



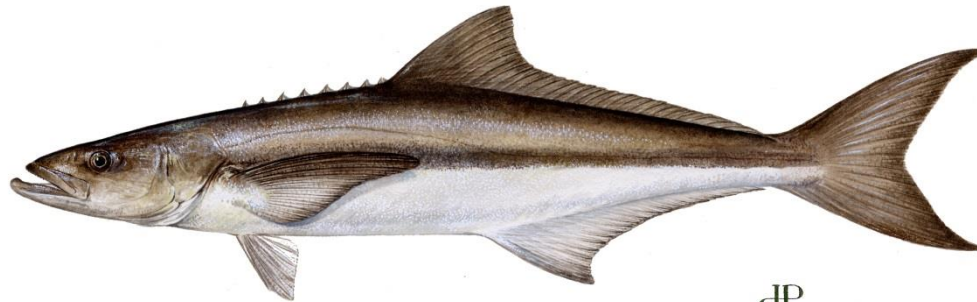
# Atlantic Cobia Recreational Sector Update

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SAFMC Meeting  
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# Management Changes

- In March 2015, Amendment 20B changed cobia ABC, ACLs, and ACTs based on SEDAR 28, but the AMs did not change.
- Following SEDAR 28, Amendment 20B also changed the Atlantic cobia stock to be from New York through Georgia.



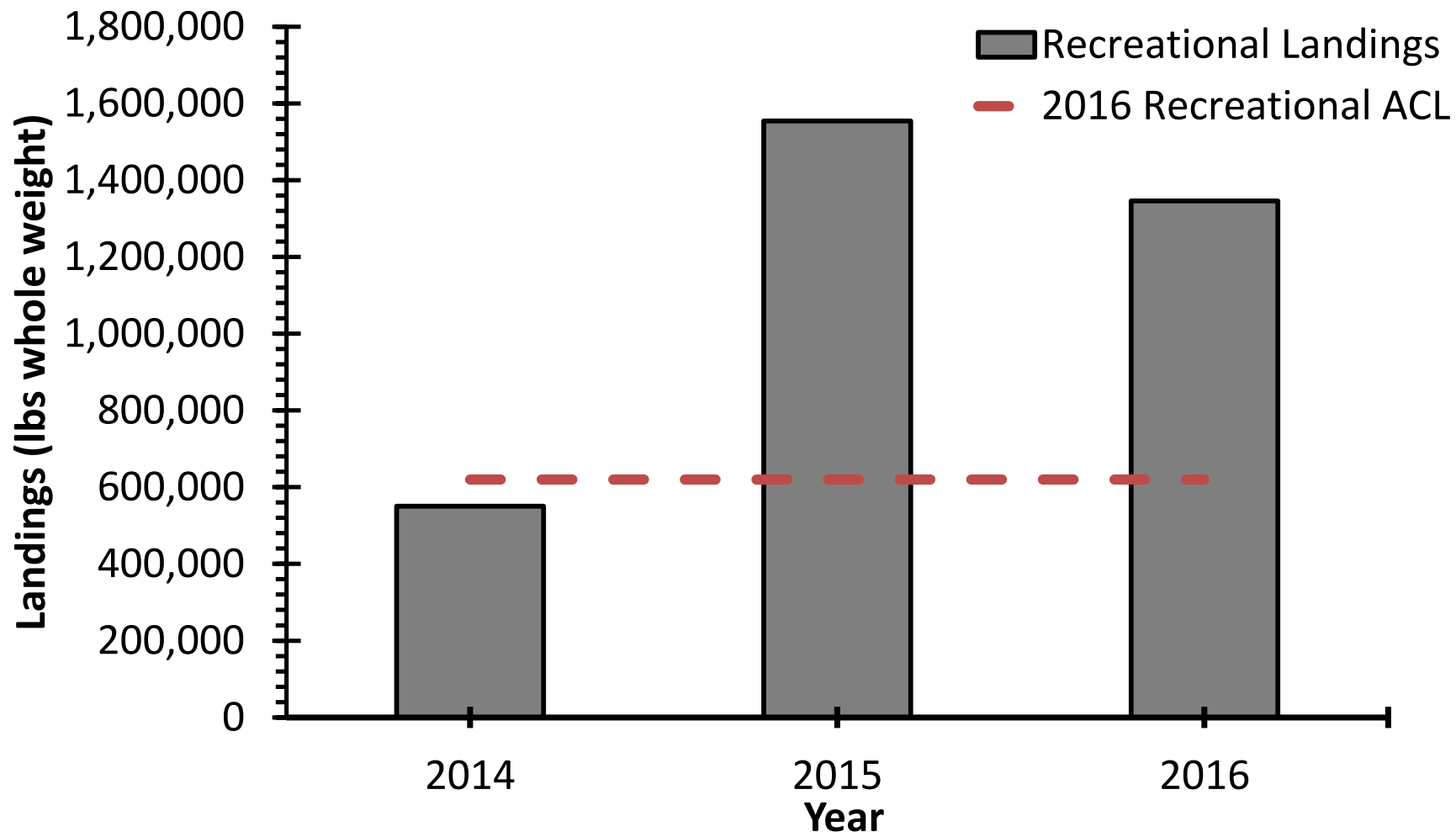
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COBIA

*Rachycentron canadum*

# Atlantic Cobia Recreational Landings

(New York through Georgia)



\* All 2016 data are preliminary and include landings from waves 1-5 (January through October)

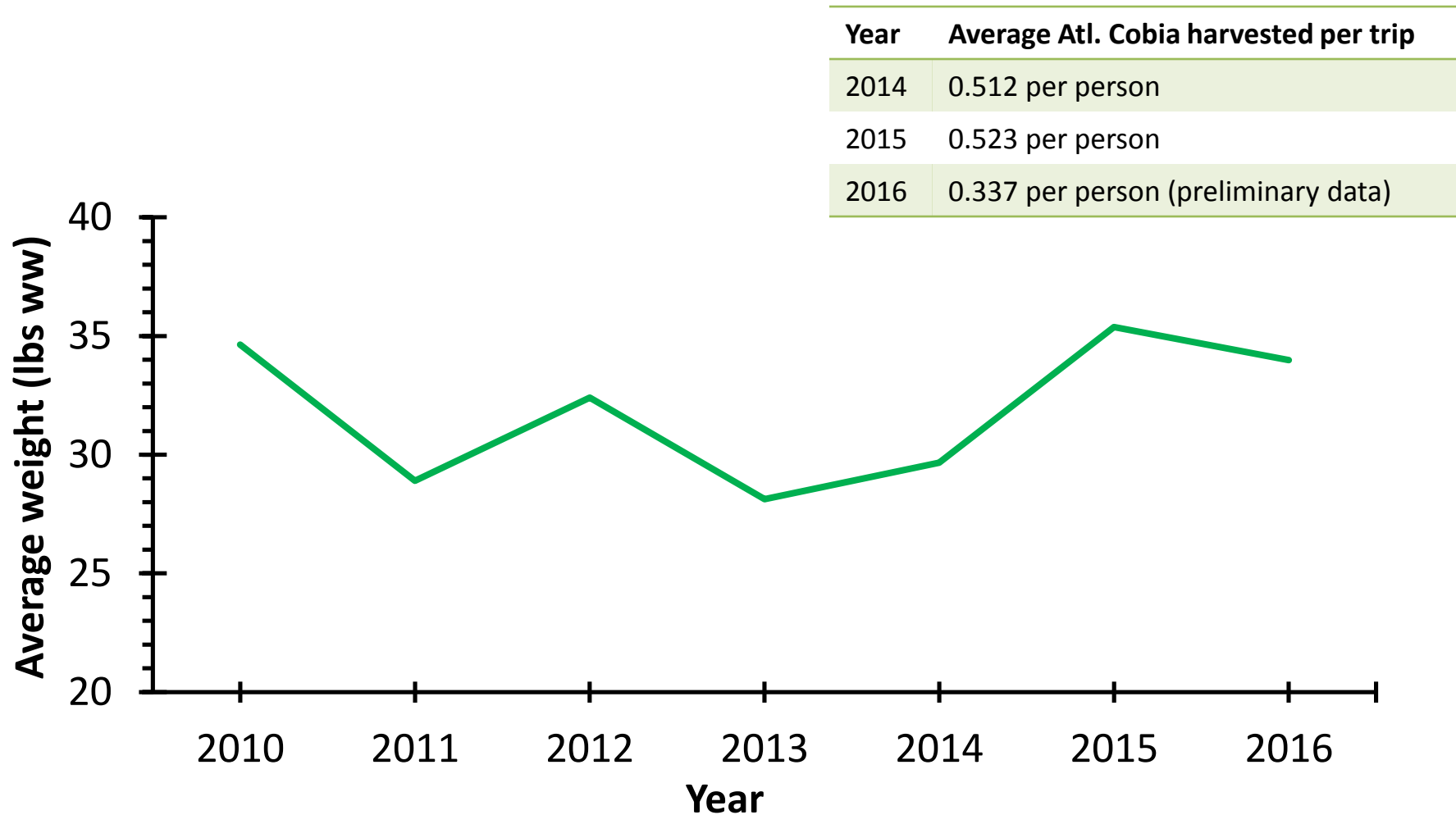
# Details of Preliminary 2016 Atlantic Cobia Recreational Landings by State

Landings are for waves 1-5 (January through October) of 2016

State	Landings (lbs)	Landings (% total)	PSE	MRIP Intercepts
MD	1,762	<1%	105	2
VA	935,997	69	18	60
NC	330,809	25	32	87
SC and GA*	77,625	6	52	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,346,193</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>179</b>

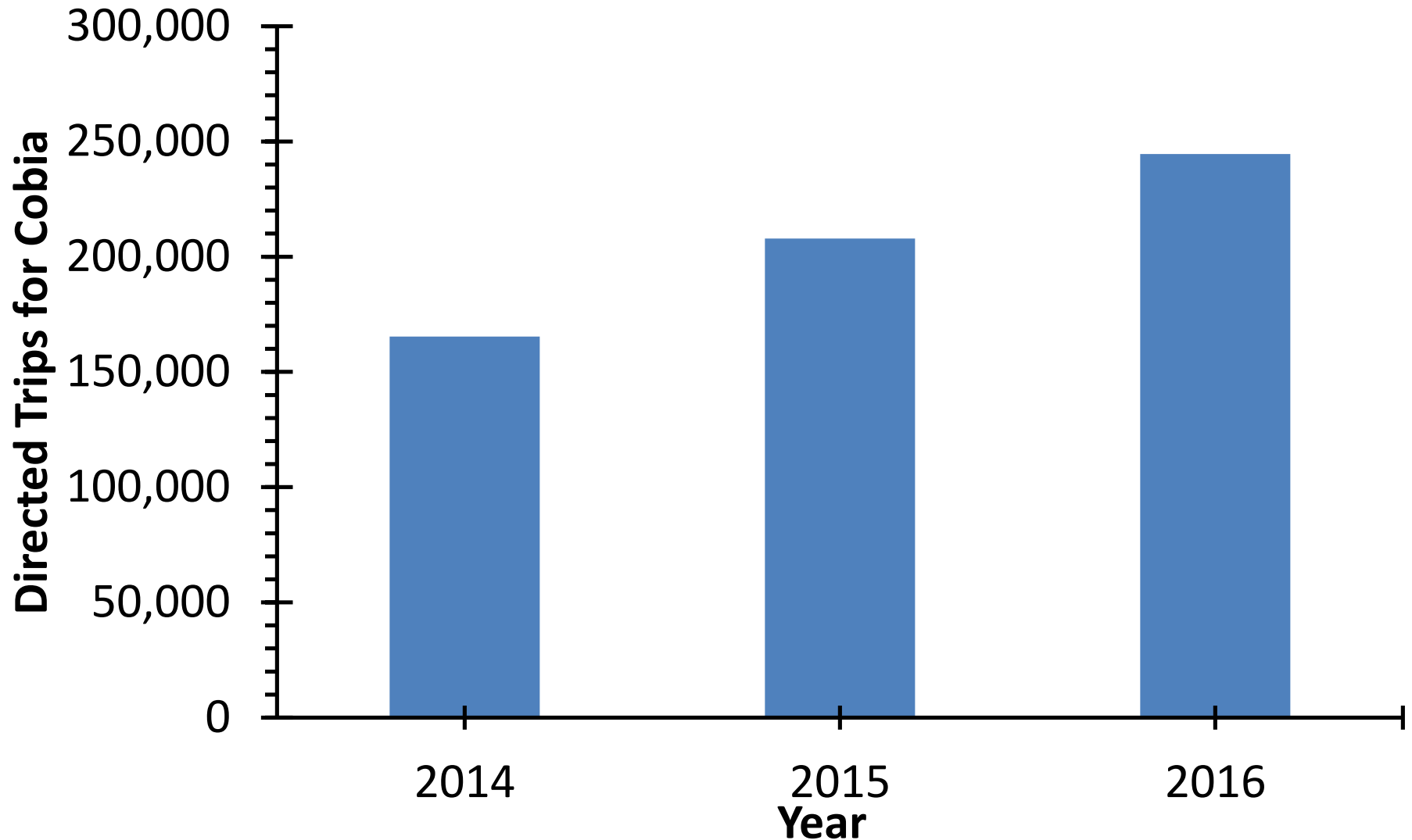
\*2016 Georgia landings came from a small number of headboats and were combined with South Carolina landings to protect confidentiality

# Why were the 2016 Atlantic Cobia landings high?



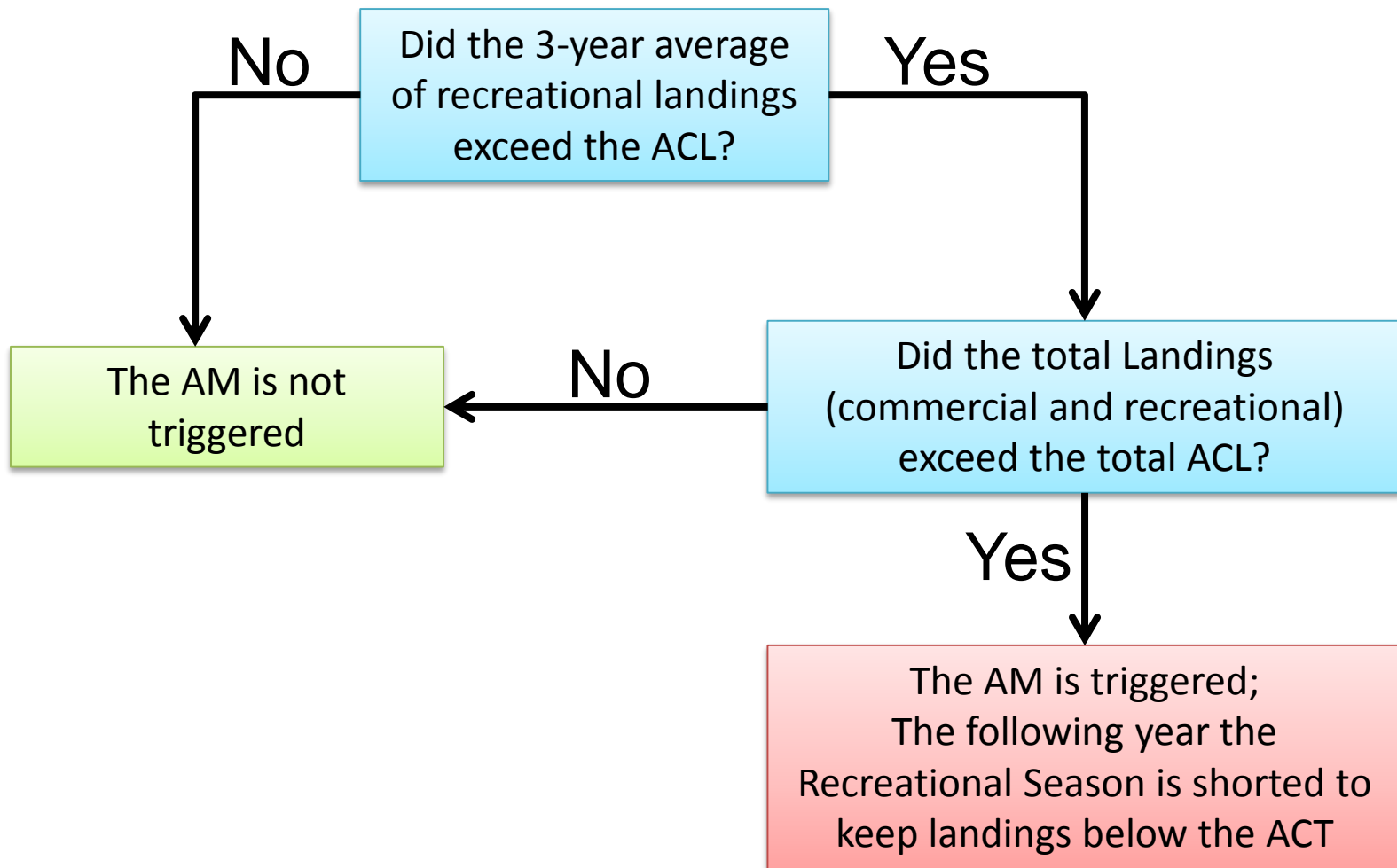
\*All data are from New York through Georgia

# Atlantic Cobia Targeted Fishing Effort (New York through Georgia)



\* All 2016 data are preliminary

# Accountability Measure Decision Tree



\*If ACL is changed, then the first single year of landings, not the 3-year average, will be compared to the recreational ACL.

# Accountability Measure

- ACL was changed in 2015.
- Therefore average of 2015 and 2016 landings are used to determine if recreational and total ACLs were exceeded.

Metric	Average of 2015 and 2016
Recreational Landings	1,445,203
Recreational ACL	620,000
% Over Recreational ACL	233%
Total Landings	1,511,079
Total ACL	670,000
% Over ACL	226%



# Accountability Measures 2017

- AM requires the recreational season to be reduced in 2017 based on projections when the landings will reach the ACT (500,000 lbs)
- Three-year average of annual landings from 2014-2016 were used as a proxy for 2017 landings.

	Federal Landings	State Landings	Not Available	Total
Average 2014 - 2016	150,859	992,672	3,444	1,146,975

- If state waters remain open in 2017, the ACT of 500,000 lbs will likely be exceeded by state landings alone.

QUESTIONS?

## Additional Closure Dates when ACT will be met

- Three-year average of annual landings from 2014, 2015, and 2016 were used as a proxy for 2017 landings.

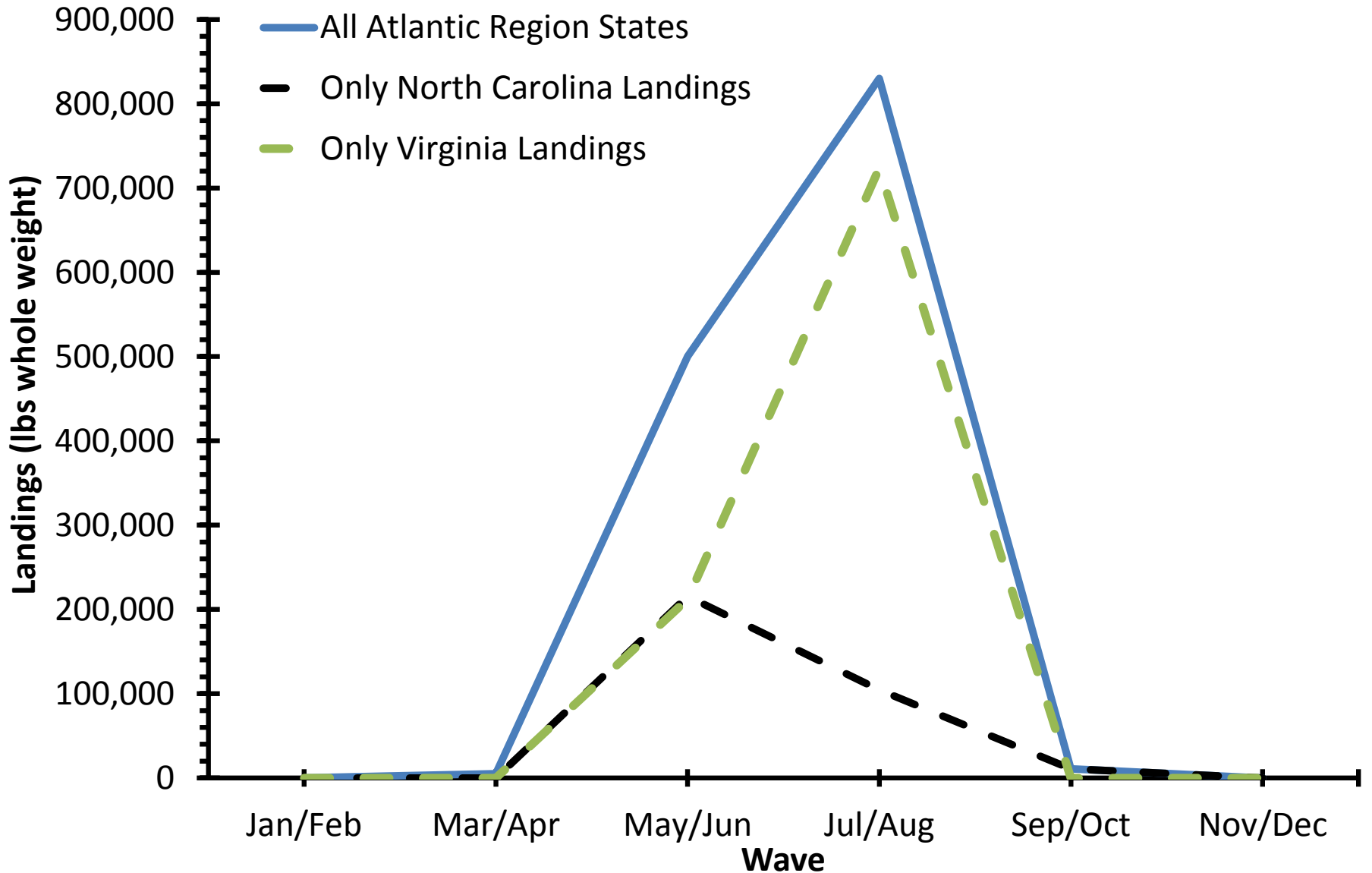
CMP 4 changes bag limit from 2 to 1 cobia per person or 6 per vessel and size limit from 33 to 36 inch fork length

If all states keep current regulations and ignore CMP 4 regulations: **June 18, 2017**

If all states implement CMP 4 regulations:  
**June 28, 2017**

\*Predictions assume CMP 4 implemented on May 1<sup>st</sup>.

# Preliminary 2016 Atlantic cobia recreational landings by wave



# Atlantic Cobia Recreational Landings by Wave and State for 2015 and 2016

Wave	State	2015		2016	
		Landings	Wave Total	Landings	Wave Total
1	SC	0	0	51	51
	GA	0		41	
2	SC	45,042	45,184	5,025	5,066
	NC	142		0	
3	GA	67,504	922,275	182	500,315
	SC	72,246		72,326	
	NC	596,859		215,549	
	VA	185,666		212,258	
4	GA	943	570,061	0	829,914
	SC	7,917		0	
	NC	35,000		104,413	
	VA	526,201		723,739	
	MD	0		1,762	
5	SC	107	16,803	0	10,846
	NC	10,888		10,846	
	VA	5,808		0	
6	SC	53	71	NA	NA
	NC	18		NA	

## Details of Preliminary 2016 Atlantic Cobia Recreational Landings by Mode

Mode	2015		2016	
	Landings	%	Landings	%
Charter	87,525	6%	134,109	10%
Headboat	2,338	0%	1,392	<1%
Private	1,428,087	92%	1,124,308	84%
Shore	36,444	2%	86,383	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,554,394</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,346,193</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Data are from 2016 Atlantic Recreational Cobia (New York through Georgia)

# Details of Preliminary 2016 Atlantic Cobia Recreational Landings by Jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	2015		2016	
	Landings	%	Landings	%
Federal	280,999	18%	84,770	6%
State	1,271,057	82%	1,260,031	94%
Unknown	2,338	<1%	1,392	<1%
Total	1,554,394	100%	1,346,193	100%

\*Data are from 2016 Atlantic Recreational Cobia (New York through Georgia)