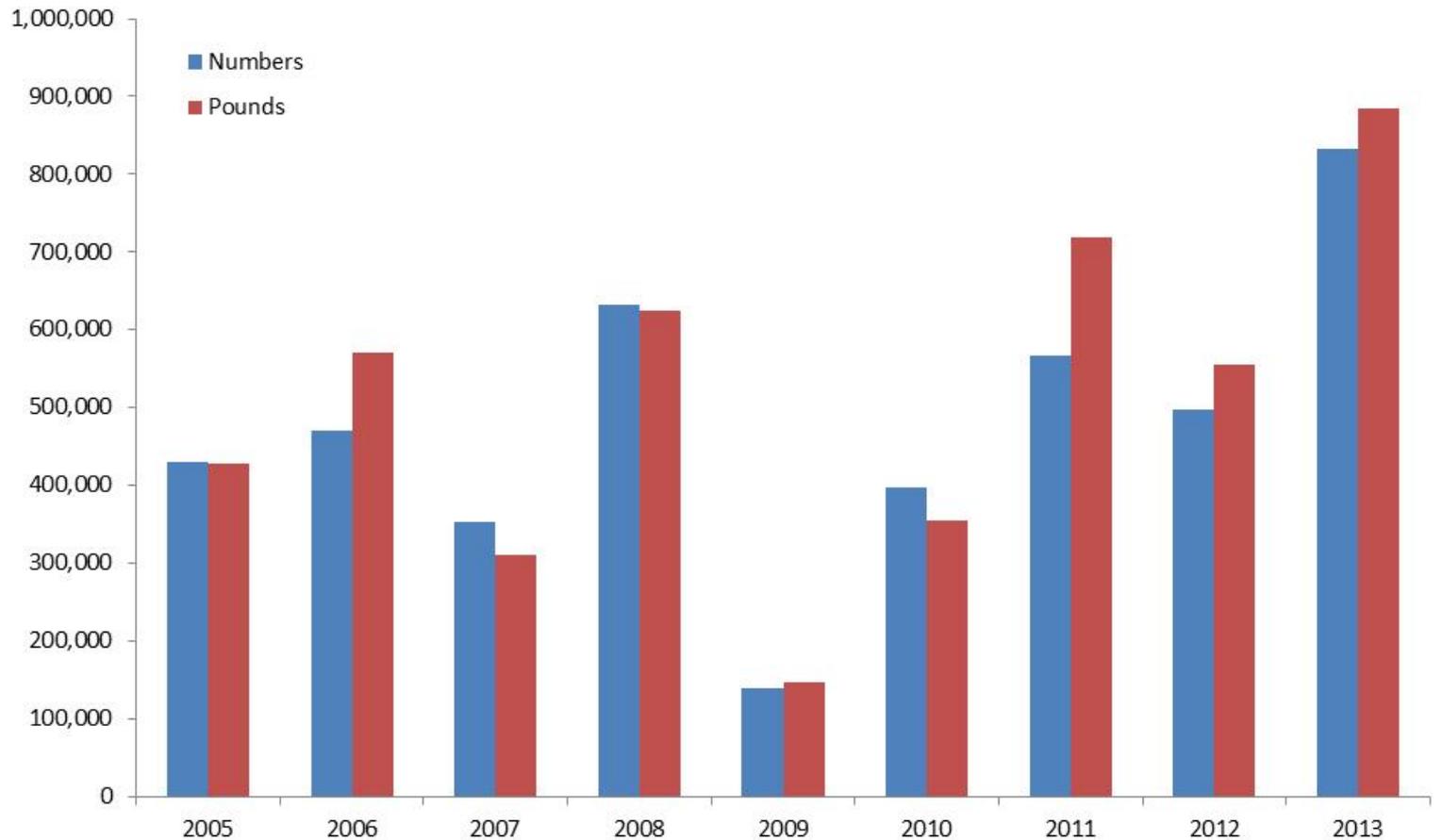


Summary of the Rhode Island Recreational Scup and Black Sea Bass Fisheries



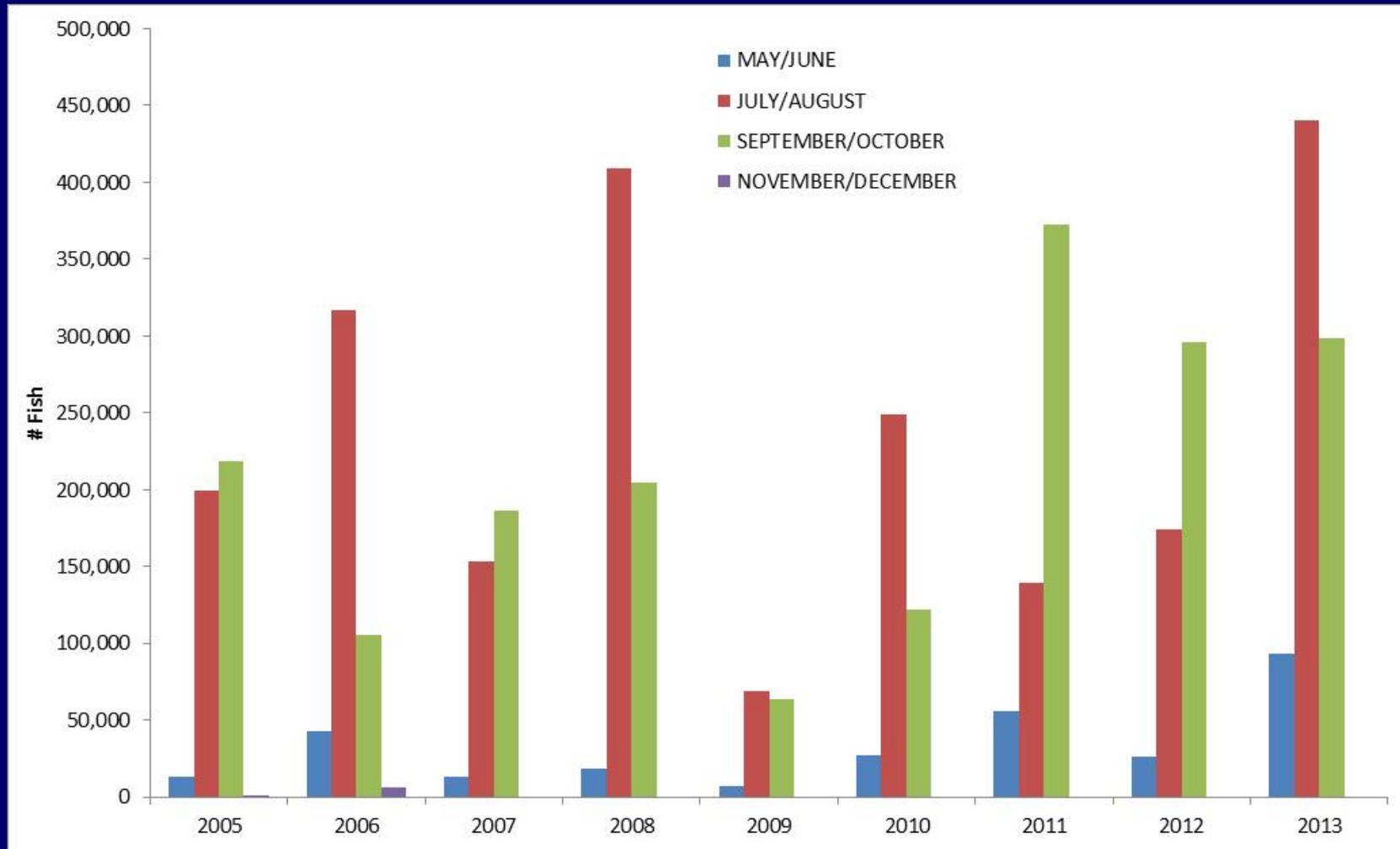
Recreational Harvest - Scup

***Note: 2013 data preliminary, contains all waves**



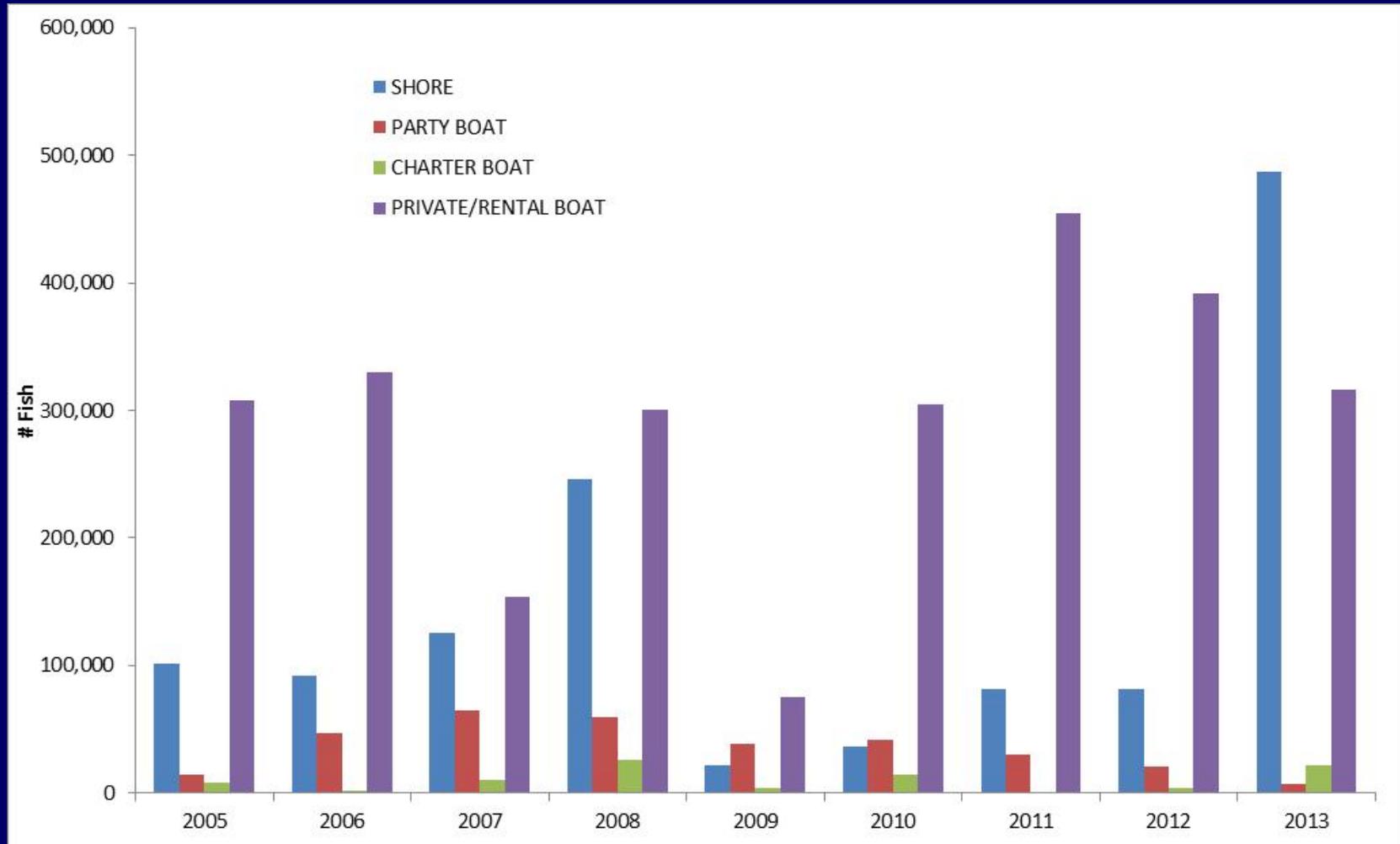
Recreational Harvest By Wave - Scup

***Note: 2013 data preliminary, contains all waves**



Recreational Harvest By Mode - Scup

*Note: 2013 data preliminary, contains all waves



Rhode Island Recreational Fishery Performance - Scup

- ◆ Landings and targets are analyzed on a regional basis in the scup fishery. Our region is MA – NY
- ◆ The landings target for 2013 for this region was 6,781,019 fish
- ◆ Preliminary landings in 2013 for the region are 4,809,691 fish
- ◆ This is approximately a 29% underage



Stock Status - Scup

- ◆ There was no update done in 2013 for scup
- ◆ The fishing mortality rate estimated for 2011 is 0.034, which is below the fishing mortality threshold reference point $F_{40\%}$ (0.177).
- ◆ Spawning stock biomass was estimated to be 190,424 mt in 2011, which is above the biomass target of 92,044 mt ($SSB_{40\%}$).
- ◆ The stock is considered rebuilt and the stock is not considered overfished and is not currently experiencing overfishing.
- ◆ Quotas and harvest targets were set through 2015:
 - ◆ 2014 = 7.03 mlbs coastwide
 - ◆ 2015 = 6.6 mlbs coastwide



2013 Rhode Island Scup Recreational Measures

- ◆ **Party/Charter:**
 - ◆ **Minimum size = 10"**
 - ◆ **Season: May 1 – August 31 at 30 fish**
 - ◆ **Season: September 1 – October 31 at 45 fish**
 - ◆ **Season: November 1 – December 31 at 30 fish**

- ◆ **General category**
 - ◆ **Minimum size = 10"**
 - ◆ **Possession Limit of 30 fish**
 - ◆ **Open Season: May 1 – December 31**

- ◆ **Special Area Provisions (India Pt, Conimicut Pt, Stonebridge)**
 - ◆ **Minimum size = 9"**
 - ◆ **Possession Limit of 30 fish**
 - ◆ **Open Season: May 1 – December 31**



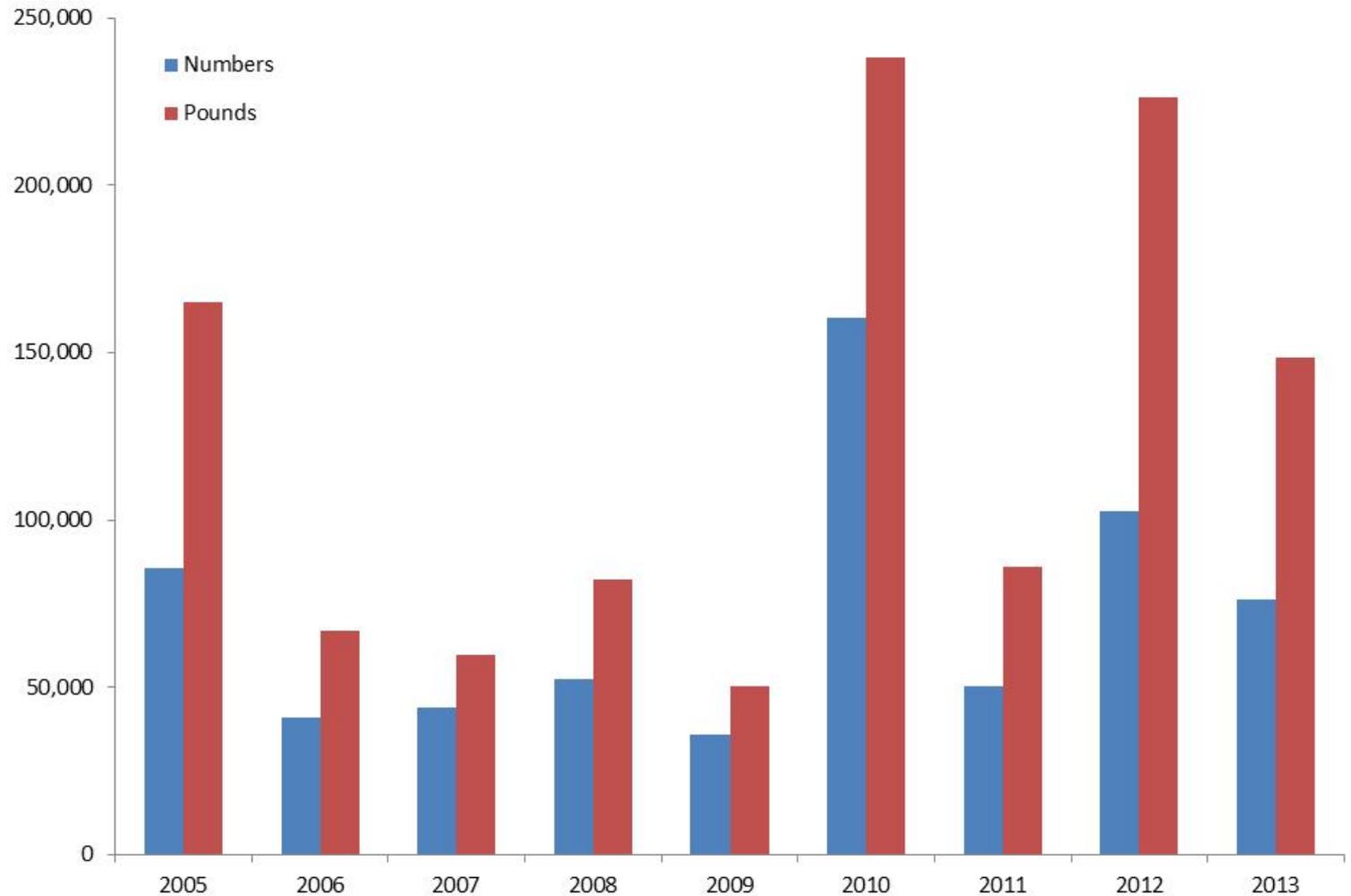
Division of Fish and Wildlife Proposed Changes

The RI Division of Fish and Wildlife will recommend an option derived collaboratively with the Northern Region partners of status quo for 2014



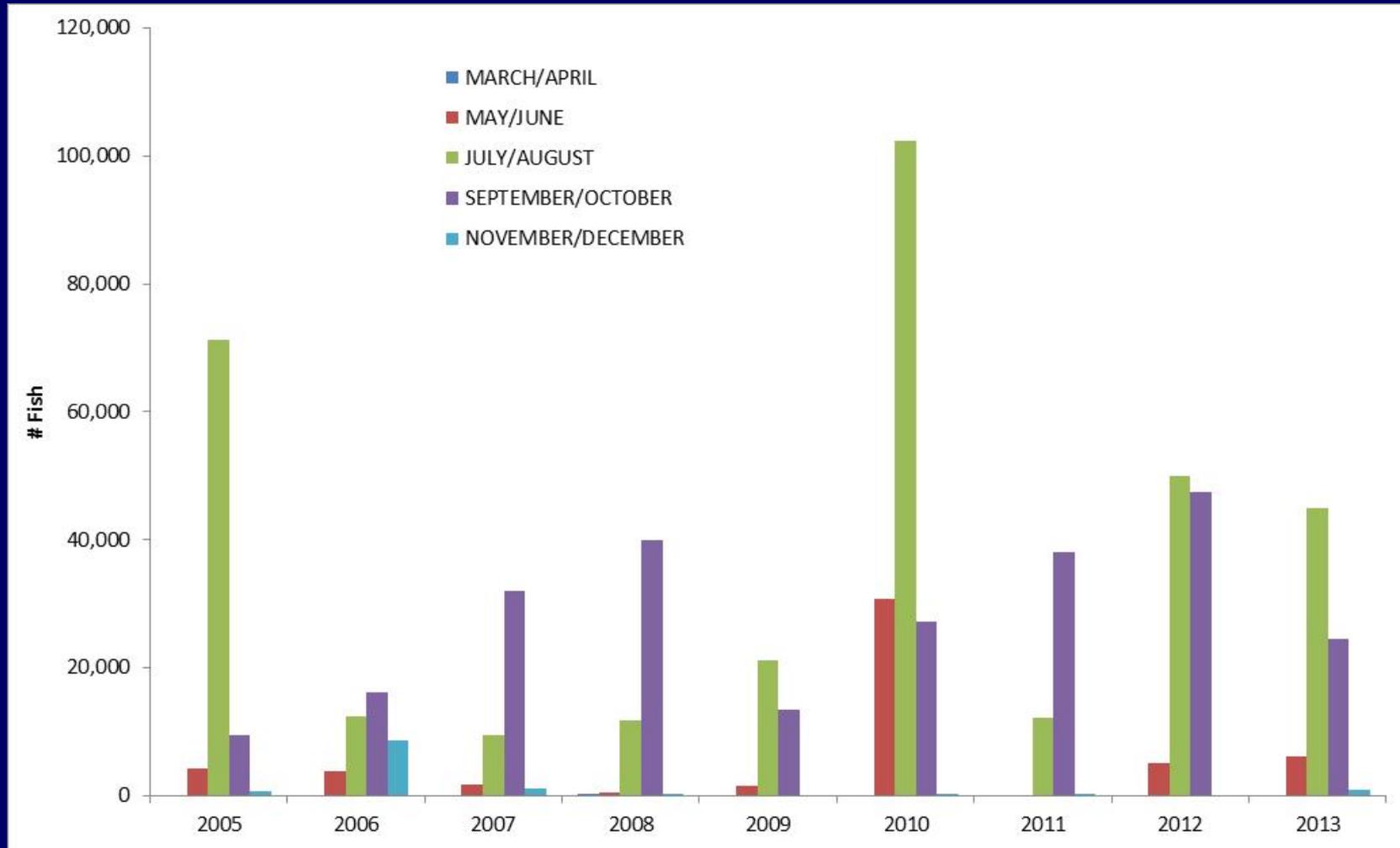
Recreational Harvest - Black Sea Bass

*Note: 2013 data preliminary, contains all waves



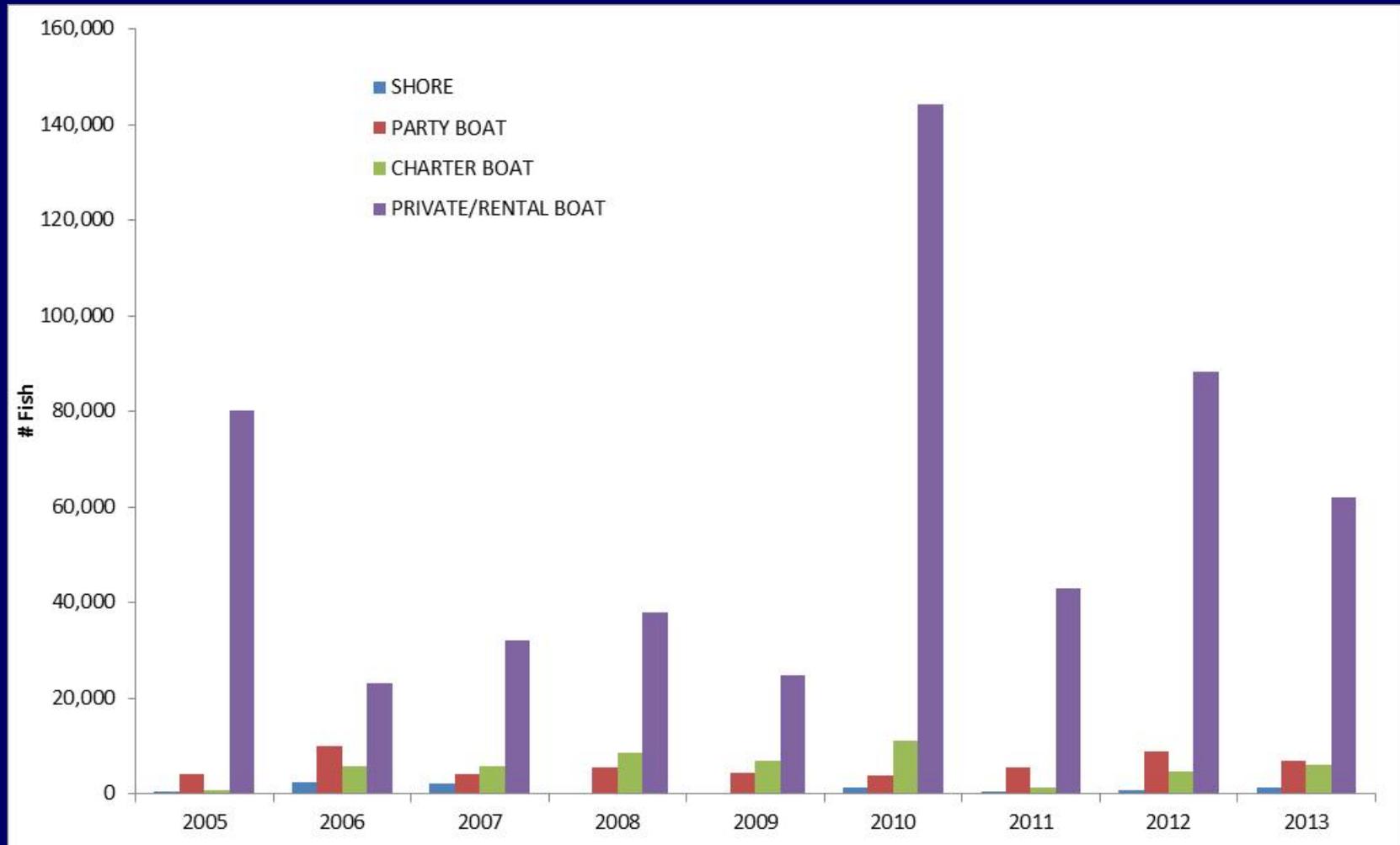
Recreational Harvest By Wave – Black Sea Bass

*Note: 2013 data preliminary, contains all waves



Recreational Harvest By Mode – Black Sea Bass

*Note: 2013 data preliminary, contains all waves



Rhode Island Recreational Fishery Performance – Black Sea Bass

- ◆ Landings and targets were analyzed on a coastwide basis in the recreational Black Sea Bass fishery until 2011
- ◆ The landings had been at or under harvest targets since 2002 until 2009, where the harvest target was exceeded by 104%
- ◆ Addendum XXI set forth state-by-state measures allowing the southern states to remain at status quo regulations and allowing northern states to tailor their reductions in a way that best suited each individual state
- ◆ Similar Addenda have been in place since 2011 and will be in 2014 as well
- ◆ RI will need to meet a 7% reduction in 2014



Stock Status – Black Sea Bass

- ◆ **The current spawning stock size is at or above the biomass goal based on both assessment models.**
- ◆ **Because of the rejection of the benchmark assessment, and the fact that the peer review panel did not have time to review the updated SCALE model, the stock assessment defaults back to the original SCALE configuration.**
- ◆ **Black sea bass was going to have an operational assessment performed on it in 2013, but at the meeting it was deemed unnecessary given the likelihood that SSC would not accept results**
- ◆ **Slated for a benchmark in 2014, but this will not occur unless new modeling approach is brought forward**



2013 Rhode Island Black Sea Bass Recreational Measures

- ◆ All Modes:
 - ◆ Minimum size = 13"
 - ◆ Season:
 - ◆ June 15 – August 31 at 3 fish
 - ◆ September 1 – December 31 at 7 fish



Division of Fish and Wildlife Proposed Changes

The RI Division of Fish and Wildlife will recommend any option establishing restrictions that will meet approval by ASMFC

The Division would like some feed back on where these restrictions should be taken (season, bag limits) though would like to go on record to state that increasing the minimum size should be avoided

Potential options:

1. Start fishery July 1
2. Drop fall bag to 4 fish
3. End fishery October 21st

