

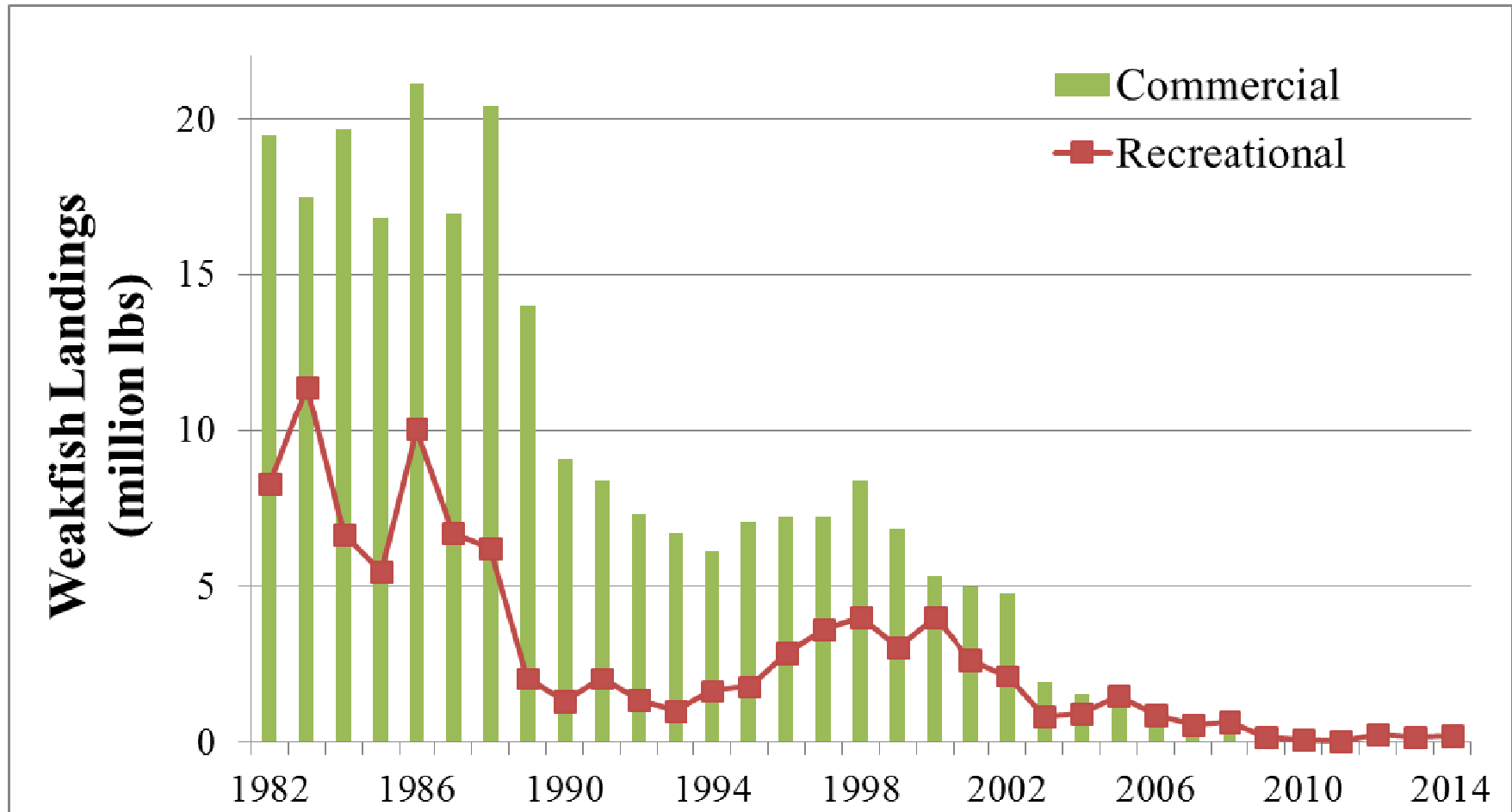


Weakfish 2015 FMP Review

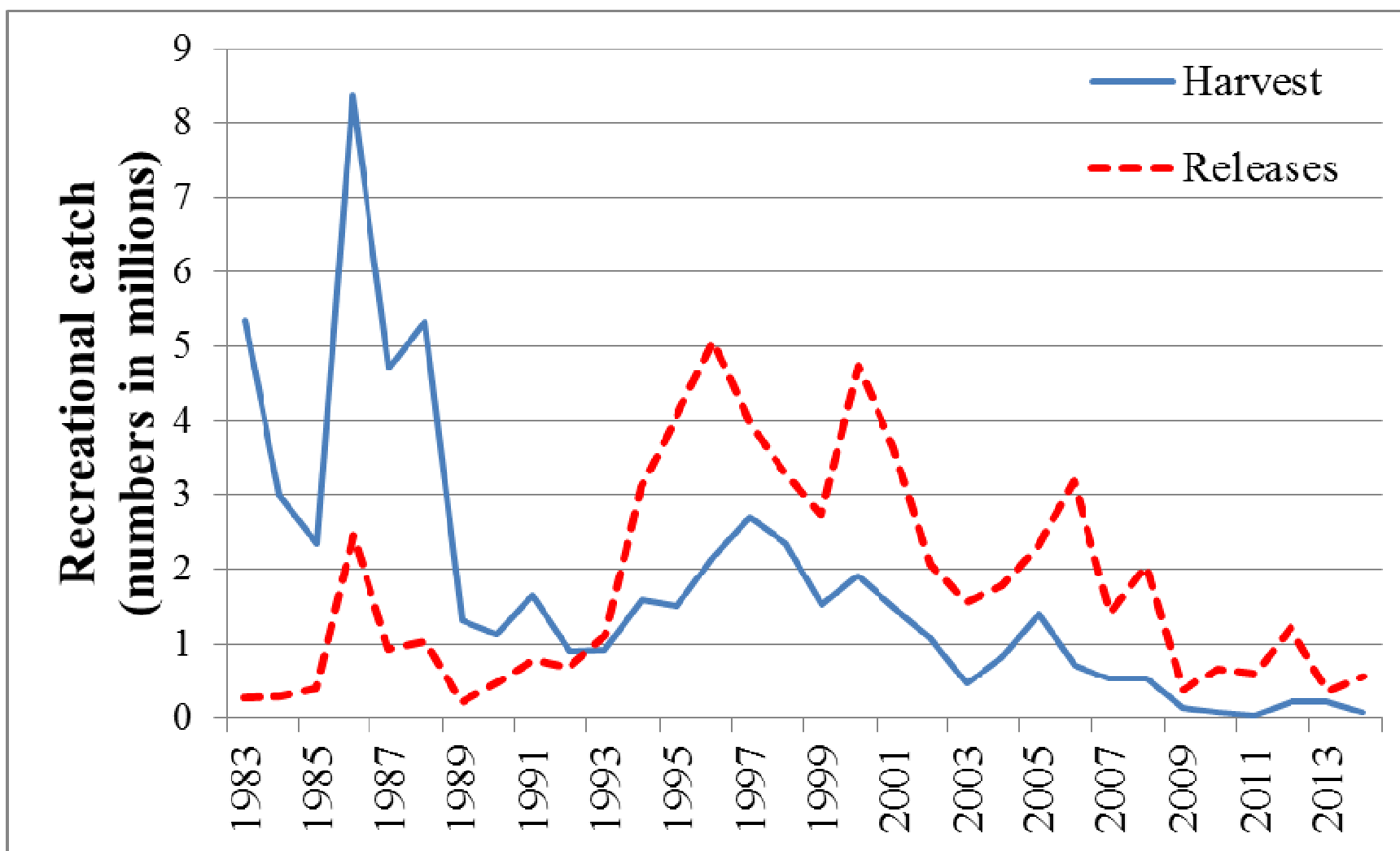


November 3, 2015

Status of the Fishery



Status of the Fishery



Biological Sampling



	Samples Required		Samples Completed	
	Otoliths	Lengths	Otoliths	Lengths
MA*	1	2	0	0
RI	21	42	82	82
CT*	5	9	0	2,377
NY	51	89	175	175
NJ	35	24	108	108
DE	11	12	80	80
MD	6	6	6	6
PRFC	0	0	0	0
VA	40	63	295	1,512
NC	178	286	509	2,608
SC	18	0	21	21
GA*	5	0	0	0
FL*	2	2	0	0

* = *de minimis* state

Management Triggers



	FL	GA	SC	NC	VA	PRFC	MD
2009-2013	1,748	2,543	8,332	158,301	57,870	53	4,987
2014	1,319	3,638	12,905	131,076	29,145	10	4,271
% change	-25%	43%	55%	-17%	-50%	-81%	-14%

	DE	NJ	NY	CT	RI	MA
2009-2013	13,835	70,806	69,530	2,836	13,798	942
2014	7,841	25,968	37,733	3,343	15,493	918
% change	-43%	-63%	-46%	18%	12%	-3%

Status of the Stock



- 2009 Stock Assessment
 - Stock is depleted
 - Overfishing is not occurring
 - F is stable and modest
 - M is increasing (predation, competition, environment)
- Next assessment: 2016

Status of Management



- Amendment 4 (2002)
- Addendum I – IV
 - 1 fish rec bag limit
 - 100 lb trip limit
 - 100 lb bycatch limit
 - 100 undersized fish per trip allowance

State Compliance



- All states are in compliance with Amendment 4 and Addendum I-IV
- De Minimis
 - 2 year average, combined rec and com, 1%
 - Requests: FL, GA, CT, and MA
 - Qualify: FL, GA, and MA
 - CT did not qualify (1.17%)

Recommendations



Management

- The PRT recommends the Board approve the 2015 Weakfish FMP Review, state compliance reports, and *de minimis* status for FL, GA, and MA

Research

- Increase observer coverage to identify magnitude of discards
- Develop a coastwide tagging program to identify stocks, mixing, and migration



Status of Management



- Amendment 4 (2002)
 - Established biological reference points
 - States required to implement rec and com management measures to achieve F target
- Addendum I (2005)
 - Biological sampling program
- Addendum II (2007)
 - 6 fish bag limit and 150 lb bycatch allowance
 - Management triggers
- Addendum III (2007)
 - Modified BRD certification language
- Addendum IV (2009)
 - 1 fish bag limit, 100 lb trip limit, 100 lb bycatch limit, 100 undersized fish per trip allowance
 - SSB30% target and SSB20% threshold