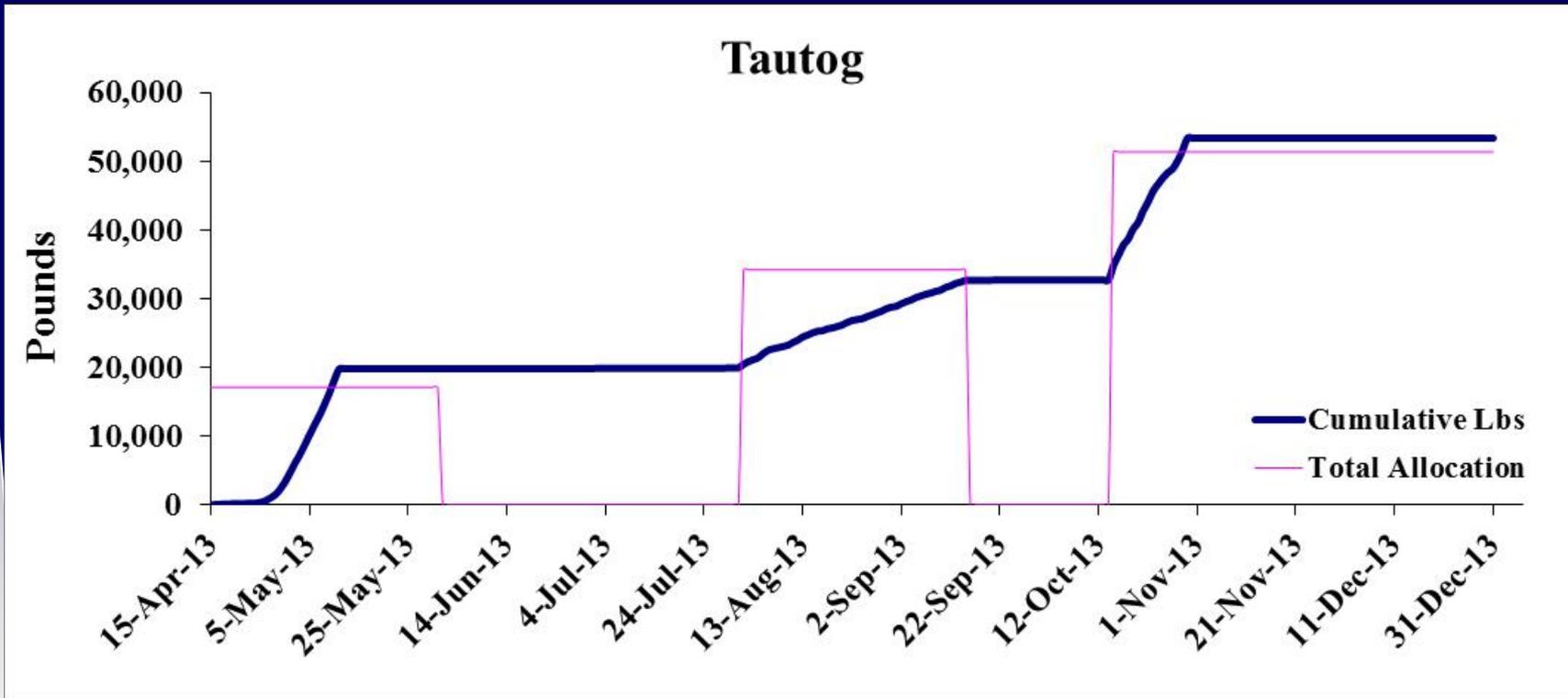


Summary of the Rhode Island Commercial and Recreational Tautog Fishery



Commercial Landings



- ◆ Overage in Spring of 2,715 lbs
- ◆ Overage of 1,874 lbs for year



Commercial Quota 2014

Period	Period Allocation	Quota Allocation
Year 2014		51,348 lbs – 1,874 lbs overage
Apr 15 – May 31	33.3%	16,491 lbs
Jul 15 – Aug 29	33.3%	16,491 lbs
Oct 15 – Dec 31	33.3%	16,492 lbs



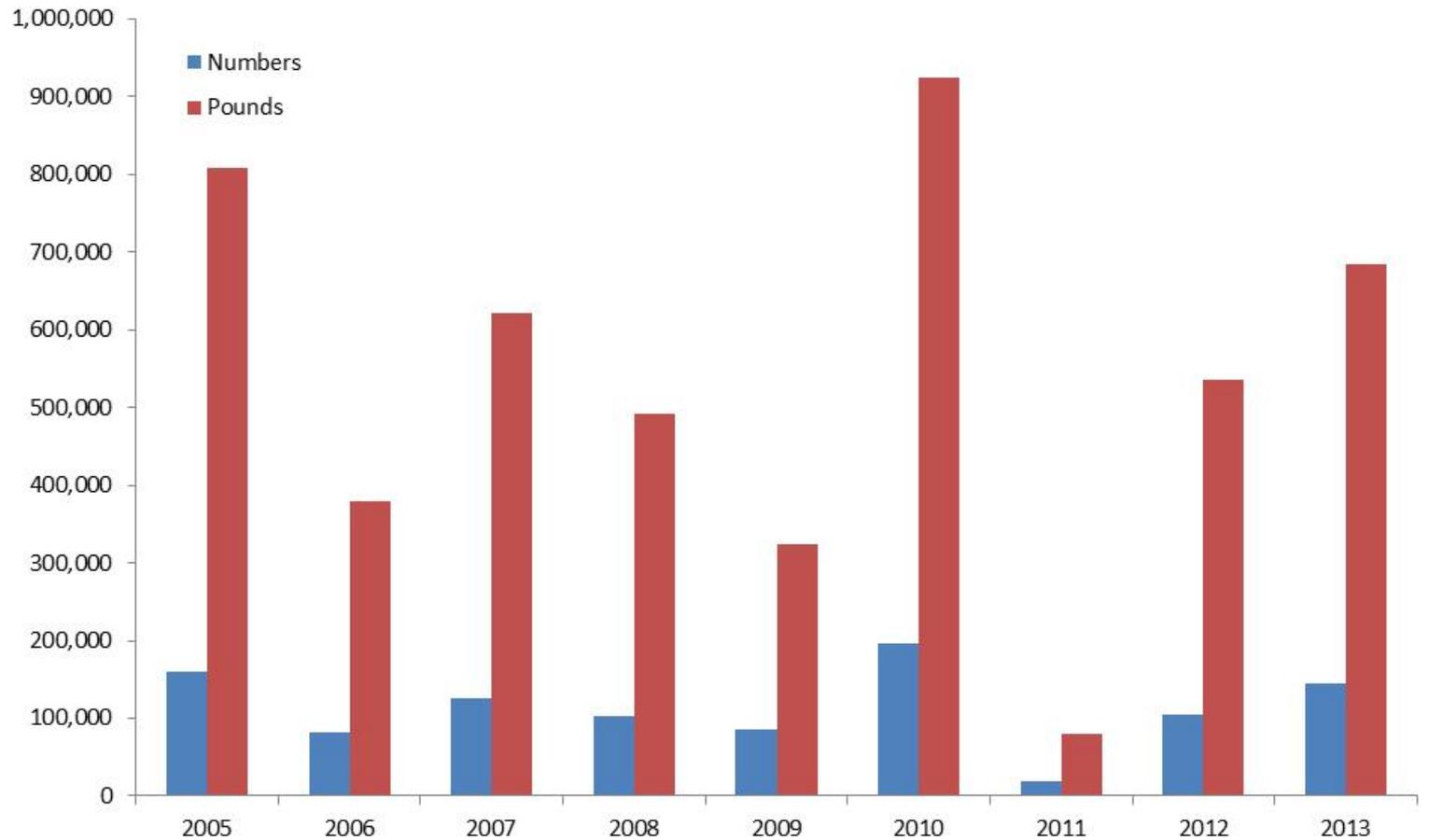
Division of Fish and Wildlife Proposed Changes

- ◆ **The RI Division of Fish and Wildlife proposes no changes to the commercial fishery in 2014**
- ◆ **Commercial landings are constrained by a quota**
- ◆ **Only represents approximately 9% of the total state harvest of tautog**



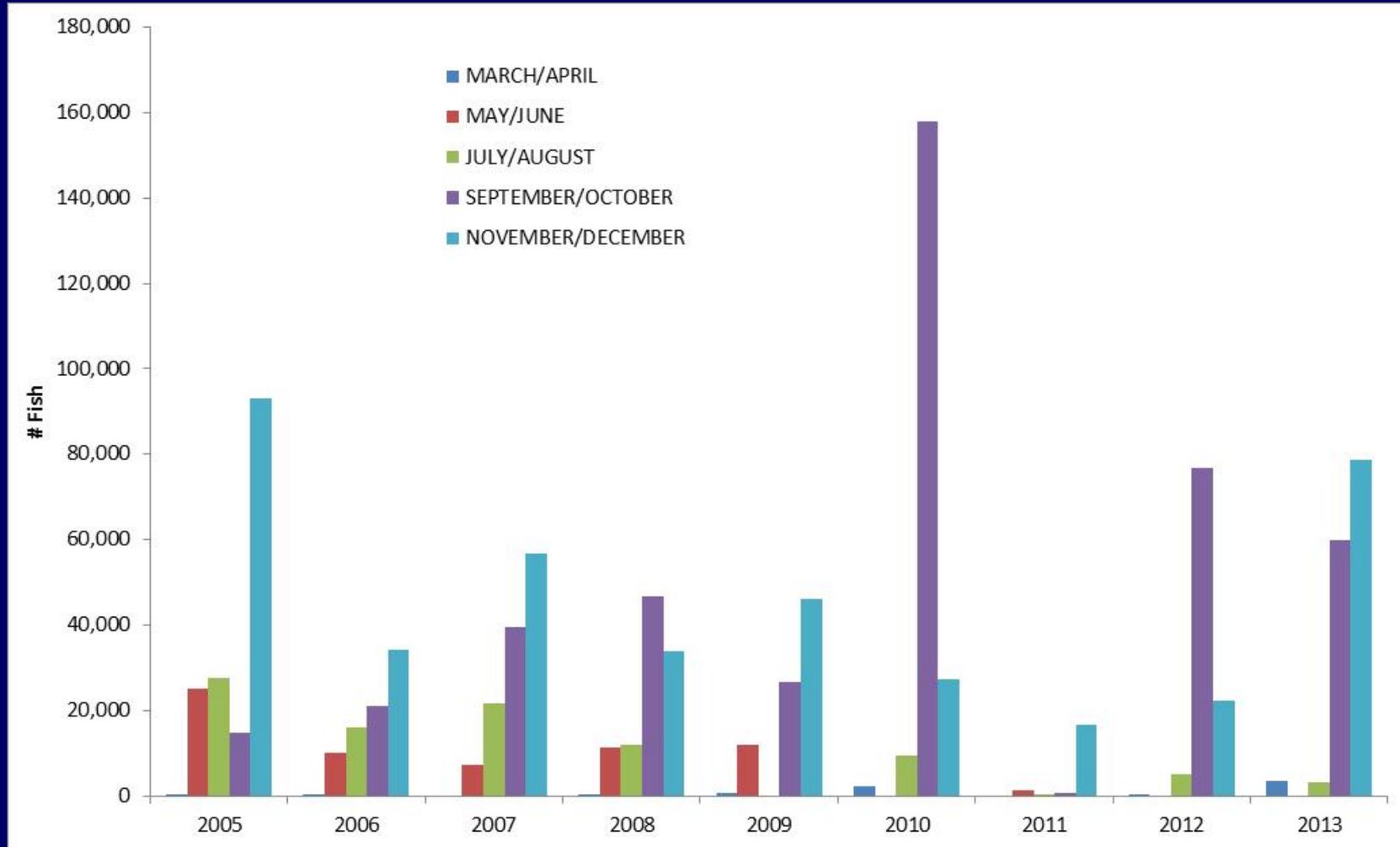
Recreational Harvest - Tautog

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



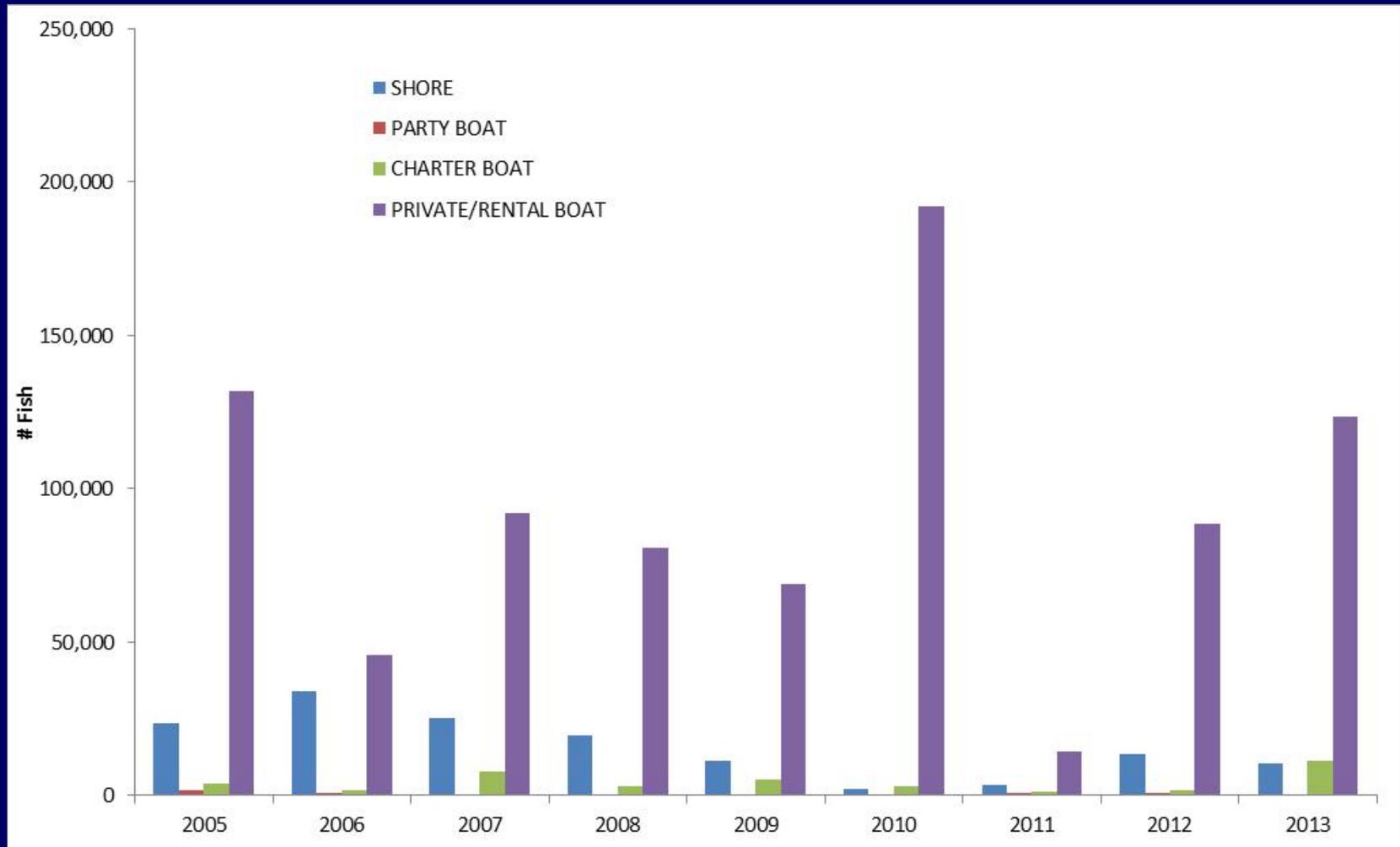
Recreational Harvest By Wave – Tautog

*Note: 2013 data preliminary, all waves represented



Recreational Harvest By Mode – Tautog

*Note: 2013 data preliminary, all waves represented



Stock Status – Tautog

- ◆ **The tautog stock coastwide: overfished, overfishing occurring according to output of 2011 stock assessment update**
- ◆ **The tautog stock regional: overfished, overfishing not occurring according to output of 2011 regional stock assessment update**
- ◆ **A benchmark assessment is currently underway, therefore no assessment updates were performed in 2013**
- ◆ **Alternative models will be tested in this benchmark**
 - ◆ **Coastwide VPA for continuity**
 - ◆ **Statistical catch at age with regions**
 - ◆ **Data Poor Methods:**
 - ◆ **Depletion Based Stock Reduction Analysis (DBSRA)**
 - ◆ **Depletion Corrected Average Catch (DCAC)**
 - ◆ **Bayesian State Space Surplus Production Model**



2013 Rhode Island Tautog Recreational Measures

- ◆ **All Modes:**
 - ◆ **Minimum size = 16"**
 - ◆ **Season: April 15 – May 31 at 3 fish**
 - ◆ **Season: June 1 – July 31 CLOSED**
 - ◆ **Season: August 1 – October 19 at 3 fish**
 - ◆ **Season: October 20 – December 15 at 6 fish**
 - ◆ **A vessel max of 10 fish in place for all open periods**
 - ◆ **P+C sector does not have a vessel limit but must report to eLogbook**



Division of Fish and Wildlife Proposed Changes

The RI Division of Fish and Wildlife does not recommend any changes at this time given that a new benchmark is underway that is testing some spatially structured models

Future management may be needed given recent high landings rates, but this will not occur until 2015 at the earliest and will be based on the outcome of the assessment

