

# Striped Bass Draft Addendum IV



Fisheries GIT Meeting  
June 4, 2014

# Addendum Timeline



- June – July 2014: Update Addendum
- August 2014: Consider approval of Draft Addendum for Public Comment
- September/October 2014: Public comment period
- October 2014: Board Reviews Public Comment
  - Final approval of options and Addendum
- January 2015: Implement Addendum measures

# Statement of the Problem



- 2013 Benchmark recommended new F reference points
  - Addendum is required to adopt new reference points
- With proposed reference points, F is currently above the target
- SSB below target since 2006 and it is approaching overfished threshold
- So a concern is firing of management trigger #3 with F above the target and SSB below the target
- Additionally, a similar downtrend has been observed in total harvest
- To address these concerns Draft Addendum IV contains management measures to reduce F to at level at or below the target

# Management History

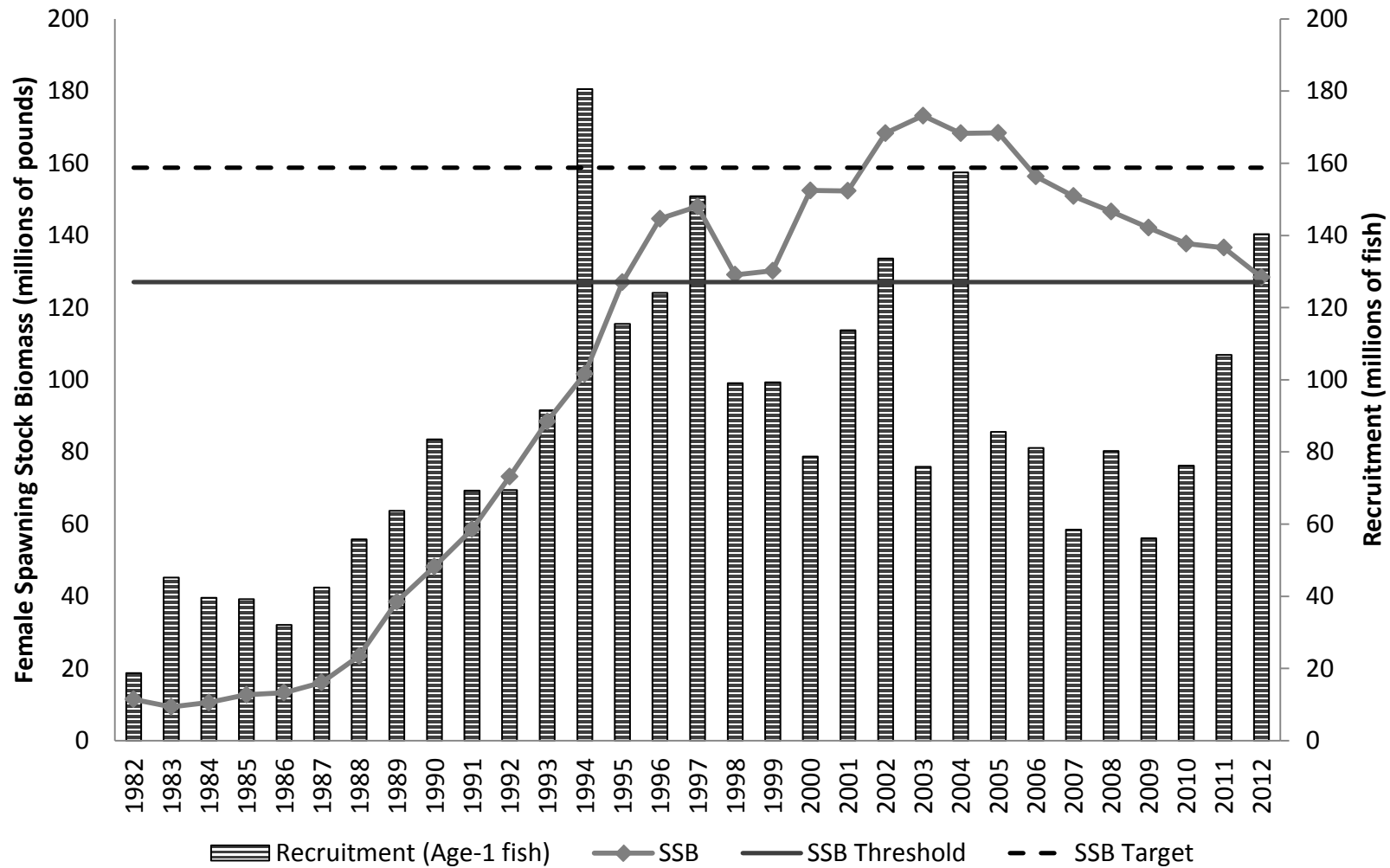


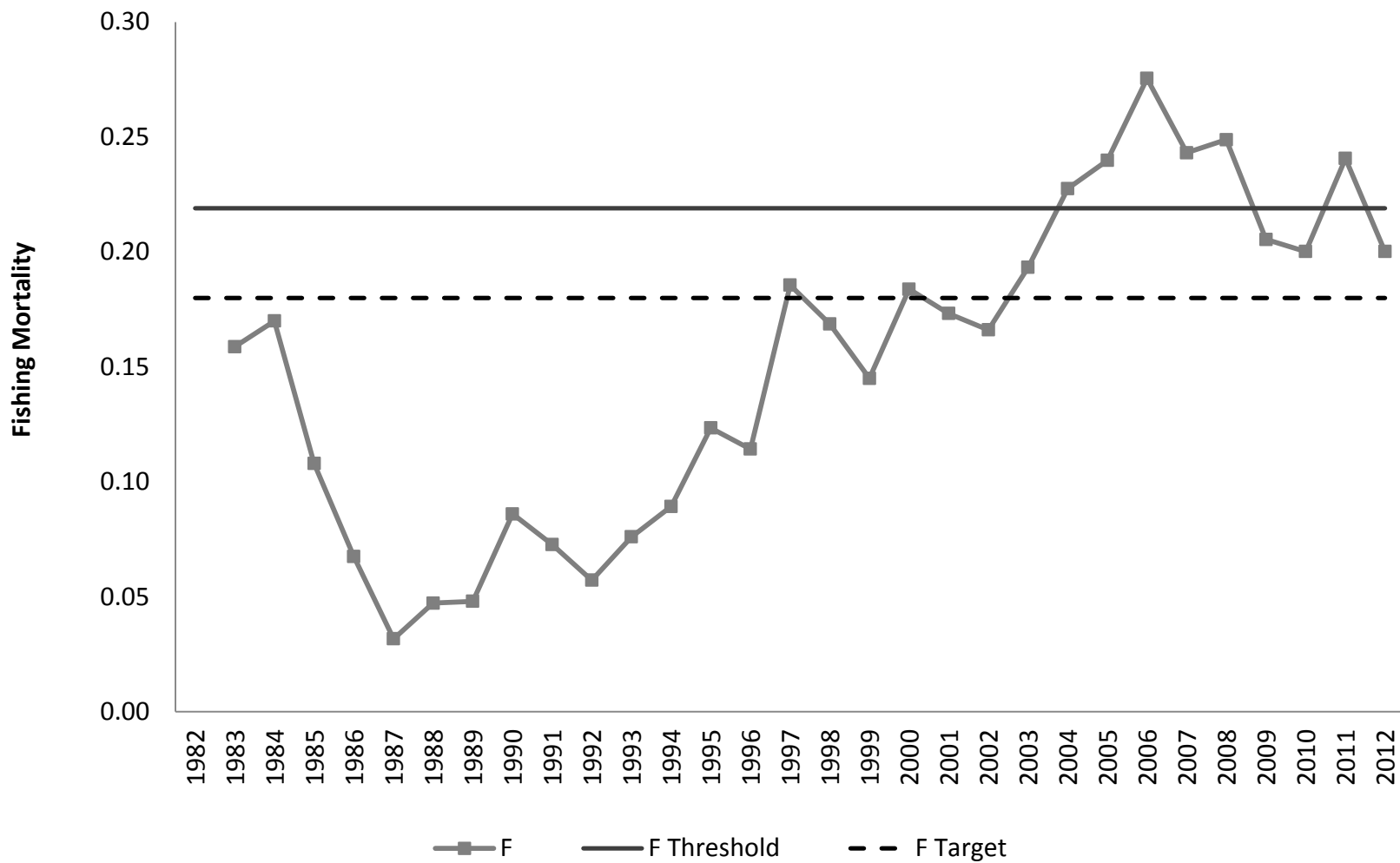
- Amendment 6 (2004) restored the states' commercial quotas to 1972-1979 base period
- All states implemented two fish bag limit with a minimum size limit of 28 inches except the Ches Bay and AS/RR at 18 inch minimum size
- The EEZ has been closed to the harvest, possession and targeting of striped bass since 1990.

# Status of the Stock



- Not overfished and overfishing is not occurring
- However,  $F(2012)$  was above its target and SSB is below its target and trending towards its overfished threshold
- Striped bass experienced several years of strong recruitment from 1993-2004, followed by a period of lower recruitment from 2005-2010.
- Strong 2011 year class, but weak 2012 year class





# Proposed F Reference Points



- The addendum considers F reference points for
  - (1) The Coastwide population
  - (2) Chesapeake Bay Stock
  - (3) Albemarle Sound/Roanoke River Stock



# Issue 1 Coastwide Population



- Option A: Status quo

Reference Point	Definition	Value (as estimated in 2008 benchmark stock assessment)
$F_{threshold}$	$F_{msy}$	0.34
$F_{target}$	TC recommended value more conservative than $F_{msy}$	0.30

- Option B: measures consistent with 2013 assessment

Reference Point	Definition	Value (as estimated in 2013 benchmark stock assessment)
$F_{threshold}$	F associated with achieving the SSB threshold	0.22
$F_{target}$	F associated with achieving the SSB target	0.18

# Issue 2: Chesapeake Bay Stock



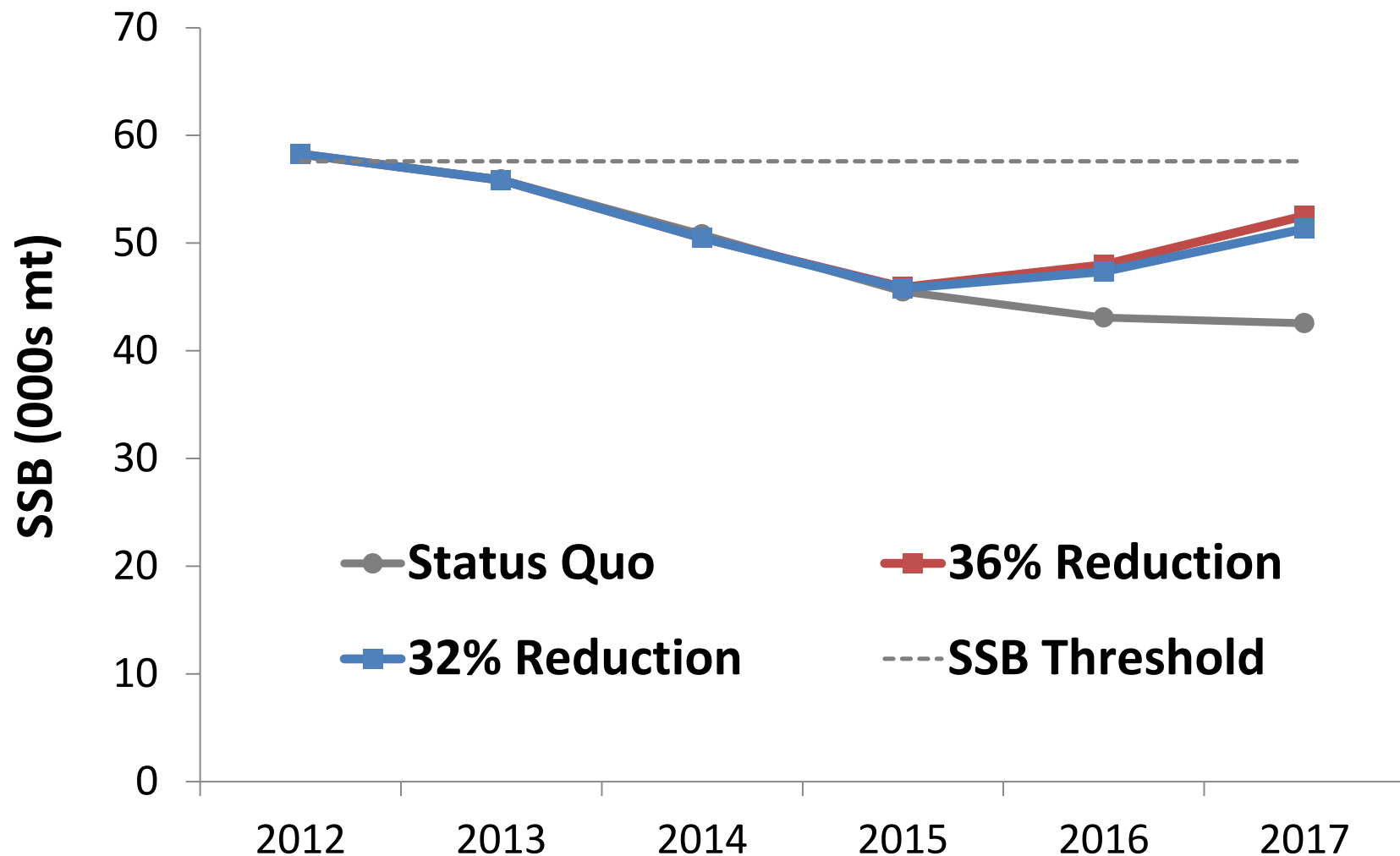
- Option A: Status quo
  - F target is 0.27 as established in Amendment 6.
- Option B: Use coastwide population reference points
  - The TC cannot calculate separate reference points for the CB management area at this time.

# Issue 3: AS/RR Stock



- Option A: Status quo
  - F target is 0.27 as established in Amendment 6.
- Option B: NC will manage the AS/RR Stock using reference points from the latest NC stock assessment that are accepted by the TC and approved for management use by the Board.

# SSB Projections



# 3.0 Proposed Management Options



- Plan Development Team focused on management options estimated to achieve a 32-36% reduction from total harvest levels in 2013
- Proposed Recreational Management Options
  - Bag limit change
  - Size limit change
- Proposed Commercial Management Options
  - Adjustments to the Amendment 6 quota allocations
- Achieve Reductions in 1 or 3 years??

# 3.2.1 Recreational Bag Limits



- One fish bag limit and 28 inch minimum size
  - CB would implement one fish bag limit and 18 inch minimum size
  - NC will manage the recreational striped bass fisheries in the AS/RR based on reference points approved for management use
  - 31% reduction

## 3.2.2 Recreational Size Limits



- 2 fish bag limit and 33 inch min size
  - CB = 2 fish bag limit and 24 inch minimum size
  - 31% reduction and SPR is less than 35%
- 2 fish bag limit and 28-34 inch slot limit
  - CB = two fish bag limit and 18-21 inch slot limit.
  - 30% reduction and SPR is less than 48%

# Questions?

