



# *Presentation II of V* ***HISTORY OF COBIA MANAGEMENT***

**WHAT HAPPENED FROM 1983 TO 2015?**



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Cobia Q&A Meeting: May 9, 2016

**REVISED 5/3/16** (see **green text on slide #4 & #8**)

# Cobia Management: 1983->1998

- **GM/SA FMP (1983)** – 1 stock TX->NC; MSY=1.057MP; 33" FL
- **AM 1 (1985)** – FY=Jan-Dec; 33" FL or 37" TL; overfished definition
- **AM 2 (1987)** – annual com & for-hire permit for April->March
- **AM 3 (1989)** – prohibited drift gillnets
- **AM 5 (1990)** – MSY=1MP & avg catch 81-89=1.9MP; revised overfished & added overfishing definition; added to stock assmt process; 2/p/d w/1 day limit
- **AM 6 (1992)** – 33" FL only; MSY=2.2MP (92 Mack Stock Assessment); revised overfished/overfishing definition
- **AM 8 (1996)** – range->MAFMC; OY=MSY= 2.2MP
- **AM 11 (1998)** – Spawning Potential Ratio (SPR) for biomass parameters rejected; MSY=unknown; OY=all harvest while  $SPR \geq 40\%$  Static SPR; overfishing  $> 30\%$ ; threshold=10%; Atl. SPR unknown; Gulf SPR below 20%



# Cobia Management: AM 18 (2011)

- **AM 18 (2011)** – regulations effective 1/30/12; new MSA requirements (new recreational quotas)
  - Atlantic (& Gulf) Cobia Assessed in 1995 (Thompson; SEFSC); genetics indicate one stock, grow slower & live longer in SA supports 2 groups; assessed as 2 management groups; SPRs only for Gulf (<20%)
  - Because current yield (in 1995) for both areas is at MSY, Mackerel Stock Assessment Panel recommended no change in management
  - Gulf Cobia Assessed in 2001 (Williams; SEFSC); not overfished/no overfishing; **Councils used this to separate migratory groups**
  - Removed Cero, Little Tunny, and Dolphin from the FMU; removed Bluefish in Gulf only from FMU; due to lack of need for federal management



# Cobia Management: AM 18 (2011)

- **AM 18 (2011)** – continued
  - 2 migratory groups: TX->FLWC & FLEC->NY
  - MSY unknown; OFL unknown but use total ACL to determine overfishing
  - Councils requested cobia stock assessments; SEFSC Recommended the SSCs use average landings for Atlantic & Gulf ABCs
  - Gulf Migratory Group: ACL=ABC=1.46MP (no Rec/Com split); ACT=90%ABC= 1.31MP; same method as used for Atlantic
  - Atlantic Migratory Group: ACL=ABC=OY= 1,571,399 lbs (avg. of 2000-09 FLEC->NC landings +1.5x standard deviation of landings)
  - 92% Rec/82%Com based on 50% avg. landings 2000-08 & 50% 2006-08
  - Rec ACL=1,445,687 lbs; Rec ACT=1,184,688 lbs
  - Com ACL = 125,712 lbs



# Cobia Management: AM 18 (2011)

- **AM 18 (2011)** – continued
  - Commercial Accountability Measure (AM) = track landings & close if met or projected to be met; payback if overfished & total ACL is exceeded
  - **Recreational AM = if Recreational & Total ACL exceeded, shorten season; use 1 year then avg. 2, then avg. 3 onwards unless ACL changed & then restart with one year;** payback if overfished & total ACL is exceeded
  - Continue with 33"FL & 2/p/d w/1 day limit & landing fish intact



# Cobia Management: AM 18 (2011)

- **AM 18 (effective 1/30/12)** – catch monitoring; How did we do?  
[http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable\\_fisheries/acl\\_monitoring/](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/)

	Rec ACL	Rec Catch	Com ACL	Com Catch	Closure
2012	1,445,687	1,058,583	125,712	129,784	
2013	1,445,687	1,142,947	125,712	122,255	
2014	1,445,687	1,179,031	125,712	146,863	Com 12/11/14



# History of Cobia Management

- **SEDAR 28 (2013)** – data thru 2011; **new stock boundary GA->NY** not overfished/no overfishing; Review Panel approved; SSC approved: MSY = 808,000 lbs (Atlantic) and 2,943,171 lbs (Gulf); OFL & ABC in million pounds; ABC = max. landings Councils can allow: NOTE: DETAILS IN SEPARATE PRESENTATION

ATLANTIC	OFL	ABC
2014	0.81	0.73
2015	0.76	0.69
2016	0.73	0.67

GULF	OFL	ABC
2014	2.56	2.46
2015	2.59	2.52
2016	2.66	2.60



# Cobia Management: AM 20B (2014)

- **AM 20B(2014)** – regs eff. 3/1/15; implement SEDAR/SSC values;  
**2 migratory groups: TX->FLEC & GA->NY**; kept **92%**  
Rec/**82%**Com based on 50% 2000-08 & 50% 2006-08;  
MSY=808,000 lbs; OFL = 760,000 for 2015 & 730,000 lbs  
2016 and beyond
  - ACL=ABC=OY= 690,000 in 2015 & 670,000 lbs 2016 onwards
  - Rec ACL= 630,000 (2015) & 620,000 lbs 2016 onwards
  - Rec ACT= 520,000 (2015) & 500,000 lbs 2016 onwards
  - Com ACL = 60,000 (2015) & 50,000 lbs 2016 onwards
  - AM no change: Com AM = track & close; payback if overfished & C > total ACL; Rec AM = if Rec & Total ACL exceeded shorten season; use 1 year then avg. 2, then avg. 3 **unless ACL changed & restart with 1 year**; payback if overfished and C > total ACL
  - Continue with 33" FL & 2/p/d w/1 day limit & landed intact





# Cobia Management: AM 20B(2014)

- **AM 20B (effective 3/1/15)** – catch monitoring; How did we do?  
[http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable\\_fisheries/acl\\_monitoring/](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/) ; DETAILS IN SEPARATE PRESENTATION

	Rec ACL	Rec Catch	Com ACL	Com Catch	Closure
2015 GA-NY (ATLANTIC)	630,000	1,541,575	60,000	53,364	Rec 2016 Season to be shorted
2015 E. FL (GULF)	830,000	372,118	70,000	53,255	
2016 GA-NY (ATLANTIC)	620,000	-	50,000	5,410	Fed Rec Closes 6/20/16
2016 E. FL (GULF)	860,000	-	70,000	17,472	

