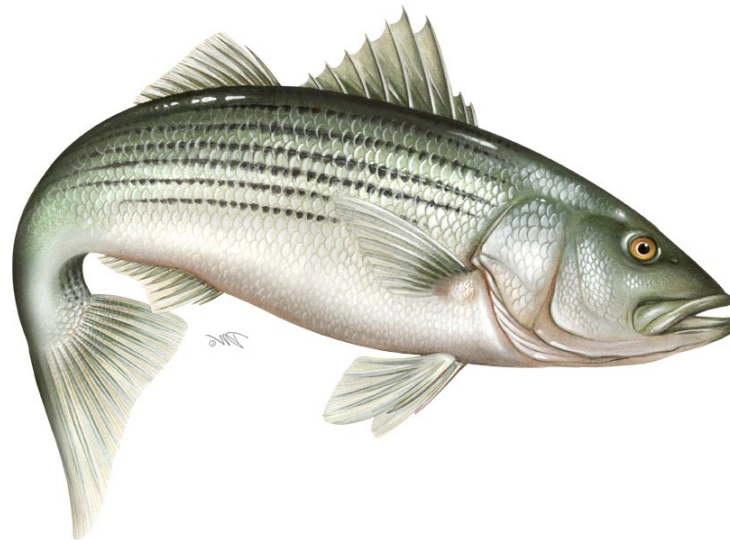




FMP Review for Atlantic Striped Bass 2022 Fishing Year



Striped Bass Management Board
August 1, 2023

Overview



1. Status of the Stock
2. Status of the FMP
3. Status of the Fishery
4. Status of Management Measures
5. PRT Comments and Recommendations

Board action for consideration: approve the 2022 FMP Review and state compliance reports

Status of the Stock

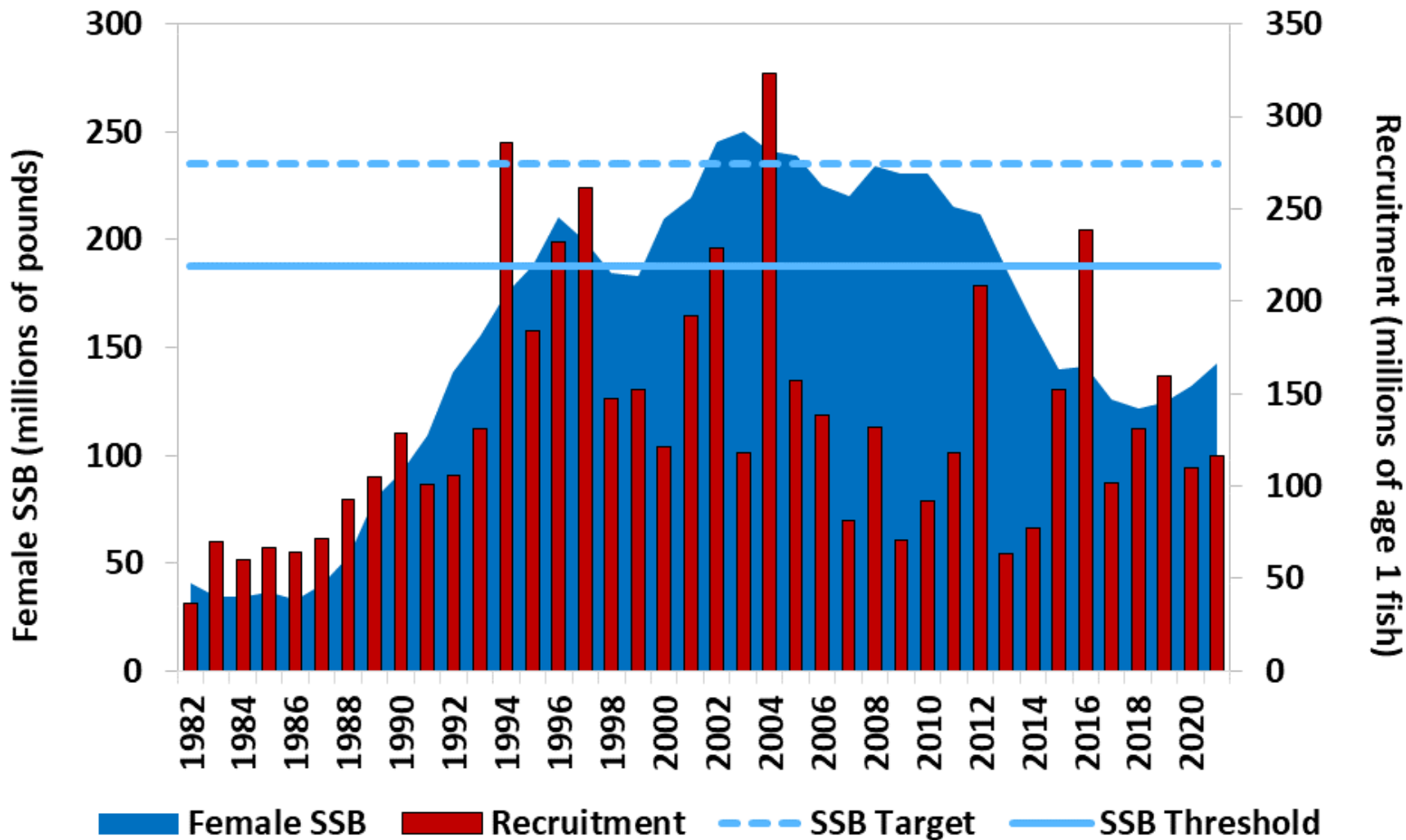


- 2022 Update: Atlantic striped bass stock is overfished but not experiencing overfishing
 - Data through 2021

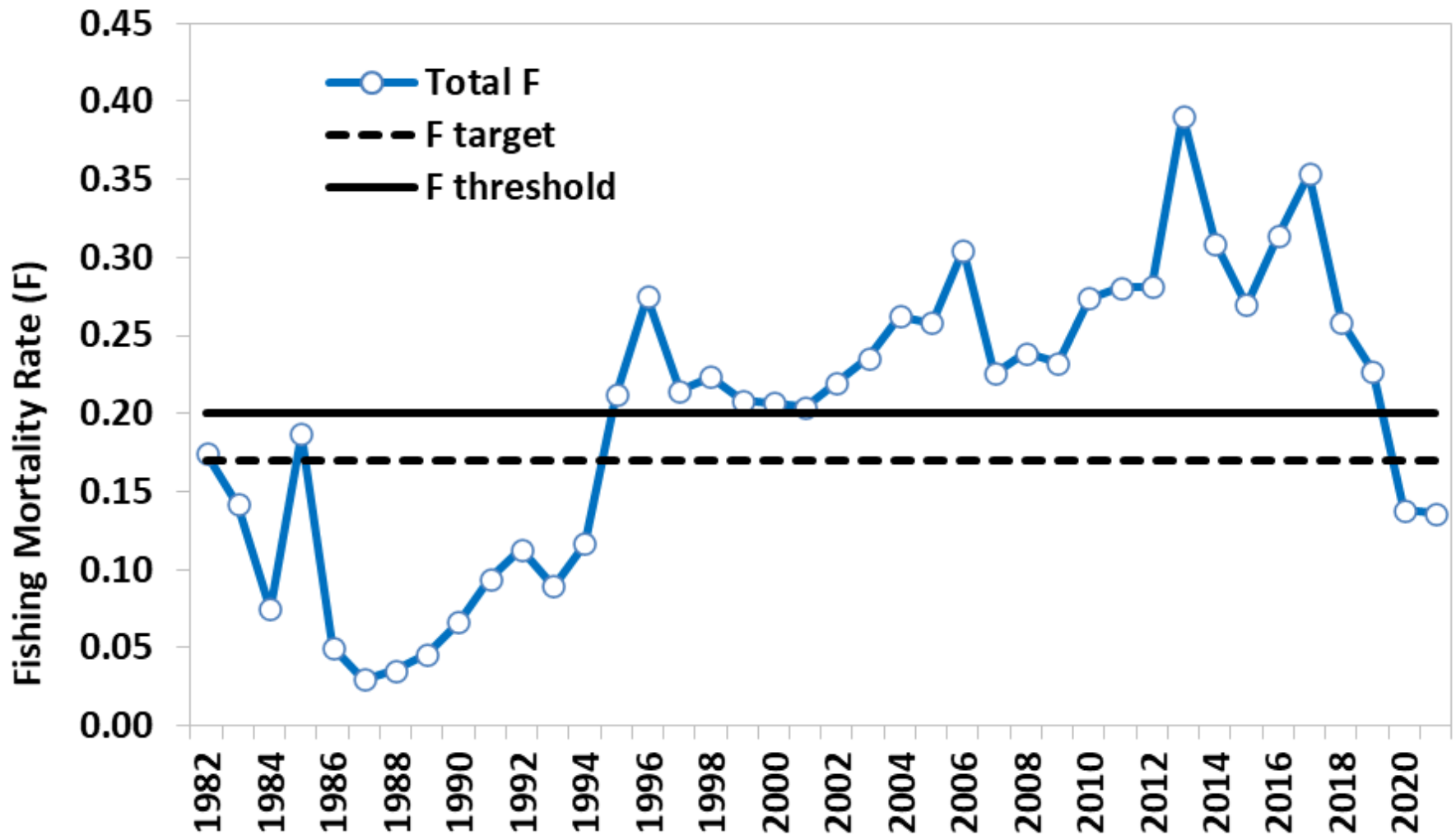
| | SSB mil lbs | F |
|-----------|--------------------|----------|
| 2021 | 143 | 0.14 |
| Threshold | 188 | 0.2 |
| Target | 235 | 0.17 |

- 2024 Stock Assessment Update in-progress

Status of the Stock



Status of the Stock



Status of the FMP

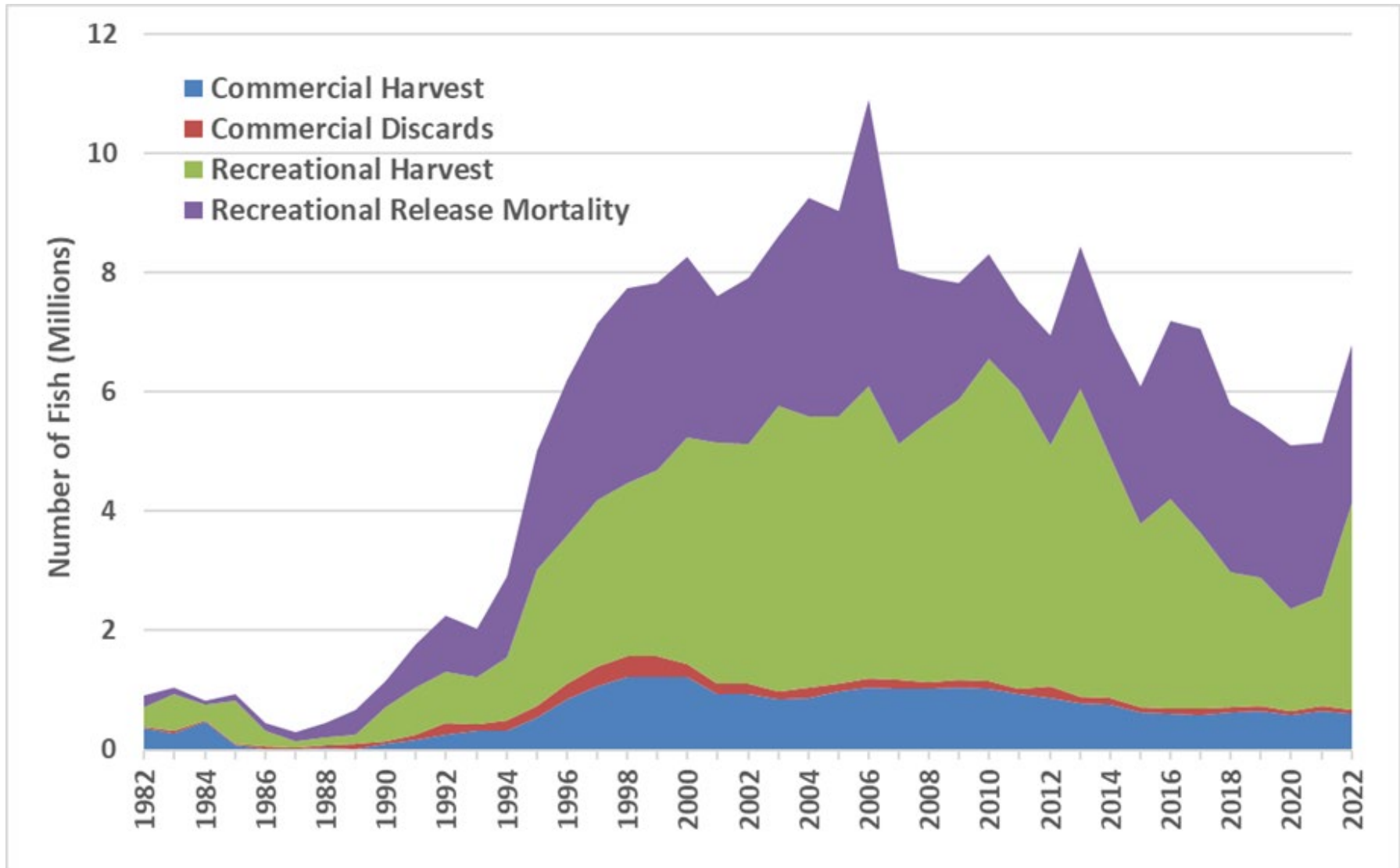


- 2022 was the third year of Addendum VI implementation
- Addendum VI measures designed to reduce total removals by 18% relative to 2017 levels
 - Implemented by April 1, 2020
 - Commercial: Reduced state quotas by 18%
 - Recreational: Ocean 28" to <35" slot and 1 fish/day
 - Recreational: Chesapeake Bay 18" minimum size limit and 1 fish/day
 - Some states implemented alternative regulations through conservation equivalency to achieve an 18% reduction in total removals statewide

Status of the Fishery



Total striped bass removals by sector in numbers of fish



Status of the Fishery - 2022



- 2022 total removals = 6.8 million fish
 - 32% increase from 2021 removals
- Proportion of total removals in numbers of fish

| Year | Commercial | | Recreational | |
|-------------|------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| | Harvest | Dead Discards | Harvest | Release Mortality |
| 2020 | 11% | 1% | 33% | 54% |
| 2021 | 12% | 2% | 36% | 50% |
| 2022 | 9% | 1% | 51% | 39% |

Status of the Fishery - 2021



- Commercial Fishery
 - Harvested 4.28 million lbs. (599,615 fish) in 2022
 - 7% decrease by weight from 2021 (1% decrease by number)
- Commercial Quota Utilization
 - Ocean utilization increased to 79% (from 76%) in 2022
 - Ches. Bay utilization decrease to 80% (from 83%)

Status of the Fishery - 2022



- Recreational Fishery
 - Harvested 3.4 million fish (35.8 million lbs) in 2022
 - 88% increase in harvest relative to 2021 (# of fish)
 - Released alive 29.6 million fish → 2.7 million fish assumed to have died
 - 3% increase in live releases from 2021
- Different trends by region
 - Ocean: increased harvest, live releases, directed trips in 2021
 - Chesapeake Bay: decreased harvest, live releases, directed trips in 2021

Status of the Fishery - 2022



- PRT notes several factors likely contributing to levels of commercial harvest and recreational catch/effort, including
 - Year class availability, particularly the 2015 yc
 - Nearshore availability
 - Angler behavior



STATUS OF MANAGEMENT MEASURES

Addendum VI



- In 2022, a 3.5% reduction in total removals coastwide (numbers of fish) was realized relative to total removals coastwide in 2017

| | Commercial | | Recreational | | Total | |
|------|---------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | Commercial Removals | % Change from 2017 | Rec. Removals | % Change from 2017 | Total Removals | % Change from 2017 |
| 2017 | 691,471 | - | 6,359,021 | - | 7,050,492 | - |
| 2020 | 641,711 | -7% | 4,470,204 | -30% | 5,111,915 | -27.5% |
| 2021 | 729,883 | +6% | 4,435,690 | -30% | 5,155,573 | -27% |
| 2022 | 680,615 | -2% | 6,121,867 | -4% | 6,802,681 | -3.5% |

Addendum VI: Recreational



| State | Realized % Change Recreational Harvest from 2017 | | Realized % Change Recreational Release Mortality from 2017 | | Realized % Change Rec. Removals (Harvest + Release Mortality) from 2017 | | Predicted % Change in Rec. Removals from CE Plan |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------|--|-------------|---|------------|--|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | 2021 | 2022 | |
| Maine | -42% | +161% | -25% | -55% | -26% | -38% | NA |
| New Hampshire | -88% | -38% | -71% | -26% | -75% | -29% | NA |
| Massachusetts | -54% | +22% | -64% | -55% | -61% | -35% | NA |
| Rhode Island | -4% | +11% | +91% | -39% | +62% | -24% | NA |
| Connecticut | -78% | +23% | -41% | -46% | -48% | -34% | NA |
| New York | -71% | +85% | +13% | +146% | -42% | +106% | -23.8% |
| New Jersey | +22% | +80% | +237% | +186% | +76% | +106% | -25% |
| Delaware | -66% | -86% | +11% | +188% | -31% | +38% | -20% |
| Maryland | -47% | -41% | -50% | -56% | -48% | -47% | -20.6% |
| Virginia | -36% | -49% | -60% | -76% | -48% | -63% | -23.4% |
| North Carolina [^] | - | - | +305% | +570% | +305% | +570% | NA |
| Coastwide Total | -37% | +18% | -24% | -22% | -30% | -4% | |

[^]Offshore recreational harvest for North Carolina was 0 fish in 2017 and 2020-2022. Offshore estimated release mortality for North Carolina was 463 fish in 2017, 0 fish in 2020, 1,875 fish in 2021, and 3,107 fish in 2022. Note: Increased harvest in 2022 and increased recreational releases in NY, NJ, and DE contributed to realized reductions in total recreational removals being less than predicted for those states.

Addendum VI: Commercial



| State | % Change in Commercial Harvest by weight from 2017 | | % Change in Commercial Quota ⁺ |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------|---|
| | 2021 | 2022 | Add VI |
| Ocean | | | |
| Maine | | | |
| New Hampshire | | | |
| Massachusetts | -11% | -6% | -18%* |
| Rhode Island | -26% | -7% | -18% |
| Connecticut | | | |
| New York | -10% | -11% | -18%* |
| New Jersey | | | |
| Delaware | -1% | -2% | -1.8% |
| Maryland (ocean) | +10% | 9% | -1.8% |
| Virginia (ocean) | -10% | -9% | -9.8% |
| North Carolina [^] | - | - | -18% |
| Ocean Total | -10% | -7% | |
| Chesapeake Bay | | | |
| Maryland (Ches. Bay) | -9% | -15% | -1.8% |
| PRFC (Ches. Bay) | -17% | -13% | -1.8% |
| Virginia (Ches. Bay) | -12% | -13% | -7.7% |
| Chesapeake Bay Total | -12% | -14% | |
| Coastwide Total | -11% | -11% | |

Note: Some quotas changed through CE, including some states chose a less than 18% commercial quota reduction in exchange for a greater than 18% reduction in recreational removals in their CE plans.

Amend. 7 Recruitment Trigger



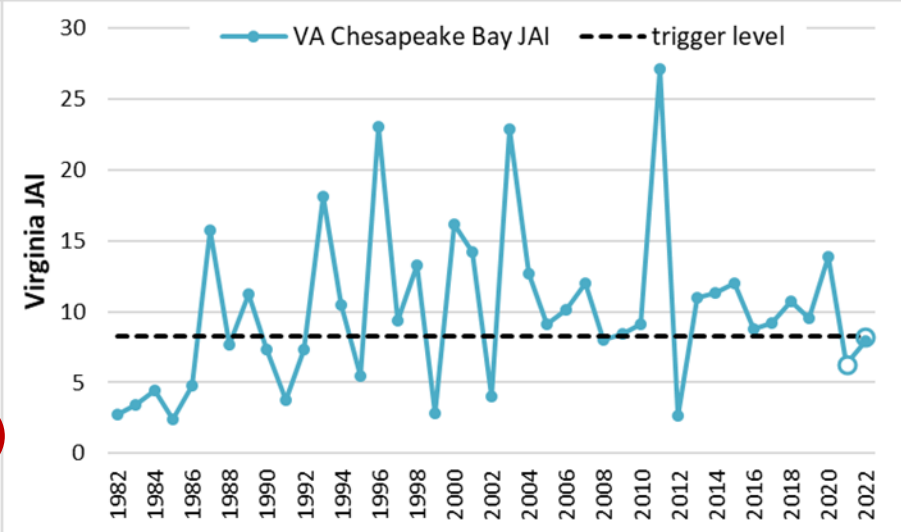
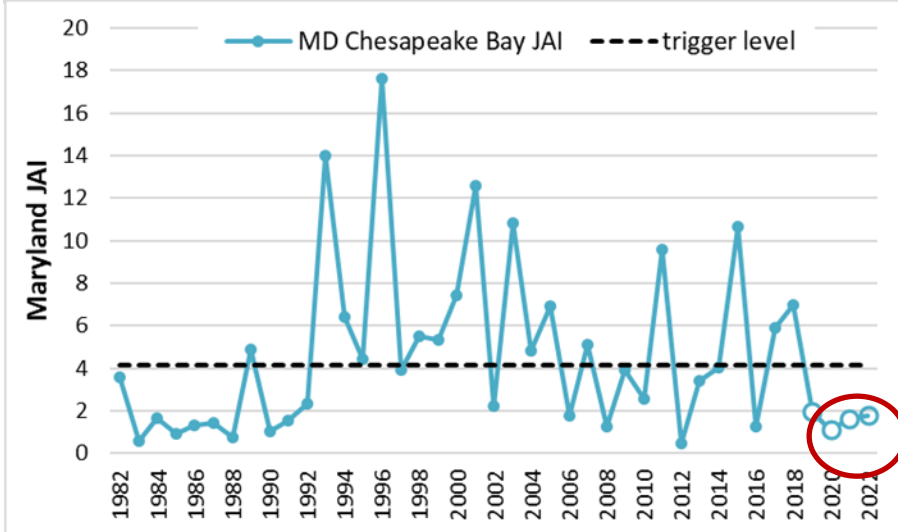
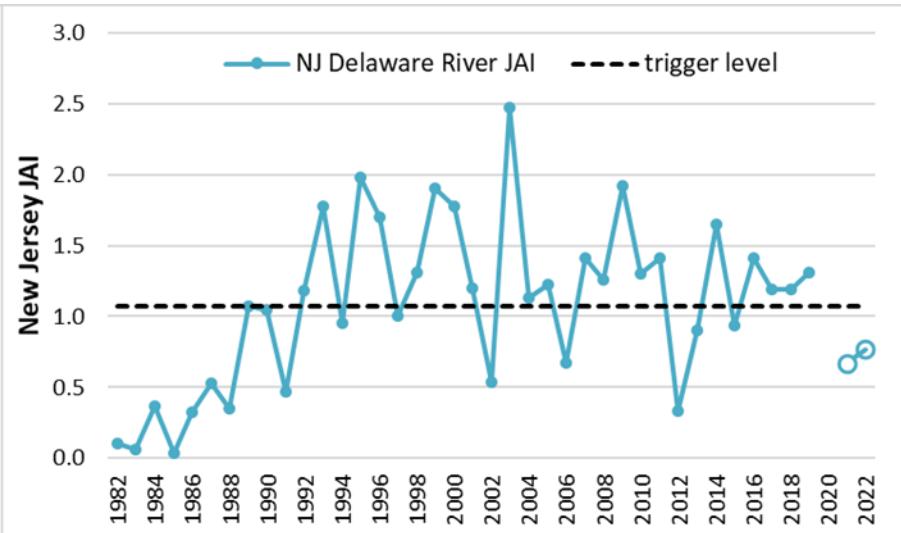
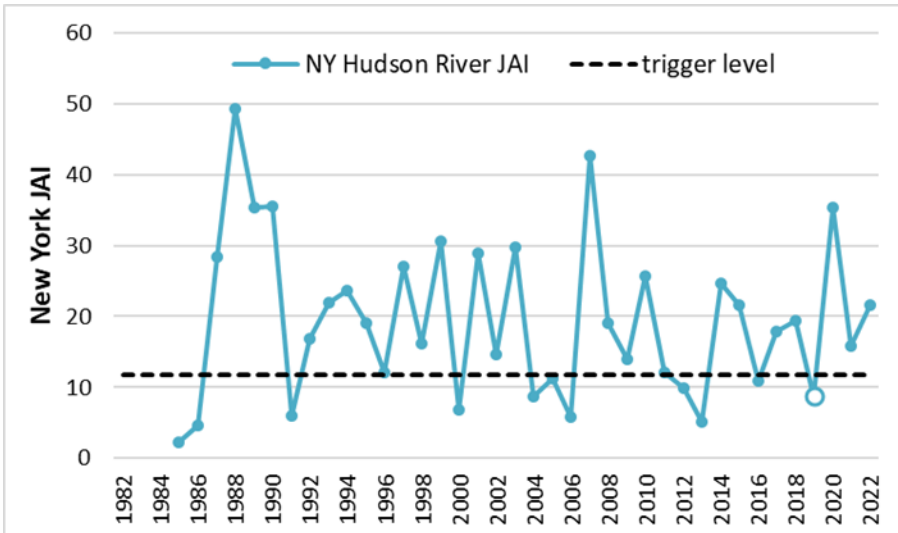
- IF any of the four JAIs used in the assessment (NY, NJ, MD, VA) is below 75% of all values from 1992-2006 (high recruitment period) for three consecutive years...
- THEN interim F reference points calculated using the low recruitment assumption will be implemented

Amend. 7 Recruitment Trigger



- Reviewed 2019, 2020, 2021 JAI values →
- Maryland JAI meets the recruitment trigger criteria
- So, F reference points will be calculated using the low recruitment assumption in the upcoming 2022 assessment update

Amend. 7 Recruitment Trigger



PRT Comments



In 2022, all states implemented a management and monitoring program consistent with the provisions of the FMP, with three inconsistencies but the Board did not raise concern with these so I will not go over them today they are in the document.

There are no *de minimus* requests

PRT Recommendations



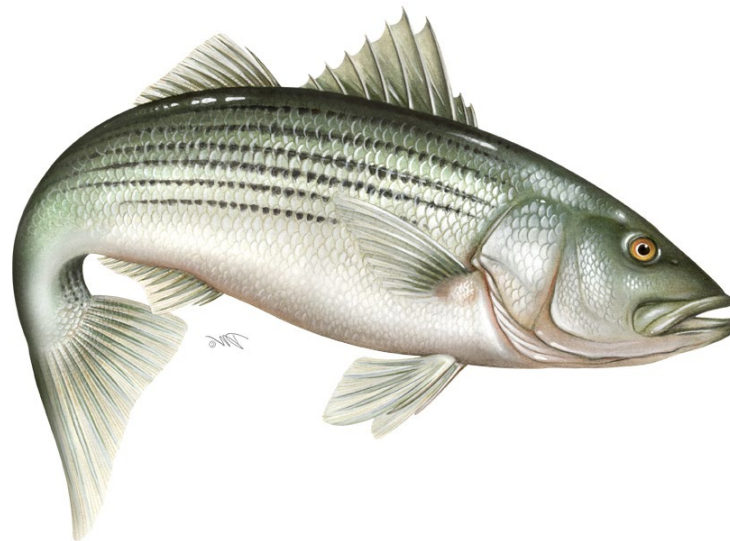
- PRT recommends the Board task the PRT with a specific review of the commercial tagging program at a regular interval to review the program components, such as the biological metrics used to allocate tags

PRT Recommendations



- For the incidental catch requirement, many states have implemented the provision as written (or nearly as written) in Amendment 7,
 - Some states have referred to alternative regulatory language to meet the requirement but this language notes that anglers can only take or catch striped bass via methods/gear that are legally allowed. In a few cases it does not explicitly say **fish must return to the water unharmed**
 - **If the Board has any concerns with the proposed alternative language, the Board should discuss those concerns as soon as possible.**
- NY may consider a change to the Hudson River monitoring to provide an index of relative abundance to characterize the Hudson River stock per the high priority research recommendation of the SAW 66

Questions?





Atlantic Striped Bass 2023 Emergency Action Public Hearings Summary



August 2023

Outline



- 2023 Emergency Action
- Public Hearing Summary
- Next Step

2023 Emergency Action



- At May 2023 Meeting, Striped Bass Management Board approved emergency action to implement 31” maximum size limit for recreational fisheries
- Effective for 180 days: May 2 through October 28, 2023
- 31” maximum applies to all recreational fisheries with a higher (or no) maximum size, excluding May Chesapeake Bay trophy fisheries
- All other measures remain the same (bag limits, seasons, etc.)
- All States implements by the July 2 deadline



Public Hearing Summary on 2023 Emergency Action

Hearings on Emergency Action



- Four virtual public hearings were held within 30 days of the EA

| Date | Time |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Wednesday, May 17 | 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. |
| Monday, May 22 | 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. |
| Tuesday, May 23 | 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday, May 31 | 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. |

Hearings on Emergency Action



- 62 people, including reps of 11 orgs, commented in supported the EA. Comments supported:
 - Proactive swift action to support the 2015 yc
 - Need to have the 2015 yc out of the slot limit with low recruitment and a lack of strong year classes since 2015
 - Importance of all sectors contributing equally to stock rebuilding
 - Concern raised for the potential of states to be out of compliance

Hearings on Emergency Action



- 24 people, including reps from 3 orgs commented in opposition of the EA. Comments noted:
 - Narrow slot will increase releases and mortality
 - Action only targets those that harvest fish
 - Causes an economic hardship for the for-hire sector

2023 Emergency Action



- Current EA expires on October 28, 2023
- If it deems necessary, the Board may extend the emergency action for two additional periods of up to one year each
- Simple majority vote to extend

Questions?





Atlantic Striped Bass Draft Addendum II for Board Review



Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board
August 2023

Outline



- Overview and Timeline for Draft Addendum II
- Background
- Management Options
 - Including PDT Memo Comments

Board action for consideration today: Consider approval of Draft Addendum II for public comment



PDT Members



- Nichola Meserve (MA)
- Nicole Lengyel Costa (RI)
- Caitlin Craig (NY)
- Brendan Harrison (NJ)
- Jordan Zimmerman (DE)
- Angela Giuliano (MD)
- Emilie Franke (ASMFC)



Addendum II Timeline



| Date | Action |
|-------------------------|--|
| May 2023 | Board initiated the Draft Addendum |
| May – July 2023 | Plan Development Team (PDT) develops Draft Addendum document |
| August 2023 | Board reviews and approves Draft Addendum II for public comment |
| August – September 2023 | Public comment period, including public hearings |
| October – November 2023 | Board reviews public comment, selects management measures, final approval of Addendum II |

Note: The timeline is subject to change per the direction of the Board.

Draft Addendum Components



1.0 INTRODUCTION

2.0 Overview

- Statement of the Problem
- Background
- Management Status
- Status of the Fishery

3.0 Proposed Management

- Recreational Measures
- Commercial Measures

4.0 Compliance Schedule





INTRODUCTION

Introduction



- Board initiated Addendum II to Amendment 7 to address stock rebuilding beyond 2023
 - Measures to achieve F target from the '22 assessment
 - Recreational measures to include modifications to the slot, harvest closures and max size limits
 - Commercial measures include a max size but no quota reductions
 - Ability to respond via Board action to the 2024 assessment





**OVERVIEW: STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM,
BACKGROUND, STOCK STATUS,
MANAGEMENT STATUS, FISHERY STATUS**

Statement of the Problem



- Stock to rebuilt by 2029
- Recent projections indicate a low probability of meeting the deadline
- Concern Am 7 measures in combination with the strong 2015 yc will lead to high level of catch in '24
- Concern the Addendum process will take too long to respond to the results of the '24 assessment update



Background

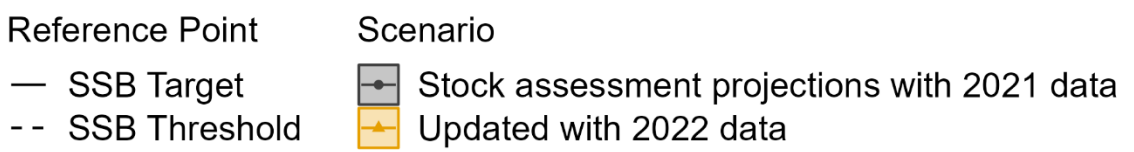
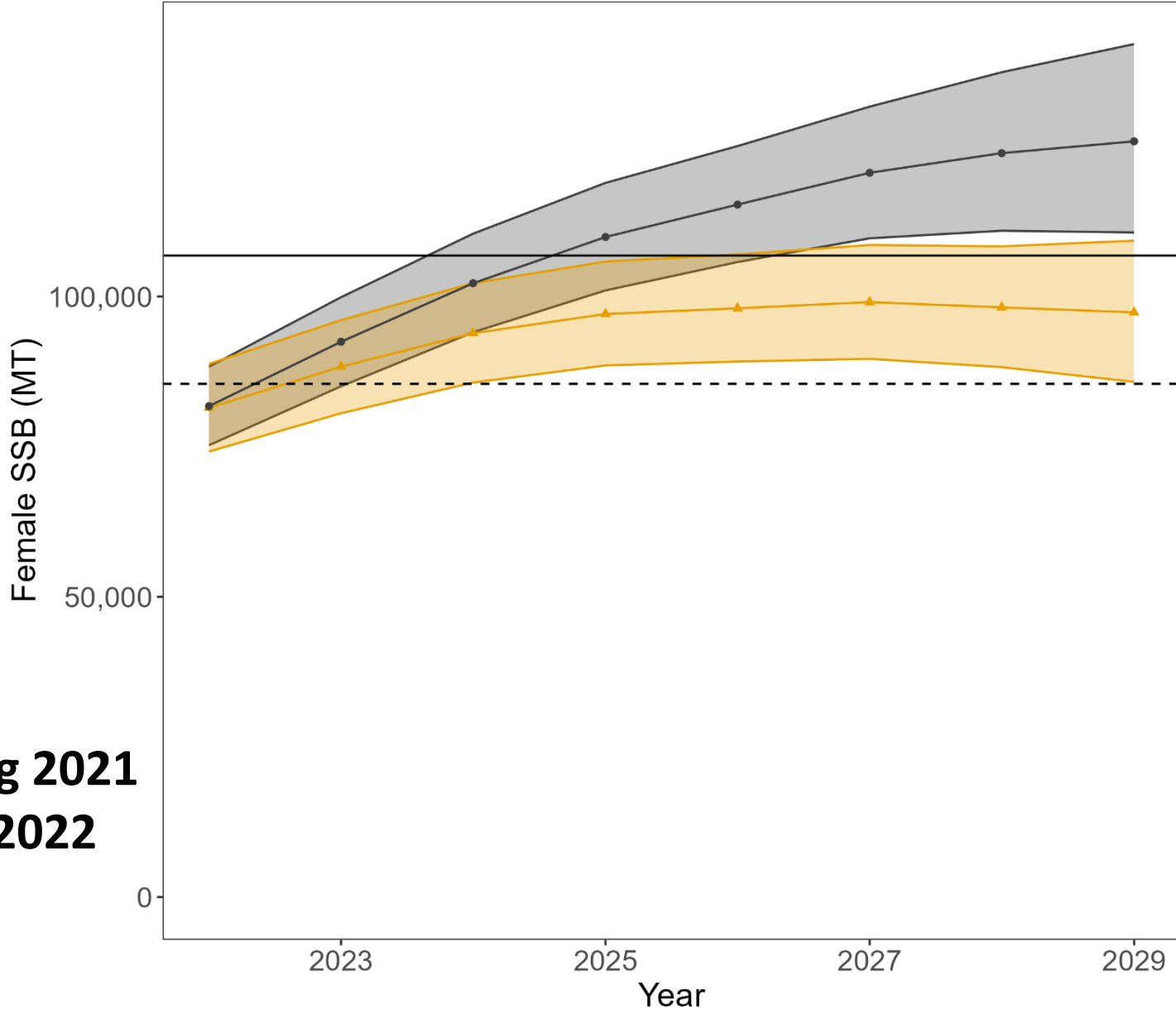


Stock Status

- Overfished, overfishing not occurring
- '22 assessment update projection indicated a 97% probability of achieving rebuilding (using the harvest rate from 2021)
- NEW projections using the preliminary '22 removals indicates a 15% probability of achieving rebuilding



Stock rebuilding projections using 2021 data (grey) and 2022 data (yellow)



Background



Management Status

- Am 7- maintained Ad VI rec & com measures
 - Includes separate measures for ocean & Bay
 - Com & rec FMP standards were not changed
 - CE from Ad VI were carried forward
- Am 7 restricts use of CE when FMP standard is revised.
 - CE programs will not be approved
- Immediate action provision of Am 7 to respond to the '22 assessment was not used



Background



Management Status

- Emergency Action
 - 31" Max size limit for recreational fishery
 - Designed to protect the 2015 year class
 - Projected to achieve 18-30% reduction in harvest in 2023 relative to 2022
 - All states have implemented



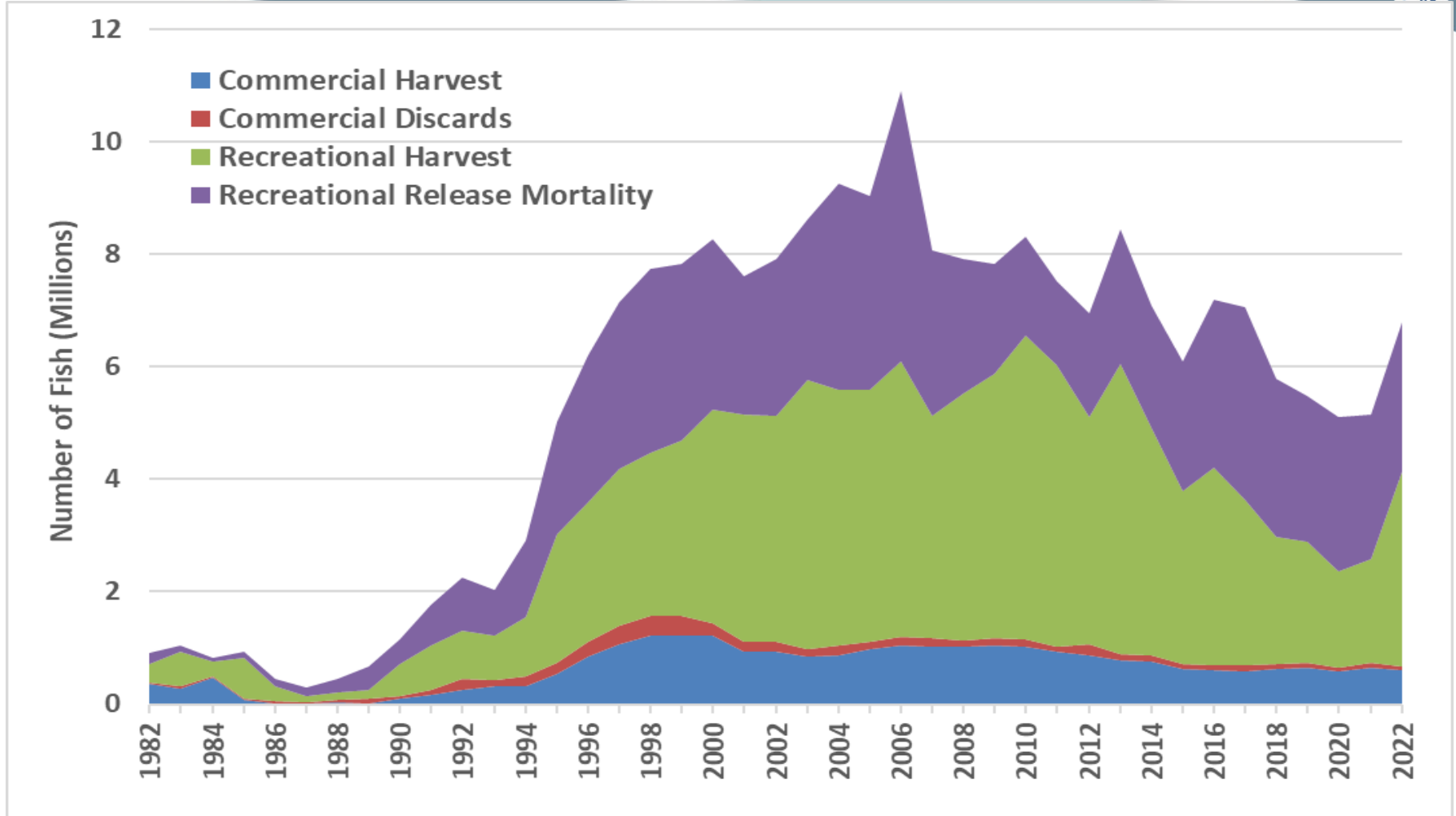
Social and Economic Impact



- Slot limits
 - Less effort on angler preferred large fish → could mean less harvest or increase in discards → short term impact unclear
 - Potential short term impact on local economies
 - Long term quality fishing experience
- No-harvest closures
 - Potential to shift behavior to catch and release or fishing other times of year
- Commercial
 - Size of fish impacts



Status of the Fishery 2022



- Commercial 10% and Recreational 90%



Status of the Fishery 2022



Commercial Fishery

- Managed by quotas
- Size limits, seasons and gear types vary by state
- Results in different mean lengths and weights by region





MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Projections



- Projection method was used in the 2022 Assessment to achieve F target in '24 with a 50% probability
- Used 2022 removals state and estimated 2023 removals accounting for the EA
- New selectivity curve for 2023 EA
- **14.5% Reduction needed to achieve F target in '24**
- Commercial reduction can not be calculated
- **NEW OVERALL REDUCTION NEEDED 16.1%**



Option Development



OCEAN

- 2020 data used to characterize fish availability in 2024
- 2022 data used to develop closure options

BAY

- 2021 data used to characterize fish availability in 2024
- 2022 data used to develop closure options





3.1 RECREATIONAL OPTIONS

Ocean Rec Options



Option A. Status Quo: 1 fish at 28" to <35" with 2017 season dates

- Allows the continuation of the existing Addendum VI CE plans
- Options does not achieve the objective to achieve F target in 2024

Options B through D. combination of slot limit and seasonal closure

- Any new size limit also applies to the Bay trophy fisheries with 2022 trophy season dates.
- All closure dates will be specified during final adoption. For coastwide closures, all states will have the same closure dates. For regional closures, all states within a region will have the same closure dates.
- *The public is encouraged to provide comments on which period during certain Waves they would prefer the closure to occur (e.g., if Wave 4 closure, note preference for early or late July or August).*



Ocean Rec Options



| Ocean Options | Overall Reduction | Harvest Change | Rec. Release Mortality Change |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Option B. 1 fish at 28" – 31" with 2022 seasons plus harvest closure, as follows: | | | |
| B1. 14 days Wave 6 for all states | -16.8% | -53.1% | +2.7% |
| B2. 10 days Wave 4 for ME-CT and 10 days Wave 6 for NY-NC | -17.0% | -53.3% | +2.7% |
| B3. 14 days Wave 4 for ME-MA, and 14 days Wave 3 for RI-NC | -16.6% | -52.8% | +2.6% |
| B4. 10 days Wave 4 for ME-MA, and 10 days Wave 6 for RI-NC | -16.8% | -53.1% | +2.7% |
| B5. 15 days Wave 4 ME-NH, and 15 days Wave 3 MA-NJ, and 15 days Wave 6 DE-NC | -16.2% | -52.4% | +2.5% |
| B6. 21 days Wave 4 ME-NH, and 21 days Wave 5 MA-NJ, and 21 days Wave 6 DE-NC | -16.7% | -52.9% | +2.7% |



Ocean Rec Options



| Ocean Options | Overall Reduction | Harvest Change | Rec. Release Mortality Change |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Option C. 1 fish at 28" – 32" with 2022 seasons plus harvest closure, as follows: | | | |
| C1. 14 days Wave 3, plus 14 days Wave 4, plus 14 days Wave 6 for all states (<i>6 weeks total for all states</i>) | -17.7% | -48.4% | +3.2% |
| C2. 21 days Wave 4 for ME-CT, and 21 days Wave 6 for NY-NC | -17.4% | -48.0% | +3.1% |
| C3. 21 days Wave 4 for ME-MA, and 21 days Wave 6 for RI-NC | -17.0% | -47.4% | +3.0% |
| Option D. 1 fish at 30" – 33" with 2022 seasons plus harvest closure, as follows: | | | |
| D1. 14 days Wave 4, plus 14 days Wave 6 for all states (<i>4 weeks total for all states</i>) | -17.4% | -51.2% | +3.0% |
| D2. 14 days Wave 4 for ME-CT, and 14 days Wave 6 NY-NC | -16.9% | -50.5% | +2.8% |
| D3. 21 days Wave 4 for ME-MA, and 21 days Wave 3 for RI-NC | -16.6% | -50.1% | +2.8% |
| D4. 14 days Wave 4 for ME-MA, and 14 days Wave 6 for RI-NC | -16.6% | -50.2% | +2.8% |



Bay Rec Options



- Option A. Status Quo:** 1 fish at 18" min size with 2017 season dates
- Allows for the continuation of the existing Addendum VI CE plans.
 - Options does not achieve the objective to achieve *F* target in 2024

Options B through I. All Chesapeake Bay options are summarized in next slides table.

- All closure dates will be specified during final adoption of this addendum. The Board should work to align Chesapeake Bay jurisdiction closures as much as possible, acknowledging that perfect alignment may not be possible given existing, differing closure dates.
- *The public is encouraged to provide comments on which period during certain Waves they would prefer the closure to occur (e.g., if Wave 4 closure, note preference for early or late July or August).*





| Chesapeake Bay Options with Consistent Maximum Size | | | | | | | |
|--|---|------------------|------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | Min. Size | Max. Size | Bag Limit | Season | Overall Reduction | Harvest Change | Rec. Release Mortality (RRM) Change |
| Option B | Same as 2022: 18" DC, 19" MD, 20" VA & PRFC | 23" | same as 2022* | same as 2022 ⁺ | -17.8% | -31.6% | +4.9% |
| Option C | Same as 2022: 18" DC, 19" MD, 20" VA & PRFC | 24" | same as 2022* | 16 day harvest closure in Wave 4 for MD, and Wave 6 for PRFC/DC [^] /VA (on top of 2022 ⁺ seasons) | -16.2% | -27.0% | +4.8% |

| Chesapeake Bay Options with Consistent Minimum and Maximum Size | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| | Min. Size | Max. Size | Bag Limit | Season | Overall Reduction | Harvest Change | RRM Change |
| Option D | 20" (all jurisdictions) | 24" | same as 2022* | same as 2022 ⁺ | -17.2% | -30.5% | +4.7% |
| Option E | 20" (all jurisdictions) | 25" | same as 2022* | 20 day harvest closure in Wave 6 for all jurisdictions (on top of 2022 ⁺ seasons) | -16.1% | -27.6% | +4.6% |
| Option F | 20" (all jurisdictions) | 26" | same as 2022* | 16 day harvest closure in Wave 4 for MD, and Wave 6 for PRFC/DC [^] /VA (on top of 2022 ⁺ seasons) | -16.5% | -27.5% | +4.9% |
| Option G | 20" (all jurisdictions) | 28" | same as 2022* | 22 day harvest closure in Wave 4 for MD, and Wave 6 for PRFC/DC [^] /VA (on top of 2022 ⁺ seasons) | -16.4% | -26.9% | +4.9% |

| Chesapeake Bay Options with Consistent Minimum Size, Maximum Size, and Bag Limit | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| | Min. Size | Max. Size | Bag Limit | Season | Overall Reduction | Harvest Change | RRM Change |
| Option H | 19" (all jurisdictions) | 23" | 1 fish (all modes) | same as 2022 ⁺ | -22.4% | -38.4% | +6.7% |
| Option I | 20" (all jurisdictions) | 26" | 1 fish (all modes) | same as 2022 ⁺ | -17.0% | -29.1% | +4.8% |



PDT Notes on Rec Options



- Starting point for measures
 - Issues applies to the Bay options and commercial options due to the nature of the CE programs in place
- No Bay rec option creates a truly consistent set of measures across the Bay
- Wiping the slate clean was not feasible
- However the PDT created options where there are standard size and bag limits with 2022 seasons maintained



PDT Notes on Rec Options



If the Board's intent is to proceed in adopting past CE programs as part of the new FMP standard (2022 starting point) or not (original FMP standard 'wipe the slate clean'), the Board can eliminate options before approving the draft addendum for public comment (i.e., choose one approach and eliminate commercial option set C).

For the Bay, since the rec options do not completely 'wipe the slate clean' to the FMP standard, the commercial FMP standard 'wipe the slate clean' approach may not be consistent.

For the ocean, the Board should consider the implications of the FMP standard approach on states that originally took a less than 18% quota reduction for their commercial fisheries in Addendum VI.



PDT Notes on Rec Options



- Mode Splits
- No targeting seasonal closures
- At-sea Filleting



Possible Addition: Mode Split



Example Ocean Recreational Options (for Section 3.1.1)

Option B. Private vessel/shore modes would have a size limit of 28" to 31.0" and for-hire modes would have a size limit of 28" to 33.0". All modes subject to the same corresponding seasonal closure. – *16.2%-16.9% reduction depending on closure*

Note: For sub-option B5, the for-hire wider slot option would add one day to the harvest closure for each region, increasing from 15 to 16 days.

Option C. Private vessel/shore modes would have a size limit of 28" to 32.0" and for-hire modes would have a size limit of 28" to 34.0". All modes subject to the same corresponding seasonal closure. – *16.9%-17.3% reduction depending on closure*

Option D. Private vessel/shore modes would have a size limit of 30" to 33.0" and for-hire modes would have a size limit of 30" to 34.0". All modes subject to the same corresponding seasonal closure. – *16.5%-17.3% reduction depending on closure*

Example Chesapeake Bay Recreational Options (for Section 3.1.2)

Option H. All modes would have a size limit of 19" to 23". Private vessel/shore modes would have a 1-fish bag limit, and for-hire modes would have a 2-fish bag limit. All modes subject to the 2022 seasons. – *17.9% reduction*

Option I. All modes would have a size limit of 20" to 24". Private vessel/shore modes would have a 1-fish bag limit, and for-hire modes would have a 2-fish bag limit. All modes subject to the 2022 seasons. – *18.1% reduction*



Additional Option: At-Sea Filleting



Example Options (new section 3.1.3 under Recreational Fishery Management)

Option A. Status quo. No requirement in the Interstate FMP for Atlantic Striped Bass related to at-sea/shoreside filleting.

Option B. Establish minimum requirements for states that authorize at-sea/shore-side filleting of striped bass, including requirements for: racks to be retained; skin is left intact; and no more than two fillets per legal fish are in possession. States should include language about when and where racks may be disposed of, specific to each mode allowed to fillet at-sea/shore.





3.2 COMMERCIAL MEASURES

Commercial Measures



| State | Describe Change | Example Starting Size Limit | Example New Size Limit | Percent Quota Change to Maintain Same Spawning Potential |
|----------|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| MA | Apply new maximum size and lower minimum size (<i>change to slot almost entirely below prior size</i>) | 34" min. | 28 – 35" slot | 36% quota reduction |
| MA | Apply new maximum size and maintain same minimum size (<i>add upper bound where none existed before</i>) | 28" min. | 28 – 35" slot | 28% quota reduction |
| RI | | 34" min. for H&L 26" min. for FFT | 34 – 38" slot HL 26 – 38" slot FFT | 25% quota reduction |
| RI | | 28" min. | 28 – 35" slot | 27% quota reduction |
| RI | | 28" min. | 28 – 38" slot | 24% quota reduction |
| RI | | 28" min. | 28 – 40" slot | 19% quota reduction |
| RI | | 28" min | 28 – 42" slot | 12% quota reduction |
| DE | | 20" min | 20 – 42" slot | 0.3% quota reduction |
| Ches Bay | Apply year-round maximum size to all three Bay jurisdictions | Combined Ches Bay: MD 18-36" slot; PRFC 18" min/ seasonal 36" max; VA 18" min/ seasonal 28" max | MD, PRFC, VA at 18 – 36" slot | 3% quota reduction |
| Ches Bay | | | MD, PRFC, VA at 18 – 28" slot | 3.5% quota reduction |
| MD Bay | Lower maximum size limit | 18 – 36" slot | 18 – 34" slot | 5% quota reduction |



Commercial Options



Option A. Status Quo: No commercial maximum size limit

- All commercial fisheries maintain 2017 size limits (or Addendum VI approved CE plans).
- Am 7 quotas including Ad VI approved CE-adjusted quotas remain unchanged

Option Set B: Spawning Potential Quota Adjustments (*select one sub-option*)

- **Option B1. No Quota Adjustment:**

- Quotas would not be adjusted using spawning potential analysis to account for implementing a new maximum size limit.
- Does not account for change in spawning potential resulting from harvesting different size fish.

- **Option B2. With Quota Adjustment:**

- Quotas would be adjusted using spawning potential analysis to account for implementing a new maximum size limit.
- State-specific analysis would be required to maintain the same spawning potential under the new size limit.
- Most state quotas would likely decrease as a result of implementing a maximum size limit where there was none previously.



Commercial Options



Option Set C: Starting Point for Applying Maximum Size to Quota (*select one sub-option*)

- **C1. 2022 as Starting Point.** Apply new maximum size limit to 2022 com quotas (including those adjusted through Addendum VI CE) and 2022 size limits.
 - States could submit CE proposals to change their size limits using spawning potential analysis to adjust their quotas accordingly.
 - Can not go below 18" or above the selected max size



Commercial Options



C2. FMP Standard as Starting Point. Align quotas with FMP historical standard size limits and then implement selected maximum size limit for each region, resulting in a standard commercial slot limit for each region.

- CE can be used to change size limits using spawning potential analysis to adjust quotas.
- Can not go below 18" or above the selected max size
- **Ocean**, use Am 6 28" minimum standard quotas to start. Apply the new size maximum size limit as a standard ocean slot from 28" up to the selected maximum size limit. Consistent with Amendment 6, Delaware Bay gill net fisheries would have a slot from a 20" minimum up to the selected maximum size limit.
- **Bay**, use the Ad IV base Bay quota with an 18" minimum to start, and determine what quotas would be if no CE had occurred. Apply the new size limit as a standard Chesapeake Bay slot from an 18" minimum up to the selected maximum size limit.

NOTE: This option 'wipes the slate clean' of both Add IV and Add VI CEs

- *For the Chesapeake Bay, since the recreational options do not completely 'wipe the slate clean' to the FMP standard, this commercial FMP standard approach may not be consistent.*
- *For the ocean, the implications of the FMP standard approach for states that took a less than 18% quota reduction in 2020 should be considered.*



Possible Addition: No Targeting



Example Options (additional option set for Sections 3.1.1 and 3.1.2)

Option A. Any recreational seasonal closure implemented through Addendum II would be a no-harvest closure.

Option B. Any recreational seasonal closure implemented through Addendum II would be a no-targeting closure.



Commercial Options



Option Set D. Ocean Commercial Maximum Size Limits (*select one sub-option*)

- **D1.** 38-inch maximum size limit
- **D2.** 40-inch maximum size limit for all ocean commercial fisheries.
- **D3.** 42-inch maximum size limit for all ocean commercial fisheries.

Option Set E. Chesapeake Bay Commercial Maximum Size Limits (*select one sub-option*)

- **E1.** 36-inch maximum size limit for all Chesapeake Bay commercial fisheries, except Jan 1-May 31 when the max size is reduced to 28 “
 - provides extra protection for spawning fish and pre-spawn fish entering the Bay.
- **E2.** 36-inch maximum size limit for all Chesapeake Bay commercial fisheries.



PDT Notes Commercial Options



If a spawning potential analysis and quota adjustment is required for a size limit change

- It will be unique for each state
- Board must decide when this analysis will occur
 - Before public comment- delay the addendum by 1 meeting cycle (with limited other changes)
 - After the Addendum is approved- the public will not know how much the quota will change
 - In the middle of public comment-this timeline may be unrealistic due to limited staff time

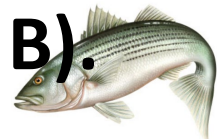


PDT Notes Commercial Options



1. Max size with a quota adjustment for spawning potential = decreases in state quotas to account for lost spawning potential with the harvest of smaller fish
2. Max size no adjustment = potential increase in number of fish harvested since the avg fish size will decrease

The PDT recommends the Board discuss their intent and make a decision today regarding how to move forward with commercial size limits and quota adjustments before approving Draft Addendum II for public comment (i.e., choose one approach and eliminate commercial option set B).



Possible Addition: Anchor Gill Net Mesh



Example Options (additional option set for Section 3.2.1, select one sub-option)

Option F1. Anchored gill net fisheries are subject to the same maximum size limits as all other commercial striped bass gears.

Option F2. Anchored Gill Net Exemption

- Anchored gill net fisheries are not subject to a maximum size limit, but instead are subject to maximum mesh size requirements. Mesh size requirements will be designed to protect the same size fish as specified in the addendum as other commercial gears. Until such time the appropriate mesh size requirement is determined and reviewed by the TC and Board, anchored gill nets will be subject to the selected maximum fish size limit. Commercial tagging must occur at the point of harvest for states with an exempted fishery, and tags for the exempted anchored gill net fishery must be discernible from other fisheries (e.g., tags are of gear-specific colors or are inscribed with gear-specific size limits).

Option F3. States may submit CE proposals requesting an exemption to maximum fish size limits for anchored gill nets with the addition of maximum mesh size requirements.

- Commercial tagging must occur at the point of harvest for states with an exempted fishery, and tags for the exempted anchored gill net fishery must be discernible from other fisheries (e.g., tags are of gear-specific colors or are inscribed with gear-specific size limits).



Possible Addition: Com Tagging



Only allow tagging at the point of harvest

If the Board wanted to add an option to the Draft Addendum to require that commercial tagging be at point-of-harvest, the Board should consider a delayed implementation schedule to account for the extensive administrative and regulatory changes required for those states that currently implement point-of-sale tagging.



Assessment Response



3.3 Response to Stock Assessment Updates: If the stock is not projected to rebuild by 2029 with a probability greater than or equal to 50%

Option A. Status Quo: Addendum or Amendment Process

- Includes a public comment period
- Based on assessment timing and document and implementation process, new measures likely not be **implemented** for two years following the assessment.

Option B. Respond via Board action where the Board could change management measures by voting to pass a motion at a Board meeting instead of developing an addendum.

- Public comment provided during Board meetings, and/or in writing to the Board prior to Board meetings.
- Allow a more expedited response to assessment updates.
- E.g. Assessment completed in Oct 2024, the Board could change management measures at that meeting or a meeting shortly thereafter, which would enable new measures to be implemented for part of the 2025 season.



Draft Addendum II



Board action for consideration today: Consider approval of Draft Addendum II for public comment



Questions?



Recreational Options



3.1.1 Ocean

- Option A: Status Quo
- Option B1-B5: 28-31" with closure
- Options C1-C3: 28-32" with closure
- Option D1-D4:30-33" with closures

3.1.2 Bay

- Option A: Status Quo
- Option B and C: Consistent max size
- Option D-G: Consistent min/max size
- Option H-1: Consistent min/max size, bag

Consider Adding from the PDT Memo

Mode Split

No targeting closures

At-Sea Fillet



Commercial Options



3.2.1 Commercial Max Size Limits

Option A. Status Quo: No commercial maximum size limit

Option Set B: Spawning Potential Quota Adjustments (*select one sub-option*)

- **Option B1. No Quota Adjustment**
- **Option B2. With Quota Adjustment**

Option Set C: Starting Point for Applying Maximum Size to Quota (*select one sub-option*)

- **C1. 2022 as Starting Point.**
- **C2. FMP Standard as Starting Point.**

Option Set D. Ocean Commercial Max Size (*select one sub-option*)

- **D1. 38-inch max size for ocean**
- **D2. 40-inch max size for ocean**
- **D3. 42-inch max size for ocean**

Option Set E. Bay Commercial Max Size (*select one sub-option*)

- **E1. 36-inch maximum size, except from Jan 1 -May 31 max size limit is 28"**
- **E2. 36-inch Bay max size limit**

Consider Adding from the PDT Memo

Anchored Gill Net Mesh Size

Limit on point of tagging

