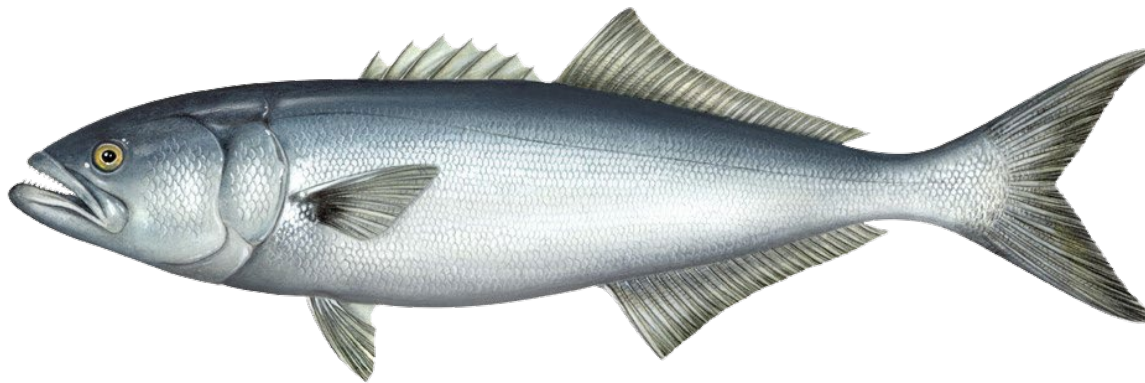




Bluefish Allocation and Rebuilding Amendment



Business Session

August 5, 2021

Overview



- In June, the Bluefish Board & MAFMC approved preferred alternatives for the Bluefish Allocation and Rebuilding Amendment
- If approved by the Commission and NOAA Fisheries, this Amendment would be implemented for management for the 2022 fishing year.

Revised Bluefish FMP Goals and Objectives



Goal 1: Conserve the bluefish resource through stakeholder engagement to maintain sustainable recreational fishing and commercial harvest.

- **Objective 1.1:** Achieve and maintain a sustainable spawning stock biomass and rate of fishing mortality.
- **Objective 1.2:** Promote practices that reduce release mortality within the recreational and commercial fishery.
- **Objective 1.3:** Maintain effective coordination between the National Marine Fisheries Service, Council, and Commission and its member states by promoting compliance and to support the development and implementation of management measures.
- **Objective 1.4:** Promote compliance and effective enforcement of regulations.
- **Objective 1.5:** Promote science, monitoring, and data collection that support and enhance effective ecosystem-based management of the bluefish resource.

Revised Bluefish FMP Goals and Objectives



Goal 2: Provide fair and equitable access to the fishery across all user groups throughout the management unit.

- **Objective 2.1:** Ensure the implementation of management measures provides fair and equitable access to the resource to all user groups within the management unit.
- **Objective 2.2:** Consider the economic and social needs and priorities of all groups that access the bluefish resource in the development of new management measures.
- **Objective 2.3:** Maintain effective coordination with stakeholder groups to ensure optimization of economic and social benefits.

Rebuilding Plan



- Board/Council selected the constant fishing mortality approach
 - Rebuilds the stock within 7 years
 - Rebuilding projections will be rerun every 2 years with management track stock assessments

Commercial/Recreational Sector Allocations



- Amendment 1 established 83% recreational and 17% commercial allocations of the Acceptable Biological Catch
- Board/Council revised allocations to 86% recreational and 14% commercial.
 - 1981-2018 catch data used as basis for allocations

Commercial State Allocations



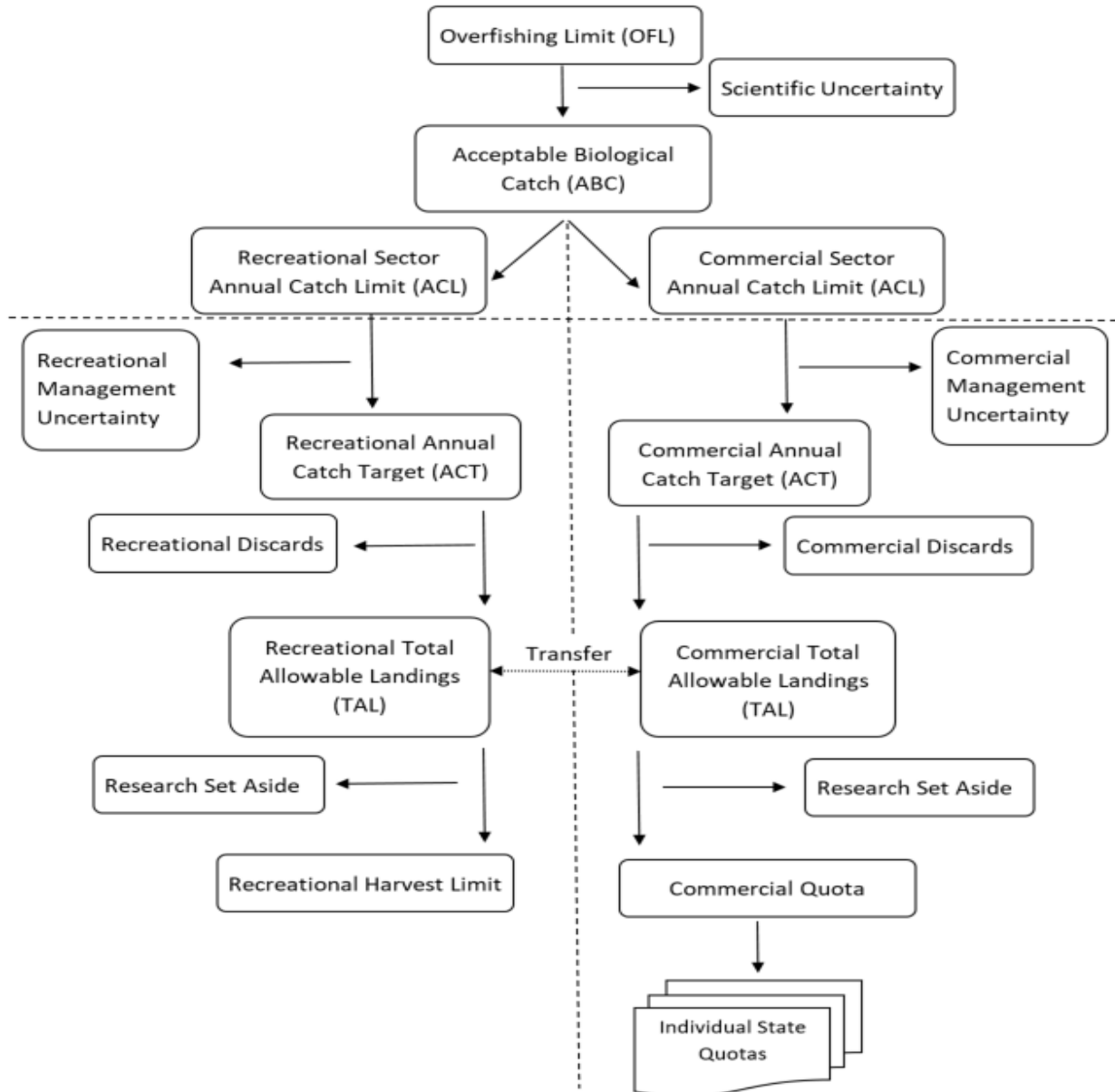
State	Previous Allocations Under Amendment 1	Revised Allocations to be Phased in Over 7 Years
Maine	0.67%	0.11%
New Hampshire	0.41%	0.22%
Massachusetts	6.72%	10.12%
Rhode Island	6.81%	9.61%
Connecticut	1.27%	1.09%
New York	10.39%	19.76%
New Jersey	14.82%	13.85%
Delaware	1.88%	0.49%
Maryland	3.00%	1.92%
Virginia	11.88%	5.87%
North Carolina	32.06%	32.03%
South Carolina	0.04%	0.10%
Georgia	0.01%	0.10%
Florida	10.06%	4.78%

Sector Transfers



- Amendment 1 only allowed sector transfers from the recreational sector to the commercial sector & transfers capped at 10.5 million pounds
- Sector transfer process updated to allow transfers in either direction between sectors
- Transfers now capped at 10% of the acceptable biological catch

Management Uncertainty



Questions?

