

Striped Bass Advisory Panel Meeting



January 8, 2013



Striped Bass Stock Status

Stock Status:

-  The striped bass stock is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring according to the ASMFC Atlantic Striped Bass Stock Assessment Update, 2011.
-  Female SSB = 50,548 mt, greater than the threshold SSB = 30,000 mt and the target SSB = 37,500 mt.
-  Fishing mortality was estimated to be 0.23 in 2010, below the threshold F reference point = 0.34 and the F target = 0.30.



Striped Bass Stock Status

Stock Status:

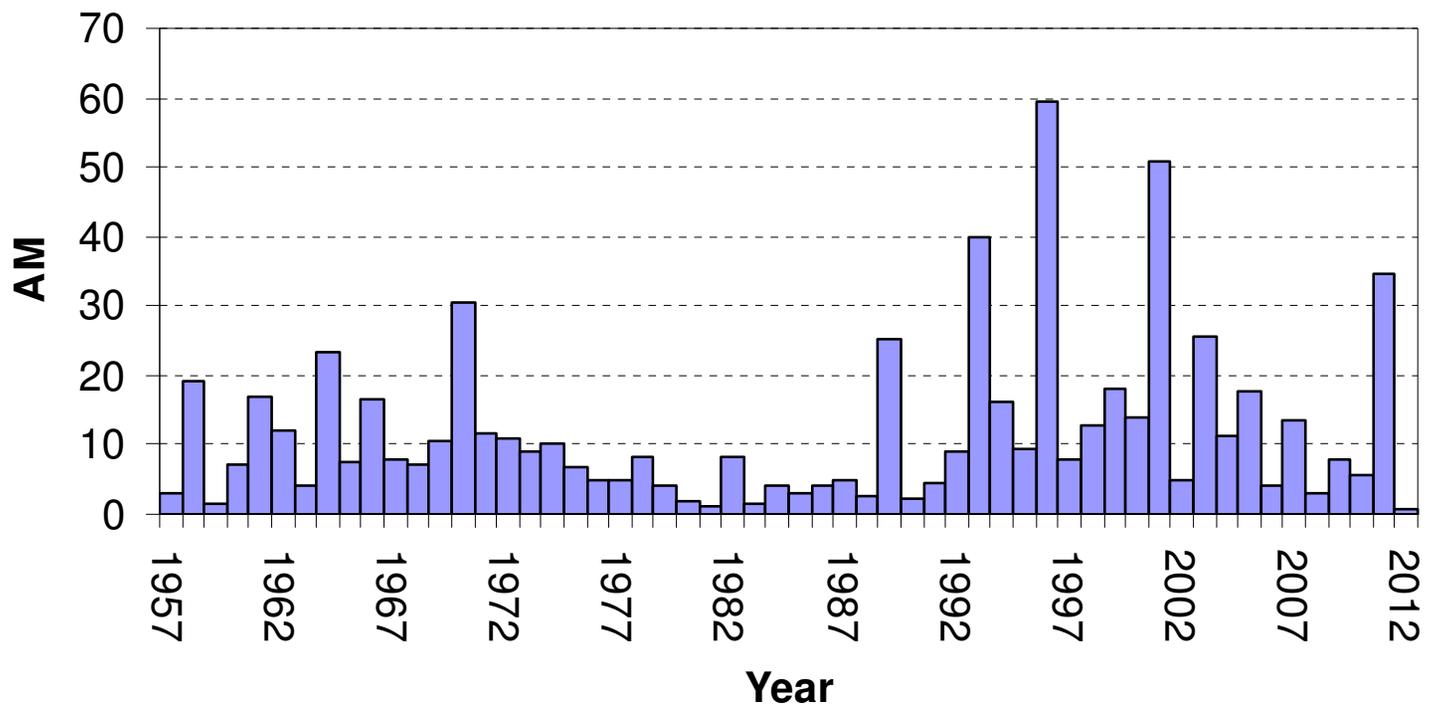
-  Biomass estimates have remained stable due to growth and maturation of 2003 year class and accumulation of spawning biomass from year classes prior to 1996.
-  Stock abundance has declined from 67.5 million in 2004 to 42.3 million in 2010.
-  The decline is more prevalent in areas depending on the Chesapeake Bay stock than in areas dominated by the Hudson River stock.



Striped Bass Stock Status

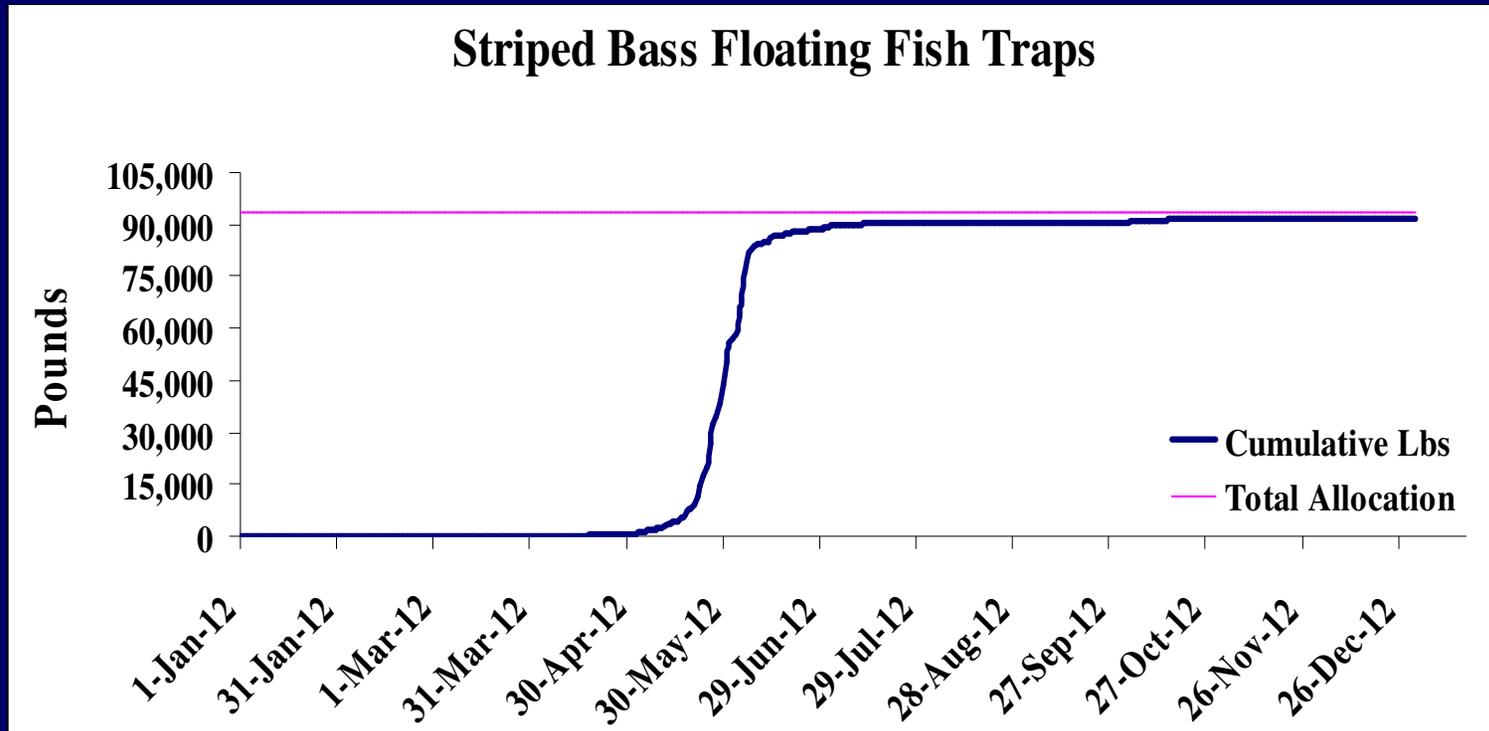
YOY Index

Striped Bass YOY
Bay-wide Arithmetic Mean Catch per Haul



Review of 2012 Fishery

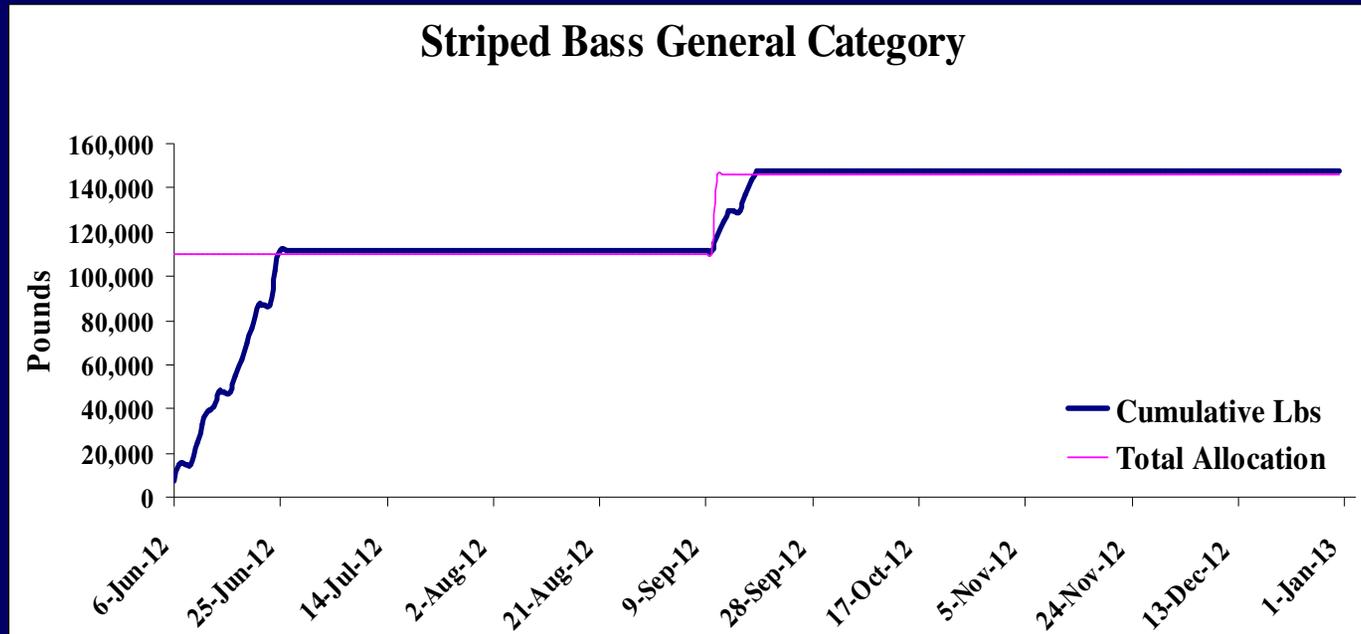
Commercial — Floating Fish Trap



Period	2012 Allocation	Landings	Remaining
Jan. 1 – Dec. 31	93,266	91,871	1,395

Review of 2012 Fishery

Commercial - General Category

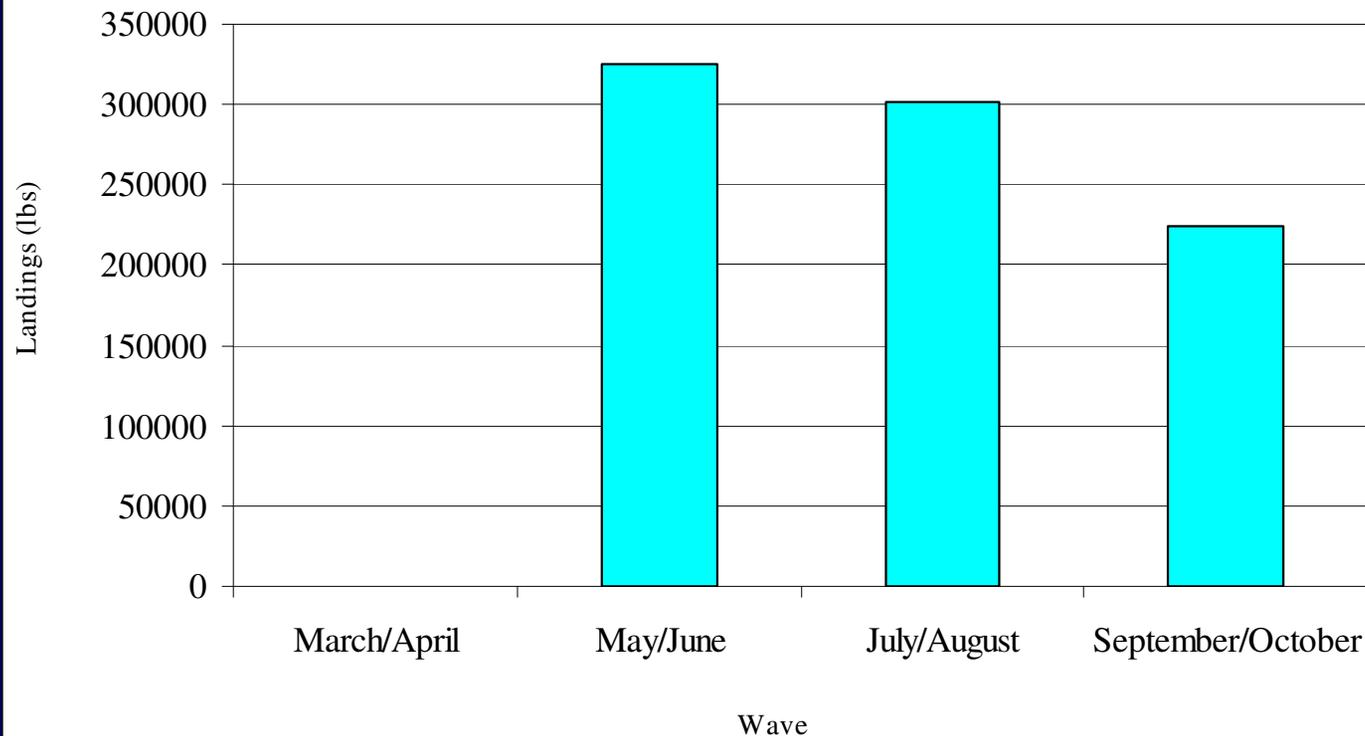


Period	2012 Allocation	Landings	Period Adjustment	Remaining
June 6 – Aug 31	109,783	111,898		-2,115
Sep 11 – Dec 31	36,594	36,144	-2,115	-1,665
2012 Total	146,377	148,042		



Review of 2012 Fishery Preliminary Recreational Landings (MRIP)

Preliminary 2012 Striped Bass Recreational Landings



Addendum III to Amendment 6

Background

-  Interstate Watershed Task Force (IWTF) conducted multi-year, multi-jurisdictional investigation of illegal striped bass harvest within the Chesapeake Bay.
-  \$1.6 million dollars in fines against 19 individuals and 3 corporations for > 1 million pounds of illegal STB estimated to be worth up to 7 million dollars.
-  Illegal harvest attributed to lack of sufficient tagging programs.



Addendum III to Amendment 6

Summary

-  All Atlantic states and jurisdictions required to implement commercial striped bass tagging program.
-  States may choose whether fish are tagged at point of harvest or point of sale.
-  At a minimum tags must be tamper evident, valid for one year only, and have the following information:
 - Year
 - State
 - Unique number



Addendum III to Amendment 6

What this means for RI

-  RI already has a tagging program that meets the minimum requirements.
-  RI will maintain point of sale tagging.
-  Stricter rules regarding the distribution of tags and submittal of tag reports will be implemented in 2013.
-  End of year summary from dealers required.
-  Dealers who do not comply will not receive tags the following year.



2013 Fish Trap Commercial Seasons and Quota Allocation

 The Division does not propose any changes for 2013

 2012 management:

 Jan. 1 – Dec. 31

 26” minimum size (TL).

 100 % of the floating trap quota shall be available from January 1 through December 31.

 Once eighty percent (80%) of the seasonal allocation is projected to be harvested the possession limit shall be 500 pounds per fish trap licensee per calendar day.



2013 General Category Commercial Seasons and Quota Allocation

-  The Division does not propose any changes for 2013
-  2012 management:
 -  34" minimum size (TL)
 -  January 1 – June 5: CLOSED
 -  June 6 – Aug. 31:
 -  75% of quota
 -  5 fish/person/day
 -  CLOSED Friday and Saturday throughout
 -  Sept. 11 – Dec. 31:
 -  25% of quota
 -  5 fish/person/day
 -  CLOSED Friday and Saturday throughout



Discussion of Recreational Striped Bass Fishery

 The division does not propose any changes for 2013

 2012 management:

 28" minimum size (TL)

 2 fish/person/day possession limit



Discussion on Ban of Yo-yo Rigs

