Marine Species Identification

**Herring**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fish</th>
<th>Characteristics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alewife</td>
<td>Deep body, eye diameter greater than snout length, no teeth on roof of mouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Herring</td>
<td>Dorsal fin forward of midlength, teeth on roof of mouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gizzard Shad</td>
<td>Narrow body, round snout overhangs closed mouth, no teeth on roof of mouth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hickory Shad</td>
<td>Long, filamentous projection from last ray of dorsal fin, lower jaw projects well beyond upper jaw when mouth closed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Striped Bass**

- Deep body
- Eye diameter greater than snout length
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength
- Teeth on roof of mouth

**Weakfish**

- Dorsal fin at midlength
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- Round snout overhangs closed mouth

**Blueback Herring**

- A river herring
- Deep body
- Eye diameter greater than snout length
- No teeth on roof of mouth

**Atlantic Croaker**

- Large mouth
- Upper jaw close to rear edge of eye
- Largest in the herring family
- Dorsal fin at midlength

**Bluefish**

- (Snapper)
- Teeth on roof of mouth
- Dorsal fin at midlength
- No teeth on roof of mouth

**Black Sea Bass**

- Large mouth
- Upper jaw close to rear edge of eye
- Largest in the herring family
- Dorsal fin at midlength

**Atlantic Croaker**

- Large mouth
- Upper jaw close to rear edge of eye
- Largest in the herring family
- Dorsal fin at midlength

**Winter Flounder**

- (Fluke)
- Round snout overhangs closed mouth
- Lower jaw projects well beyond upper jaw when mouth closed

**Tautog**

- (Blackfish)
- Round snout overhangs closed mouth
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength

**Black Drum**

- Round snout overhangs closed mouth
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength

**Red Drum**

- Round snout overhangs closed mouth
- No teeth on roof of mouth
- Dorsal fin forward of midlength

**Blue Crab**

- Hard Clam
For a complete list of shark species, visit NOAA’s Shark Identification and Federal Regulations for the Recreational Fishery of the U.S. Atlantic Coast at: https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/educational-materials/shark-identification-placard.