

# Bycatch Sampling Priority Matrix

Created in February 2025  
For FY 2026

*Our vision is to be the principal source of fisheries-dependent information  
on the Atlantic coast through the cooperation of all program partners.*

# Top Quartile of Bycatch Matrix Suggestions

Combined Fleets	Sig. Change in mgmt w/in past 36 mo	Amt of reg discards	Amt of non reg discards	Prot Spp Interactions	Score
Mid-Atlantic Gillnet	3	4	2	5	14
Snapper Grouper H&L Fleet	5	4	1	3	13
South Atlantic Shrimp Trawl	1	4	2	5	12
New England Otter Trawl	3	4	2	3	12
Mid-Atlantic Pound Net	1	4	2	5	12
American Lobster Pots	1	4	1	5	11
Pelagic H&L Fleet (North)	3	4	1	3	11
New England Gillnet	3	2	1	5	11
New England Extra- Large-Mesh Gillnet	0	4	2	5	11
Mid-Atlantic Small- Mesh Otter Trawl, Bottom	1	4	1	5	11
Mid-Atlantic Large- Mesh Otter Trawl, Bottom	3	2	1	5	11
Mid-Atlantic Fish Pots and Traps	3	4	1	3	11
South Atlantic Large Mesh Gillnet	0	4	2	5	11
Southeastern, Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico HMS Pelagic Longline	1	4	1	5	11
Mid-Atlantic Dredge, Other	1	4	1	5	11
New England Crab Pots	3	2	1	5	11
South Atlantic Blue Crab	5	2	1	3	11

