



## **BLUEBACK HERRING**

*Alosa aestivalis*

### **Description:**

- ◆ back bluish gray to dark blue with silver sides
- ◆ usually dark spot on shoulder
- ◆ black peritoneum (lining of the abdominal cavity)
- ◆ lower jaw equal to snout or just beyond
- ◆ upper jaw extends back to beginning of eye

### **Size:**

- ◆ up to 15 inches; average 11-12 inches

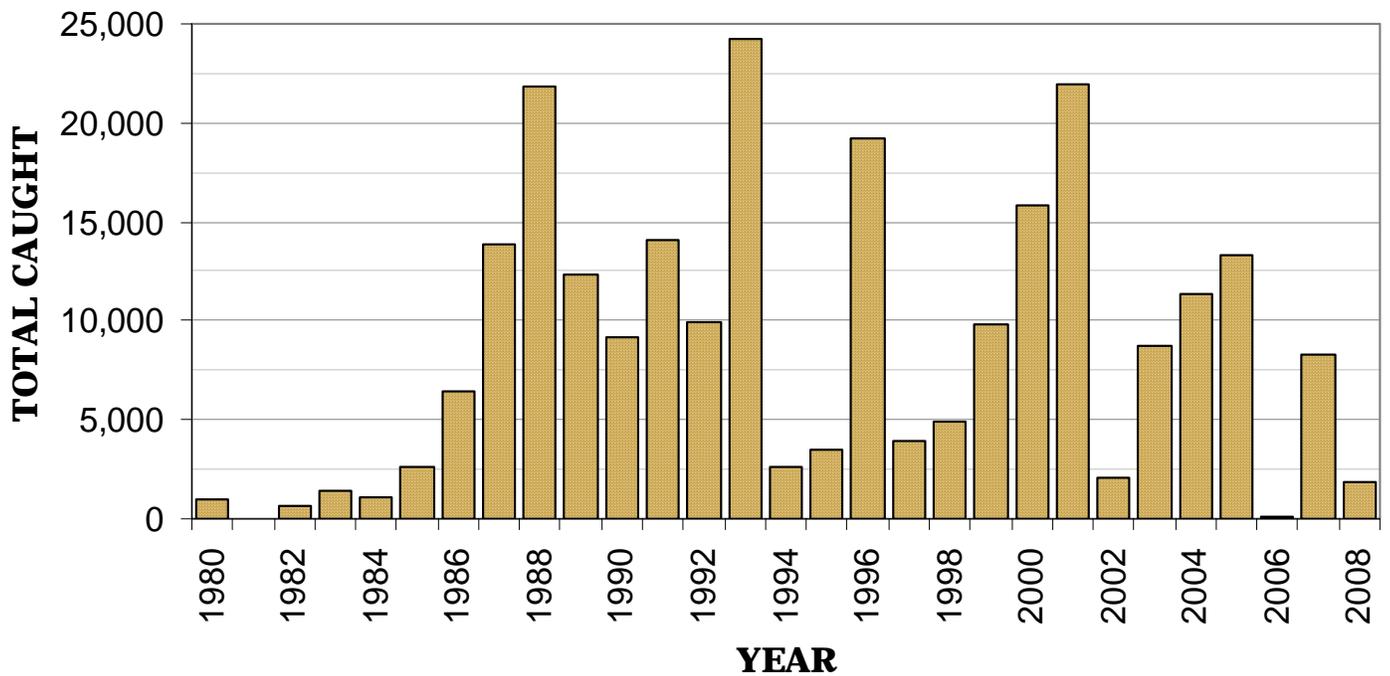
### **Range:**

- ◆ Cape Breton, Nova Scotia to St. John's River, Florida

### **Fact:**

- ◆ spawn in coastal rivers during the spring
- ◆ young move out towards ocean waters at about 1 month of age
- ◆ lifespan about 8 years

## BLUEBACK HERRING CATCH TOTALS BY YEAR



NJ Department of Environmental Protection  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Bureau of Marine Fisheries  
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