Alabama Blue Crab Report Update October 2022

Alabama Blue Crab Landings and Values

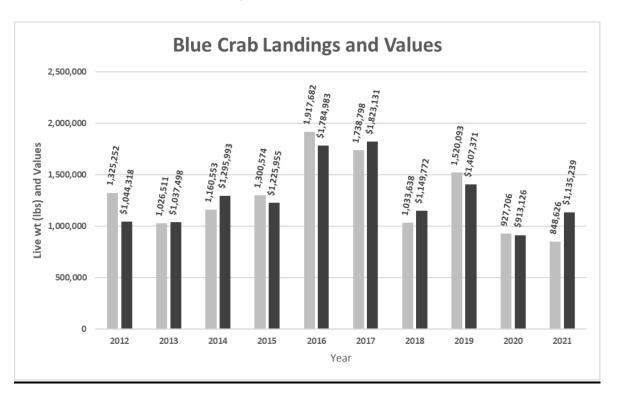


Figure 1. Alabama Commercial Blue Crab Landings from 2012-2021 for all Gear Types
Reported via the Alabama Trip Ticket Program
2019, 2020, 2021 Data is Preliminary & Subject to Change

Table 1. Number of Commercial Crabbing Trips made 2011 – 2020 Reported via the Alabama Trip Ticket Program 2019,2020, and 2021 Data is Preliminary & Subject to Change

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of Trips	3,038	3,263	3,980	3,609	4,141	5,121	3,339	3,356	2,350	2,321

Alabama Derelict Crab Trap Recovery

The AMRD did not conduct a derelict crab pot cleanup during 2021 but continues to monitor the accumulation of derelict crab pots in volunteer accessible Alabama waters twice annually. The in March of 2022, AMRD conducted aerial derelict crab trap counts of Mobile Bay and Mississippi sound coast and found some accumulation in the Mobile

Bay Delta as well as along the west end of Dauphin Island. Due to these results, the AMRD is considering hosting a volunteer derelict crab pot cleanup in the spring of 2023 and discussions among partnering agencies are currently taking place. The AMRD also continues to bring in derelict crab pots, when possible, that are found during normal biological sampling activities.

			# Traps Caught per		Number of
		# of	Volunteer	# of Hours	Traps
Year	Date of Closure	Volunteers	(CPV)	Worked	Removed
2002	June 15, 2002	36 - 50	6.5 - 9.0	144 - 200	323
	June 5-11, 2002*				115
2003	March 15, 2003	150 - 200	5.4 - 7.2	600 - 800	1,074
	June 10-16, 2003*				10
2004	March 13, 2004	127 - 190	2.2 - 3.3	508 - 760	418
2005	No program				
2006	March 11, 2006	55 - 70	4.9 - 6.3	220 - 280	346
2007	March 24, 2007	22‡	7.0	88	154
2008	March 1, 2008	50 - 60	5.9 - 7.1	250 - 360	356
2009	No program				
2010	March 5-6, 2010	40-50	5.7-7.2	160-200	287
2011- 2016	No program				
2017	March 24-25,2017	14	6	56	84
2018	March 23 - 24 2018	19	3.4	104	64
2019	April 19 - 20 2019	20	5.7	97	114
				Total Traps	3,345

Figure 2. Alabama Derelict Crab Trap Removal Program Results 2002 – 2019.

Report Prepared by: Jason E. Herrmann, Biologist II Alabama Marine Resources Division (251) 861-2882 jason.herrmann@dcnr.alabama.gov