

BLUEFISH *Pomatomus saltatrix*

Description:

- ♦ green/blue back
- ♦ silvery white sides
- ♦ dark blotch at base of pectoral fins
- ♦ large mouth lined with razor sharp teeth
- ♦ 2 dorsal fins; 1 spinous fin separated from longer, soft fin

Size:

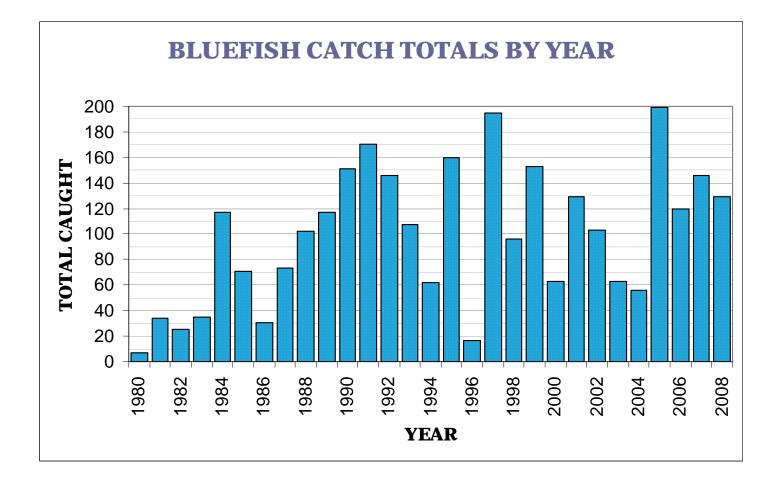
 \otimes up to 45 inches and 27 lbs

Range:

 \otimes all oceanic and coastal waters with the exception of the eastern and northwest Pacific

Facts:

- \otimes may also live in estuaries and brackish waters
- ♦ young live year round in bays and estuaries
- annual migrations lengthen with maturity
- ♦ females release between 0.6 -1.4 million eggs in total while migrating along the coasts
- ♦ after being fertilized, eggs hatch within 48 hours
- \otimes voracious, visual feeders that will attack anything shiny, including jewelry
- known to chase bait fish out of water onto sandy beaches



NJ Department of Environmental Protection Division of Fish and Wildlife Bureau of Marine Fisheries <u>www.NJFishandWildlife.com</u>