



Striped Bass Advisory Panel Meeting Summary

April 29, 2016

ASMFC Summer Meeting
August 3, 2016

Advisory Panel Meeting Summary



- EEZ Transit Zone Clarification and Access Act
 - “The Secretary of Commerce, in consultation with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, may issue regulations to permit and regulate recreational Atlantic striped bass fishing in the Block Island Transit Zone.” – H.R. 3070
- The AP does not support the use of legislative procedures to override the current fishery management and conservation framework

Advisory Panel Meeting Summary



- Western North Atlantic squid resource
 - Squid are a significant food source for striped bass
 - Nantucket Sound supports large concentrations of both squid and striped bass during the summer
- In recent years, AP members reported a decline in the availability of striped bass in the area
 - Increased harvest of squid may be a contributing factor to the decreased availability of striped bass in Nantucket Sound during the summer season

Advisory Panel Meeting Summary



- Squid Capacity Amendment (MAFMC)
- Addresses concerns of the AP
 - Considers options for a squid buffer zone beyond state waters in the area south of Nantucket
 - Measures that address the potential for increased effort in the fishery
 - Public hearings on draft amendment in early-2017
- Staff will update the AP on progress with the Amendment as necessary

Advisory Panel Meeting Summary



- AP meeting was not board-directed
- In the future, the Board Chair will be consulted before an AP meeting is conducted
 - Maintain transparency
 - Consistent with new policy changes pertaining to the AP



Questions?



Fishery Management Plan Review for Atlantic Striped Bass

2015 Fishing Year

Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board
August 3, 2016

Overview



1. Status of the stock
2. Status of the fishery
3. Status of management measures
 - Performance of Addendum IV
4. Compliance and recommendations

Status of the Stock



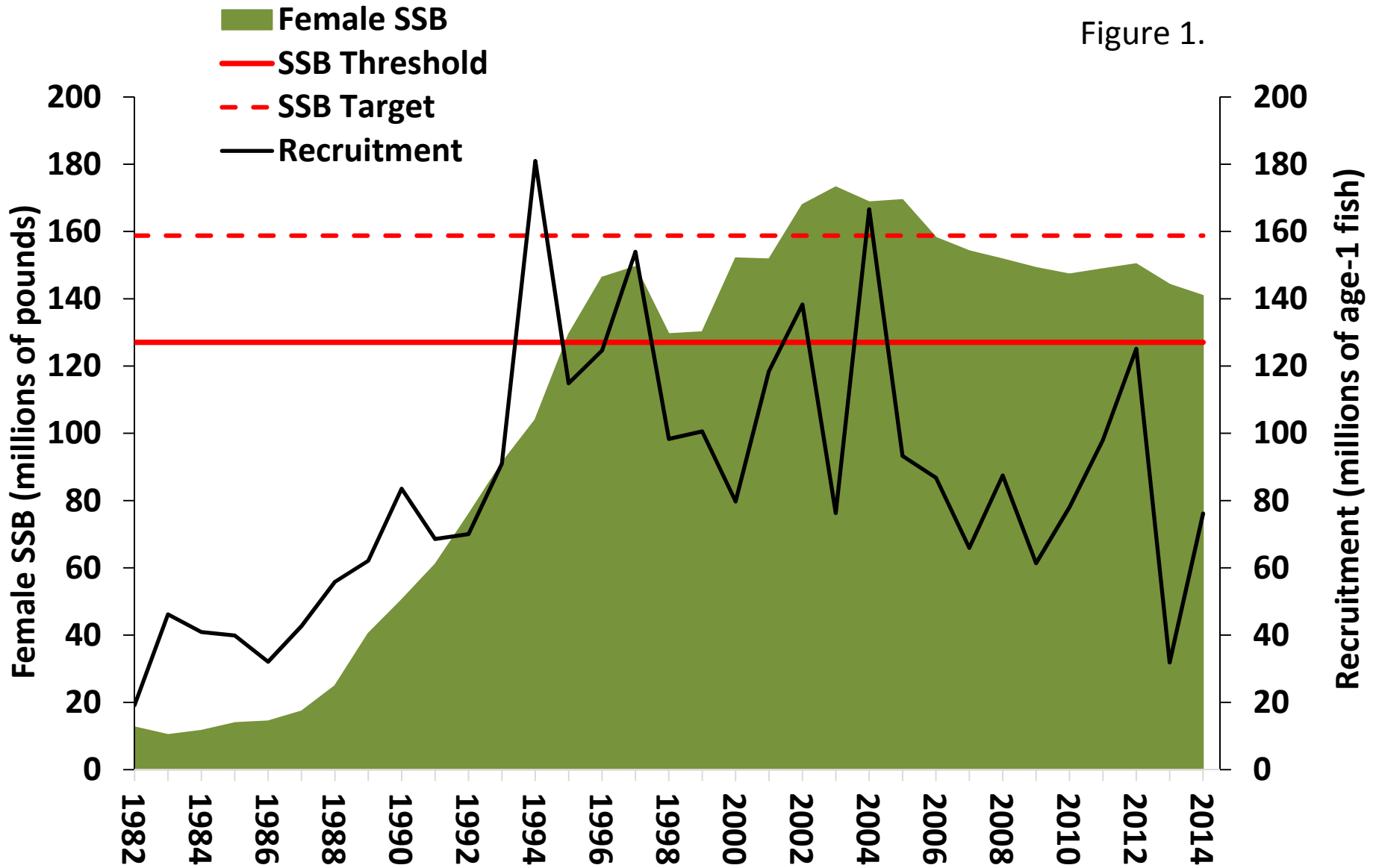
- The Atlantic striped bass stock is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring
 - Based on results of the 2015 SA update
 - 2016 SA update available for review in October

	<i>SSB (MT)</i>	<i>F</i>
2014	63,918	0.20
Threshold	57,626	0.22
Target	72,032	0.18

Status of the Stock



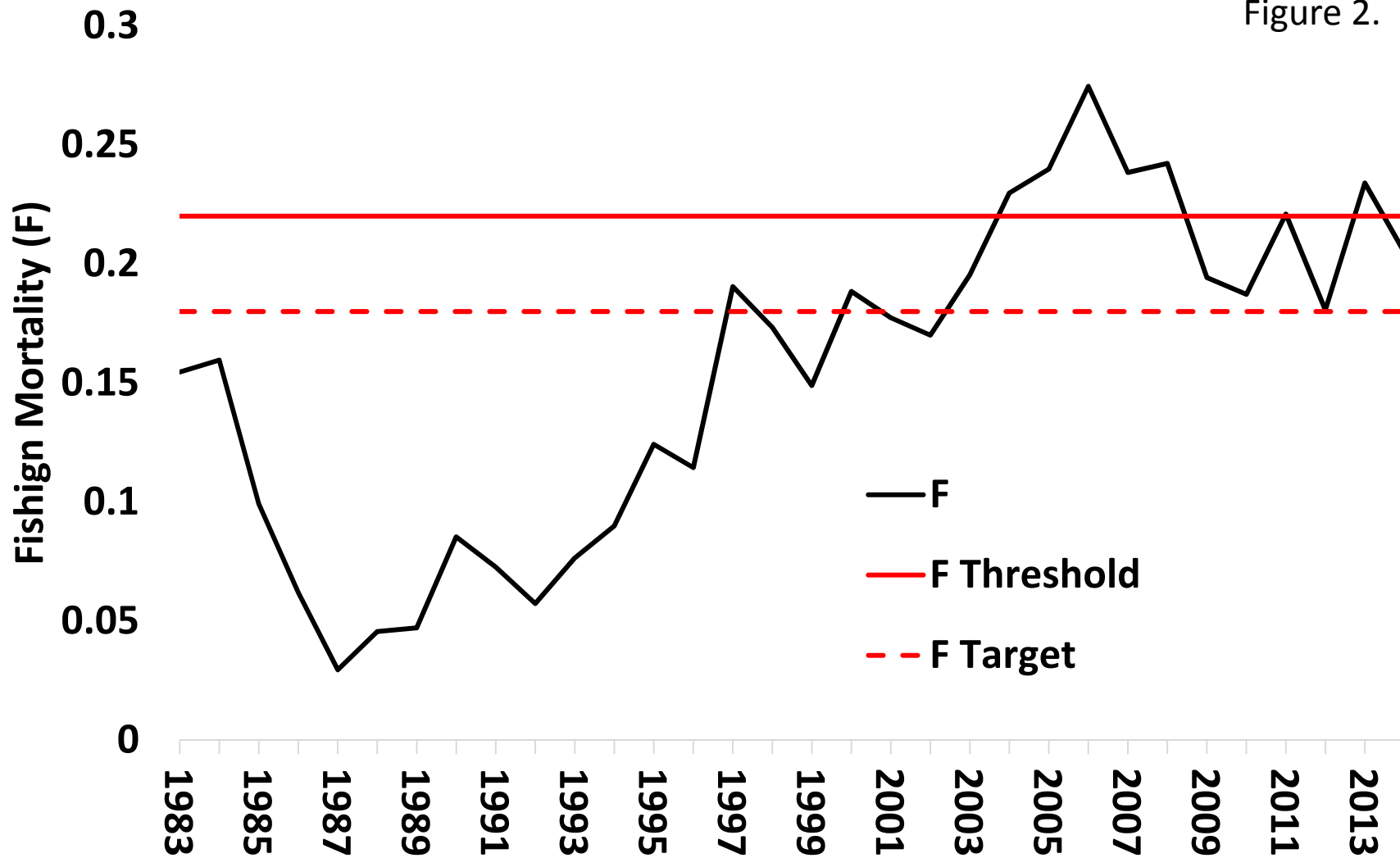
Figure 1.



Status of the Stock



Figure 2.



Status of the Fishery



Sector	Year	Total Harvest	
		# of Fish	Pounds
Total	2015	1,958,114	23,004,681
	2014	2,549,478	29,999,829
	% Diff	-23%	-23%
Commercial Landings	2015	620,034	4,820,489
	2014	766,610	5,937,662
	% Diff	-19%	-19%
Recreational harvest (A + B1)	2015	1,338,080	18,184,192
	2014	1,782,868	24,062,167
	% Diff	-25%	-24%

Albemarle Sound/Roanoke River Stock



	<i>SSB (lbs)</i>	<i>F</i>
2012	835,462	0.34
Threshold	785,150	0.41
Target	969,496	0.33

- Not overfished and overfishing is not occurring
 - Similar stock status as the coastal stock
 - Based on results of the 2013 NC-specific benchmark
 - 2016 SA update available for review in October
- 2015 harvest = 240,445 lbs (72,099 fish)
 - 76% from ASMA; 24% from the RRMA

Status of Management Measures



Atlantic Coast Commercial Quotas

Table 9.

State	2015 Quota	2015 harvest	overage	2016 Quota
Maine*	188			188
New Hampshire*	4,313			4,313
Massachusetts	869,813	865,753		869,813
Rhode Island^	181,572	188,475	6,903	174,669
Connecticut**	17,813	686		17,813
New York	795,795	509,135		795,795
New Jersey**	241,313	21,479		241,313
Delaware	145,085	144,068		145,085
Maryland^	90,727	34,626		90,727
Virginia	138,640	138,141		138,640
North Carolina	360,360	0		360,360
Total	2,845,617	1,902,363		2,838,715

* Commercial harvest/sale prohibited with no re-allocation of quota to the recreational fishery

** Commercial harvest/sale prohibited with re-allocation of quota to the recreational fishery

^ quota reduced for MD (90,727 lbs) and RI (181,572 lbs) through conservation equivalency

Status of Management Measures



Table 9.

Chesapeake Bay Commercial Quotas				
	2015 Quota	2015 harvest	overage	2016 Quota
Maryland	1,471,888	1,436,867		1,471,888
Virginia	1,064,997	967,067		1,064,997
PRFC	583,362	536,357		583,362
Total	3,120,247	2,940,291		3,120,247

Status of Management Measures



Review of Juvenile Abundance Indices (JAIs)

- Recruitment failure = a value that is lower than 75% (the first quartile, Q1) of all values in a fixed time series appropriate to each JAI
- If any surveys JAI falls below Q1 for three consecutive years, then appropriate action should be recommended to the Board
- PRT evaluated 2013, 2014, and 2015 JAI values
- No management action is triggered

Status of Management Measures



Addendum III: Commercial Tagging Program

- Requires all states with commercial fisheries to implement a commercial tagging program
- Monitoring reports due no less than 60 days prior to the start of its commercial fishing season
 - Summary of the previous years tagging program, tag descriptions for the upcoming season, and any issues with the program
- In 2015, all states implemented commercial tagging programs consistent with Addendum III

Status of Management Measures



Addendum IV

- Established new F reference points, as recommended by the 2013 benchmark
 - F above the target, SSB below target
- Reduce fishing mortality (F) to a level at or below the target
- Prior to the 2015 season, all jurisdictions implemented regulations projected to reduce harvest by 25% from 2013-levels along the coast, and by 20.5% from 2012-levels in the Chesapeake Bay, in terms of number of fish

Status of Management Measures



Addendum IV

- Coastal commercial – Amendment 6 quota allocations reduced by 25%
- Coastal recreational – one fish bag limit and a 28” minimum size limit, OR approved conservation equivalency measures
- Chesapeake Bay commercial – Bay-wide quota reduced by 20.5% from that harvested in 2012
- Chesapeake Bay recreational – projected to achieve a 20.5% from 2012 harvest levels

Performance of Addendum IV



Region	Sector	Reference Harvest Estimate	2015 Harvest (predicted)	2015 Harvest (realized)	Change in Harvest (predicted)	Change in Harvest (realized)
Chesapeake Bay	Recreational	554,985	432,365	851,118	-22.1%	53.4%
	Commercial	659,963	524,699	500,349	-20.5%	-24.2%
	Subtotal	1,214,948	957,064	1,351,467	-21.2%	11.2%
Coastal	Recreational	2,105,069	1,480,306	1,243,033	-29.7%	-41.0%
	Commercial	182,541	162,992	123,108	-10.7%	-32.6%
	Subtotal	2,287,610	1,643,298	1,366,141	-28.2%	-40.3%
	Total	3,502,558	2,600,362	2,717,608	-25.8%	-22.4%

*Estimates in number of fish

Compliance and Recommendations



- No states requested *de minimis* status at this time
- All states implemented regulations consistent with Amendment 6 and Addenda I-IV

2015 FMP Review



Questions?