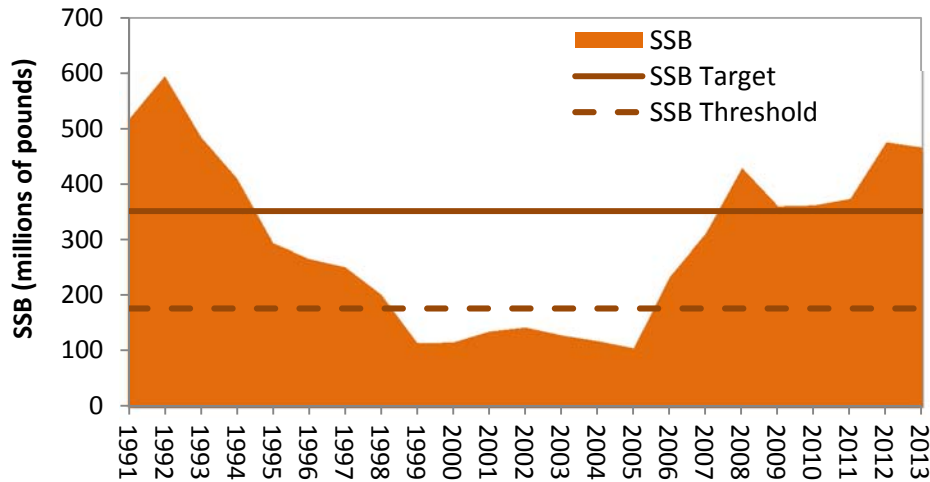


## Overview of Stock Status Spiny Dogfish, *Squalus acanthias*

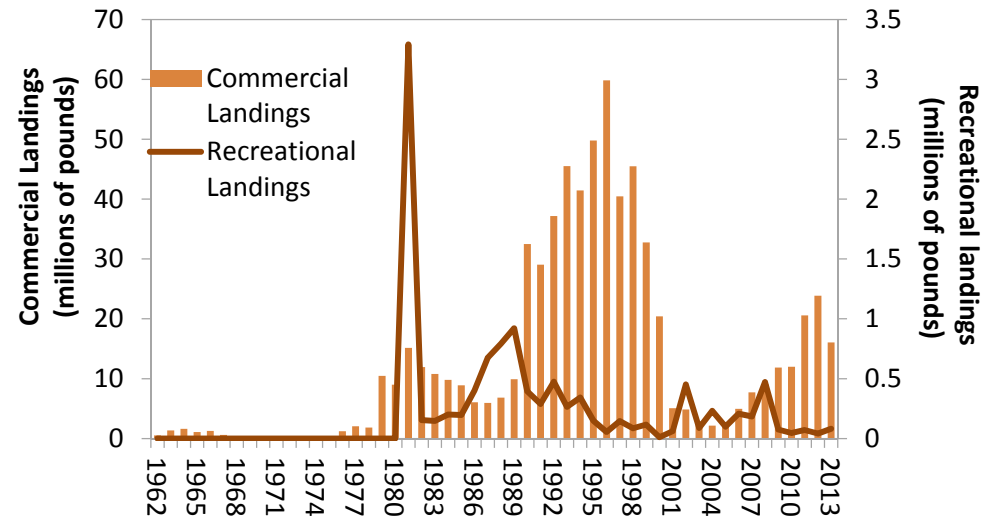
### Spiny Dogfish Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) ( $\geq 80$ cm)

Source: NEFSC Update on the Status of Spiny Dogfish and Projected Harvests at the  $F_{MSY}$  Proxy &  $P_{STAR}$  of 40%, 2013



### Spiny Dogfish Landings

NEFSC Update of Landings and Discards of Spiny Dogfish in 2014



Timeline of Management Actions: Emergency Action (2000); FMP (2003); Addendum I (2005); Addendum II (2008); Addendum III (2011), Addendum IV (2012); Addendum V (2014)

#### Management Considerations

**Condition:** Rebuilt; not overfished/overfishing not occurring

#### **FMP Reference Points:**

Female SSB threshold (1/2 SSB max) = 79,644 mt (175 million pounds)

Female SSB target (100% SSB max) = 159,288 mt (351 million pounds)

Fishing Mortality Threshold ( $F_{threshold}$ ) = 0.325

Fishing Mortality Target ( $F_{MSY}$ ) = 0.207

#### **Stock Rebuilding 2002 - 2008:**

Spiny dogfish were determined to be rebuilt in 2008 when spawning stock biomass (SSB) exceeded the target for the first time since ASMFC management began in 2002. SSB, estimated to be 211,372 mt (466 million pounds), exceeded the target biomass for the fifth year in a row in 2012. The Northeast Fisheries Science Center's (NEFSC) Update on the Status of Spiny Dogfish in 2013 and Projected Harvests at the  $F_{MSY}$  Proxy and  $P_{STAR}$  of 40% predicts SSB to remain above the target and then decline because of poor recruitment from 1997 – 2003.

#### **FMP Status:**

The 2002 FMP established the annual quota and possession limit system; Addendum I (2005) allowed the Board to set multi-year specifications; Addendum II (2008) established regional allocation of the annual quota with 58% to states from ME – CT; Addendum III established state shares for New York – North Carolina; Addendum IV (2012) aligned the fishing mortality threshold definition with the federal plan; and Addendum V (2014) prohibits processing at-sea, including the removal of fins.

#### **Primary Management Measures:**

Spiny dogfish is managed under an annual quota with possession limits for the commercial fishery only. The ASMFC Spiny Dogfish Board approved a 49.37 million pound quota for the 2014/2015 fishing season (May 1 – April 30) and a 50.6 million pound quota for 2015/2016, with a maximum possession limit of 5,000 pounds per day for the northern region states (ME-CT).