



*Working towards healthy, self-sustaining populations
for all Atlantic coast fish species or successful
restoration well in progress by 2015*

Draft Addendum III



Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board
May 1, 2012



Board Motion

- In February the Board passed a motion to initiate the development of an addendum to incorporate recommendations by the Interstate Watershed Task Force (IWTF) and ASMFC Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) on reducing illegal harvest of striped bass





Task Force Investigation

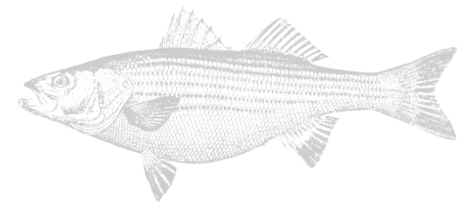
- IWTF's investigation within Chesapeake Bay resulted in over \$1.6 million dollars in fines levied against 19 individuals and 3 corporations for more than one million pounds of illegal striped bass harvested estimated to be worth up to seven million dollars.
- The investigation revealed that some of the control measures in place for regulating the harvest of striped bass were ineffective or inadequately designed to maximize compliance.
- The investigation also found that greater accountability of wholesalers would be difficult to achieve without uniform tags (colors, design) and tagging requirements, valid year and size limits inscribed on tags, and increased dealer compliance education.





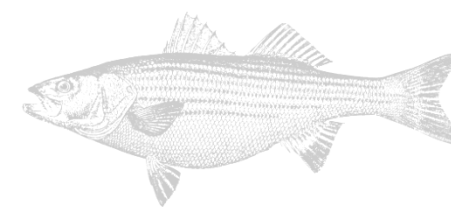
Illegal Harvest

- Illegal harvest of striped bass has the potential to undermine the sustainability of striped bass populations on the Atlantic Coast, as well as reduce the economic opportunities of commercial fishermen who are legally participating in the fishery.



State	Massachusetts	Rhode Island	New York	Delaware	Maryland	PRFC	Virginia	North Carolina
2011 Weight Quota (Lbs.)	1,073,134	232,974	828,293	203,120	1,963,873	739,097	1,615,214	480,480
Number of Tags Issued	None	~25000	93,948	~31,000 harvest, ~33,000 dealer	~1,421,000	~107,000	284,000	40,000
# of Participants	~4,000	Unknown	487	111	1,231	~400	~450	700-800
Limited Entry	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
License Application Deadline	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Point of Tag	N/A	Sale	Harvest	Harvest and Dealer	Harvest	Harvest	Harvest	Sale
Unused Tags Turned In	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Annual Tag Color	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
# of Tag Colors	N/A	2	1	2	5	7	2	2
Tag Color By	N/A	Gear	N/A	Fishermen/Dealer	Gear/Area	Gear	Area	Area
Year on Tag	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*
Size Limit on Tag	N/A	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No

Pages 9 – 20 of the Addendum

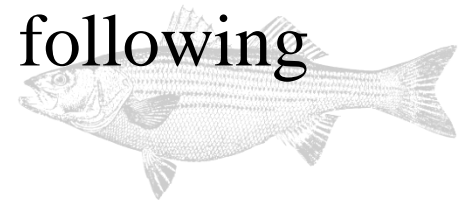




Commercial Fishery Management Measures

➤ Commercial Tagging Program Implementation

- Option 1 – Status Quo
- Option 2 – Mandatory Tagging Program
 - Under this option states would be required to implement a tagging program when striped bass are commercially harvested within the state or jurisdictions waters.
 - The Board may choose to adopt for public hearing some or all of provisions in each of the following categories.

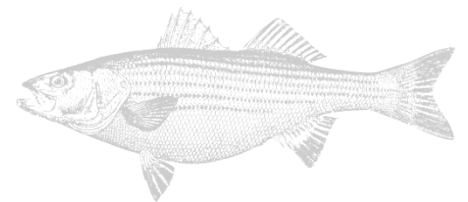




Commercial Fishery Management Measures

➤ Tag Information and Type

- Option 1 – State Program
 - States are required to submit annually to ASMFC commercial tag color, style and inscription for all gears/areas
- Option 2– Uniform Tagging Program
 - Board will develop a uniform tagging program





Commercial Fishery Management Measures

➤ Tag Timing

- Option 1 – No Action
- Option 2 – Point of Harvest
 - Sub-option 1 – Coastwide
 - Sub-option 2 – Programs initiated through this addendum
- Option 3 – Point of Sale
 - Sub-option 1 – Coastwide
 - Sub-option 2 – Programs initiated through this addendum





Commercial Fishery Management Measures

➤ Tag Allowance

- Option 1 – No Action
- Option 2 – Biological Tag Allowance
 - Under this option states or jurisdictions will be required to distribute commercial tags to permit holders based on a biological metric approved by the Technical Committee.

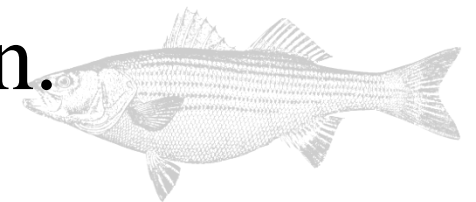




Commercial Fishery Management Measures

➤ Tag Accounting

- Option 1 – No Action
- Option 2 – Tag Accountability
 - Commercial tagging program must require permit holders issued tags to turn tags in or provide an accounting report for any unused tags prior to the start of the next fishing season.

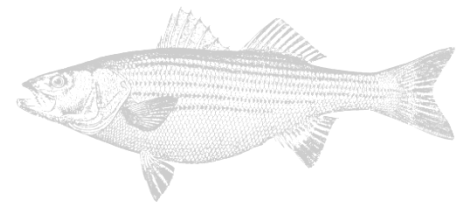




Commercial Fishery Management Measures

➤ Tag Reporting

- Option 1 – No Action
- Option 2 ACCSP Standards
 - In addition, the unique commercial striped bass tag identification number which can be linked to the individual fisherman must be reported

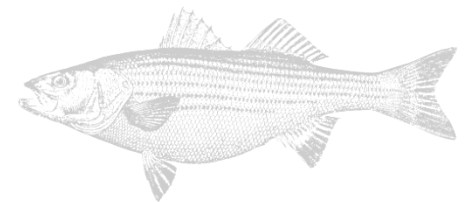




Commercial Fishery Management Measures

➤ Exportation

- Under a mandatory commercial tagging program it would be unlawful to purchase striped bass without a commercial tag. This is to prevent the sale of striped bass into a state or jurisdiction where there is currently no commercial fishery program.

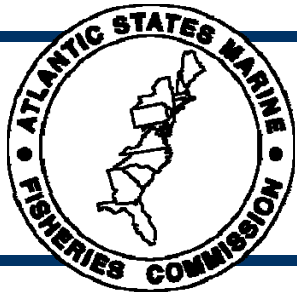




Recommended Penalties

- Under this option it is recommended that states and jurisdictions strengthen their penalties for striped bass violations so that the penalties are sufficient to deter illegal harvest of striped bass.
- Tag Accountability





Timeline

Feb – April 2012

Draft Addendum for Public Comment Developed



May 2011

Board Reviews Draft Addendum and Considers Approval for Public Comment



May - July 2012

Public Comment Period



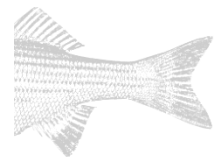
August 2012

Board Reviews Public Comment and Considers Final Approval of Options and Addendum



September 2012

Provisions of the Addendum are implemented





Commercial Fishery Status

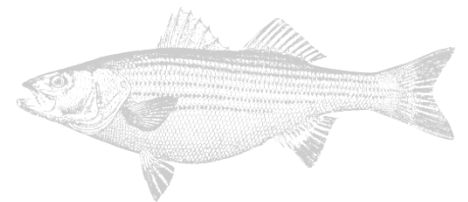
- Coastal commercial harvests has averaged 2.95 million pounds since 2003.
 - MA and NY land on average 60% of the total coastal allocation.
 - Quota has not been exceeded in any year.
- Chesapeake Bay commercial fishery has landed on average 4.2 million pounds annually
- AS/RR commercial landings have averaged 68% of the total management area commercial quota.
- In total the commercial fishery landed an estimated 7.29 million pounds in 2010, which is lower than landings in 2009 as well as the 2003-2010 average.





Stock Status

- Not overfished and overfishing is not occurring
- Juvenile recruitment
- Mycobacteriosis

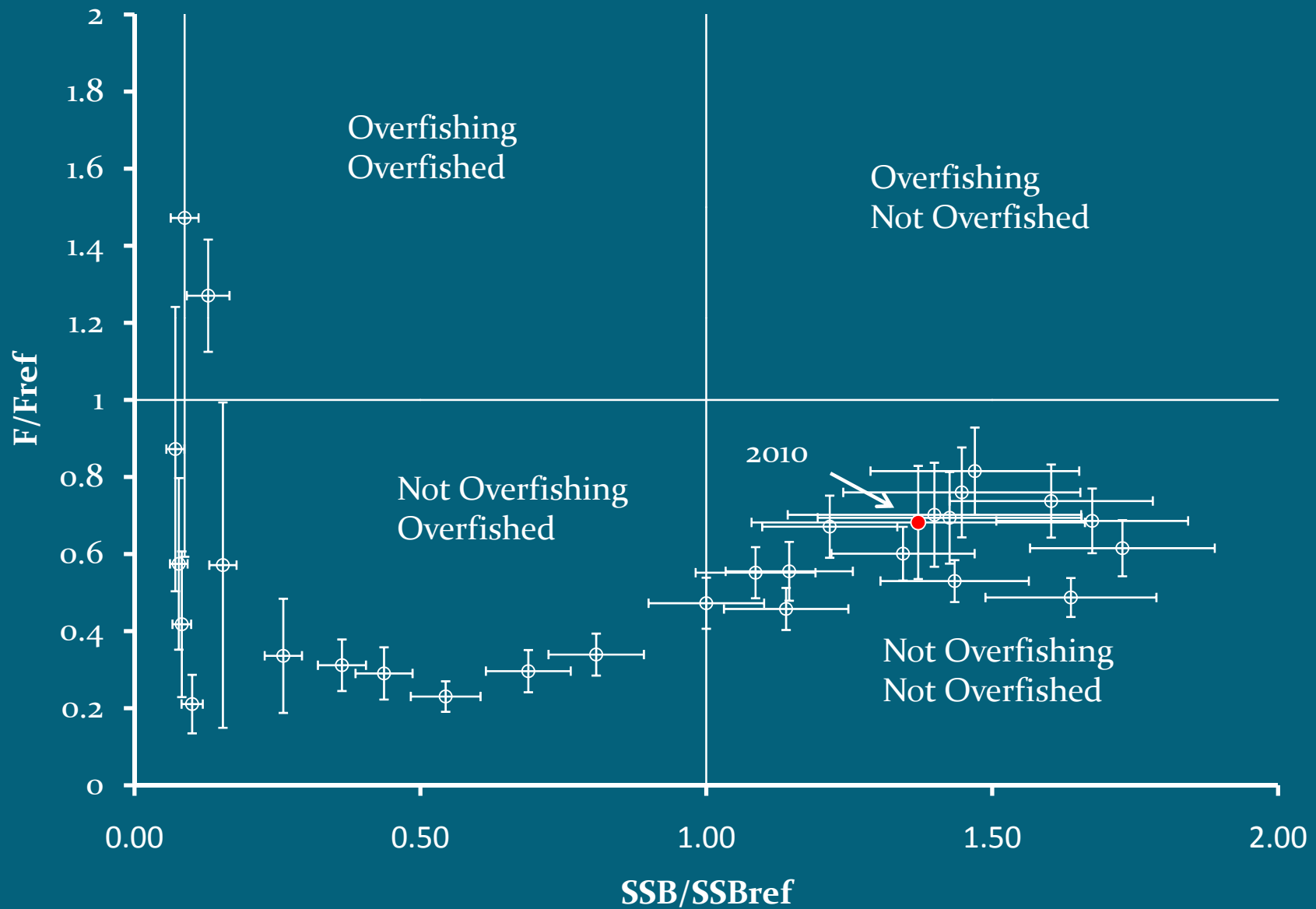


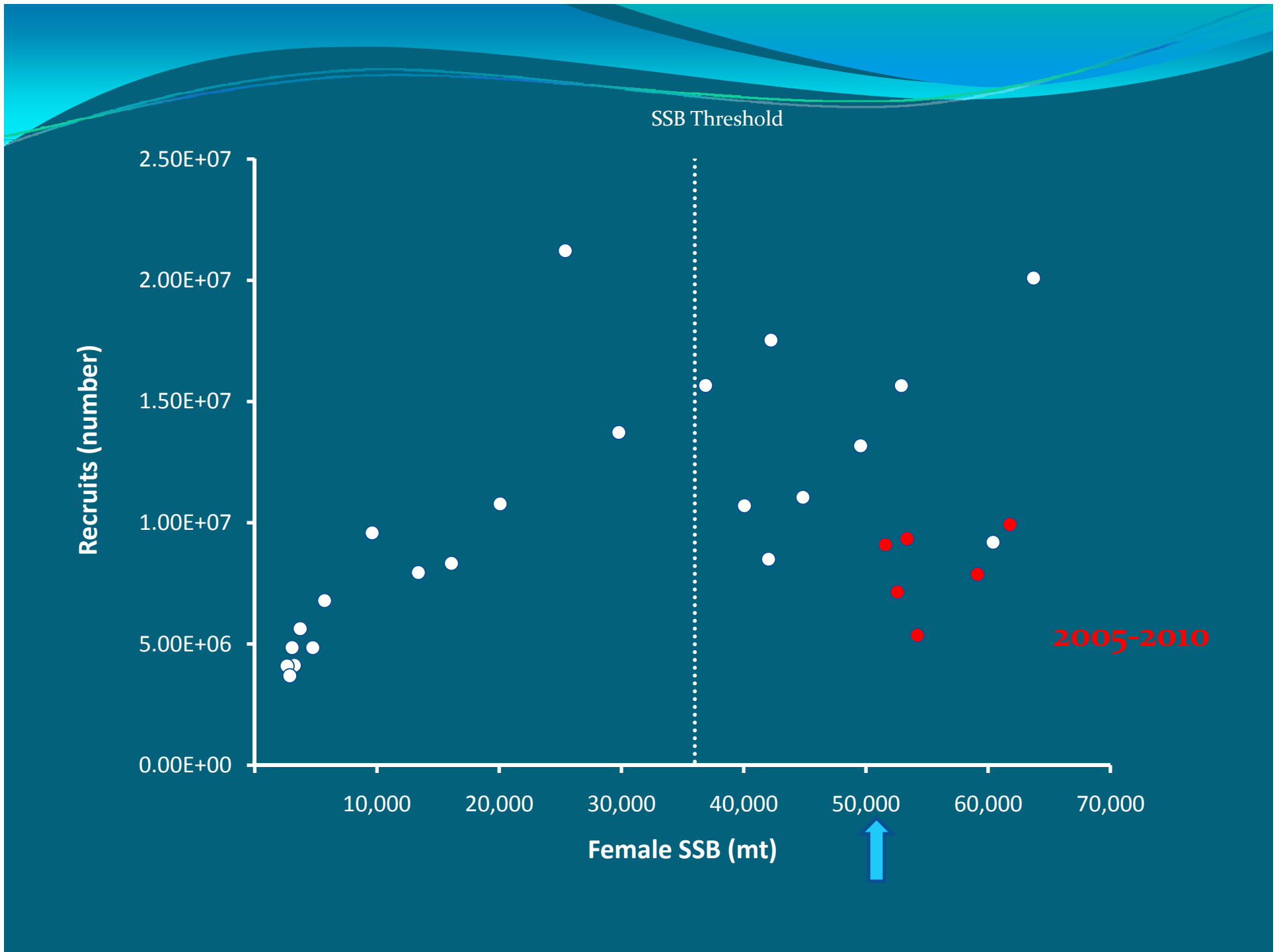
Striped bass stock status and projections for 2011 -2017

Alexandria, VA

May 1 2012

Stock Status



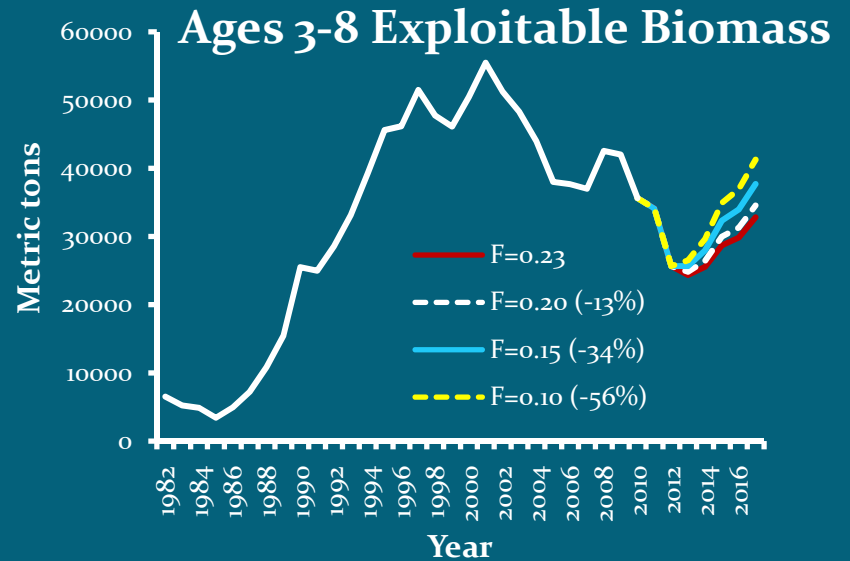
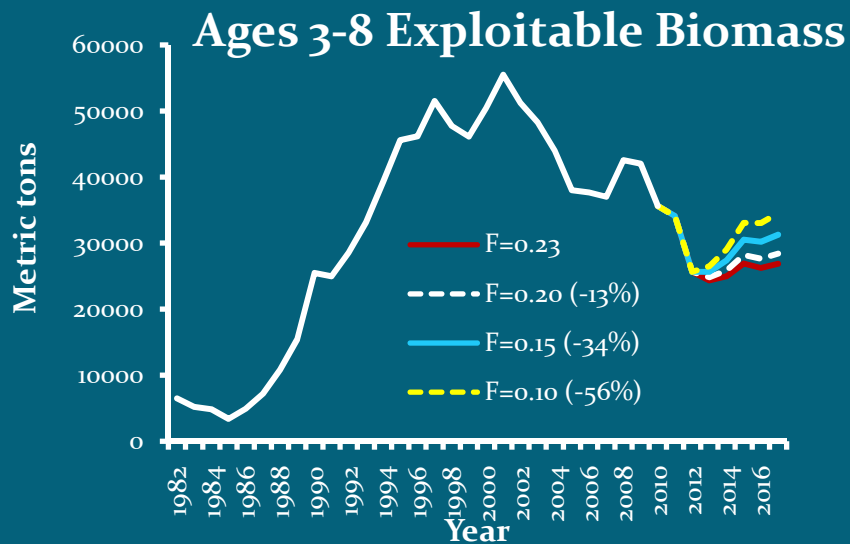
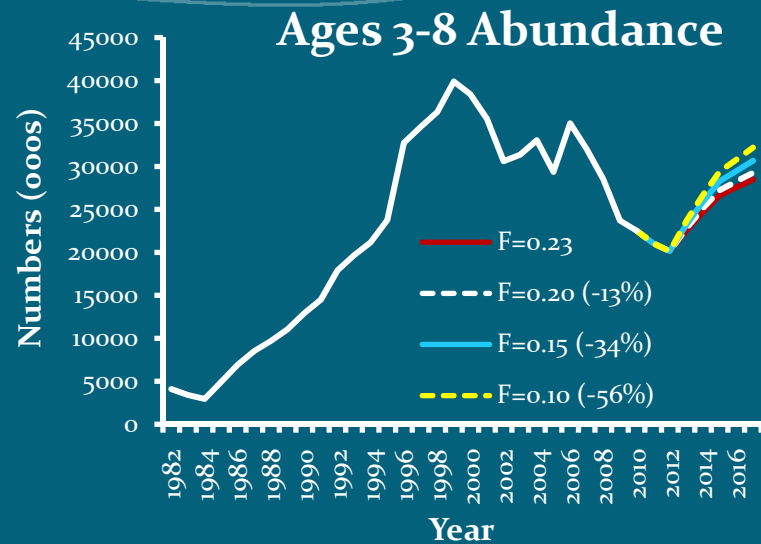
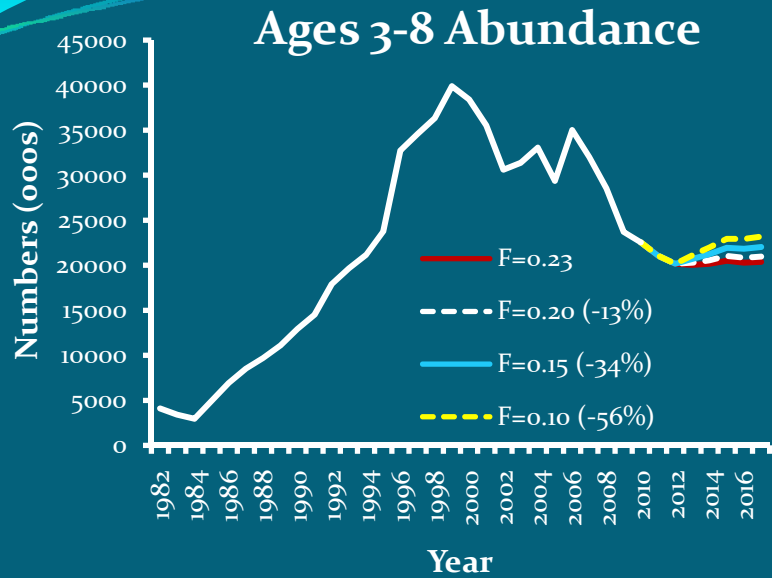


Projections

- Projected 2010 abundance-at-age forward through 2017
- Calculated abundance, exploitable biomass, female spawning stock biomass and expected landings
- Used 2010 selectivity pattern
- Used two recruitment (age-1 abundance) scenarios :
 Low – average 2005-2010
 Average – average 1989-2008
- Used $F_{\text{current}}=0.23$, $F=0.20$ (-13%), $F=0.15$ (-34%), and $F=0.10$ (-56%) starting in 2012 (2011 same as 2010)

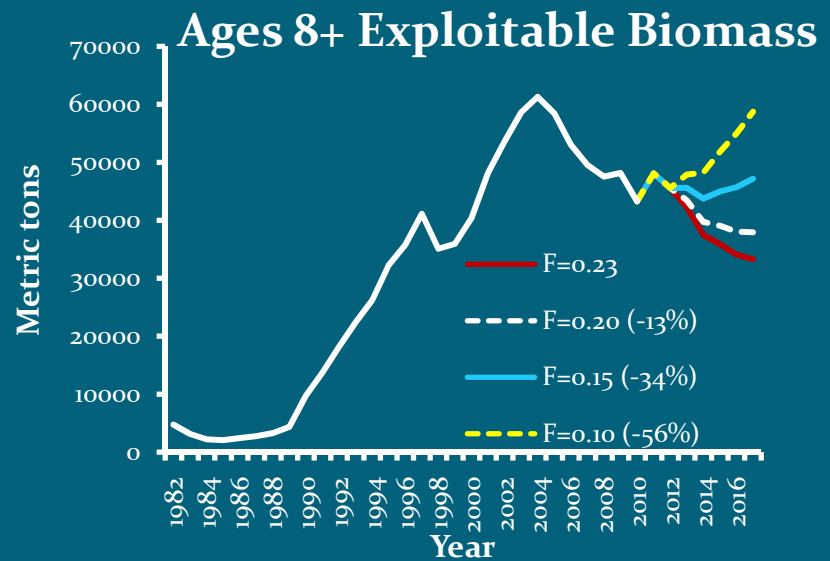
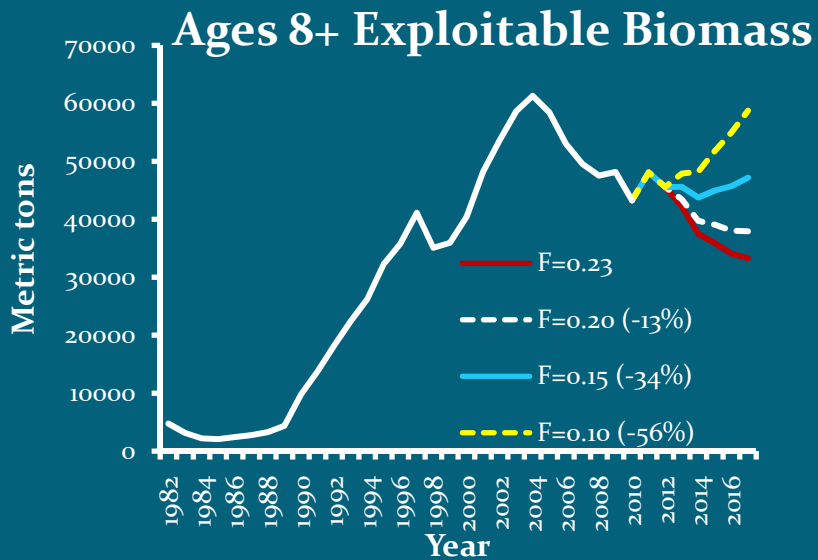
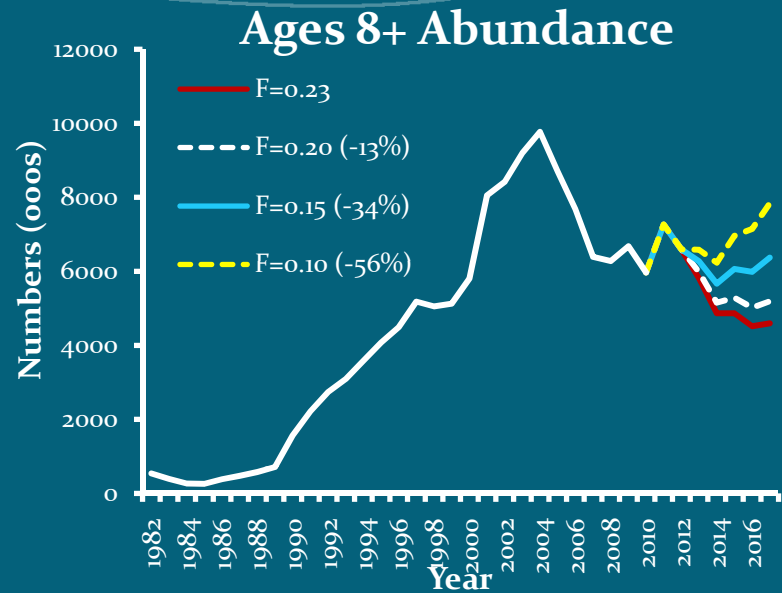
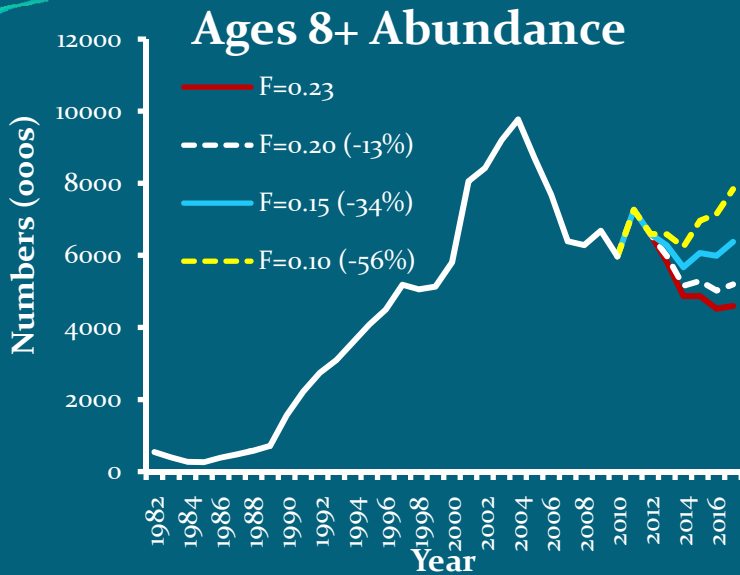
Low Recruitment

Average Recruitment



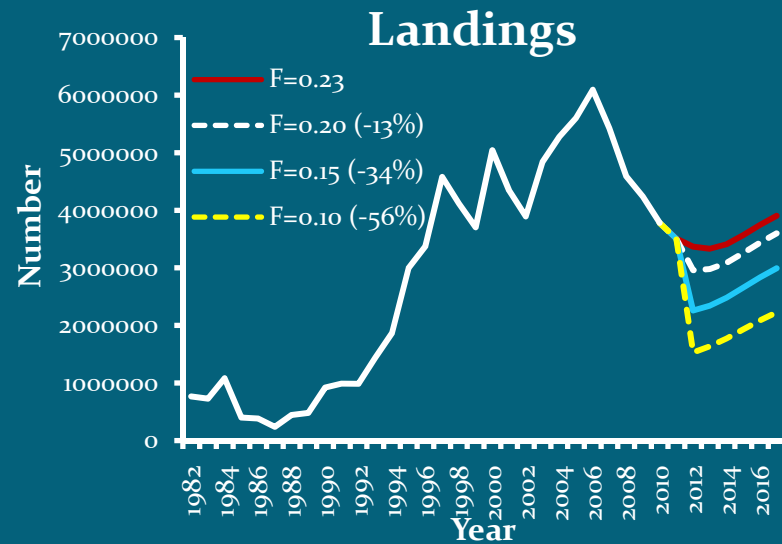
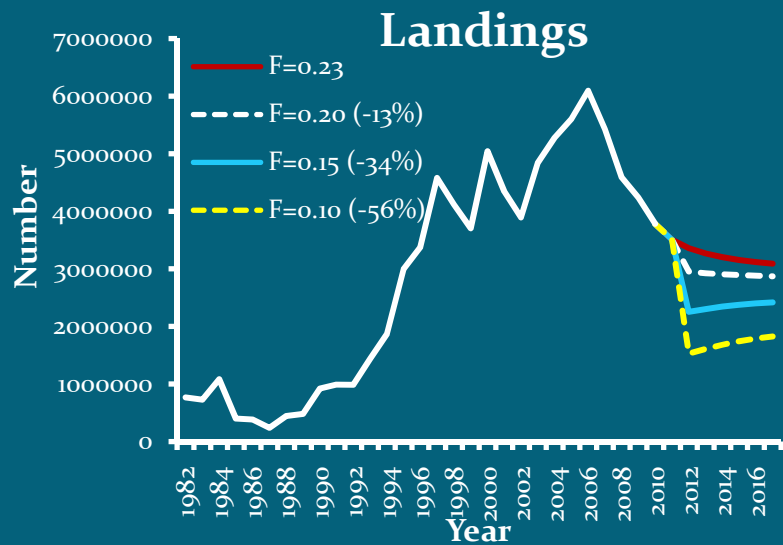
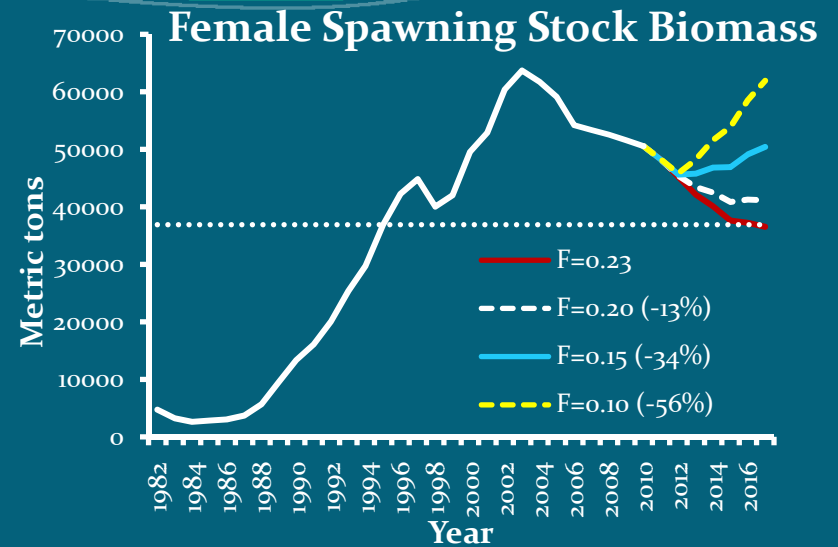
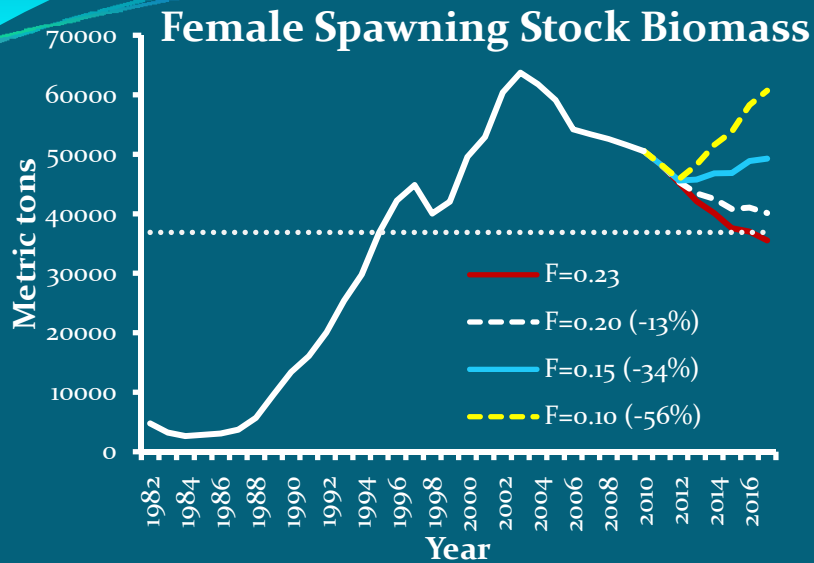
Low Recruitment

Average Recruitment

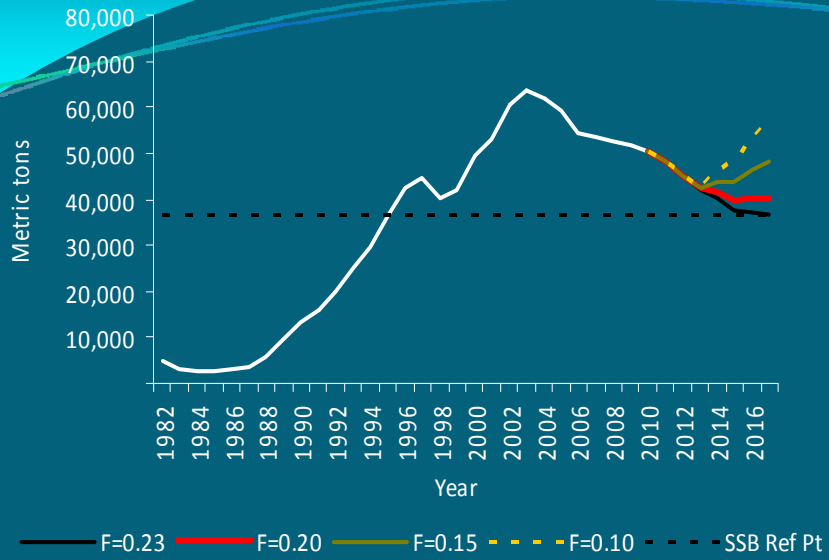


Low Recruitment

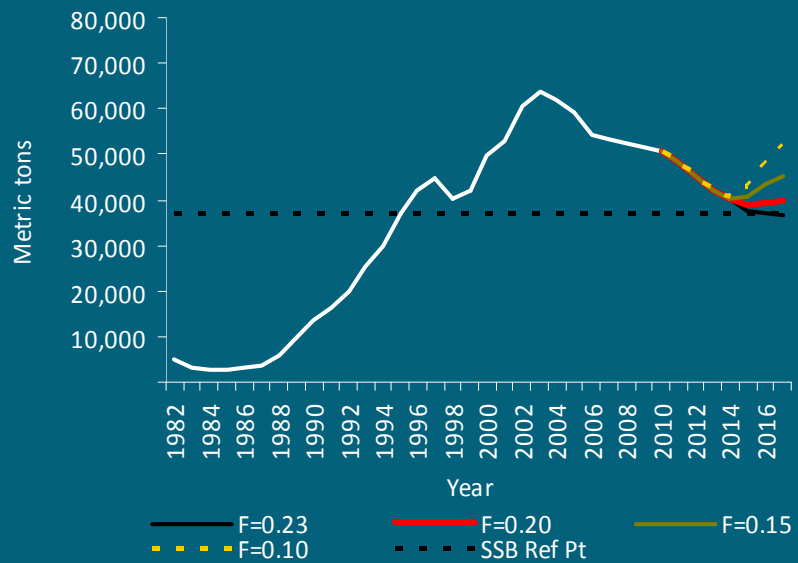
Average Recruitment



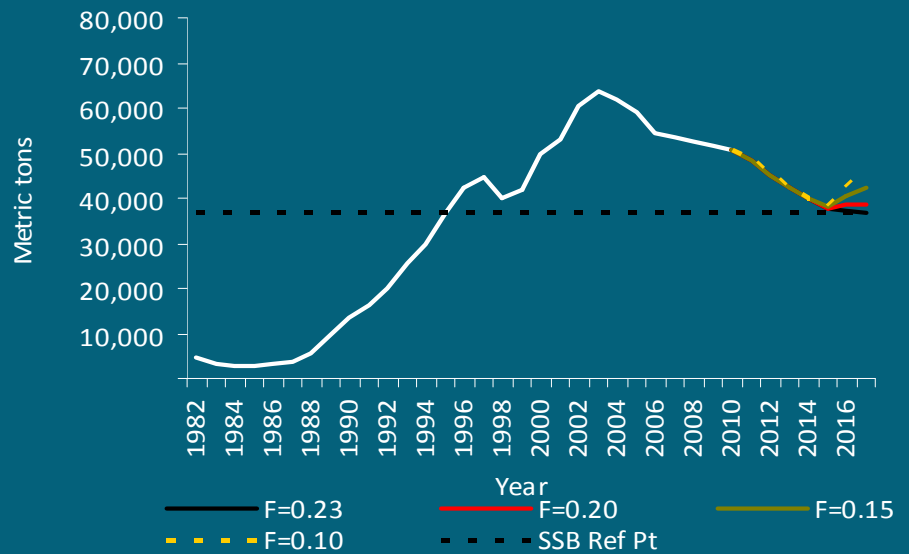
Female SSB, Avg. Recruits, Start 2013



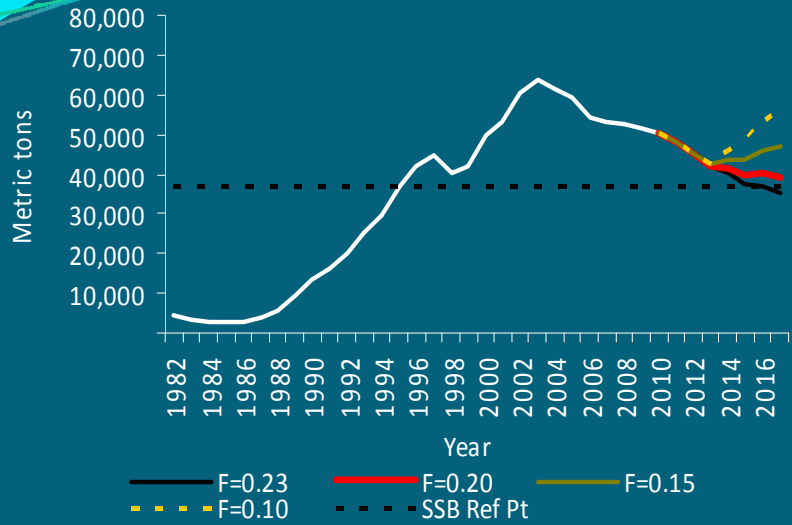
Female SSB, Avg. Recruits, Start 2014



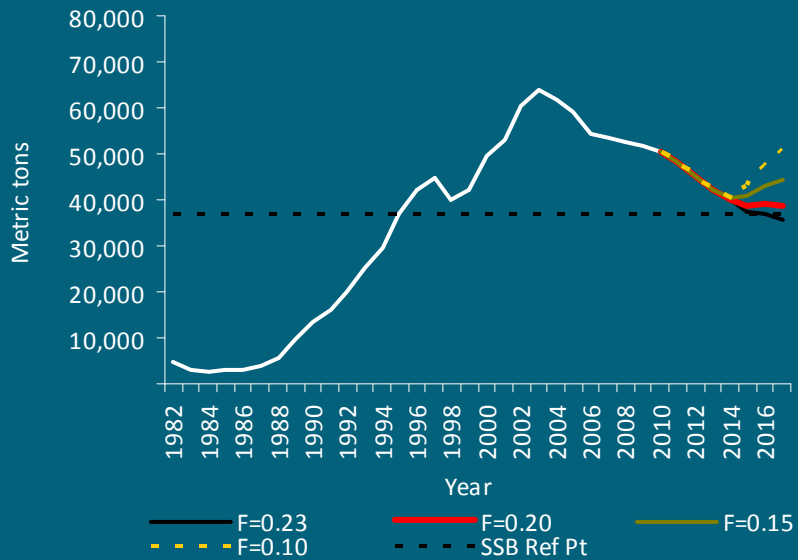
Female SSB, Avg. Recruits, Start 2015



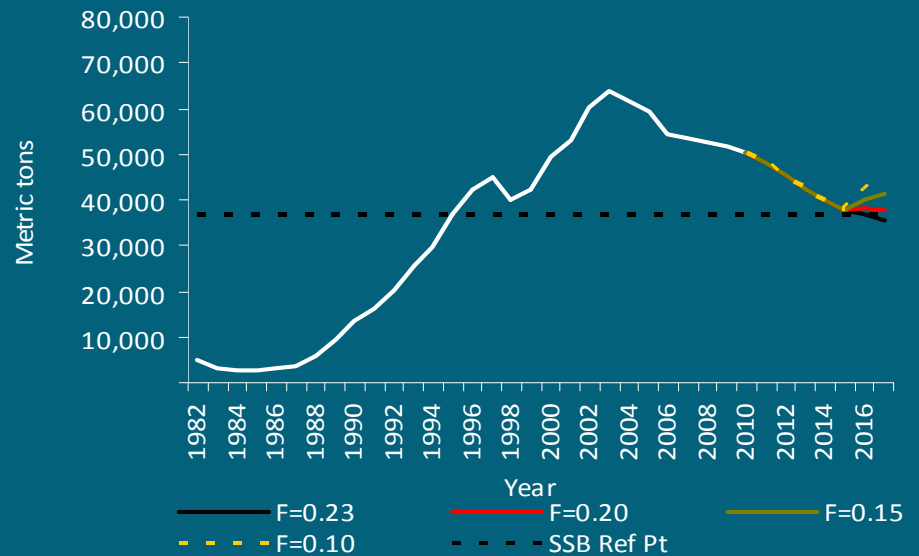
Female SSB, Low Recruits, Start 2013



Female SSB, Low Recruits, Start 2014



Female SSB, Low Recruits, Start 2015



Projected 2017 SSB as a % of threshold

Low recruitment

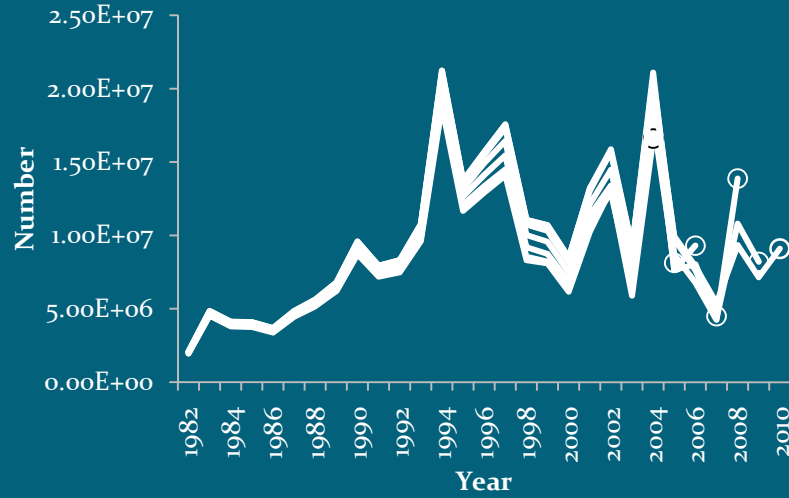
Action year	F=0.23	F=0.20	F=0.15	F=0.10
2013	96.3%	106.8%	127.0%	151.3%
2014	96.3%	104.5%	119.8%	137.5%
2015	96.3%	102.0%	112.2%	123.5%

Average Recruitment

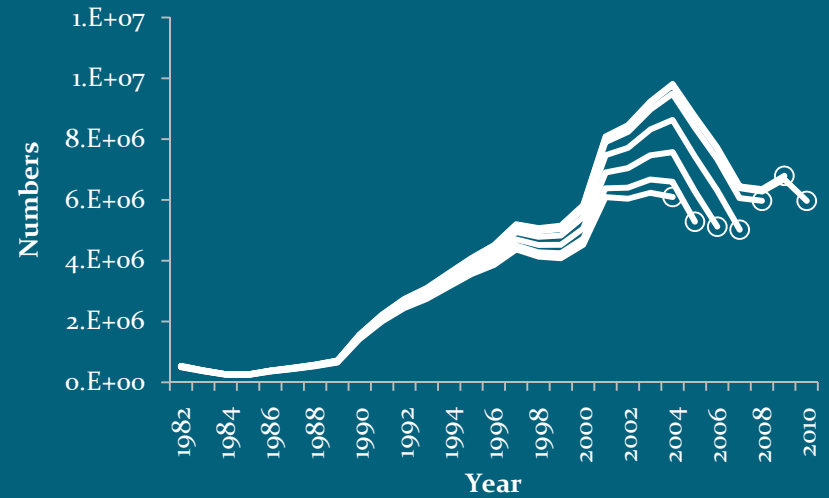
Action year	F=0.23	F=0.20	F=0.15	F=0.10
2013	99.0%	109.6%	130.1%	154.6%
2014	99.0%	107.3%	122.9%	140.7%
2015	99.0%	104.8%	115.2%	126.7%

Retrospective Analysis

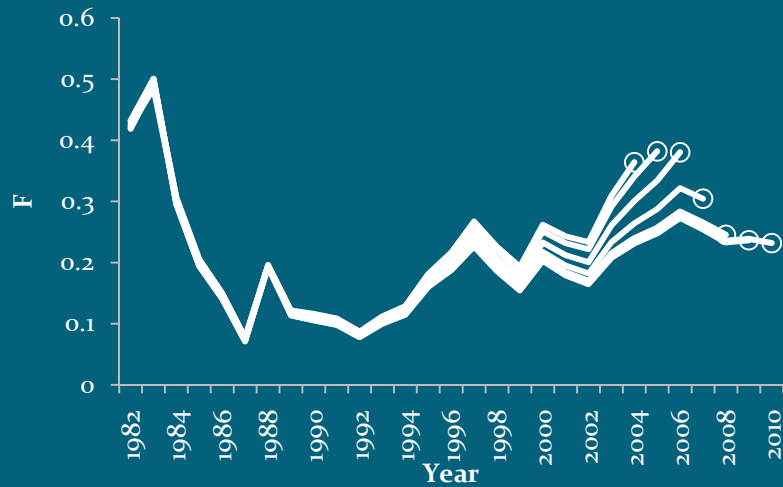
Age-1 Abundance



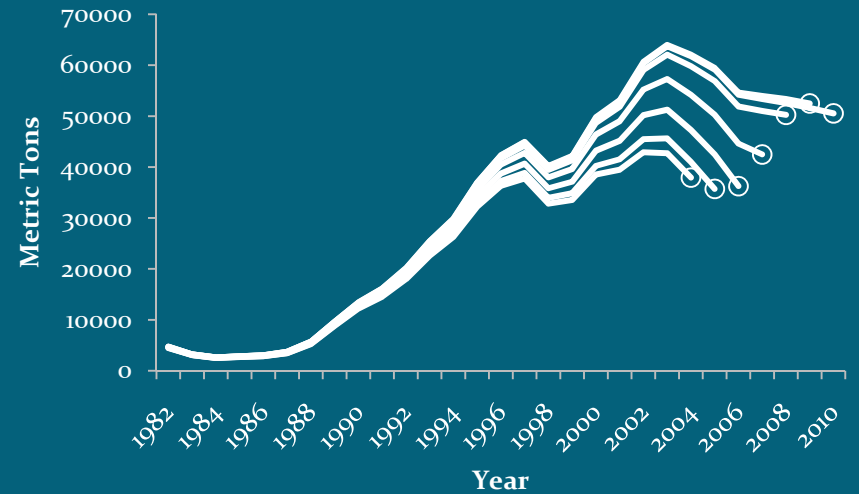
8+ Abundance



Fully-Recruited Fishing Mortality



Female Spawning Stock Biomass



Percent Change Between 2010 and 2017

Ages 3-8 Abundance

F	LR	AR
0.23	-9.6	22.7
0.20	-7.0	25.9
0.15	-2.3	31.6
0.10	2.9	37.8

Ages 3-8 Exploitable Biomass

F	LR	AR
0.23	-24.6	-7.9
0.20	-20.2	-3.1
0.15	-12.2	5.8
0.10	-3.1	15.9

Ages 8+ Abundance

F	LR	AR
0.23	-23.1	-23.1
0.20	-13.0	-13.0
0.15	6.8	6.8
0.10	31.2	31.2

Ages 8+ Exploitable Biomass

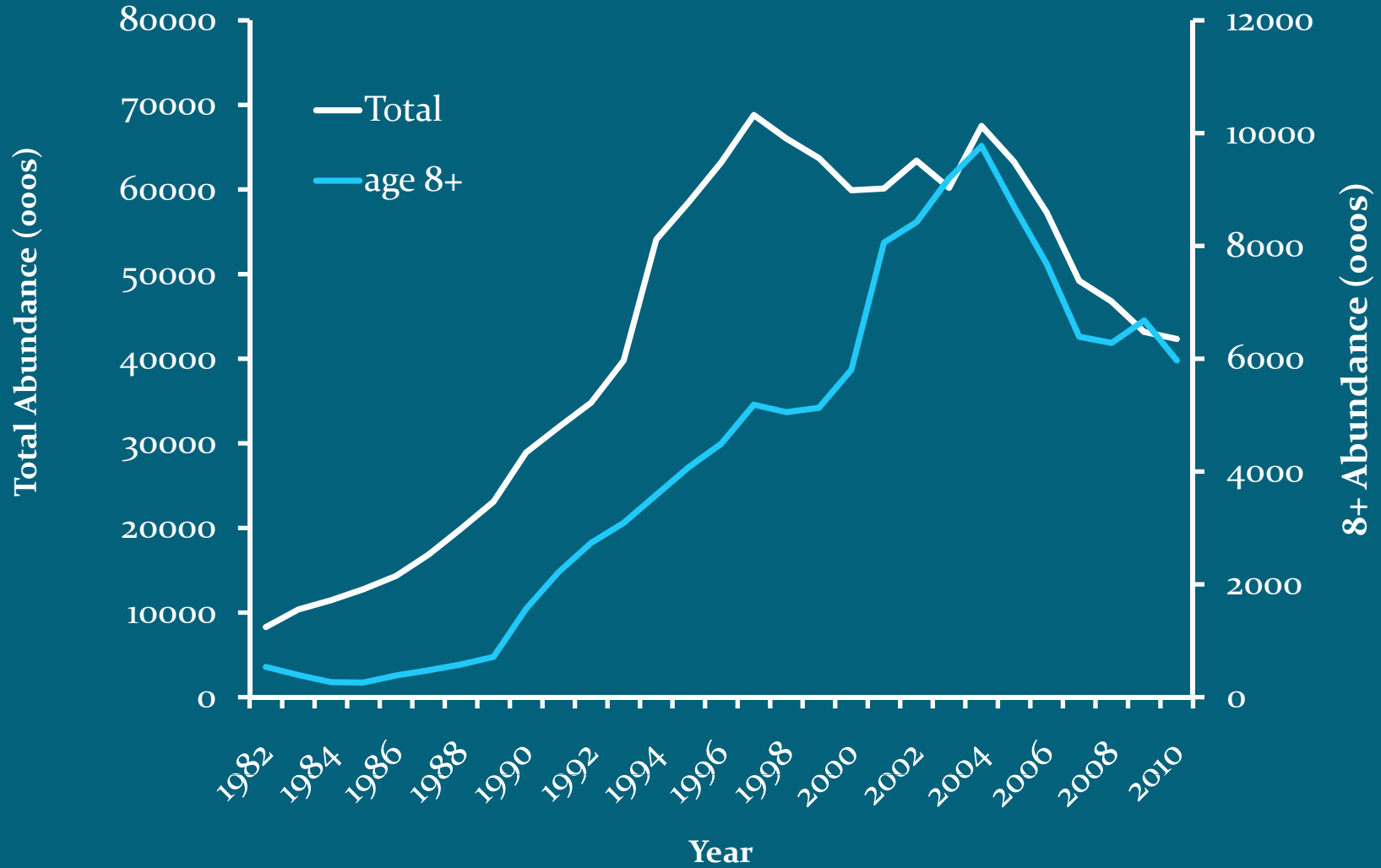
F	LR	AR
0.23	-23.1	-23.1
0.20	-12.4	-12.4
0.15	9.0	9.0
0.10	35.7	35.7

Fishing Mortality

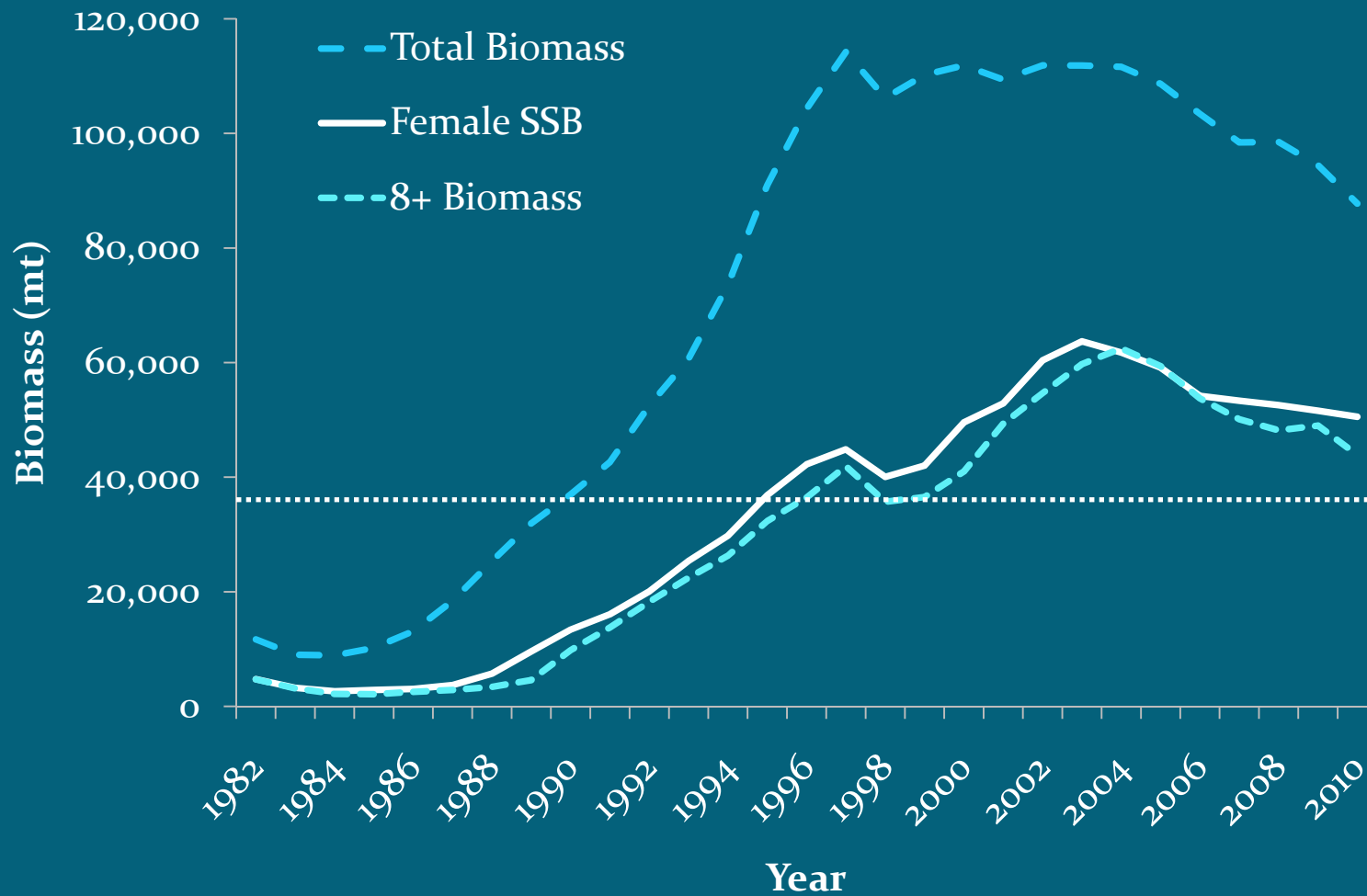
Avg. 8-11



Abundance



Biomass



Recruitment

