



Critical Early Life Stages for Important Fishery Species in the Carolinas

National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science

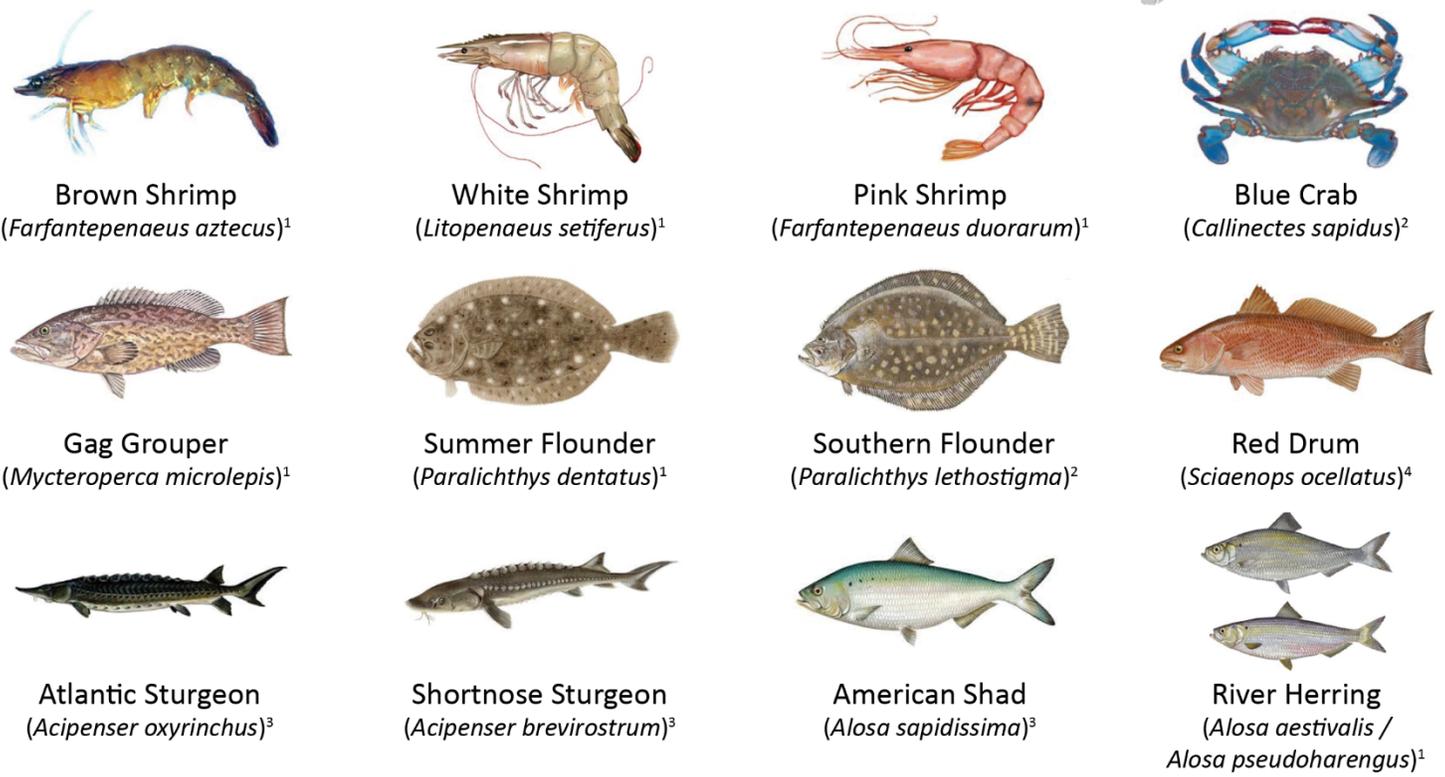


Table. Summary of the most sensitive life stages (eggs, larvae, and early juveniles) for each fisheries species assessed, and their distribution throughout the year. Boxes represent abundant eggs and/or larvae present in a given area. Light blue = River habitat; Gray = Inlet habitat; Dark blue = Estuarine habitat; Black = Ocean

Fishery Species	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
River / Inlet / Estuary												
Brown Shrimp			Dark Blue	Dark Blue								
White Shrimp			Dark Blue									
Pink Shrimp							Dark Blue					
Atlantic Blue Crab									Gray	Gray	Gray	
Gag Grouper					Dark Blue	Dark Blue						
Summer Flounder												Gray
Southern Flounder												Gray
Red Drum								Dark Blue	Dark Blue	Dark Blue		
Atlantic Sturgeon		Light Blue										
Shortnose Sturgeon		Light Blue										
American Shad		Light Blue										
River Herring		Light Blue										
Ocean												
Brown Shrimp	Black											
Pink Shrimp								Black	Black	Black	Black	Black
Blue Crab												
Gag Grouper												
Summer Flounder												
Southern Flounder												

*Species photos courtesy of NOAA¹, SC Dep. of Natural Resources (DNR)², Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission³ and MD DNR.⁴