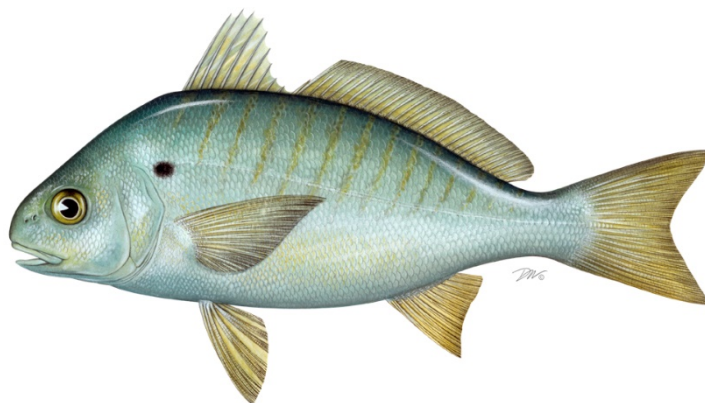


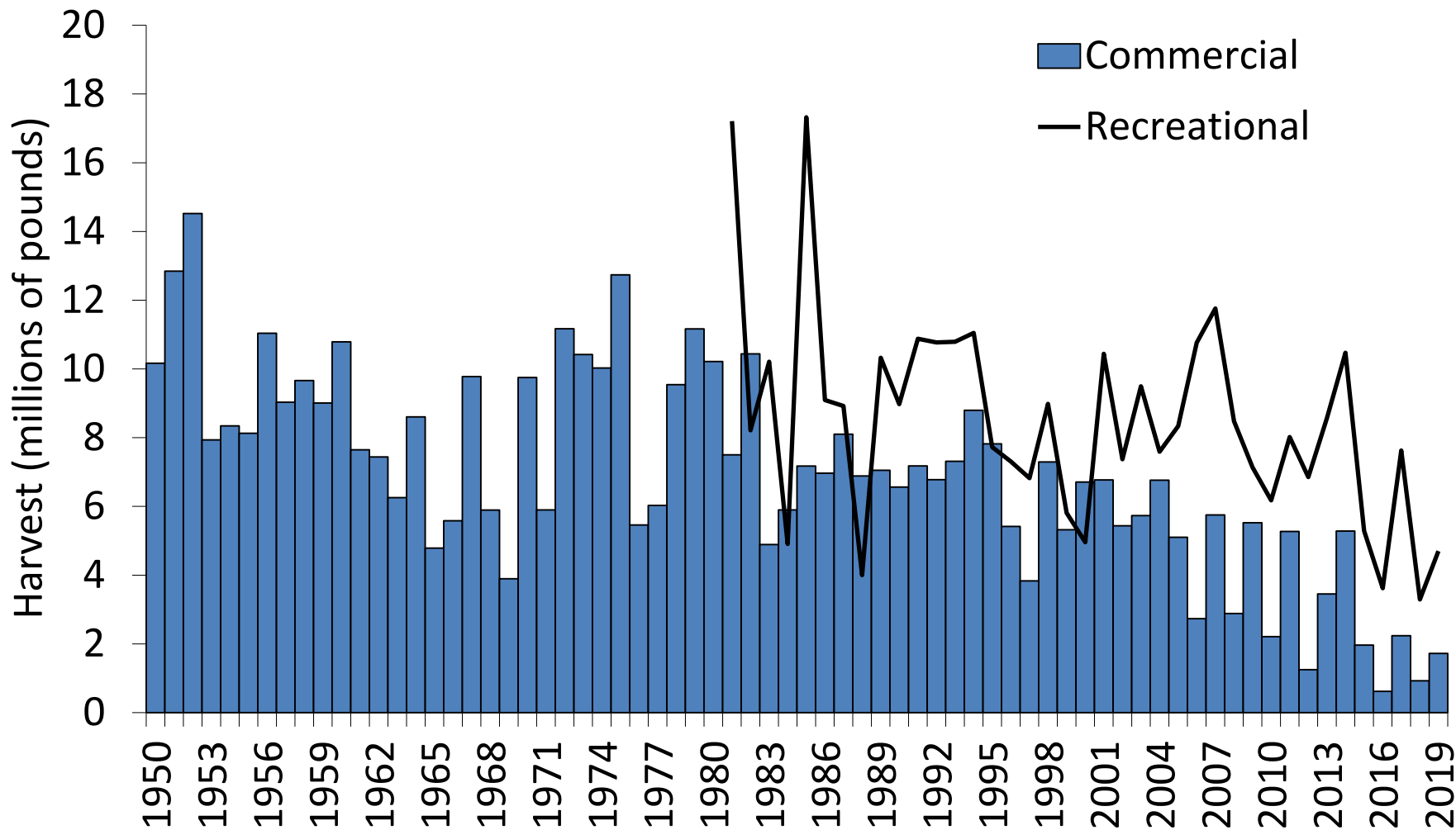


Spot Fishery Management Plan Review

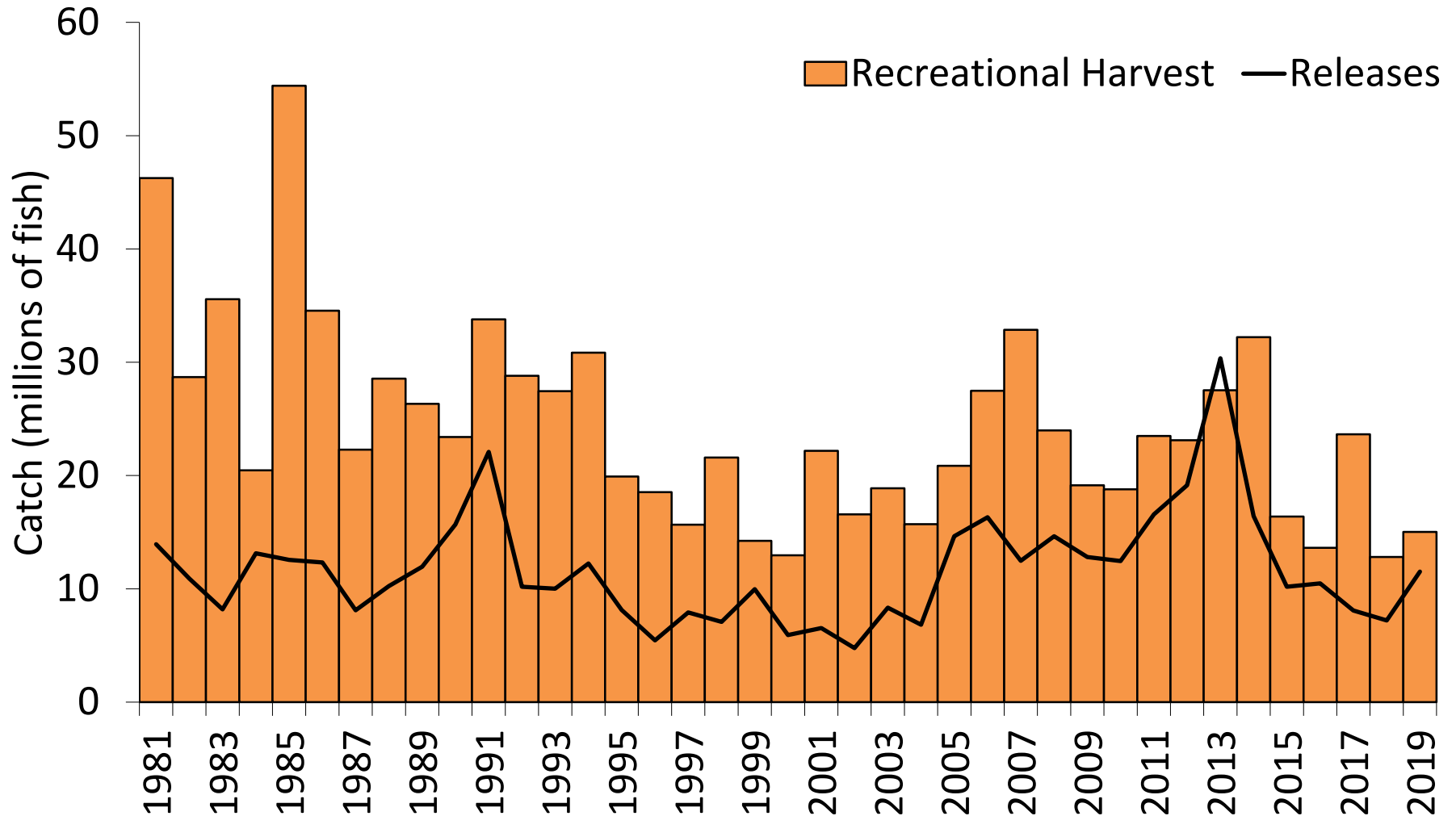


Spot Plan Review Team
December, 2020

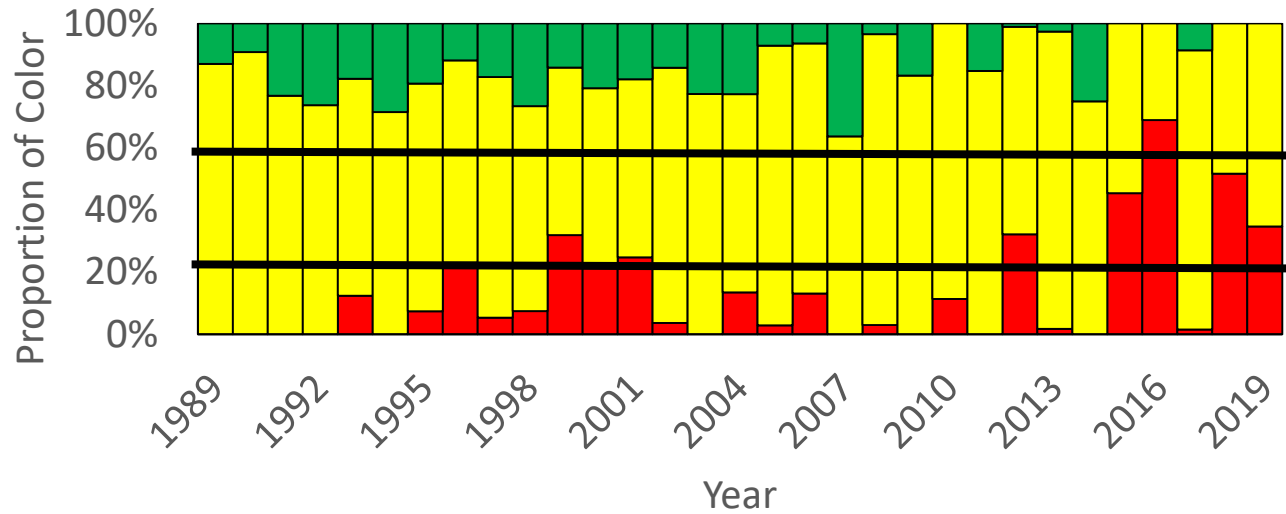
Status of the Spot Fishery - Total Landings



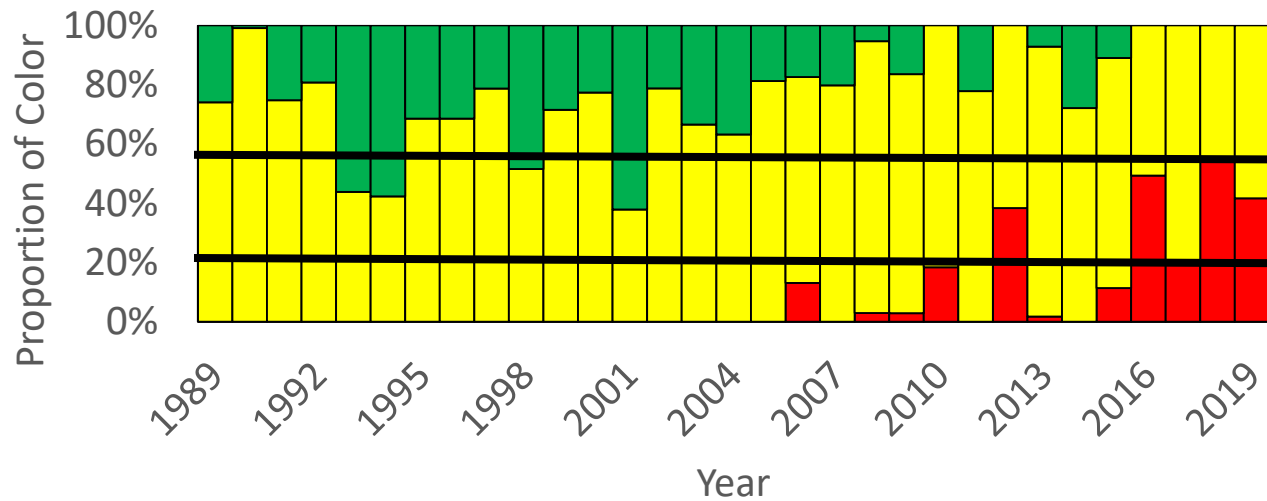
Status of the Spot Fishery - Recreational



Spot TLA Harvest Composites

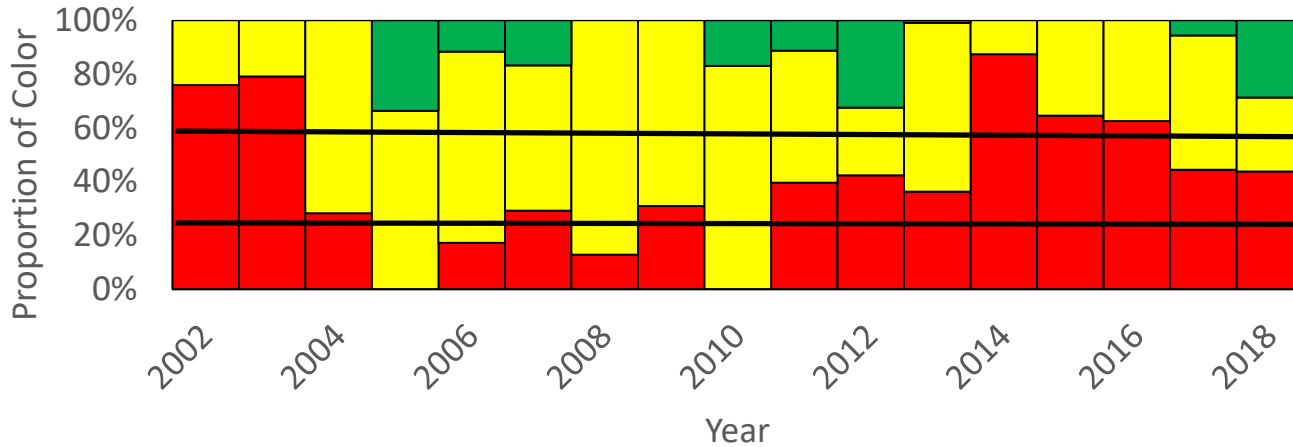


Harvest Composite
Mid-Atlantic

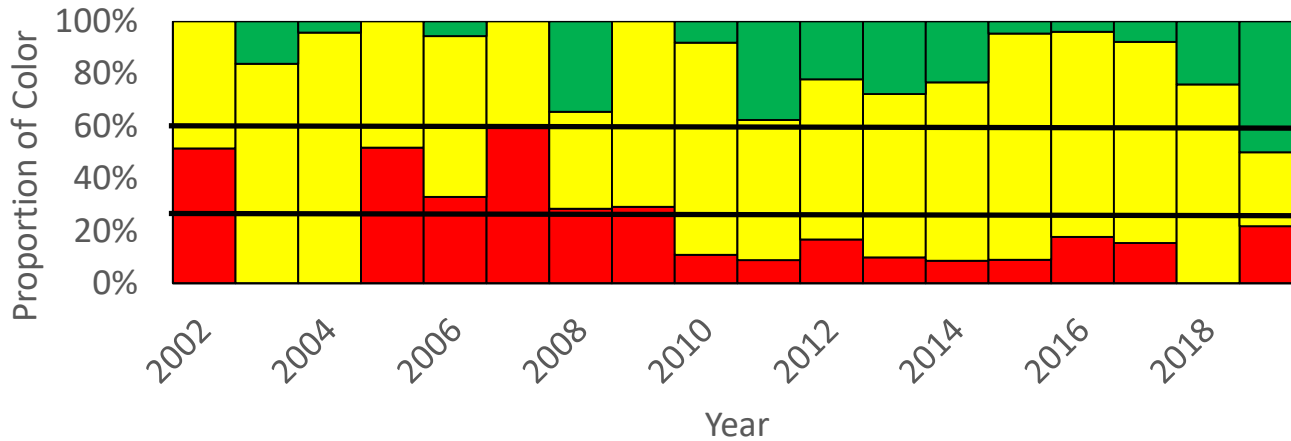


Harvest Composite
South Atlantic

Spot TLA Abundance Composites



Abundance Composite
Mid-Atlantic



Abundance Composite
South Atlantic

De minimis Requests



New Jersey:

- Requesting *de minimis* for spot (commercial and recreational)
 - Meets the requirement of less than 1%

Georgia:

- Requesting *de minimis* for spot (commercial and recreational)
 - Meets the requirement of less than 1%

Delaware:

- Requesting *de minimis* for spot (commercial and recreational)
 - Meets the requirement of less than 1%

PRFC:

- Requesting *de minimis* for spot (commercial and recreational)
 - Meets the requirement of less than 1%

PRT Recommendations

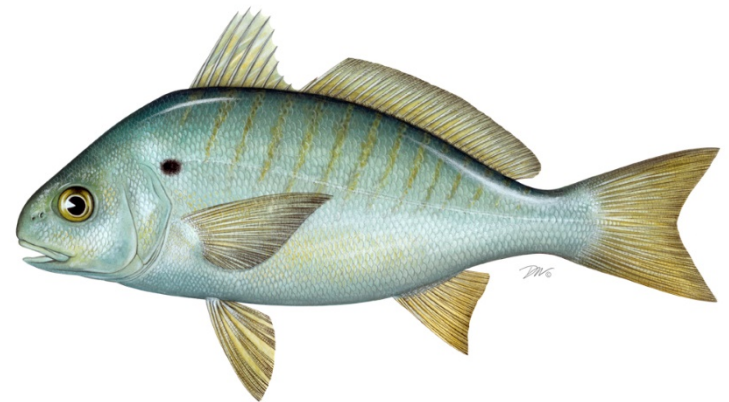


- State compliance reports are due November 1
- All states have implemented requirements of the FMP
- Approve state compliance reports and *de minimis* status for New Jersey, Georgia, Delaware, and PRFC.
- The PRT recommends reviewing the criteria for *de minimis* status
 - Splitting out commercial and recreational *de minimis*
- Additional research/monitoring recommendations found in FMP Review document

Questions?



Spot and Atlantic Croaker State Implementation Plan Review



Overview



- Consider Approval of State Implementation Plans for Spot and Atlantic Croaker
 - Background
 - De minimis* request
 - State Implementation Plans
 - Recommendations from Technical Committees

Background



- Traffic Light Approach (TLA) reports in 2020 indicated that both spot and Atlantic croaker exceeded the threshold for moderate concern (30% red)
- Addendum III for each species outlined management response
 - Only non-*de minimis* states
 - Recreational 50 fish-bag limit, 1% reduction of 10-year average commercial harvest
 - Measures must be in place for at least three years for Atlantic croaker and two years for spot
- States with regulations already in place are encouraged to keep them in place
- The Technical Committee evaluated state implementation plans to determine if the methods were quantifiable and met the requirements of the Addenda

De minimis Request



PRFC:

- Requesting Commercial Atlantic Croaker
 - Does not meet the requirement of less than 1% based on commercial landings
 - Has experienced a 99% decrease in commercial landings from 2017-2019
- The Plan Review Team for Atlantic croaker supported 2021 *de minimis* request for PRFC, but only on a temporary status.

Atlantic Croaker Implantation Plans



- Virginia and North Carolina calculated season modifications based on daily or weekly average catch rates, then removed enough days or weeks to meet their required deduction

	Proposed Changes		Implementation Timeline
	Recreational	Commercial	
Virginia	50 fish bag limit with for-hire allowance	Season: January 15 to December 31	April 15, 2021
North Carolina	50 fish bag limit	16 day closure December 16 to December 31	Spring and Fall 2021
Florida	50 fish bag limit	None (<i>de minimis</i>)	Late 2021

Spot Implementation Plans



- Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina calculated season modifications based on daily or weekly average catch rates, then removed enough days or weeks to meet their required deduction
 - Florida looked at annual landings

	Proposed Changes		Implementation Timeline
	Recreational	Commercial	
Maryland	50 fish bag limit with for-hire allowance	Season: April 10 to November 24	June 2021
Virginia	50 fish bag limit with for-hire allowance	Season: April 15 to December 8	April 15, 2021
North Carolina	50 fish bag limit	116 day closure: December 10 to April 4	Spring 2021 and Fall 2021
Florida	50 fish bag limit	Vessel Limit: 2,200 lbs. in state waters	Late 2021

Summary of State Implementation Plans

Atlantic Croaker



State	De Minimis	Current & Proposed Recreational Regulations	Current & Proposed Commercial Regulations
New Jersey	Yes	None	otter/beam trawl mesh restriction for directed croaker harvest (>100 lbs. in possession)
Delaware	Yes	8" minimum; recreational gill nets (up to 200 ft.) with license	8" minimum
Maryland	No	9" min, 25 fish/day, charter boat logbooks	9" minimum; open 3/16 to 12/31
PRFC	No	9" minimum size; 25 fish/day	None (de minimis)
Virginia	No	50-fish bag limit*	Season: January 15 - December 31
North Carolina	No	50-fish bag limit	Season closure from December 16 to December 31
South Carolina	No	mandatory for-hire logbooks, small Sciaenidae species aggregate bag limit of 50 fish/day H&L only	No commercial fishery
Georgia	Yes (C)	25 fish/day	25 fish/day limit except for trawlers harvesting shrimp for human consumption (no limit)
Florida	Yes (C)	50-fish bag limit	None (de minimis)

Summary of State Implementation Plans Spot



State	De Minimis	Current & Proposed Recreational Regulations	Current & Proposed Commercial Regulations
New Jersey	Yes	None	None
Delaware	Yes	None (de minimis)	None (de minimis)
Maryland	No	50-fish bag limit*	Season: April 10 to November 24
PRFC	No	None (de minimis)	None (de minimis)
Virginia	No	50-fish bag limit*	Season: April 15 to December 8
North Carolina	No	50-fish bag limit	Closure: December 10 to April 4
South Carolina	No	mandatory for-hire logbooks, small Sciaenidae species aggregate bag limit of 50 fish/day H&L only	No commercial fishery
Georgia	Yes	25 fish/day	25 fish/day limit except for trawlers harvesting shrimp for human consumption (no limit)
Florida	No	50-fish bag limit	2,200 lb. vessel limit for harvest in state waters

Recommendations



- The Plan Review Team for Atlantic croaker supported 2021 *de minimis* request for PRFC, but only on a temporary status.
- The Technical Committees had no concerns with the final versions of the state implementation plans and found the methods to be technically sound.
- The Technical Committees recommend the approval of the spot and Atlantic croaker state implementation plans for adjusting state regulations for the recreational and commercial spot and Atlantic croaker fisheries.

Questions?

