

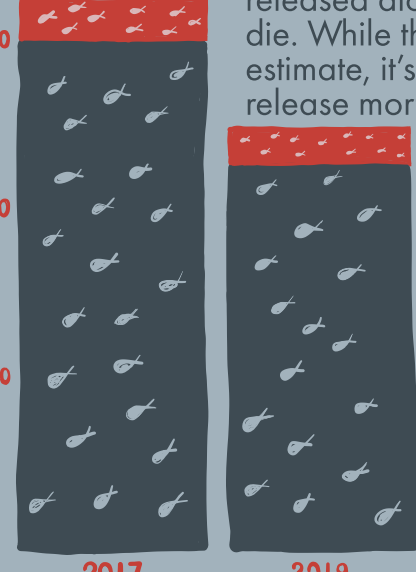
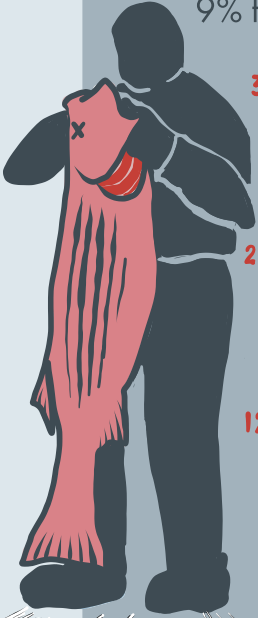
Striped Bass have been an icon of the east coast for millennia — as food and sport.

They have been an icon of the east coast for millennia, and they're in decline. Whether you hook up to a monster or a schoolie, treating every fish like you intend to release it will improve the fishery. As with all fisheries, a proportion of stripers do not survive catch and release; we as anglers are the primary determinants of whether a fish survives and how healthy it will be when it swims away. If we actively work to reduce release mortality by just 1%, this would mean **+250,000** more stripers live to support recovering stocks and be caught again another day.

The striped bass fishery is in our hands. Here's what you can do to ensure a healthy catch tomorrow:

Annual Striped Bass Stock Assessment:

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission uses 9% for an estimate of the number of striped bass caught and released along the eastern seaboard that die. While there is some doubt about this estimate, it's almost certain that recreational release mortality is higher than recreational harvest.



In total, recreational catch rates for striped bass are in decline. Even when anglers interact with fewer fish, the proportion of fish that do not survive after release remains constant, and significant (shown in red).

You can help more fish swim away alive and healthy by using best practices based on science.

Follow the steps below for more successful releases in the fishing season ahead!



These best practices are derived from the existing science on catch-and-release and striped bass. For more information on science-based best practices for catch-and-release visit:

keepfishwet.org

Each time you release a striper is an opportunity to put conservation into action. Help support striped bass and advocate for healthy fisheries management from cast to catch.



JOIN IN:

#STRIPERSINOURHANDS

share your catch (and release)

follow along with the striper season and stay tuned for more stories, contests, and calls to action on social media