



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Emergency Action for Red Snapper

Modify Annual Catch Limits for Red Snapper

Prepared by Chip Collier

September 2017



....To Conserve and Manage

Why Emergency Action?

1. New information presented at the June Council meeting.
2. Letters from SEFSC and SERO on use of discards in management of red snapper and the uncertainty in the stock assessment that inhibits the ability to set an ABC that can be effectively monitored.
3. Request from public at each Council meeting and scoping meetings.



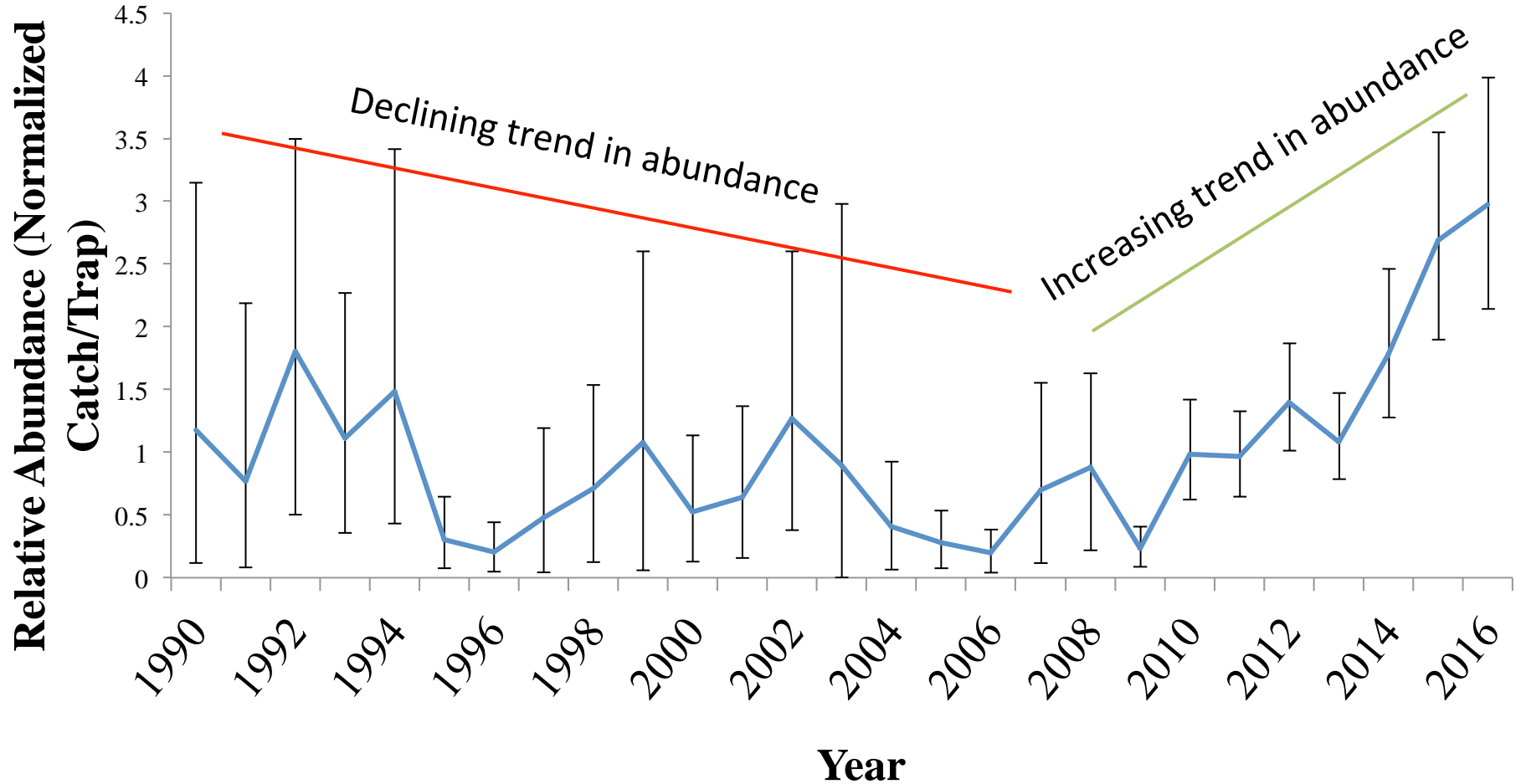
Background



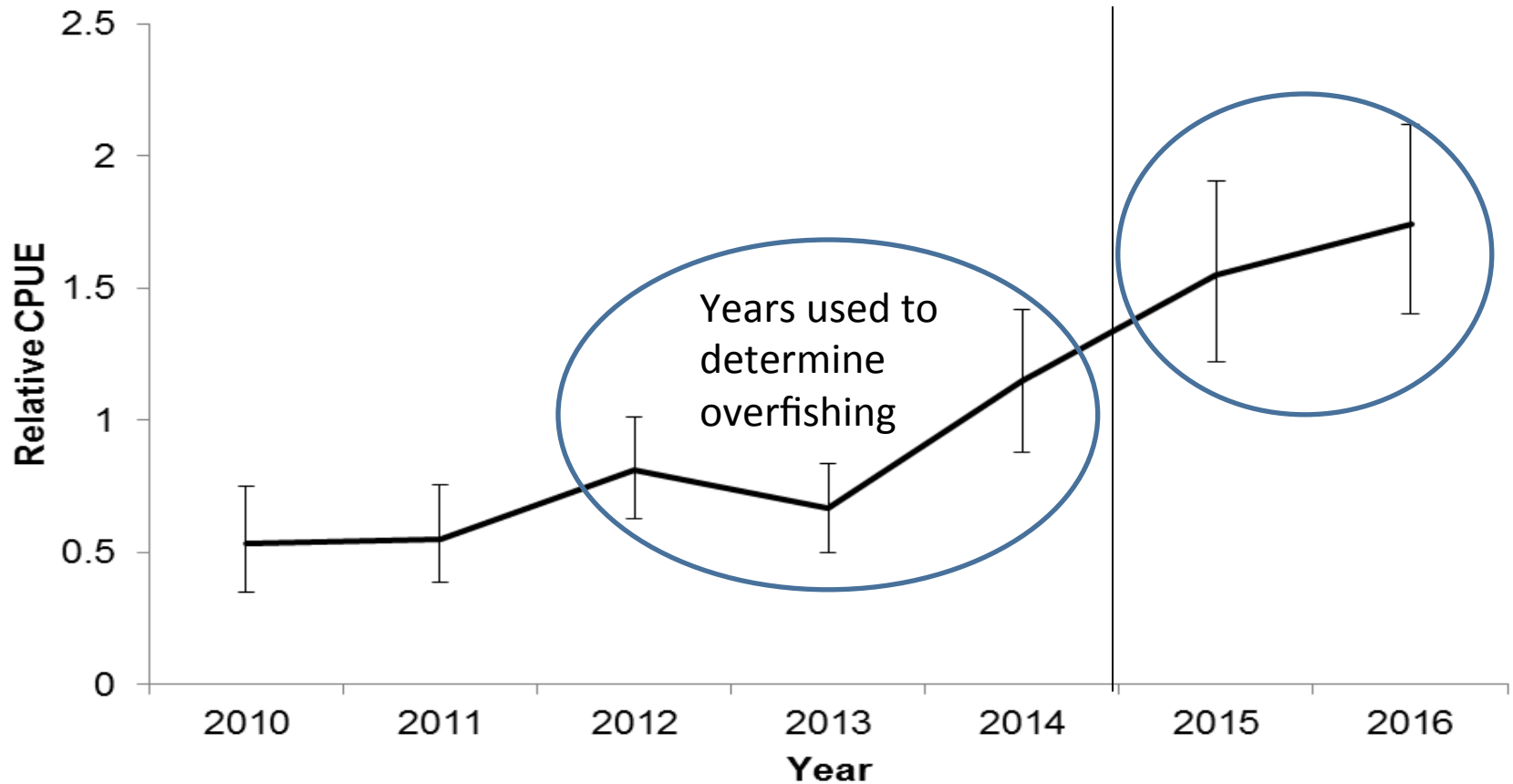
- Red snapper fishery has been closed since 2010 with mini-seasons in 2012, 2013, and 2014
- Most recent assessment indicated stock was overfished and overfishing was occurring through 2014 (SEDAR 41 2017)
 - Stock is continuing to rebuild from past levels
 - Level of overfishing is unknown.



Chevron Trap Index



Chevron Trap Index




What Would Emergency Action Do?

1. Establish an ACL for red snapper in 2017.
2. Allow a mini-season starting mid- to late-October 2017.
3. Recreational bag limit - 1-fish per person
4. Commercial trip limit - 75 pounds gutted weight
5. No minimum size limit.



Calculating ACL Alternatives

Year	Landings (Numbers of Fish)
2012	16,591
2013	11,767
2014	42,510




Alternative 2 = average landings
2012-2014

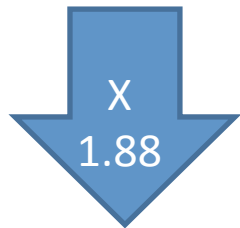


Calculating ACL Alternatives

Year	Landings (Numbers of Fish)
2012	16,591
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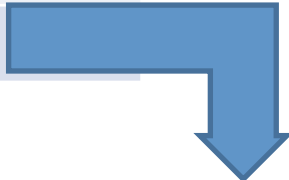
Adjustment factor based on
changes in scientific survey

Alternative 3 = 1.88 x
Alternative 2



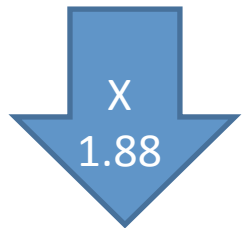
Calculating ACL Alternatives

Year	Landings (Numbers of Fish)
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Alternative 2 = average landings
2012-2014

Alternative 4 = maximum landings
2012-2014



Adjustment factor based on
changes in scientific survey

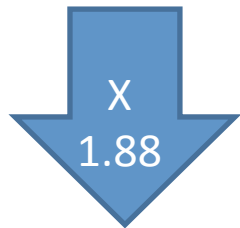
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Calculating ACL Alternatives

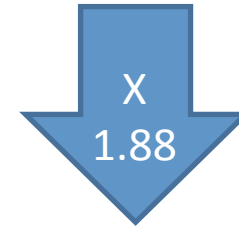
Year	Landings (Numbers of Fish)
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2014	42,510

Alternative 2 = average landings
2012-2014



Alternative 3 = 1.88 x
Alternative 2

Alternative 4 = maximum landings
2012-2014



Alternative 5 = 1.88 x
Alternative 4

Adjustment factor based on
changes in scientific survey

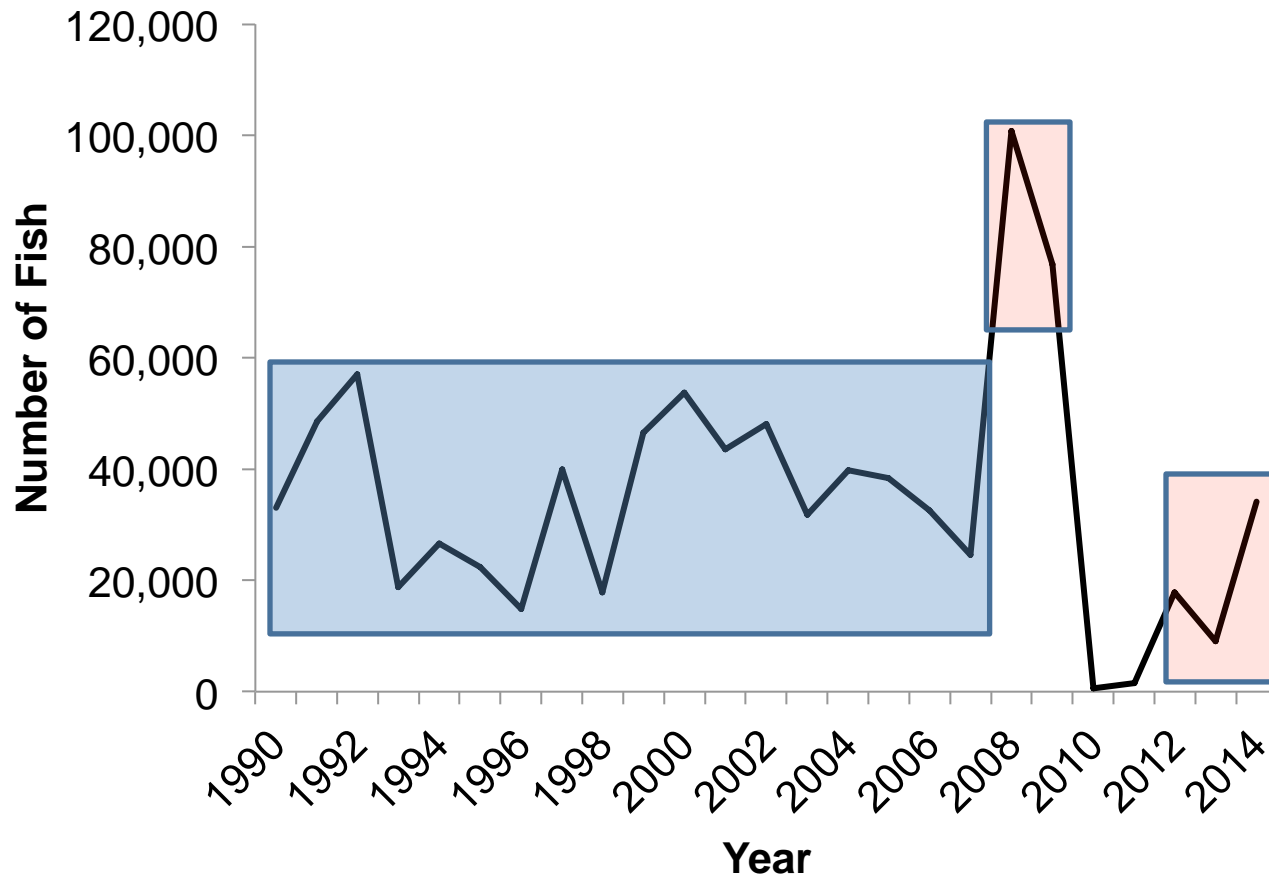


Action 1. Revise the Process to Determine the Annual Catch Limit for Red Snapper

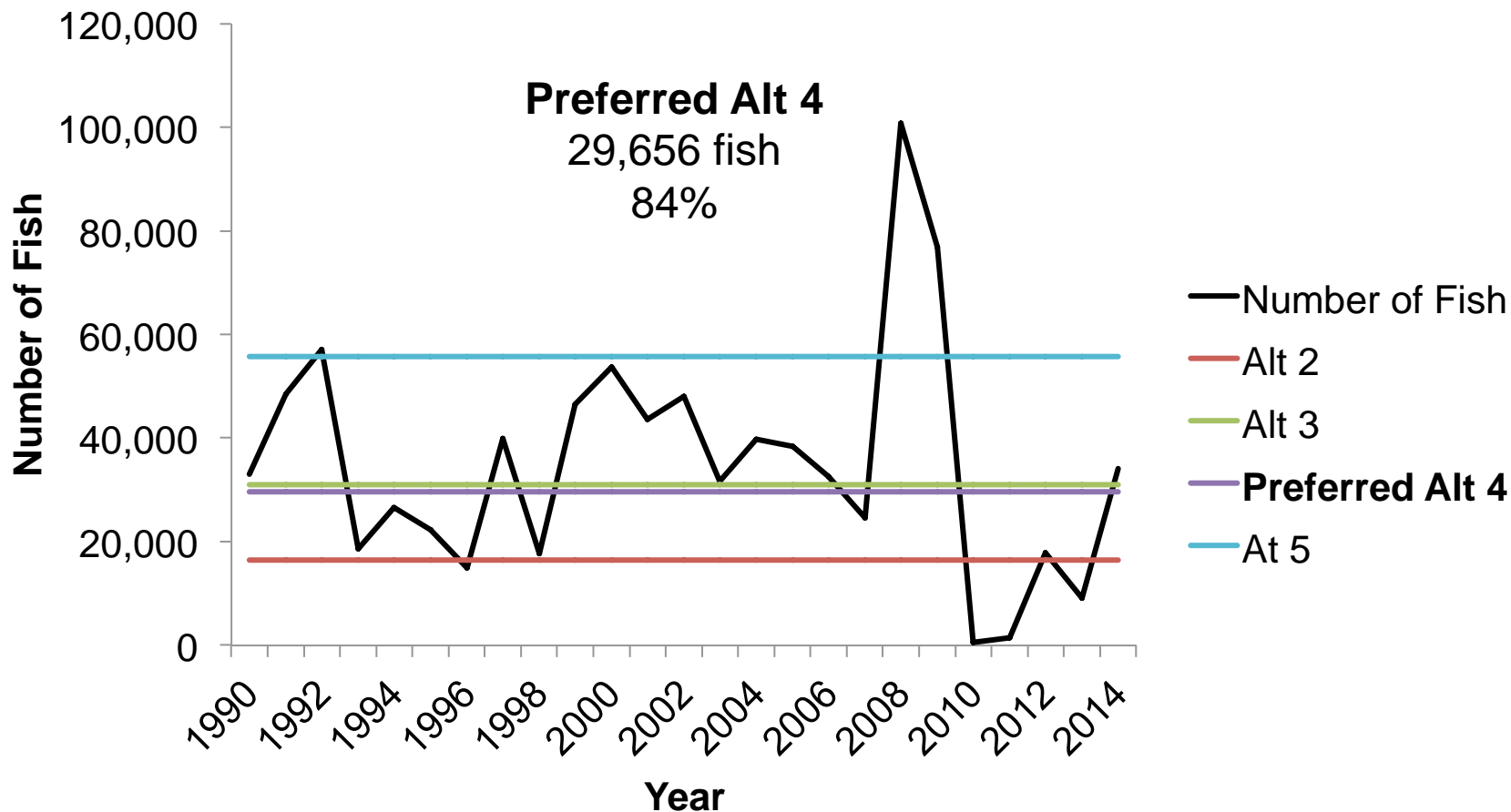
Alternative	Total ACL Number	Total ACL Weight (lbs ww)	Commercial ACL Weight (lbs ww)	Recreational ACL Number
Alt 1	0	0	0	0
Alt 2	23,623	247,097	69,360	16,480
Alt 3	44,411	464,539	130,396	30,982
Preferred Alt 4	42,510	444,655	124,815	29,656
Alt 5	79,919	835,953	234,652	55,753



ACLs Relative to Past Recreational Landings



ACLs Relative to Past Recreational Landings



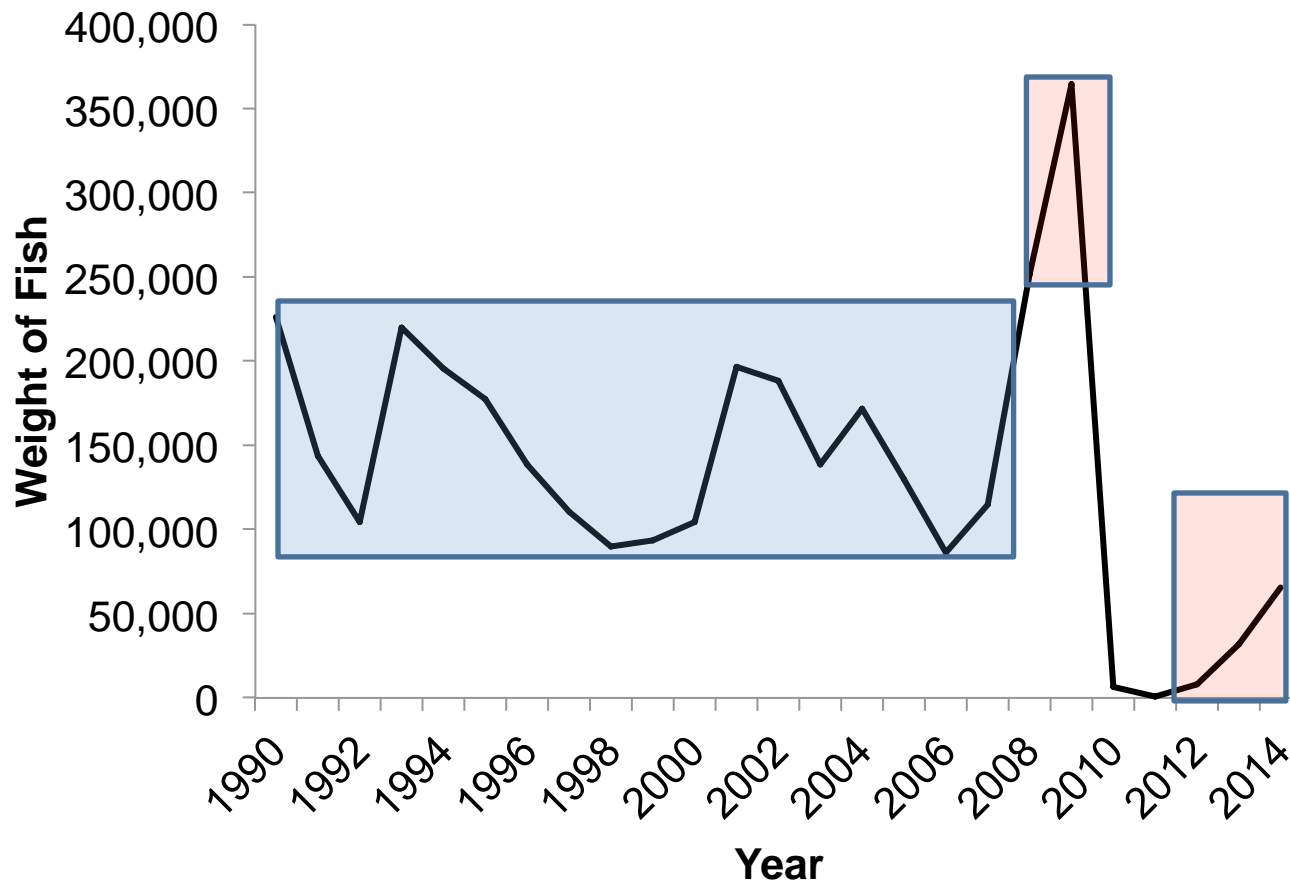
Recreational Season

Closure dates (number of open days) for the recreational sector under the different proposed ACL alternatives for 2017. Assumed opening October 6.

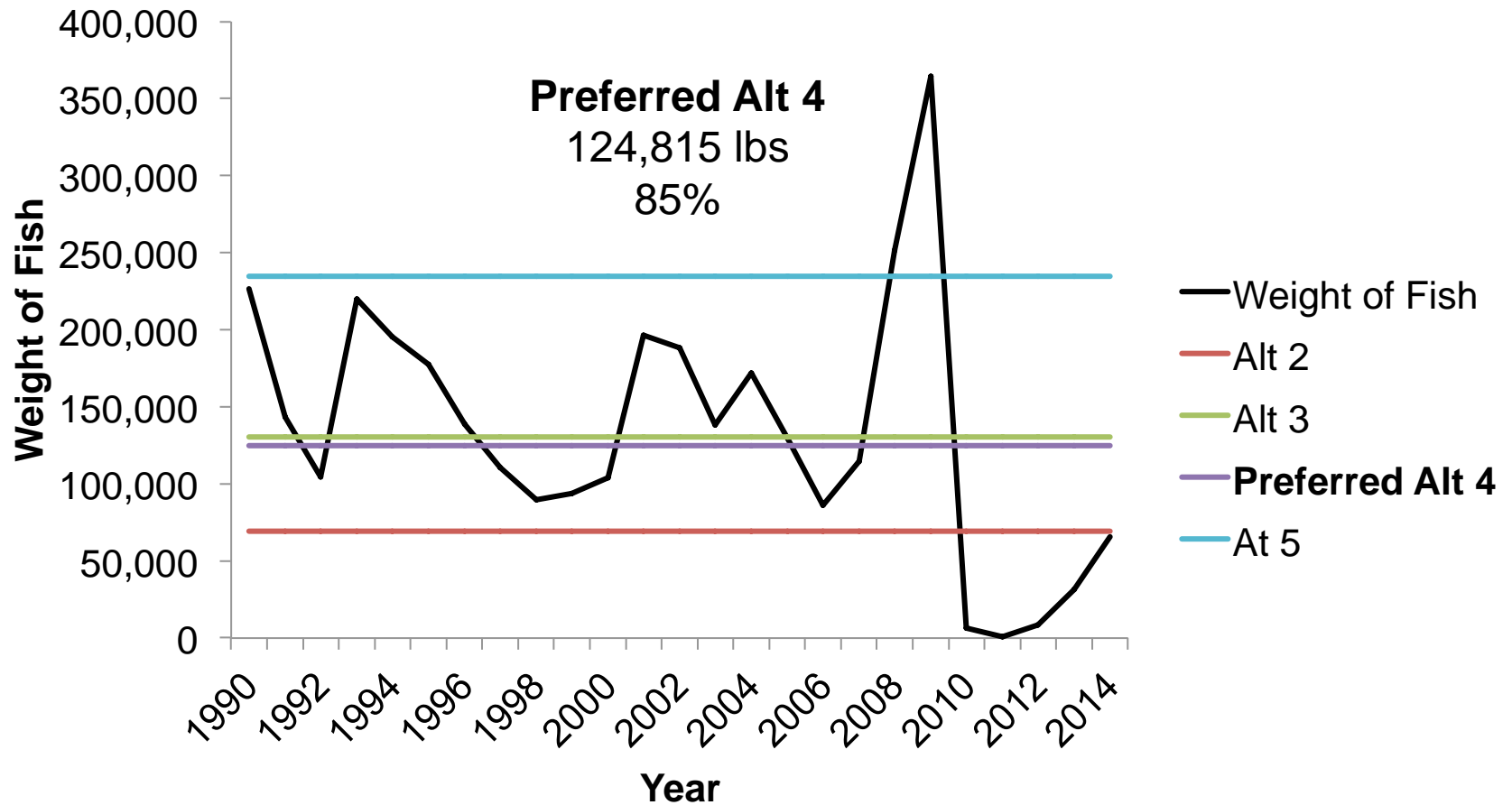
	Alternative 1 No Action	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Preferred Alternative 4	Alternative 5
ACL	0	16,480 Fish	30,982 Fish	29,656 Fish	55,753 Fish
Predicted Landings	No season	20-Oct (7)	4-Nov (13)	30-Oct (12)	25-Nov (23)
High Landings	No season	9-Oct (3)	20-Oct (7)	16-Oct (6)	30-Oct (12)



ACLs Relative to Past Commercial Landings



ACLs Relative to Past Commercial Landings



Commercial Season

Closure dates for the commercial sector under the different proposed ACL alternatives for 2017. Assumed opening October 9.

	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Preferred Alternative 4	Alternative 5
ACL	0	69,360 lbs ww	130,396 lbs ww	124,815 lbs ww	234,652 lbs ww
Predicted Landings	No season	No Closure	No Closure	No Closure	No Closure
High Landings	No season	No Closure	No Closure	No Closure	No Closure



Questions?



David Rainer