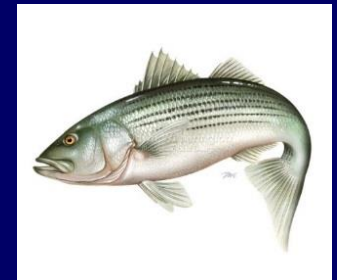


RI Department of Environmental Management

Marine Fisheries

INFORMATIONAL PRE-HEARING WORKSHOP



February 9, 2016



Marine Fisheries Informational Workshop – Rules of Engagement

- ◆ RIDFW staff will provide presentation on each of the proposed regulation amendments;
- ◆ Discussion will ensue upon completion of each presentation. Discussion should focus on:
 - Understanding of the rationale behind each of the proposed amendments;
 - Recommendations of alternatives.
- ◆ IMPORTANT! The workshop discussion is ***not*** an official public record. ***Please offer your preferred option(s) and comments for the public hearing record during the public hearing on February 16th.***
- ◆ Refer to full annotated regulations provided on Division and Sec. of State websites;
- ◆ ***Public comment period will end at 4:00PM on Friday, February 26th.***



Public Hearing Items

1. Proposed amendments to **RIMFR-Finfish** regarding the following:
 - a. Recreational Summer Flounder;
 - b. Recreational Tautog;
 - c. Commercial Tautog;
 - d. Recreational Scup;
 - e. Recreational Black Sea Bass;
 - f. Commercial Coastal Sharks;
 - g. Skate;
 - h. General editing.

2. Proposed amendments to **RIMFR-Striped Bass**, regarding the following:
 - a. Recreational Striped Bass;
 - b. Commercial Striped Bass general category;
 - c. Commercial Striped Bass floating fish trap;
 - d. Commercial striped bass tags;
 - e. Striped bass fin clipping provision (in conjunction with hearing item # 3b.)



Public Hearing Items cont'd:

3. Proposed amendments **RIMFR-Fish/Shellfish Dealer Regulations**, regarding the following:
 - a. General editing for improved clarity and readability of the regulations;
 - b. Striped bass fin clipping provision.
4. Proposed **REPEAL** of **RIMFR Part 1 – Legislative Findings** (in conjunction with hearing item # 5);
5. Proposed **ADOPTION** of **RIMFR Part 1 – Definitions** (in conjunction with hearing item # 4);
6. Proposed **REPEAL** of **RIMFR Part 17 – Maps**.



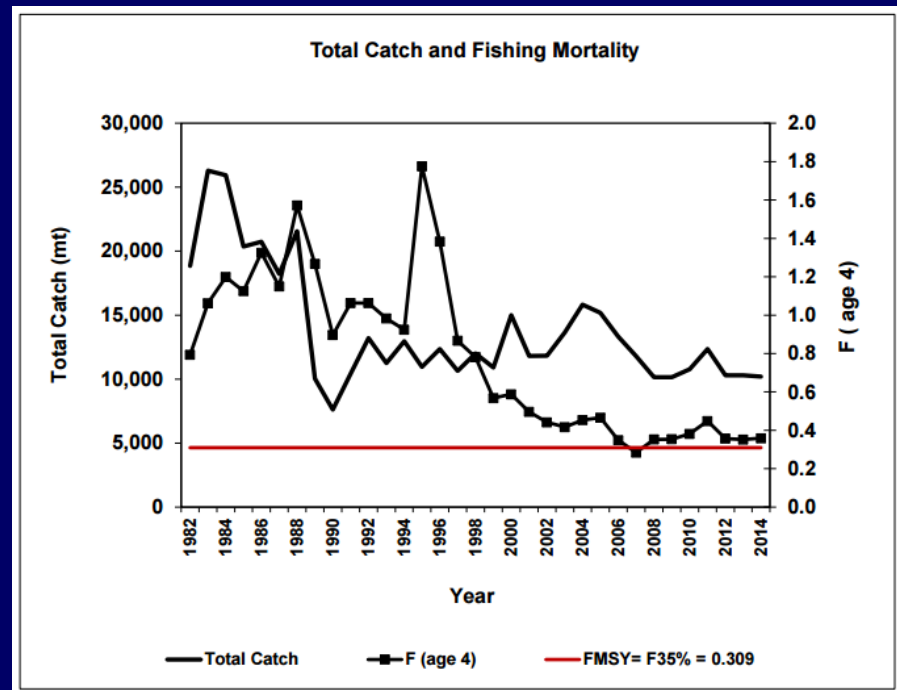
Recreational Summer Flounder

- ◆ Summary of Stock Status
- ◆ 2015 Rhode Island Recreational Fishery Performance
- ◆ ASMFC Management of Summer Flounder
- ◆ Recommendations for Recreational Summer Flounder Management for 2016



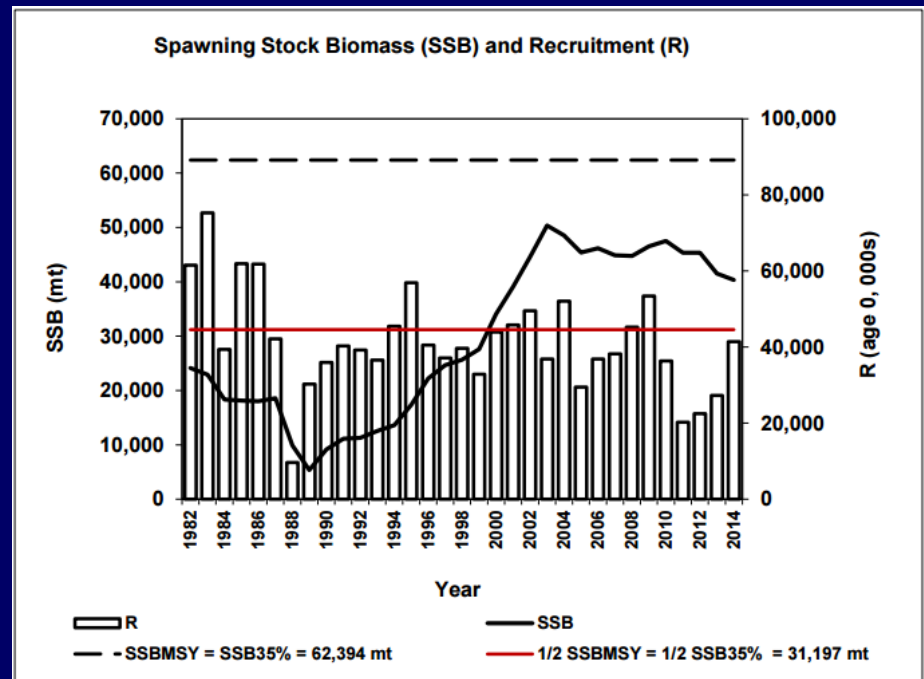
Summer Flounder Stock Status

- ◆ Update in 2015: Based on SAW/SARC 57 assessment, the summer flounder stock is not overfished, but overfishing is occurring relative to biological reference points.
- ◆ Fishing mortality was estimated to be 0.359 in 2014, above the threshold F reference point = 0.309 (also above F target = 0.255).

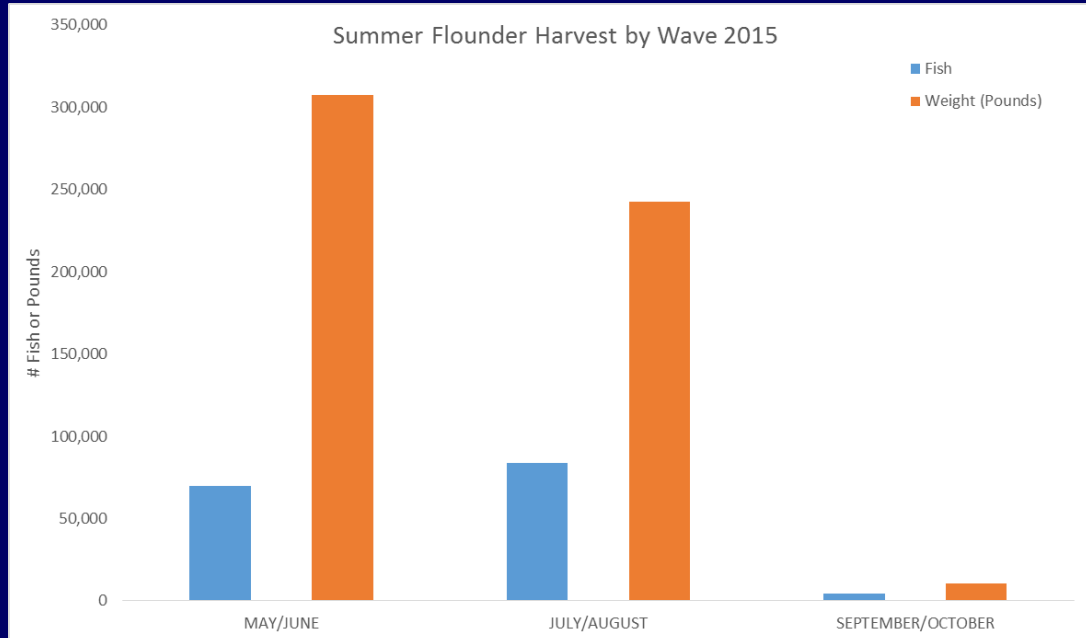


Summer Flounder Stock Status cont'd:

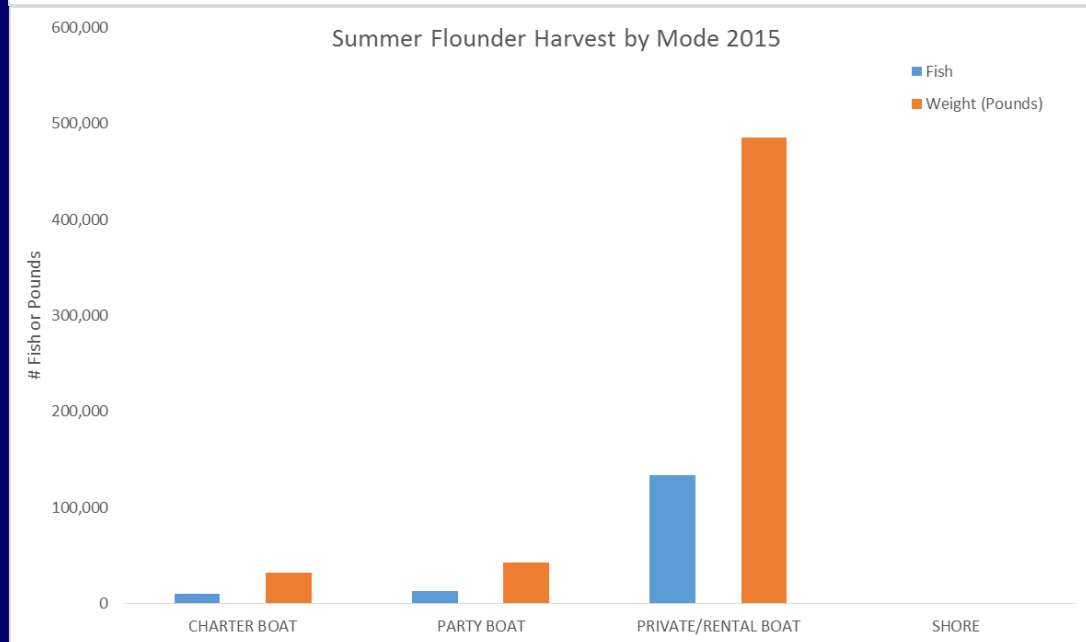
- ◆ SSB estimated to be 88.96 m lbs in 2014, below the SSB reference point = 137.6 m lbs but above the SSB threshold = 66.2 m lbs.
- ◆ The 2014 year class is currently estimated to be about 41 million fish, at the average of 42 million fish.
- ◆ A retrospective pattern in recruitment is evident, the 2008 and 2009 large year classes have dropped significantly in recent updates.



2015 RI Recreational Summer Flounder Fishery Performance



• **Note:**
Data only through wave 5



ASMFC Management of Summer Flounder

- ◆ RI 2015 recreational harvest was less than 2014 harvest, but 2016 harvest would be higher than target based on 1998 harvest
- ◆ 2015 coastwide summer flounder harvest came in under target, therefore no need for regions to adjust even though target is decreasing by 30% in 2016 (assuming Board adopts status quo for 2016)
- ◆ Addendum XXVII goes before ASMFC on February 4, 2016



Hearing Item 1a: Recreational Summer Flounder

Proposed Management Options:

Option	Minimum size	Season	Possession Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status quo	18"	May 1 – Dec. 31:	8 fish



Tautog

- ◆ Summary of Stock Status
- ◆ ASMFC Management of Tautog
- ◆ 2015 Rhode Island Recreational and Commercial Fishery Performance
- ◆ Recommendations for the 2016 Recreational and Commercial Tautog Fishery



Tautog Stock Status

- ◆ Tautog was benchmarked in 2014
- ◆ Assessment passed peer review, but has not been formally adopted by the Board
- ◆ Due to not being adopted, official stock status is not available at this time
- ◆ Assumption is that stock status is poor based on existing assessment results for SNE

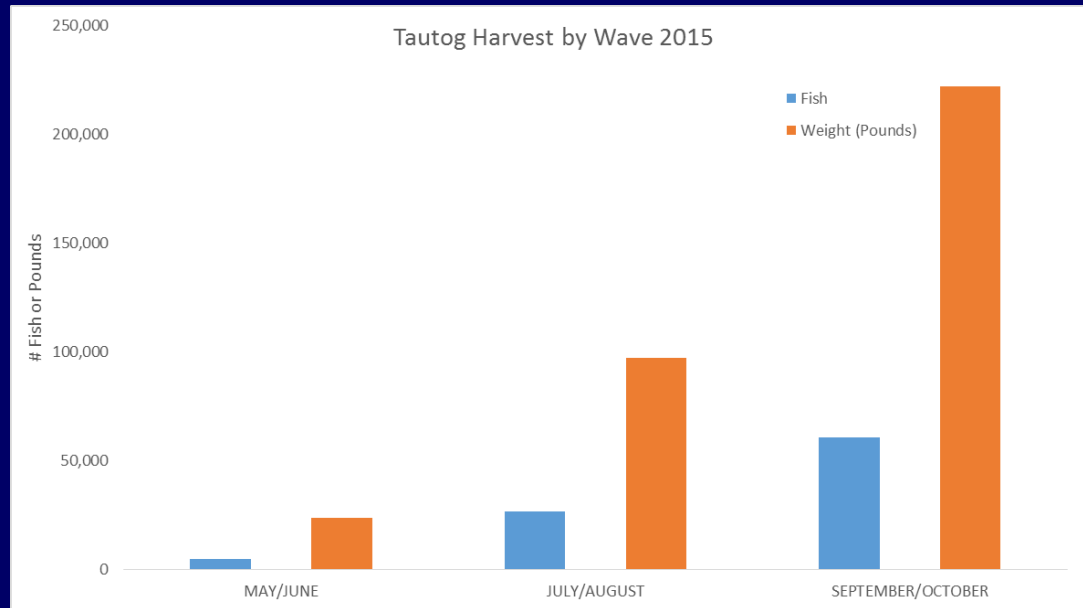


ASMFC Management of Tautog

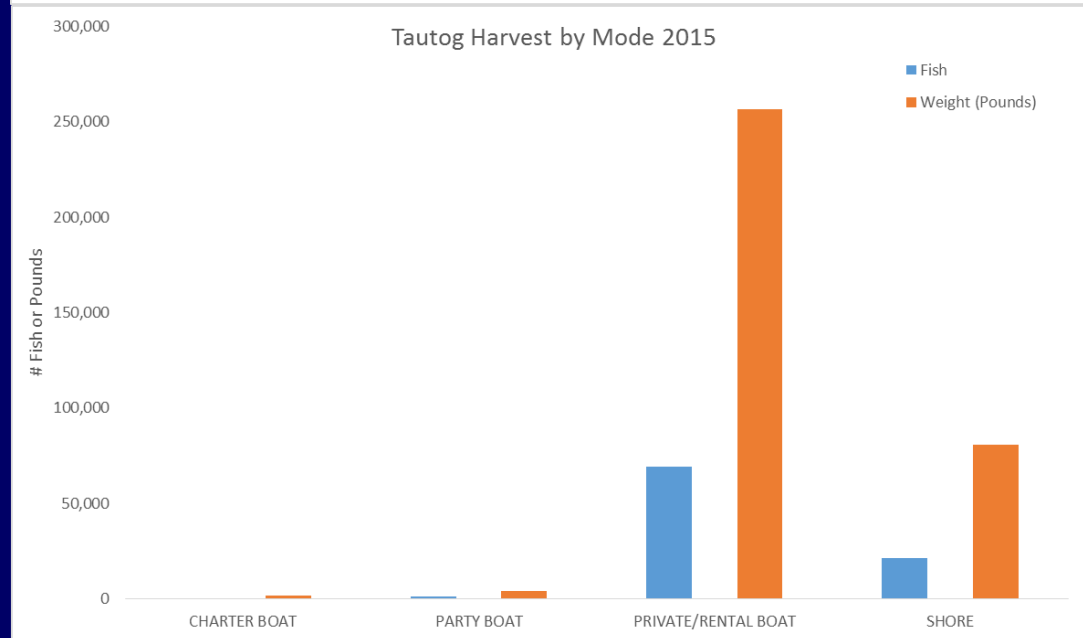
- ◆ Benchmark assessment completed in 2014
- ◆ Peer review panel accepted assessment
- ◆ Board has not yet formally accept assessment for management
- ◆ Sticking point is the regional configuration and choice of recommended reference points
- ◆ TC will convene in March and Board will review again in May
- ◆ Management process likely to not be completed until late 2016, for management implementation in 2017



2015 RI Recreational Tautog Fishery Performance



• **Note:**
Data only through wave 5



Hearing Item 1b: Recreational Tautog

Proposed Management Options:

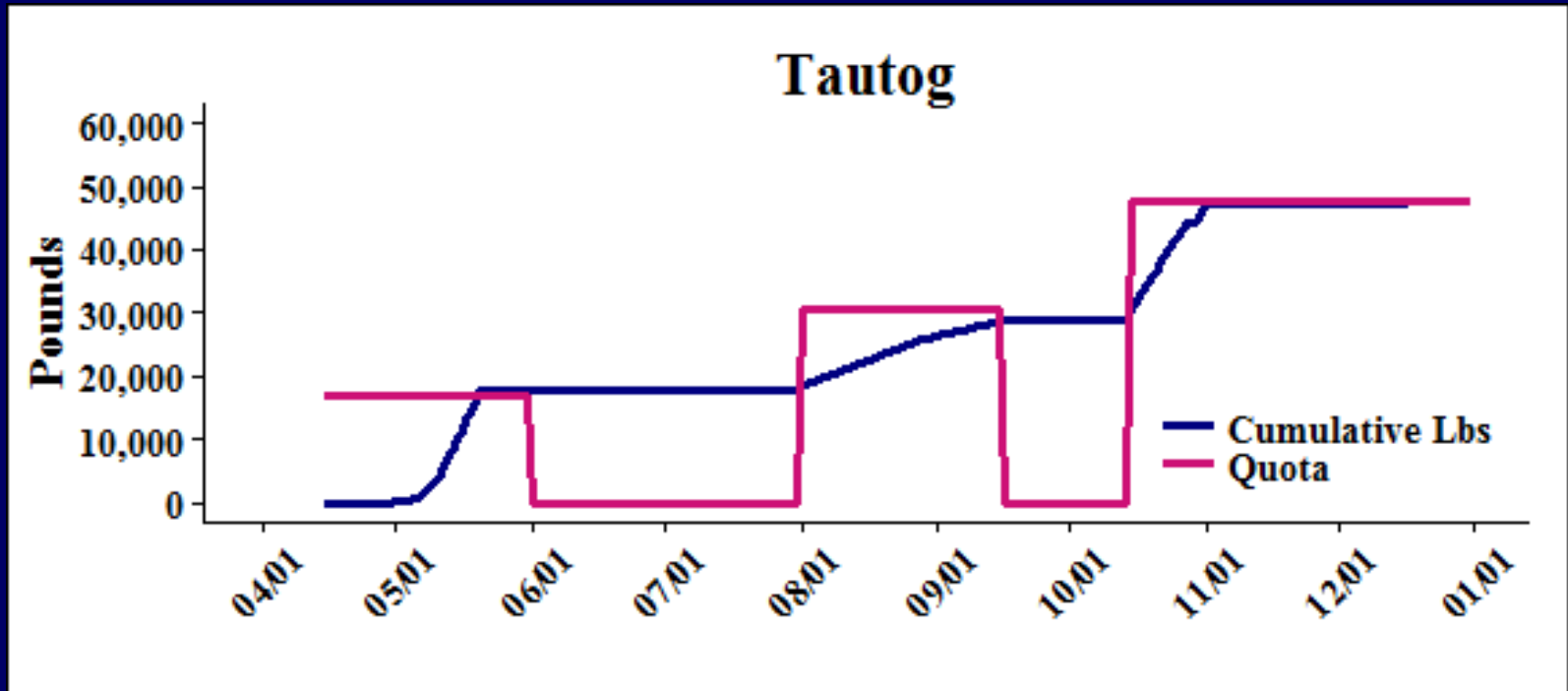
Option	Min. Size	Rec. and P/C Season/Poss. Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status quo	16"	<u>April 15 – May 31:</u> 3 fish <u>June 1 – July 31:</u> Closed <u>Aug. 1 – 3rd Sat. in Oct.:</u> 3 fish <u>3rd Sat. in Oct. – Dec. 15:</u> 6 fish • max. 10 fish/vessel (n/a for P/C)
<u>Option 2:</u> <u>Decrease Poss.</u> <u>Limit due to</u> <u>poor stock</u> <u>status</u>	16"	<u>April 15 – May 31:</u> 3 fish <u>June 1 – July 31:</u> Closed <u>Aug. 1 – 3rd Sat. in Oct. Dec. 31:</u> 3 fish <u>3rd Sat. in Oct. – Dec. 31: 6 fish</u> • max. 10 fish/vessel (n/a for P/C)

- Management restrictions not required in 2016; option 2 offered to allow for consideration



Commercial Tautog

2015 RI Fishery Performance



- Total underage of 485 lbs.



Hearing Item 1c: Commercial Tautog

Proposed Management Options:

	Min. Size	Season/Possession Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status quo	16"	<u>April 15 – May 31:</u> 10 fish/vsl/day <u>June 1 – July 31:</u> Closed <u>Aug. 1 – Sept. 15:</u> 10 fish/vsl/day <u>Oct. 15 – Dec. 31:</u> 10 fish/vsl/day

- ◆ Management restrictions not required in 2016
- ◆ No overage in 2016:
 - Spring: 17,116 lbs
 - Summer: 17,116 lbs
 - Fall: 17,116 lbs

RIFA Proposal:

Min. Size	Season/Possession Limit
16"	<u>The commercial harvest shall be the same seasons and the same bag limit as the recreational fishery.</u>



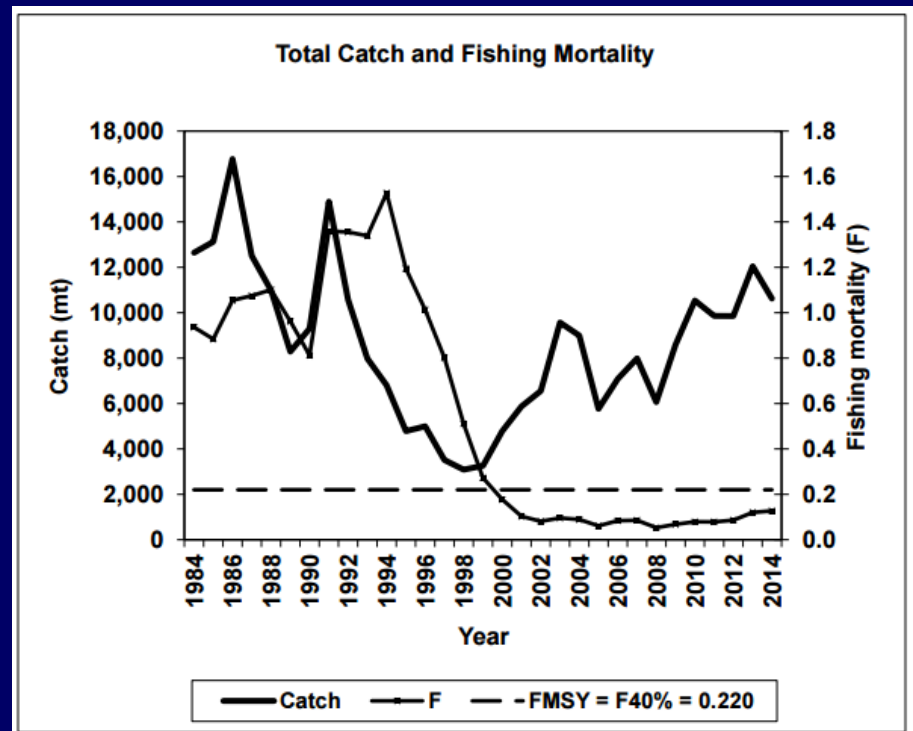
Recreational Scup

- ◆ Summary of Stock Status
- ◆ 2015 Rhode Island Recreational Fishery Performance
- ◆ ASMFC Management of Scup
- ◆ Recommendations for the 2016 Recreational Scup Fishery



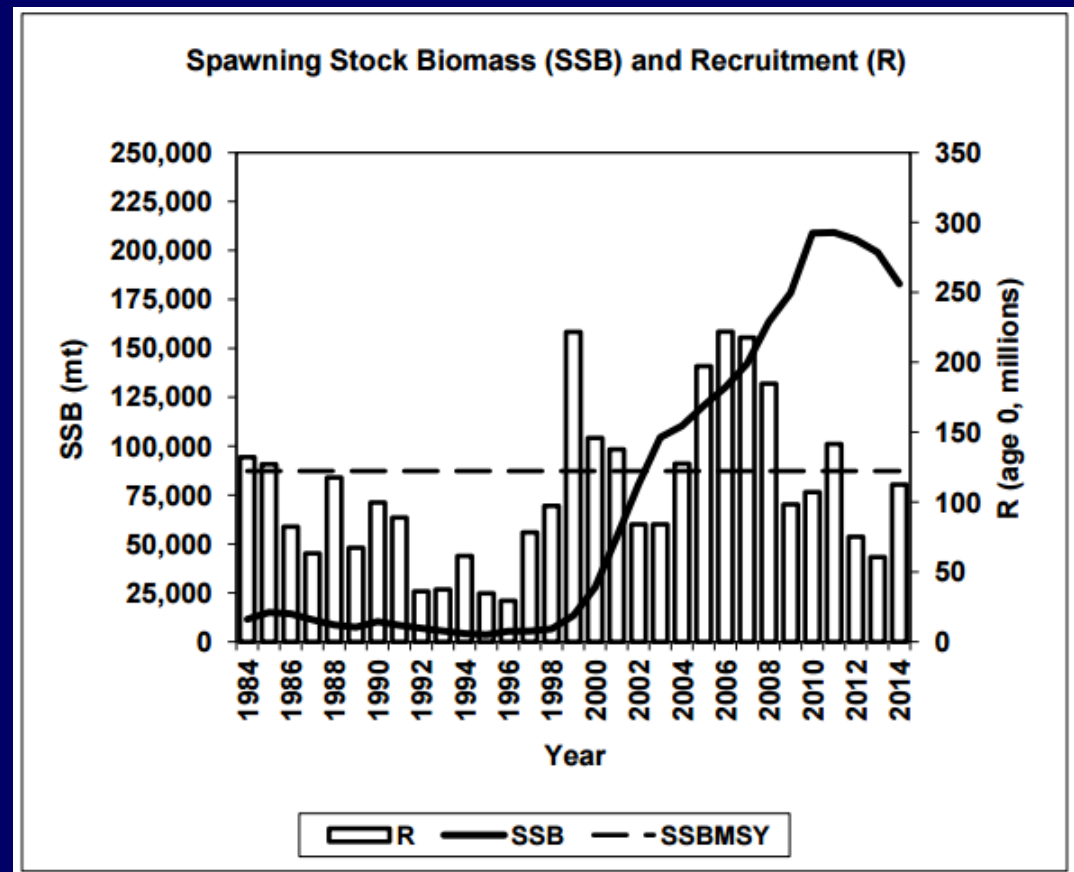
Scup Stock Status

- ◆ Benchmark in 2015
- ◆ The scup stock is not overfished, overfishing is not occurring relative to biological reference points
- ◆ Fishing mortality was estimated to be 0.127 in 2014, below the threshold F reference point = 0.22



Scup Stock Status cont'd:

- ◆ SSB estimated to be 403 m lbs in 2014, above the SSB reference point = 192.47 m lbs and above the SSB threshold = 96.23 m lbs
- ◆ The 2014 year class is currently estimated to be about 112 million fish, around average

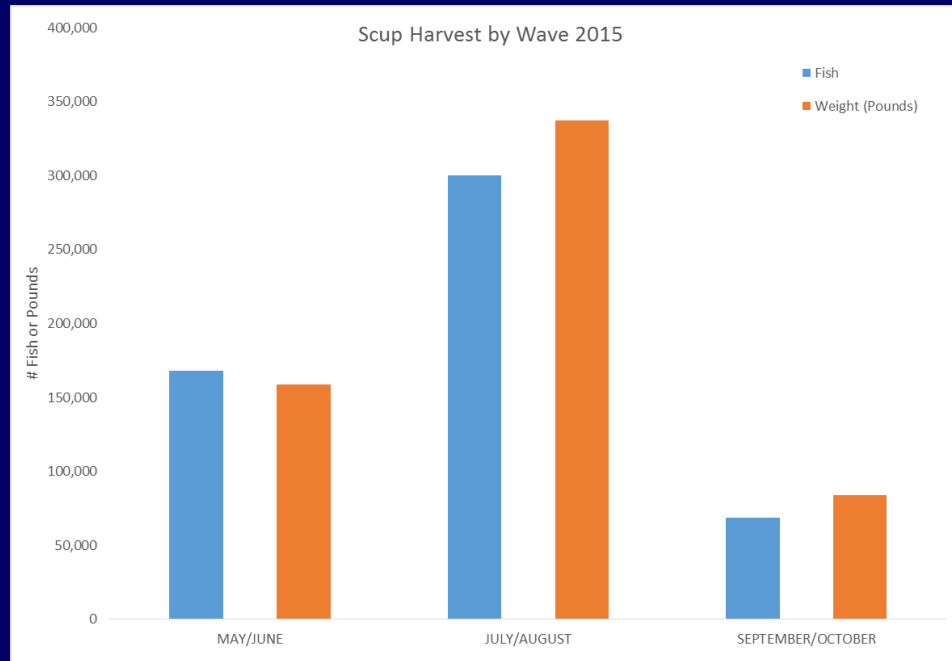


ASMFC Management of Scup

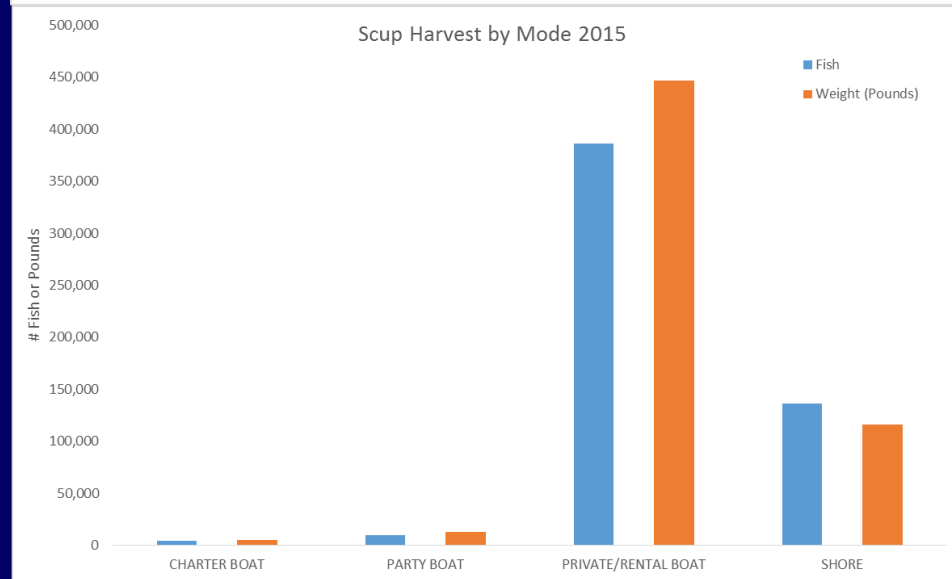
- ◆ RI Recreational Harvest:
669,600 fish
- ◆ Northern Region 2015 Projected Rec Harvest:
2,673,757 fish
- ◆ Northern Region Harvest Target in 2015:
7,344,000 fish
- ◆ Northern Region Harvest Target in 2016:
5,907,300 fish
- ◆ Scup Board considering status quo for 2016



2015 RI Recreational Scup Fishery Performance



• **Note:**
Data only through wave 5



Hearing Item 1d: Recreational Scup

Proposed Management Options:

Option	Mode	Min. Size	Season/Possession Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Status quo	General Fishery	10"	<u>May 1 – Dec. 31: 30 fish</u>
	P/C	10"	<u>May 1 – Aug. 31: 30 fish</u> <u>Sept. 1 – Oct. 31: 45 fish</u> <u>Nov. 1 – Dec. 31: 30 fish</u>
	Special Shore	9"	<u>May 1 – Dec. 31: 30 fish</u>



Recreational Black Sea Bass

- ◆ Summary of Stock Status
- ◆ 2015 Rhode Island Recreational Fishery Performance
- ◆ ASMFC Management of Black Sea Bass
- ◆ Recommendations for the 2016 Recreational Black Sea Bass Fishery

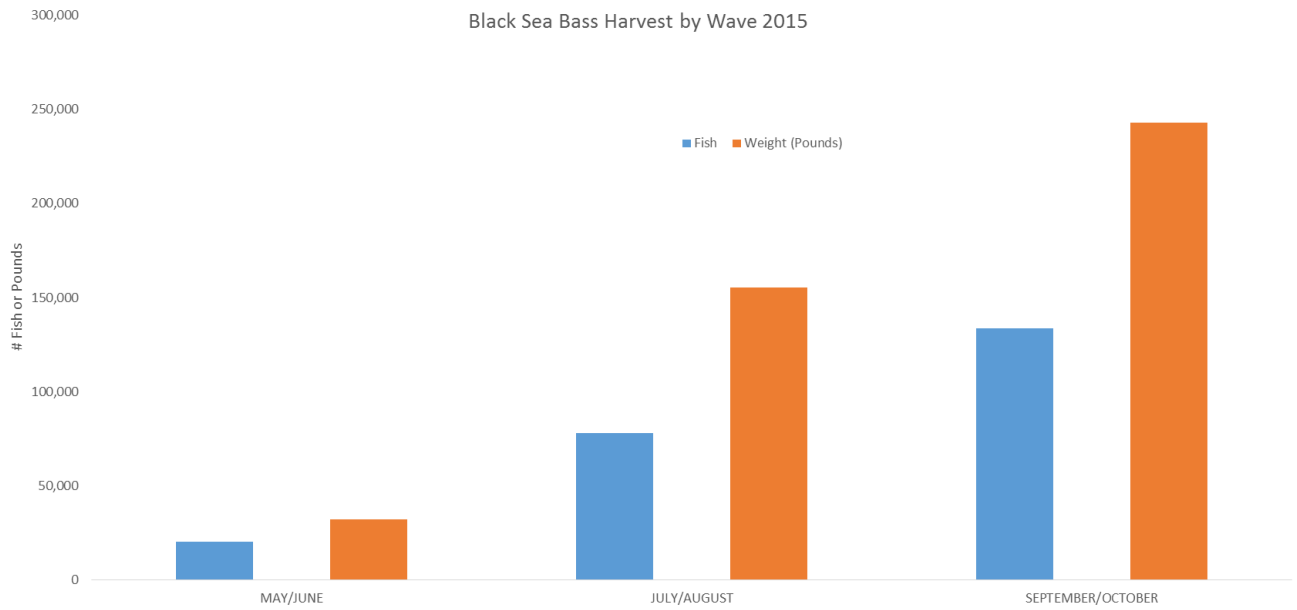


Black Sea Bass Stock Status

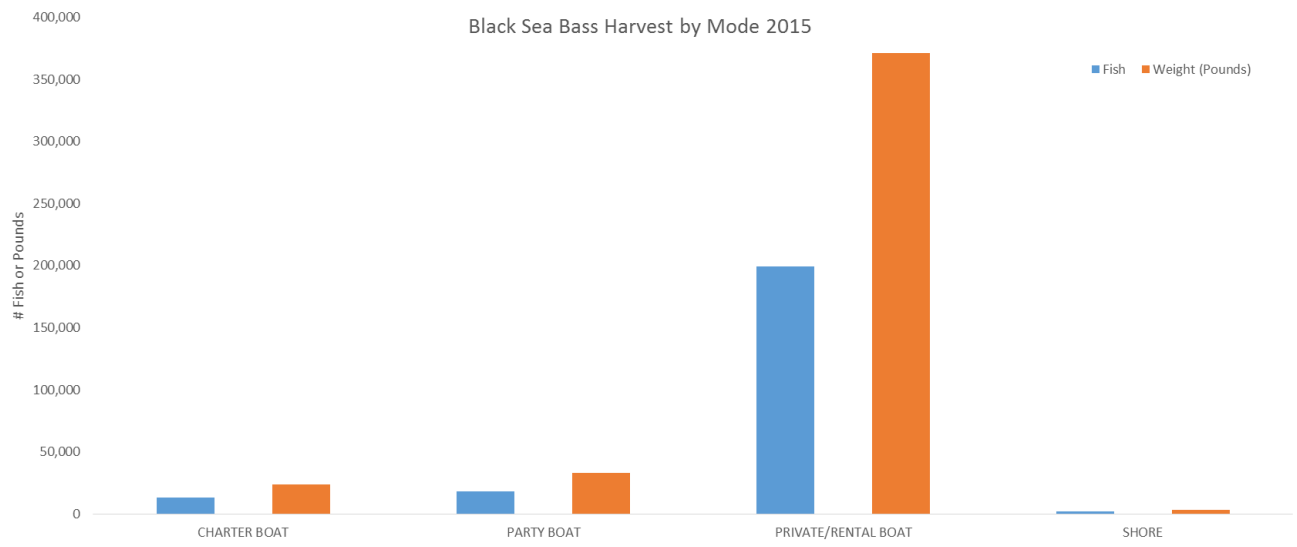
- ◆ Stock status still undetermined.
- ◆ Mid Atlantic SSC adopted a new procedure in 2015 to set quota for level 4 stocks, using a data poor procedure ensemble approach.
- ◆ This approach led to an increase in quota for 2016 (~20%).
- ◆ Benchmark assessment is underway, should be completed by the end of 2016 for potential use in 2017.



2015 RI Recreational Black Sea Bass Fishery Performance



* **Note:**
Data only
through
wave 5



ASMFC Management of Black Sea Bass

- ◆ RI 2015 Projected Recreational Harvest ~ 234,479 fish
- ◆ RI 2016 Recreational Harvest “Target” ~ 180,080 fish
- ◆ Needed Reduction = 23.2%
- ◆ Note: RI does not have a specific target as black sea bass managed through “ad hoc” regions, however the reduction calc’s above were to illustrate performance and need to reduce harvest
 - All states in Northern Region (NJ – MA) are required to reduce 2015 harvest by 23.2%
- ◆ Black sea bass management board should approve reduction methodology on February 2, 2015



Hearing Item 1e: Recreational Black Sea Bass

- ◆ Proposed Management Options (Status quo not an option):
 - Important note: The first 4 options (next slide) have been modified since the public notice to reflect modifications to seasons based on additional analysis conducted. Options 5 and 6 have been added since the public notice and have been approved for management use
 - Methodology has been approved by the technical committee; new options can be tested during the workshop if desired with the following caveats:
 - ◆ In season closures not approved
 - ◆ Minimum size changes not approved



Hearing Item 1e: Recreational Black Sea Bass

Option	Min. Size	Season/Possession Limit
<u>Option 1:</u> Decrease based on shortened season	14"	7/2 – 8/31: 1 fish 9/1 – 12/31 <u>10/9</u> : 7 fish
<u>Option 2:</u> Decrease based on 3 fish w/ shortened season		7/2 – 8/31: 1 fish 9/1 – 12/31: 7 fish <u>7/2 – 10/10: 3 fish</u>
<u>Option 3:</u> Decrease based on 3 fish with shortened season		7/2 – 8/31: 1 fish 9/1 – 12/31: 7 fish <u>7/20 – 12/31: 3 fish</u>
<u>Option 4:</u> Decrease based on 2 fish early, 5 fish late, with shortened seasons		7/2 <u>7/25</u> – 8/31: 4 <u>2</u> fish 9/1 – 12/31 <u>10/23</u> : 7 <u>5</u> fish
<u>Additional option (option 5):</u> split mode with P+C LOA, 3 fish for not-for-hire		<u>Shore/Priv/Rent</u> <u>7/20 – 12/31: 3 fish</u> <u>P+C with LOA</u> <u>9/1 – 12/31: 7 fish</u>
<u>Additional option (option 6):</u> Decrease based on 2 fish early, 5 fish late, with shortened early season		7/2 <u>8/6</u> – 8/31: 4 <u>2</u> fish 9/1 – 12/31: 7 <u>5</u> fish



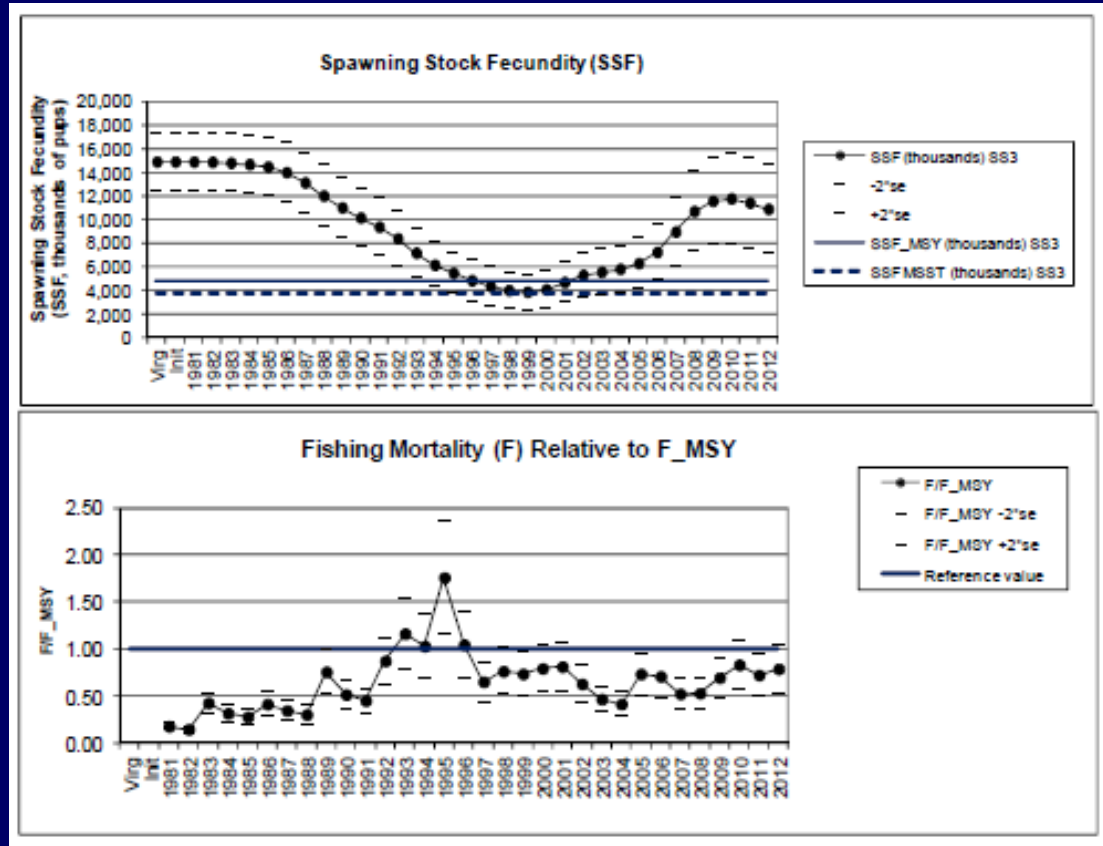
Commercial Coastal Sharks

- ◆ Summary of Stock Status
- ◆ ASMFC Management of Smoothhound Sharks
- ◆ Rhode Island Fishery Performance
- ◆ Recommendations for the 2016 Commercial Smoothhound Sharks , Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks, and Hammerhead Sharks species groups



Smoothhound Shark Stock Status

- ◆ Benchmark in 2015 (SEDAR 39)
- ◆ The stock is not overfished, overfishing is not occurring relative to biological reference points.
- ◆ Fishing mortality was estimated to be 0.102 in 2012, below the threshold F reference point



ASMFC Smoothhound Shark Management

- ◆ NOAA HMS Amendment 9 established a 2016 smoothhound commercial quota for the Atlantic region of 1,201.7 mt dw (2.6 million pounds).
- ◆ This quota is allocated to states based on Addendum II to the ASMFC Coastal Shark FMP.

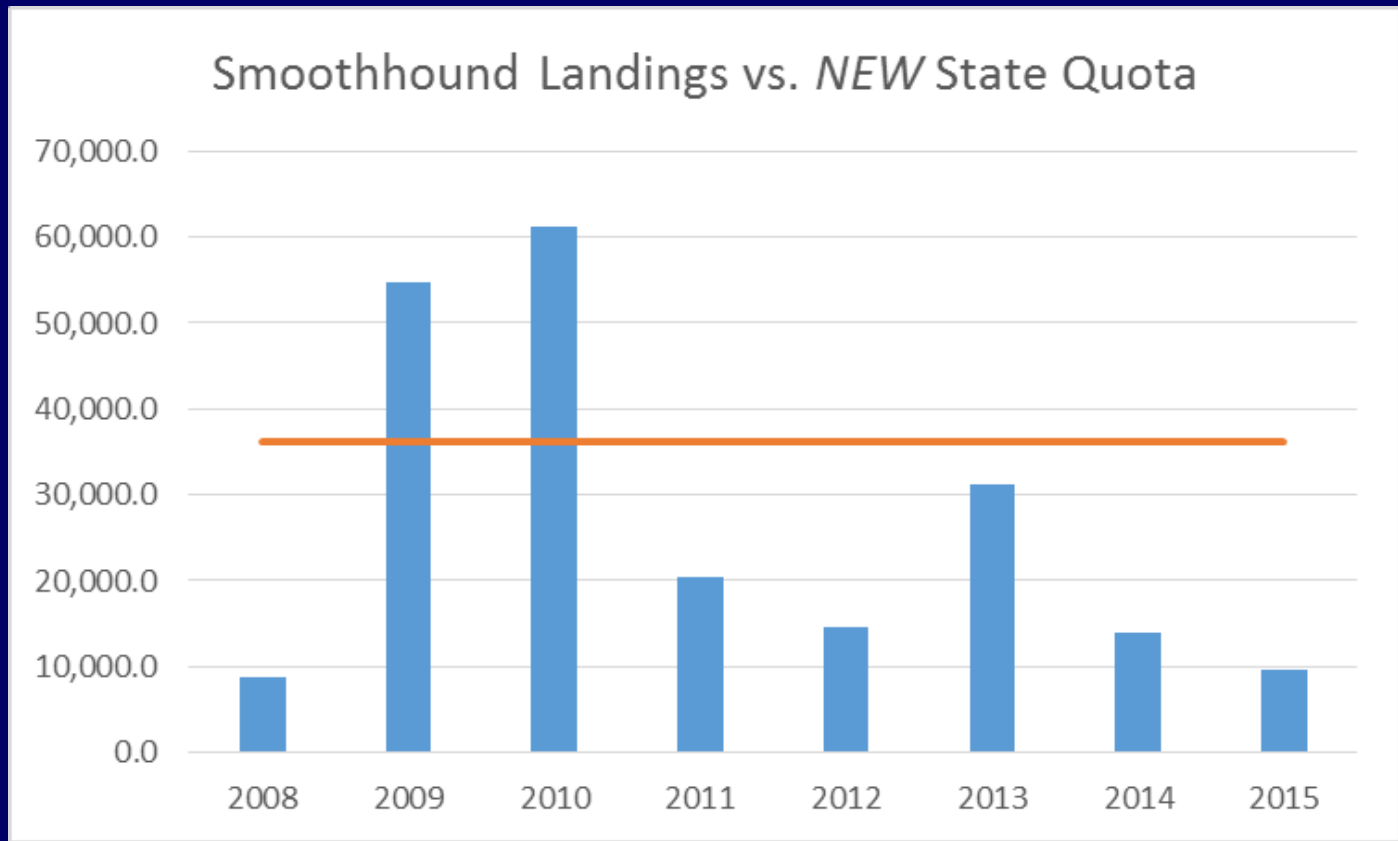
Table 1: State-shares of the coastwide smooth dogfish quota in the 2016 fishing year

	State-Share Percentages	State-Share (mt)	State-Share (lb)
ME	0.021%	0.3	551
MA	0.433%	5.2	11,464
RI	1.363%	16.4	36,111
CT	0.234%	2.8	6,195
NY	7.953%	95.6	210,694
NJ	18.828%	226.3	498,813
DE	0.339%	4.1	8,973
MD	6.703%	80.5	177,581
VA	34.803%	418.2	922,030
NC	28.583%	343.5	757,236
SC	0.742%	8.9	19,621
TOTAL	100%	1201.7	2,649,268



ASMFC Smoothhound Shark Fishery Performance

- ◆ Comparison of recent landings vs. 2016 RI Quota



Hearing Item 1f: Commercial Coastal Shark Management Commercial Smoothhound Sharks

- ◆ Recommendations for the 2016 Commercial Smoothhound Shark Fishery:
 - Establish mechanism to receive and manage state quota:

- Proposed language:

Smoothhound sharks: A total annual statewide quota will be established for the State by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) and/or NOAA Fisheries.

Seasons: Seasonal periods for commercial shark fisheries may be established annually either through the NOAA Fisheries, the ASMFC, or the DFW



Hearing Item 1f cont'd: Commercial Coastal Shark Management

◆ Recommendations for the 2016 Commercial Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks and Hammerhead Sharks Species Groups Fishery:

- Establish framework to maintain consistency with ASMFC possession limit for Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks and Hammerhead Sharks species groups

- Proposed language:

~~No person shall possess more than thirty six (36) sharks per vessel per calendar day, regardless of species, from the Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks or Hammerhead Sharks species group.~~ Aggregated Large Coastal Sharks and Hammerhead Sharks species groups: Forty five (45) sharks per vessel per day, adjusting to between fifty five (55) and zero (0) sharks per vessel per day during the fishing year as determined by NOAA Fisheries.



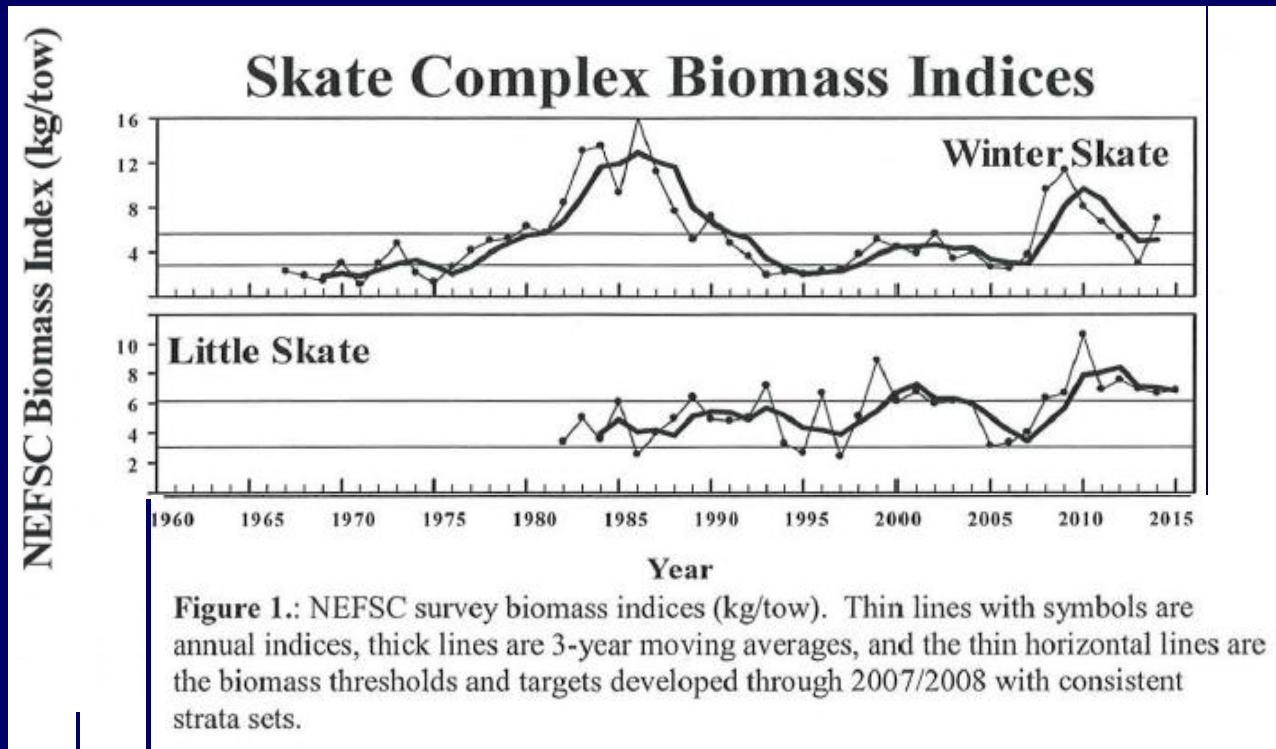
Commercial Skate

- ◆ Summary of Stock Status;
- ◆ NEFMC Management of Skate Complex;
- ◆ Rhode Island State-water Fishery Performance;
- ◆ Recommendations for the 2016 Commercial Skate Fishery



Skate (Winter & Little) Stock Status

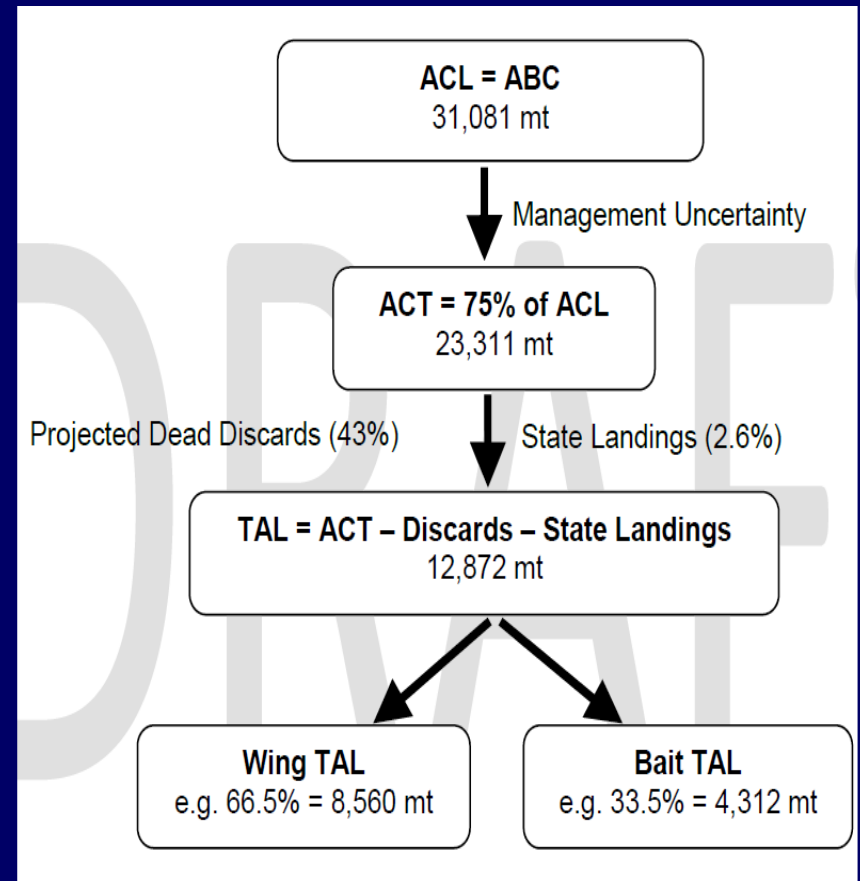
- ◆ The Skate Stock Status Update (July 2015) based on NEFSC Bottom Trawl Survey data through Autumn 2014 / Spring 2015.
- ◆ Winter and Little Skate are not overfished, and overfishing is not occurring.



NEFMC Skate Management

- ◆ The NEFMC adopted the SSC approved ABC for 2016/2017 & the revised specifications for the Northeast skate complex based on the control rule established in Amendment 3

- ACT = 23,311 mt
- Fed TAL = 12,872 mt
- Wing TAL = 8,560 mt
- Bait TAL = 4,312 mt



NEFMC Skate Management

- ◆ The NEFMC approved the following seasons & possession limits based on options in Framework 3 of the Skate FMP.

Table 1. Skate Possession Limits During Open Fishing Seasons		Trip Limit (lb)		
		Skate Wings	Whole Skates	Whole Skate Bait w/LOA
NE Multispecies, Scallop, or Monkfish DAS	May 1 - Aug 31	2,600	5,902	25,000*
	Sept 1 - April 30	4,100	9,307	
NE Multispecies B DAS	May 1 - April 30	220	500	500
Non-DAS	May 1 - April 30	500	1,135	1,135

- ◆ Seasonal TALs

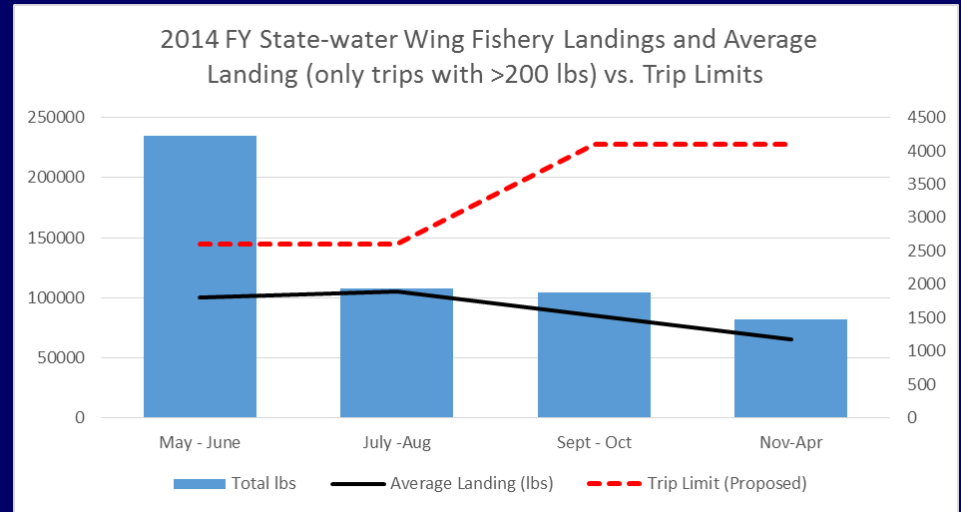
Table 1. Wing Fishery Seasons		
Season	Percentage of Wing TAL	mt
May 1 - Aug 31	57%	4,872
Sept 1 - Apr 30	43%	3,681

Table 2. Skate Bait Fishery Seasons		
Season		Percentage of Skate Bait TAL
1	May 1-July 31	30.8
2	August 1-October 31	37.1
3	November 1-April 30	Remainder of Skate Bait TAL

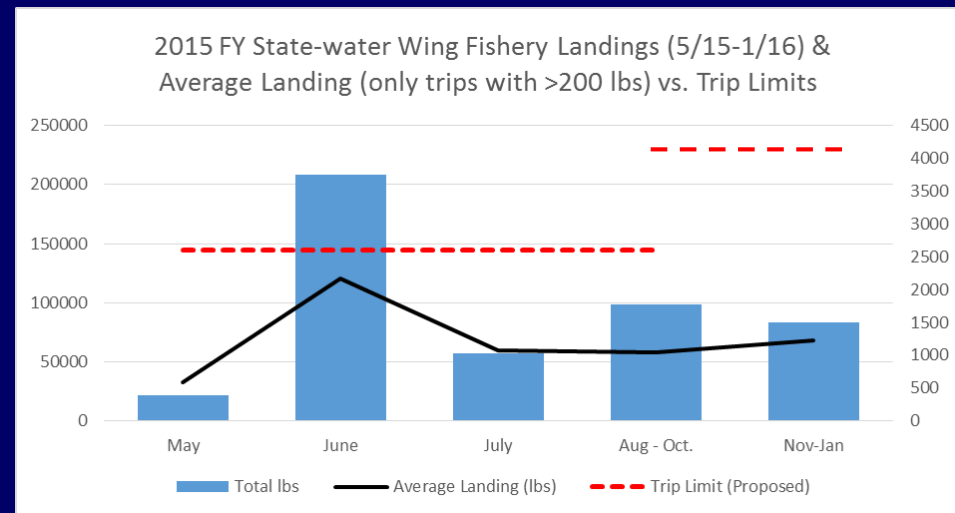


RI State-water Skate Wing Fishery Performance

- ◆ 2014 State-water Wing Fishery Landings = 544,611 lbs
 - May – Aug = 350,282 lbs (65%)
 - Sept – Apr = 194,329 lbs (35%)



- ◆ 2015 State-water Wing Fishery Landings (5/15 – 1/16) = 490,324 lbs
 - May – Aug = 307,635 lbs (63%)
 - Sept – Apr = 182,639 lbs (27%)



Hearing Item 1g: Management of Skate

◆ Establish a recreational possession Limit:

- Proposed language: ~~There is no recreational possession limit for skate provided the vessel is fishing in state waters.~~ One hundred (100) pounds per vessel per day.

◆ Skate Wing fishery:

- Clarify definition of the commercial Skate Wing fishery:
 - Proposed language: The skate wing fishery shall be defined as skate harvested, possessed, or landed by a vessel that is fishing in state waters, not on a previously declared Day At Sea (DAS), and without an active federal open-access skate permit



Hearing Item 1g - Management of Skate cont'd:

◆ Skate Wing fishery cont'd:

- Establish commercial sub-periods and possession limits:

Sub-period	Poss. Limit
<u>5/1 – 8/31</u>	<u>2,600 pounds wings, or 5,902 whole, per vessel per day; decreasing to 500 pounds wings, or 1,135 pounds whole, per vessel per day once 85% of the TAL allocated to Sub-period I is landed as determined by NOAA Fisheries. During the period between August 18 and August 31, the Director may increase the possession limit to compliment the federal possession limit determined by NOAA Fisheries.</u>
<u>9/1 – 4/30</u>	<u>4,100 pounds wings, or 9,307 whole, per vessel per day; decreasing to 500 pounds wings, or 1,135 whole, per vessel per day once 85% of the remaining annual TAL is landed as determined by NOAA Fisheries.</u>



Hearing Item 1g - Management of Skate cont'd:

◆ Skate Bait fishery:

- Clarify definition of the commercial Skate Bait fishery:
- **Proposed language:** The skate bait fishery shall be defined as skate harvested, possessed, or landed **by a vessel fishing in state waters, not on a previously declared DAS, without an active federal open-access skate permit, and without a federal skate bait Letter of Authorization (LOA)**
- Establish maximum length:
- **Proposed language:** Maximum length: Whole skates must measure less than twenty three (23) inches total length.



Hearing Item 1g - Management of Skate cont'd:

Skate Bait fishery cont'd:

- ◆ Establish commercial sub-periods and possession limits:

Sub-period	Poss. Limit
<u>5/1 – 7/31</u>	<u>Possession Limit: The starting possession limit for each sub-period will be 25,000 pounds whole skate per vessel per day. When 90 percent of a bait skate TAL allocation in either Sub-period I or II, or when 90 percent of the annual Skate Bait TAL is landed, as determined by NOAA Fisheries, the possession limit will be reduced to the whole weight equivalent of the skate wing possession limit in effect at that time (either 5,902 pounds, 9,307 pounds, or 1,135 pounds whole skate).</u>
<u>8/1 – 10/31</u>	
<u>11/1 – 4/30</u>	



Hearing Item 1h: General Editing of Finfish regulations

- ♦ To re-locate sections to and/or from the Finfish regulations to and/or from more appropriate locations in other Marine Fisheries regulations



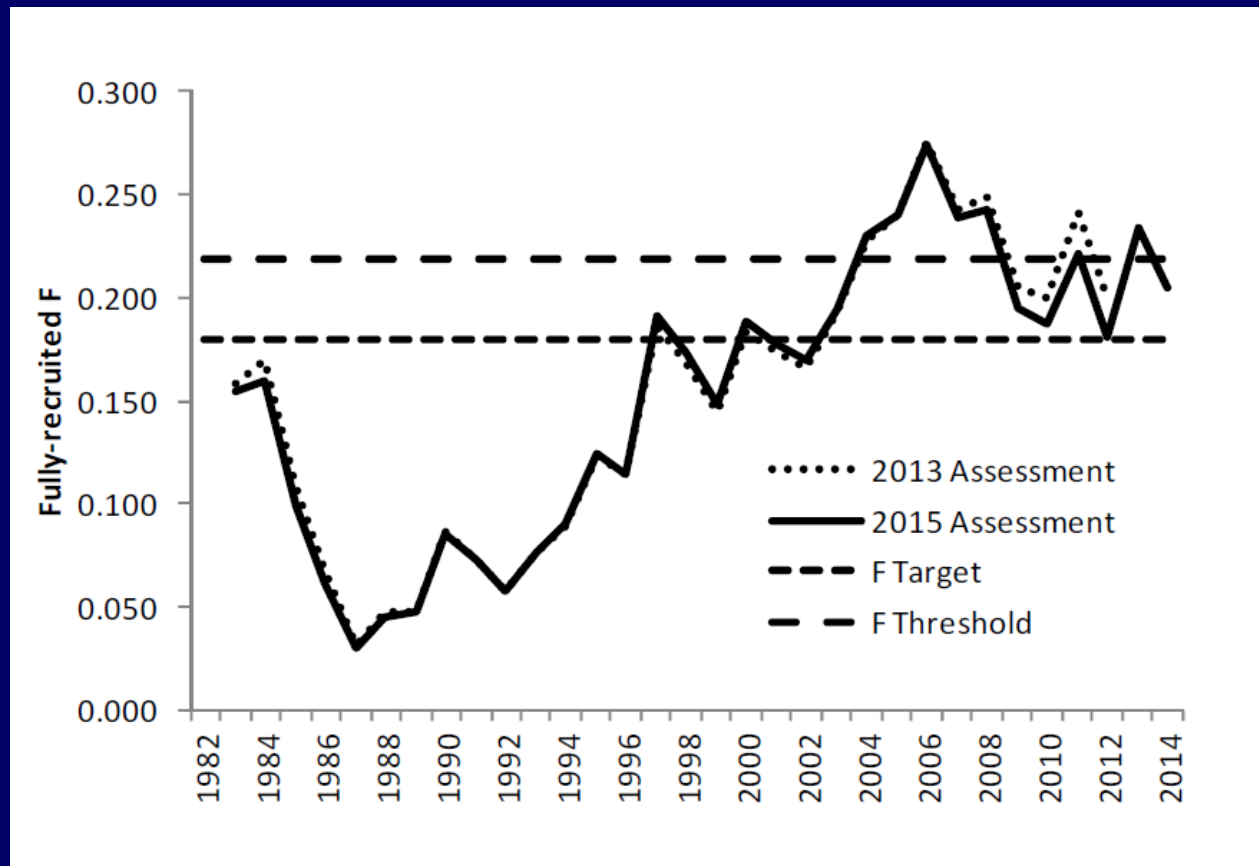
Striped Bass

- Summary of Stock Status
- ASMFC Management of Striped Bass
- 2015 Rhode Island Commercial Fishery Performance
- Recommendations for the 2016 Striped Bass Fishery



Striped Bass Stock Status

- ◆ Update in 2015: Based on SAW/SARC 57 and peer review, the striped bass stock is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring relative to biological reference points.
- ◆ Fishing mortality was estimated to be 0.205 in 2014, a value between the fishing mortality threshold (0.219) and the fishing mortality target (0.18).



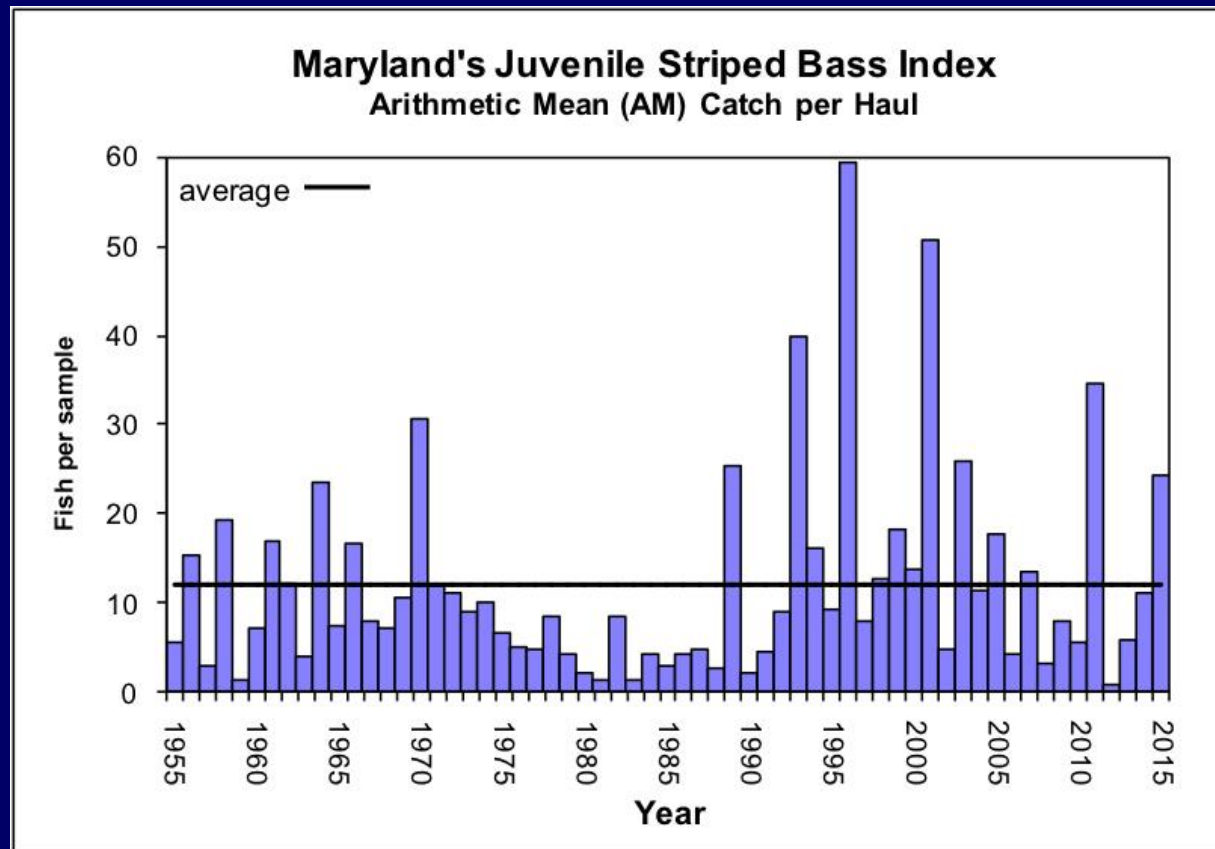
Source: 2015 Update of the Striped Bass Stock Assessment (Figure 14)



Striped Bass Stock Status cont'd:

- ◆ SSB is estimated to be 141 million pounds, just above the threshold but below the target (127 million and 159 million respectively)
- ◆ A strong year class was observed in 2015, the eighth highest on record

- ◆ Average of 24.2 fish/sample
- ◆ Nearly double the time series average of 11.9 (source: MD DNR)

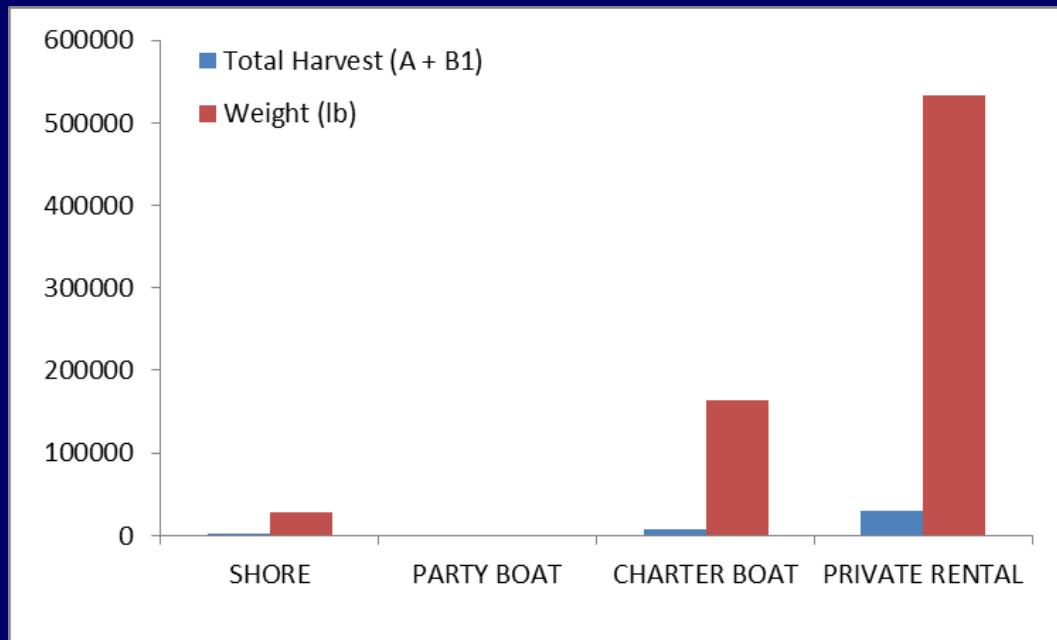
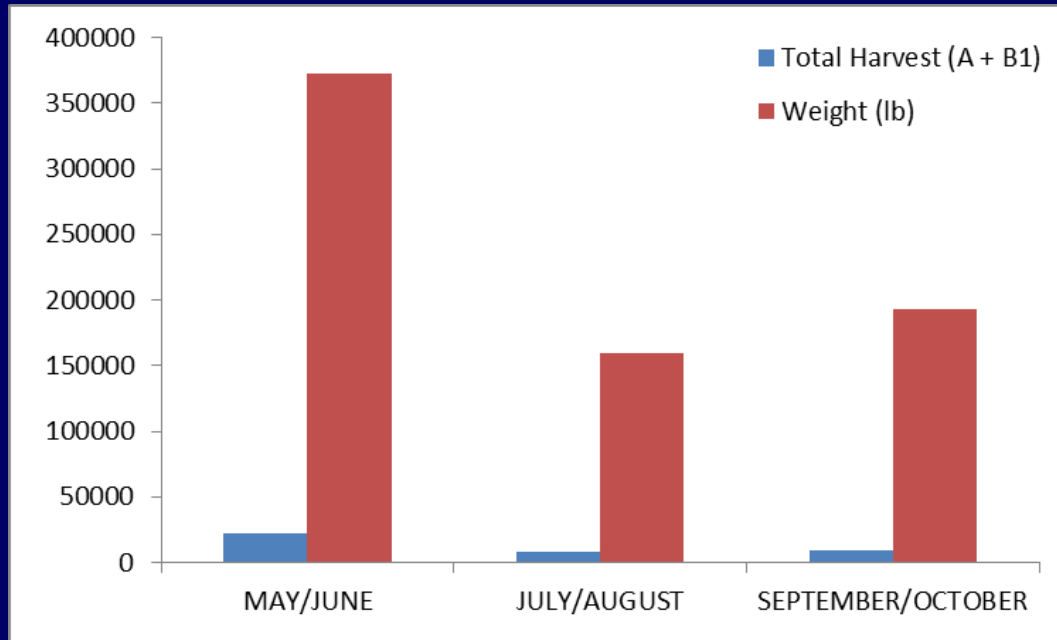


ASMFC Management of Striped Bass

- ◆ Addendum IV approved October, 2014
- ◆ Addendum IV implemented in 2015
- ◆ RI implemented:
 - Rec: 1 fish at 28" min.
 - Comm. GC: 25 % quota reduction – 111,459 lbs
 - Comm. FFT: 25% quota reduction w/ CE – 70,113 lbs
- ◆ Addendum IV management options to remain in effect in 2016



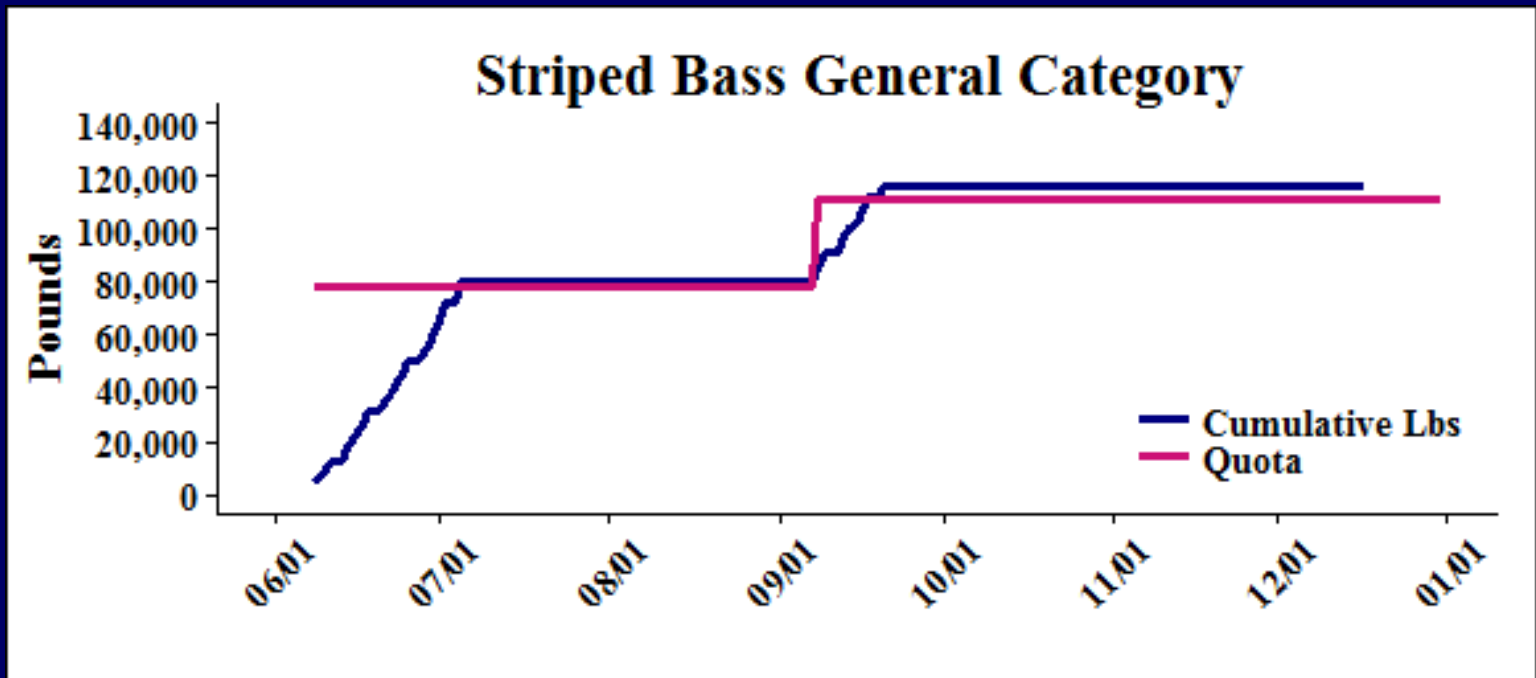
RI Recreational Striped Bass Fishery Performance



2015 RI Commercial General Category Striped Bass Fishery Performance

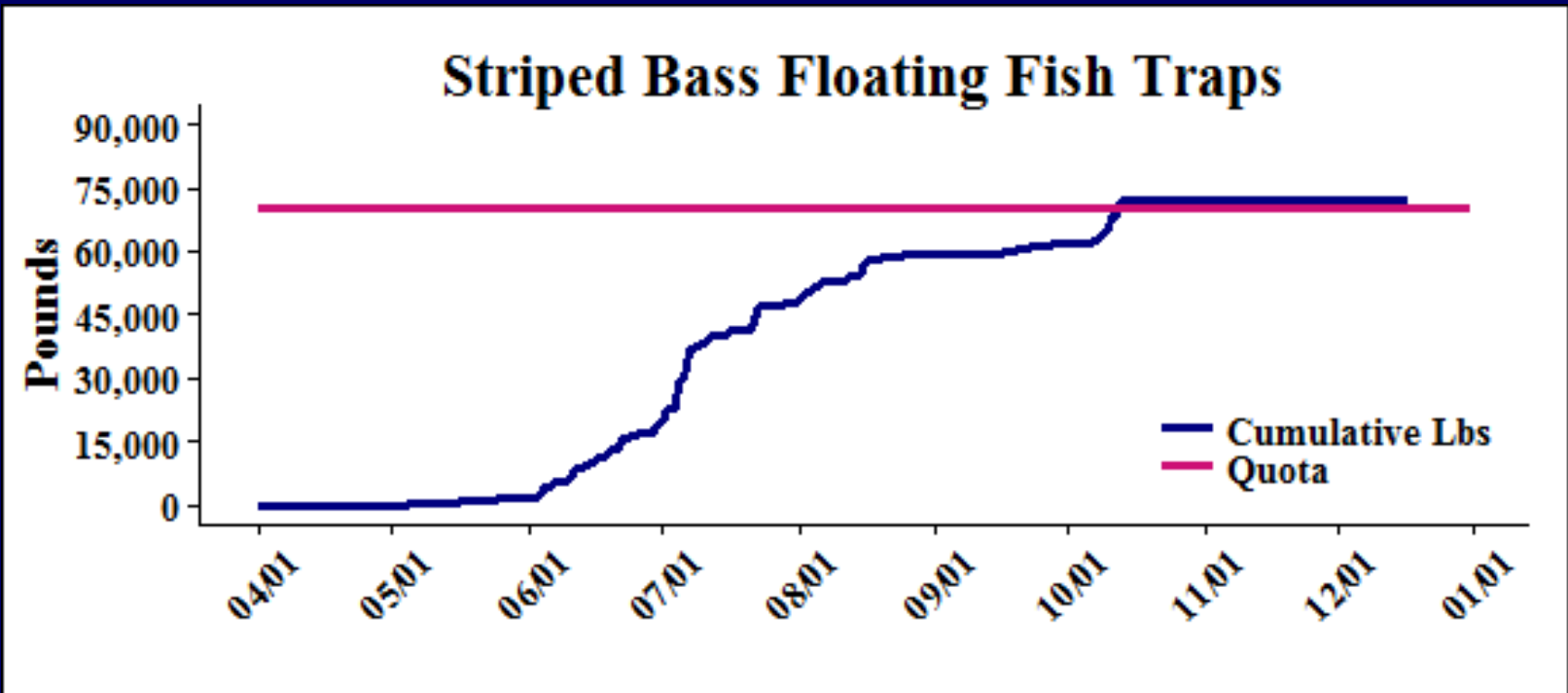
- ◆ Quota: 111,459 lbs
- ◆ 5,090 lb overage in 2015

Season	Days Open	Allocation	Landings
6/8 – 7/5	20	78,021 lbs	80,382 lbs
9/8 – 9/20	9	31,077 lbs	36,167 lbs



2015 RI Commercial Fishery Performance Floating Fish Trap

- ◆ Allocation = 70,113 lbs
- ◆ 1,813 lb overage in 2015



Hearing Item 2a: Recreational Striped Bass

Proposed Management Options:

Option	Min. Size	Possession Limit	Season
<u>Option 1:</u> Status quo	28"	1 fish/day	Open year round



Hearing item 2b: Commercial General Category Striped Bass

◆ Proposed Management Options:

RI 2016 Commercial Quota = 182,719 lbs

- Option 1: Status quo
- Industry Option: Change the starting day of the spring season

Option	Min. Size	Possession Limit	Quota	Season
<u>Option 1:</u> Status quo	34"	5 fish/person/day (max 5 fish/vessel)	70%	6/8 – 8/31 Closed Fri & Sat
			30%	9/8 – 12/31 Closed Fri & Sat
<u>Industry Option</u>		5 fish/person/day (max 5 fish/vessel)	70%	6/8 5/15 – 8/31 Closed Fri & Sat
			30%	9/8 – 12/31 Closed Fri & Sat



Hearing Item 2c: Commercial Floating Fish Trap Striped bass

Proposed Management Options:

Option	Min. Size	Possession Limit	Season
<u>Option 1:</u> Status quo	26"	Unlimited	4/1 – 12/31



Hearing Item 2d: Commercial Striped Bass Tags

12.8 Commercial Striped Bass Tags: Each individual Striped bass shall be immediately marked with tags available from DFW. No Striped bass may be sold unless it has been properly identified with such tag. DFW may designate tagging agents as appropriate. All designated tagging agents shall keep and maintain the required forms and logs reports specified by DFW. All tag reports and unused tags must be returned to DFW by January 1st of the following year. Failure to return reports and unused tags may result in the tagging agent becoming ineligible to receive striped bass tags in the future.



Hearing Item 2e: Striped Bass Fin-clipping Provision

Option 1:

12.9 Fin clipping: Any striped bass harvested by a commercial license holder while fishing recreationally must have the entire right pectoral fin removed at the time of harvest.

Option 2:

12.9 Fin clipping: Any striped bass thirty-four inches (34") and greater harvested by a commercial license holder while fishing recreationally must have the entire right pectoral fin removed at the time of harvest.

Option 3:

12.9 Fin clipping: Any striped bass harvested by a commercial license and/or recreational license holder, while fishing recreationally,* must have the entire right pectoral fin removed at the time of harvest.

Option 4:

12.9 Fin clipping: Any striped bass thirty-four inches (34") and greater harvested by a commercial license and/or recreational license holder, while fishing recreationally,* must have the entire right pectoral fin removed at the time of harvest.

* Language not included in public notice



Hearing Item 3a. Fish/Shellfish Dealer Regulations

- Proposed Striped Bass Fin-clipping provision:
7.5 Striped bass finning: No licensed fish/shellfish dealer may purchase and/or offer for sale, any striped bass where the entire right pectoral fin has been removed.

Hearing Item 3b. Fish/Shellfish Dealer Regulations

- General editing for improved clarity and readability of regulation:



Hearing Item 4: Proposed REPEAL of RIMFR “*Part 1 – Legislative Findings*” (in conjunction with hearing item # 5)

Hearing Item 5: Proposed ADOPTION of RIMFR “*Part 1 – Definitions*” (in conjunction with hearing item # 4)

- ◆ Determined to be best to house all definitions in a single location (i.e., regulation);
- ◆ Review of all definitions in all RI Marine Fisheries regulations and statutes conducted – corrections of inconsistencies when found;
- ◆ *Summary of Changes* document has been provided to show all proposed changes;
- ◆ Removal of all non-regulatory language consistent with other re-written regulations;
- ◆ Definitions contained in other RI Marine Fisheries regulations to be subsequently removed so definitions only to be located in a single regulation.



Hearing Item 6: Proposed REPEAL of RIMFR “Part 17 – *Maps*”

- Areas shown in “*Maps*” contain several inaccuracies;
- Areas are correctly described in other RI Marine Fisheries regulations – there is no net effect of repealing “*Maps*”;
- Repeal necessary to avoid inconsistencies;
- Maps to be provided at a later date as informational documents separate from regulation.



End of Slides!

