

# **RI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

## **Division of Marine Fisheries**

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### **Pre-hearing Workshop 2020 Striped Bass Management**

January 13, 2019



# Goals of the workshop



- Provide a forum for DMF to provide currently available information for each species being considered for amendment including stock status, past years performance, and FMP updates/requirements
- Provide the public with proposals currently being considered.
- Provide a forum for interested persons to understand proposals and the rationale behind the proposal
- Provide a forum for interested persons to offer new proposals, or to narrow down general management considerations into specific proposals; to obtain consensus when achievable.
- **IMPORTANT!** The workshop is not an official record of the public hearing. Comments on noticed proposals and/or alternative proposals must be made during the public comment period.

# Public Hearing Rules of Engagement



- The purpose of the hearing ***is*** to afford interested parties an opportunity to submit data, opinions, comments, and/or arguments on specific amendments being proposed, and/or to offer how the proposed amendment can be changed to minimize the impact on those affected while still achieving goals.
- The hearing ***is not*** a forum for discussing, debating, arguing, or otherwise having dialogue.
- Five (5) minutes will be allowed per person per hearing item. A follow-up comment may be permitted after all other persons have had an opportunity to speak. Persons not recognized by the hearing officer shall refrain from talking while a speaker is recognized.
- Comments must be directed to the specific proposal. Clarifying questions may be asked.

# Dates to remember



- **January 9:** Workshop (finfish species being considered for amendment other than striped bass)
- **January 13:** Workshop (Striped Bass)
- **January 22:** Public Notice
- **February 10:** Hearing
- **February 21:** End of public comment period
- **March 2:** RI Marine Fisheries Council



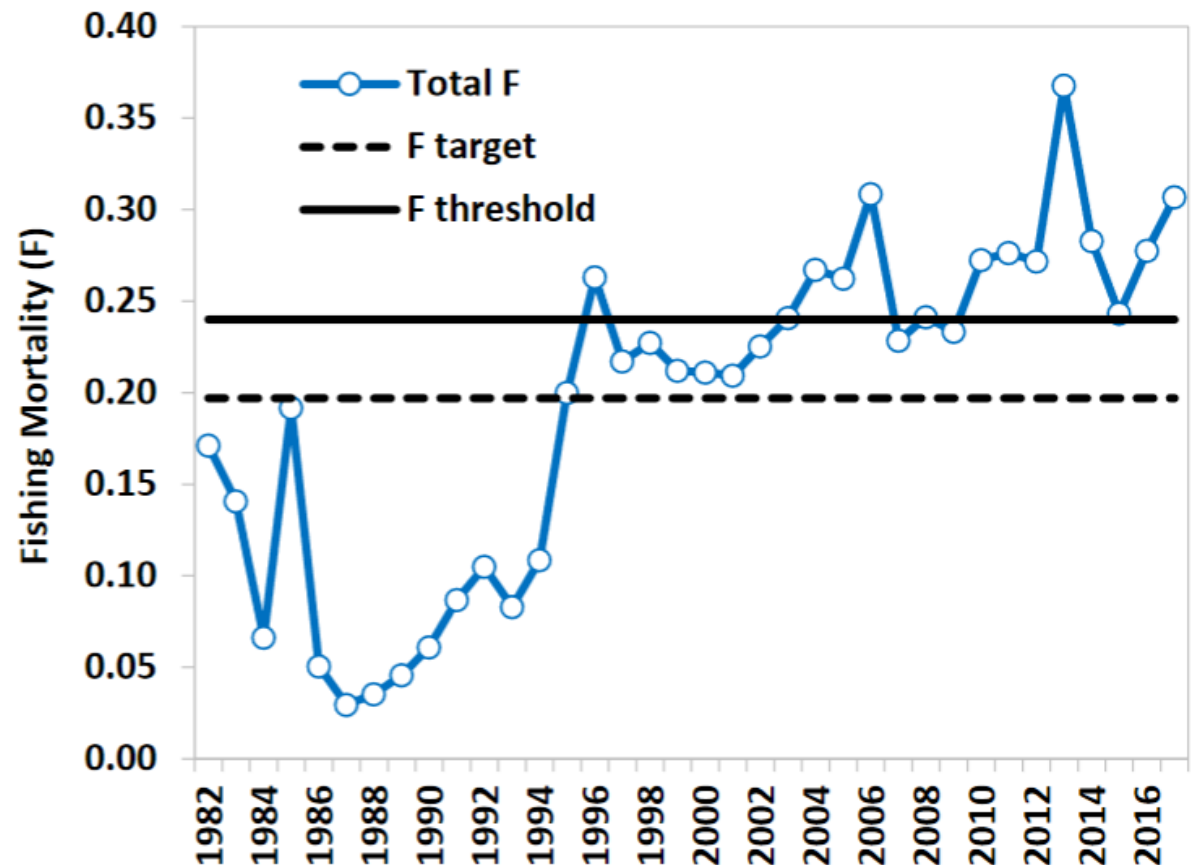
## Striped Bass

- Summary of stock status
- 2019 recreational fishery performance
- 2020 recreational management
- 2019 commercial fishery performance
- 2020 commercial management

# Striped Bass - Stock Status



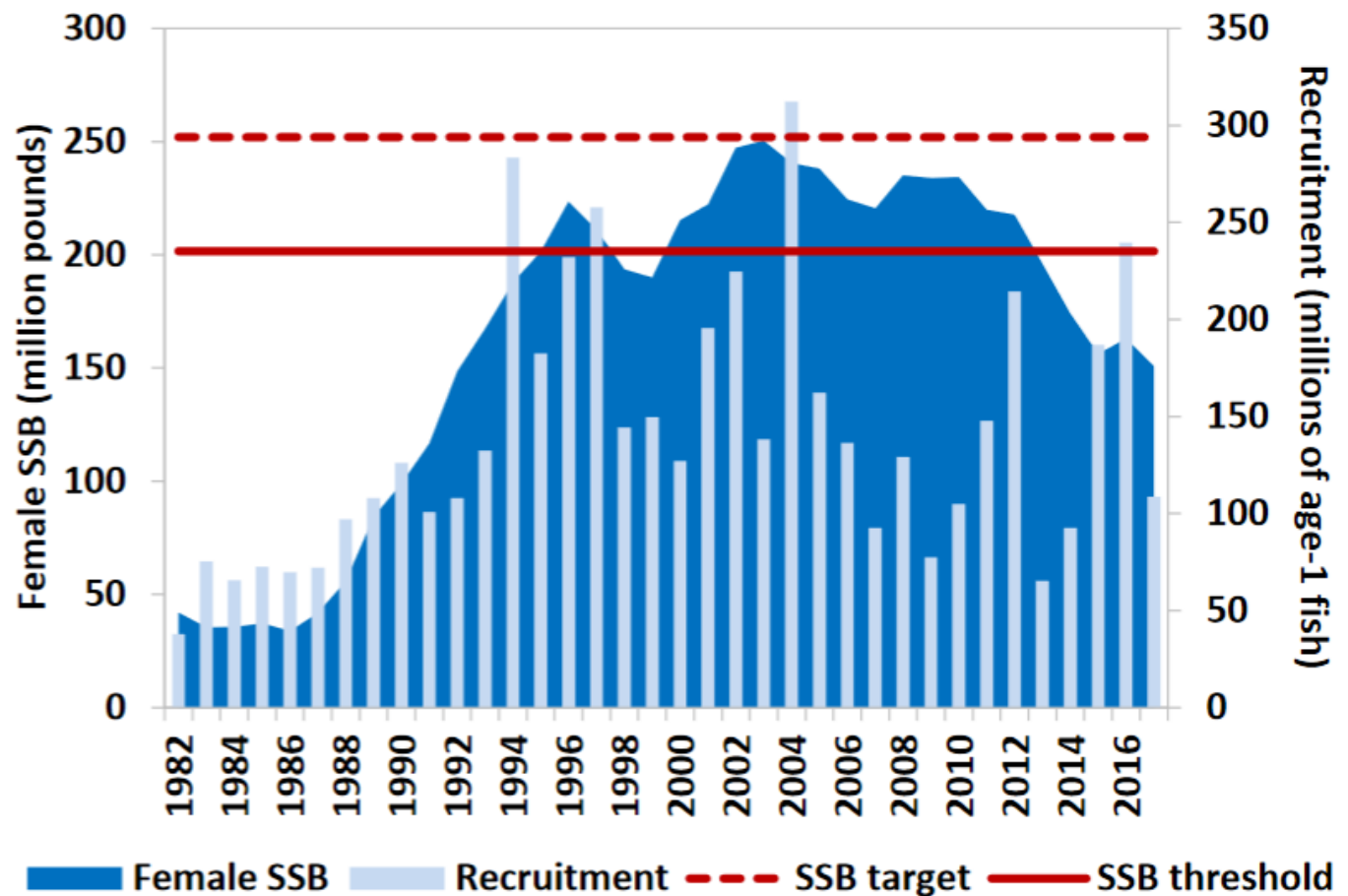
- 2018 Benchmark Stock Assessment (SAW/SARC 66) and peer review indicates the striped bass stock is overfished and overfishing is occurring relative to biological reference points.
- Fishing mortality was estimated to be 0.31 in 2017, a value above both the fishing mortality threshold (0.24) and the fishing mortality target (0.20).



# Striped Bass – Stock Status



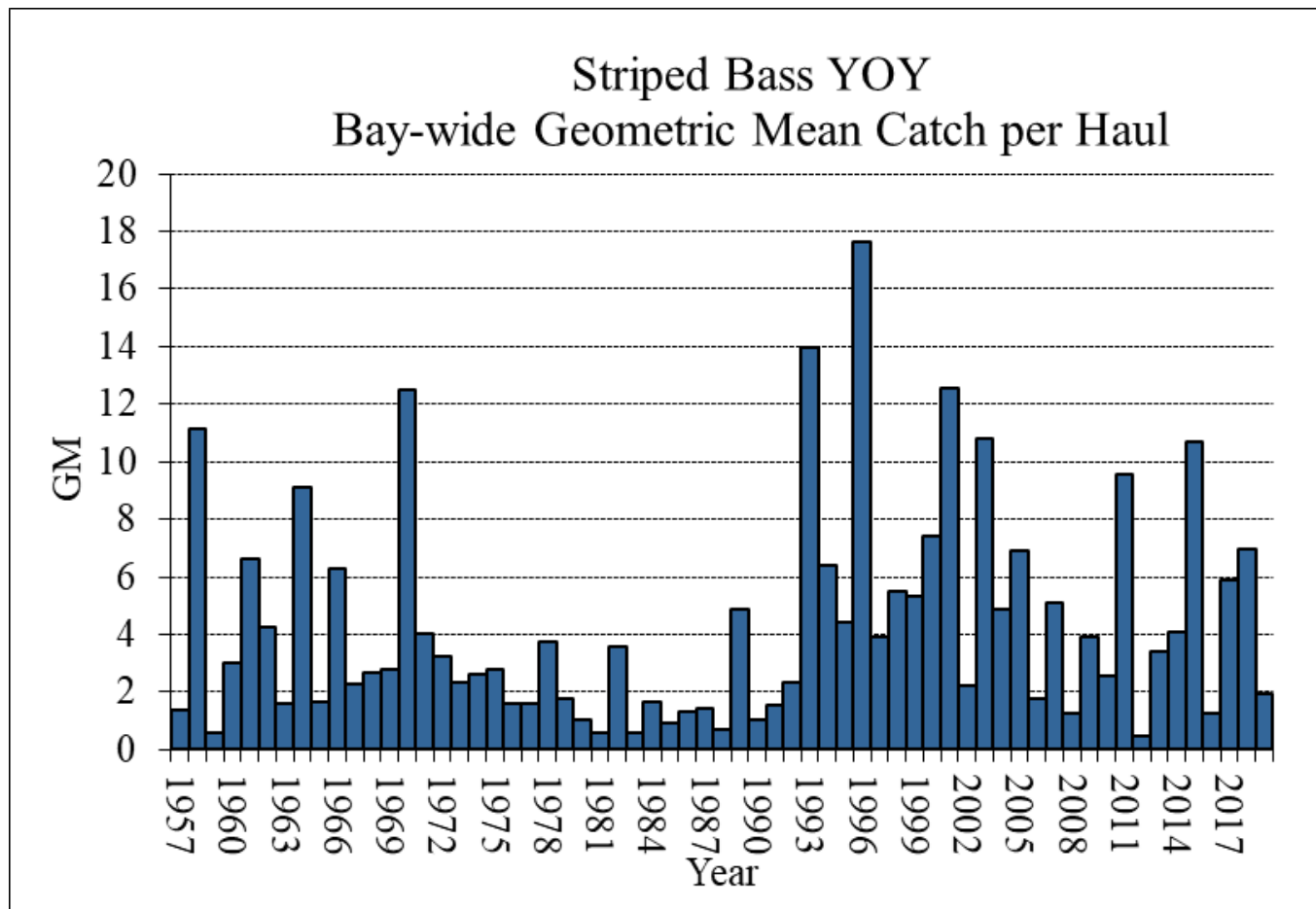
- SSB was estimated to be 151 million pounds in 2017, below both the threshold and target (202 million pounds and 252 million pounds respectively).
- Strong recruitment has been observed in 2012, 2015, and 2016.



# Striped Bass – Stock Status

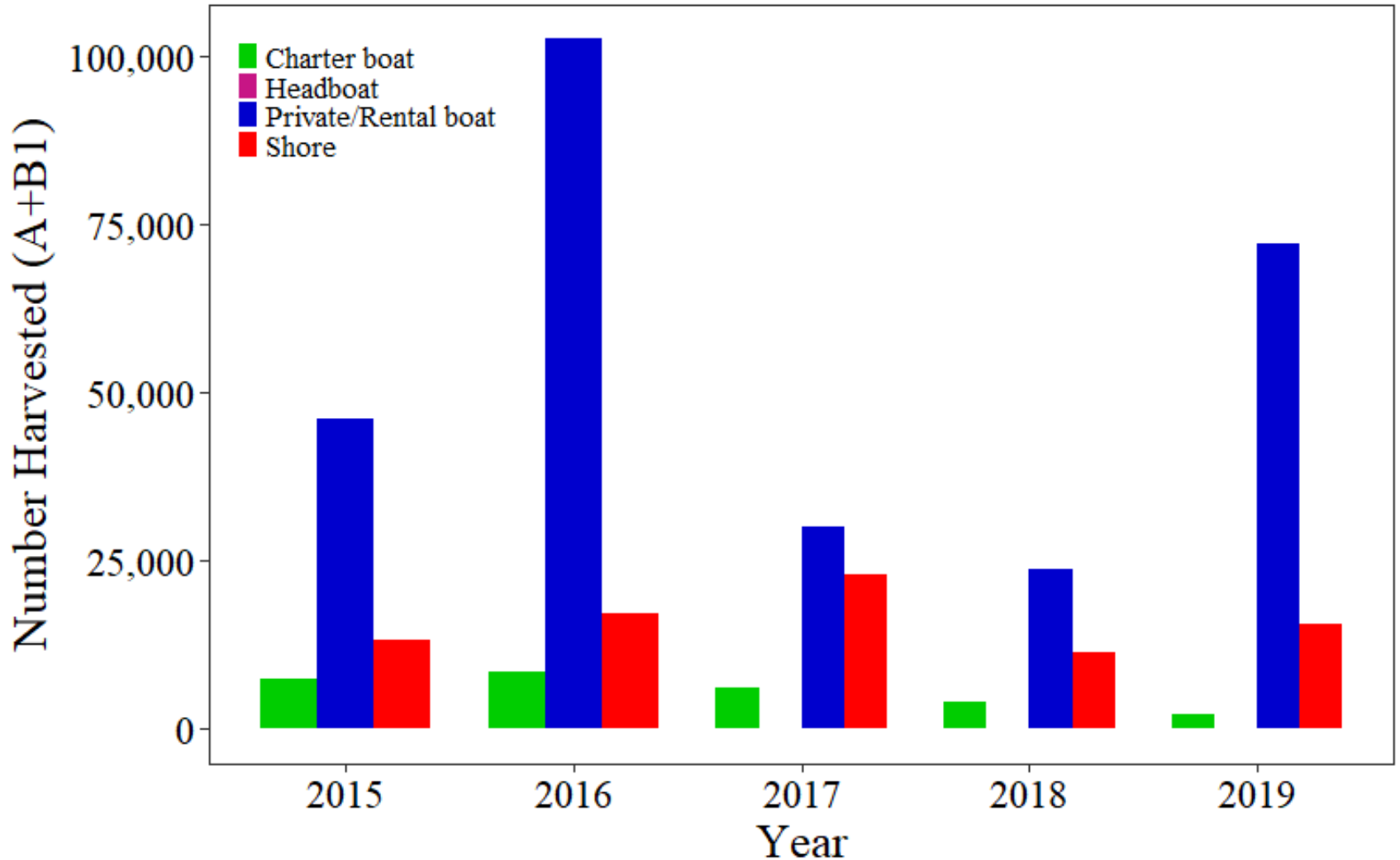


- In 2019 the MD YOY survey indicated a lower abundance relative to the previous two years.



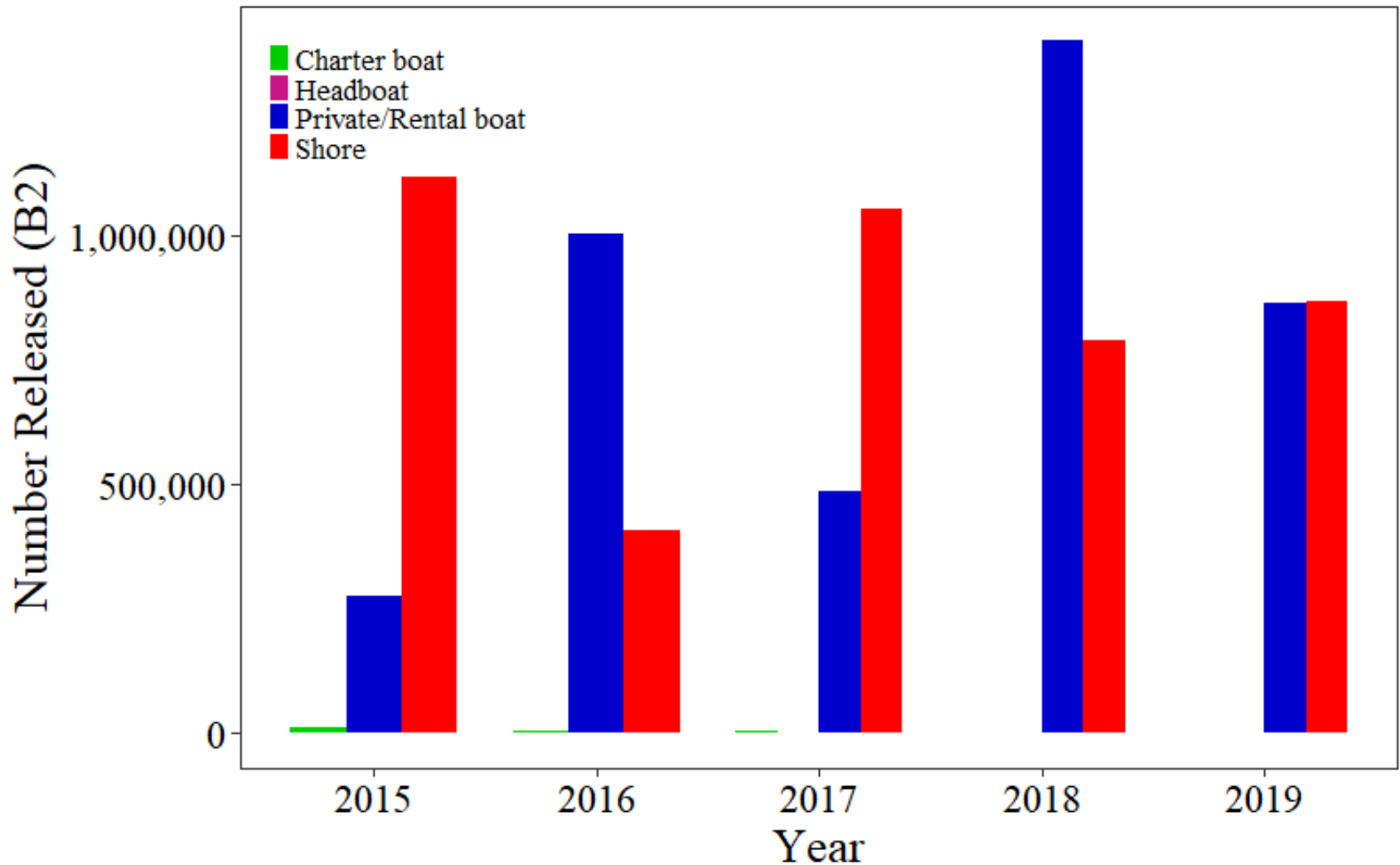


# Striped Bass – 2019 RI Recreational Fishery Performance



Source: 2019 MRIP, 2019 data preliminary and only through wave 5

# Striped Bass – 2019 RI Recreational Fishery Performance



Source: 2019 MRIP, 2019 data preliminary and only through wave 5

# ASMFC Striped Bass Management



- Addendum VI adopted by Board in October 2019 to reduce F to the target in 2020.
- Implements 18% reductions to both the recreational and commercial fisheries.
  - Recreational fishery: slot limit
  - Commercial fishery: Quota reduction
- Circle hook provision to be implemented by January 1, 2021 requiring the use of circle hooks when fishing recreationally for striped bass with bait.
- Amendment expected to be initiated by the Board in 2020 to address FMP objectives, triggers, reference points, etc.
  - ~ 2 year timeline, possible implementation in 2022.

# Striped Bass – 2020 Recreational Management



## Current management:

Min. size	Season	Poss. limit
28"	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31	1 fish/person/day

## ASMFC management: Addendum VI

<u>Slot limit</u>	Season	Poss. limit
<u>28" – &lt; 35"</u>	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31	1 fish/person/day

## ASMFC management: Conservation Equivalency

Option	Mode	<u>Slot limit</u>	Season	Poss. limit
<u>A.</u>	<u>All Modes</u>	<u>32" – &lt; 40"</u>	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31	1 fish/person/day
<u>B.</u>	<u>Private/Shore</u>	<u>32" – &lt; 40"</u>	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31	1 fish/person/day
	<u>For-Hire</u>	<u>30" – &lt; 40"</u>		

# Striped Bass – 2020 Recreational Management



## ASMFC management: Regional Conservation Equivalency

Option	Mode	Slot limit	Season	Poss. limit
<u>A.</u>	<u>All Modes</u>	<u>30'' – &lt; 40''</u>	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31	1 fish/person/day
<u>B.</u>	<u>Private/Shore</u>	<u>30'' – &lt; 40''</u>	Jan. 1 – Dec. 31	1 fish/person/day
	<u>For-Hire</u>	<u>28'' – &lt; 37''</u>		

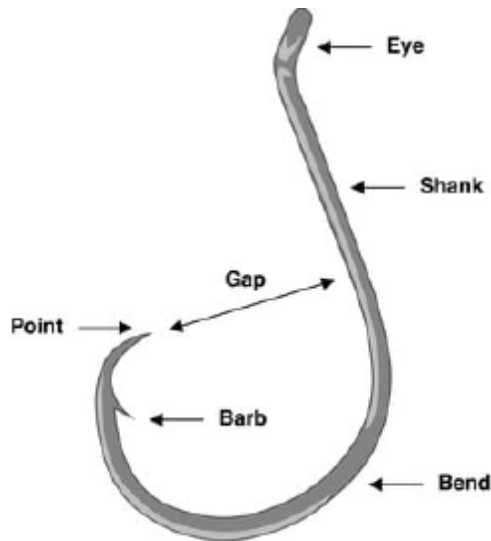
- Intent is to maintain regional consistency for RI, CT, and NY.
- In order for an option to be implemented, all three states would have to implement.
- RI is currently in favor of a regional proposal for consistency.

# Striped Bass – Recreational Management



## Circle Hook Provision:

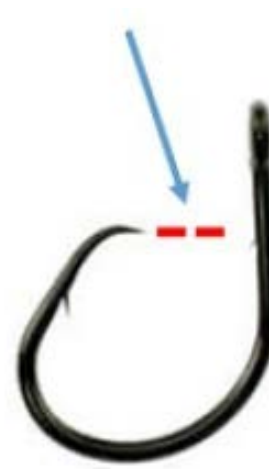
- Required when fishing recreationally for striped bass w/bait. Have until 1/1/21 to implement.
- Defined as: “a non-offset hook where the point is pointed perpendicularly back towards the shank”. The term “non-offset” means the point and barb are in the same plane as the shank (e.g. when the hook is laying on a flat surface, the entire hook and barb also lay flat).



**Circle Hook Anatomy**



**J Hook**



**Circle Hook**



**Non-Offset**



**Offset**

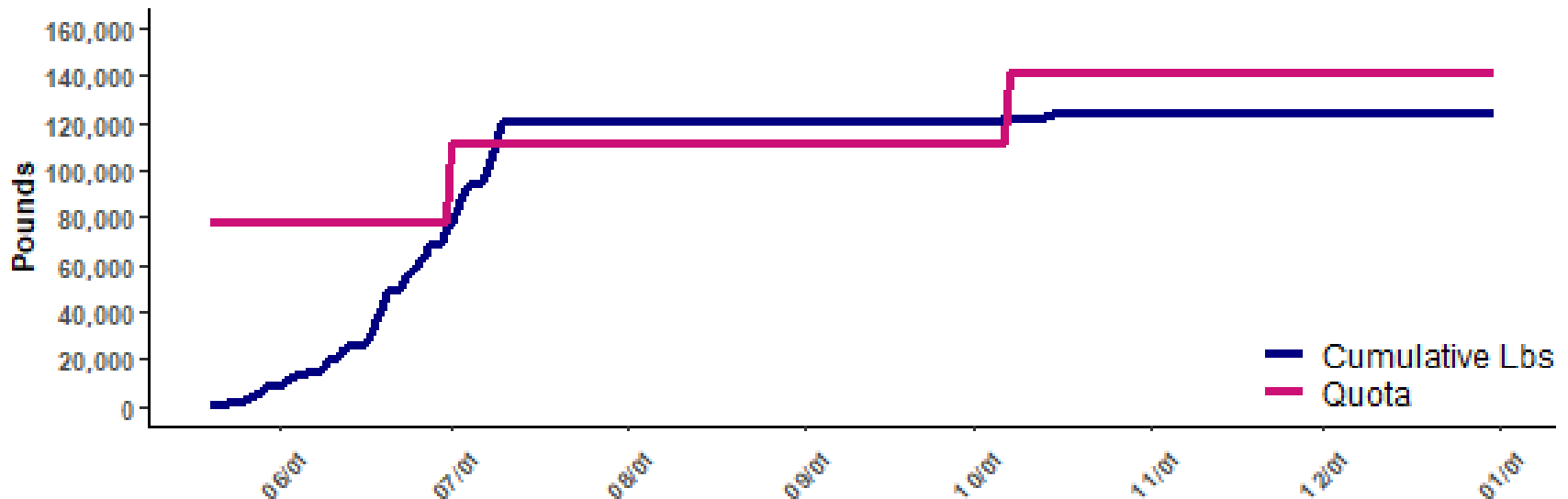
# Striped Bass - 2019 Commercial GC Fishery Performance



• 2019 Quota = 111,459 lbs

Season	Days Open	Initial Allocation	Trap Rollover/ Period Adjustment	Final Allocation	Landings
5/20 – 6/30	30	78,021 lbs	N/A	78,021 lbs	74,154 lbs
7/1 – 7/10; 10/6 – 12/31	8; 63	33,438 lbs	3,867 + 30,000	67,305 lbs	50,173 lbs

## Striped Bass General Category



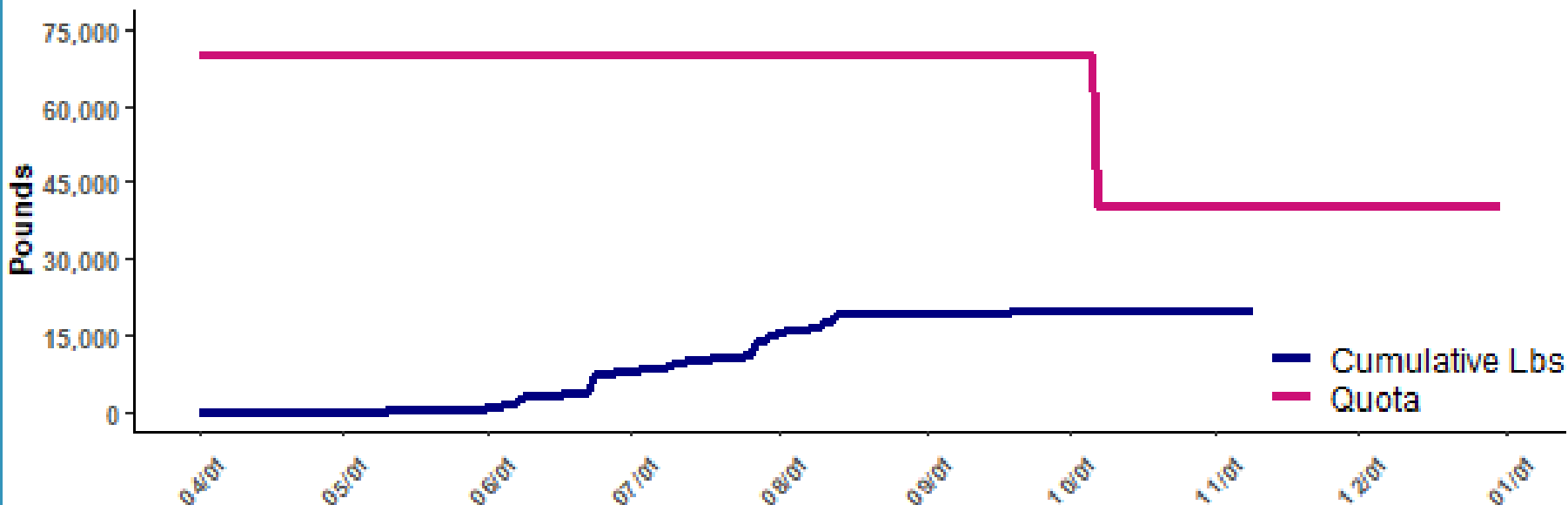
# Striped Bass - 2019 Commercial FFT Fishery Performance



• 2019 Quota = 70,113 lbs

Season	Days Open	Initial Allocation	Trap Rollover/ Period Adjustment	Final Allocation	Landings
4/1 – 12/31	275	70,113 lbs	30,000	40,113 lbs	19,901 lbs

## Striped Bass Floating Fish Traps





# Striped Bass – 2020 Commercial GC Management



- RI 2020 Commercial Quota: 148,889 lbs
  - General Category: 90,882 lbs
  - Floating Fish Trap: 58,067 lbs

## Current management:

Min. size	Season	Allocation	Poss. limit	Closed Days
34"	May 20 – June 30	70%	5 fish/person/day	Fri. & Sat.
	July 1 – Dec. 31	30%	5 fish/person/day	Fri. & Sat.

# Striped Bass – 2020 Commercial GC Management



## Industry proposal 1:

Min. size	Season	Allocation	Poss. limit	Closed Days
34"	May 20 – June 30	70%	<u>4</u> fish/person/day	Fri. & Sat.
	July 1 – Dec. 31	30%	<u>4</u> fish/person/day	Fri. & Sat.

## Industry proposal 2:

Min. size	Season	Allocation	Poss. limit	Closed Days
34"	May 20 – June 30	70%	<u>3</u> fish/person/day	<u>Thurs.</u> , Fri. & Sat.
	July 1 – Dec. 31	30%	<u>3</u> fish/person/day	<u>Thurs.</u> , Fri. & Sat.

# Striped Bass – 2020 Commercial FFT Management



- RI 2020 Commercial Quota: 148,889 lbs
  - General Category: 90,882 lbs
  - Floating Fish Trap: 58,067 lbs

## Current management:

Min. size	Season	Poss. limit
26"	April 1 - Dec. 31	Unlimited; 70% trigger: 500 lbs/licensee/day

# End of Slides!



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