot/trap

Overview

FIP Description

Note: This FIP is inactive.

Jonah crab has long been considered a bycatch of the lobster industry. In recent years, however, markets for Jonah crab have increased, causing concern that targeted fishing pressure will compromise the health of the fishery. (Completed)

Jonah crab has no stock assessment or fishery management plan of its own, due in part to limited data on its population, growth rates, distribution, and sexual maturity. In addition, the limited dealer reports available often don't differentiate by species, confusing Jonah crab (*Cancer borealis*) with rock crab (*Cancer irroatus*).

As Jonah crab increases in value to the region, protecting the resource from decimation becomes progressively important. According to NMFS data, 4,089.8 mt of Jonah crab was landed in New England in 2011 with a total ex-vessel value of \$5,530,388. In fact, the harvest has increased steadily over the past decade. While Maine lands the greatest amount of lobster in New England, Massachusetts, followed by Rhode Island, has landed the greatest amount of Jonah crab in the region for the past three years. In 2011, Massachusetts landed 2,440.30 mt of Jonah crab, Rhode Island landed 1,152.30 mt, Maine landed 497.10 mt, and Connecticut landed 0.1 mt.

Between 2013 and 2016 a group of industry, management and research leaders engaged in this FIP to address sustainability concerns in the Jonah crab fishery, advocating for a series of research and management actions. By the end of 2015, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission adopted the first fishery management plan for Jonah crab along the east coast.

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:



% of Indicators Tracked Basic FIPs may focus their workplans on a subset of the indicators. This shows the proportion of total indicators the FIP is working on.



Actions Progress This shows the proportion of actions in the workplan that the FIP has completed.



Actions Overview This shows the proportion of actions that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
50%	0%	50%	0%

Red Indicator Progress This shows the proportion of actions specifically addressing red indicators that are behind schedule, on track, completed, or not yet started. This helps users understand the progress the FIP is making on the biggest challenges in the fishery.

Behind	On Track	Complete	Future
50%	0%	50%	0%

FIP Objective(s)

- Support the implementation of a Fishery Management Plan for Jonah crab by December 2018
- Support data collection of the Jonah crab fishery by December 2018

FIP Type

Basic

FIP Stage

Stage 4: Improvements in Fishing Practices or Fishery Management

Start and Projected End Dates

January, 2013 -
December, 2016

Species

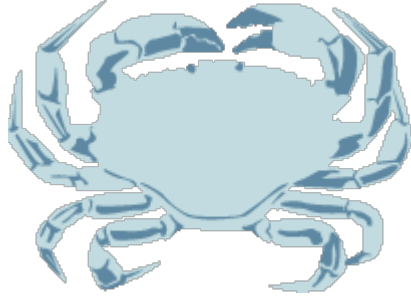
Common Name

Jonah Crab

Scientific Name

Cancer borealis

Buying Guide Link Image



Jonah Crab

Buying Guide

Gear Type

Pot/Trap

Location

FAO Major Fishing Area

Area 21 (Atlantic, Northwest)

Exclusive Economic Zones

Country

United States of America (the)

Geographic Scope

Massachusetts, Rhode Island

Estimated Total FIP Landings

4089 metric tons

FIP Leads

Organization Name

Gulf of Maine Research Institute

Organization Type

NGO

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Website Name

[Jonah crab FIP website](#)

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