

~Striped Bass Benchmark Stock Assessment ~  
*Summary Report*

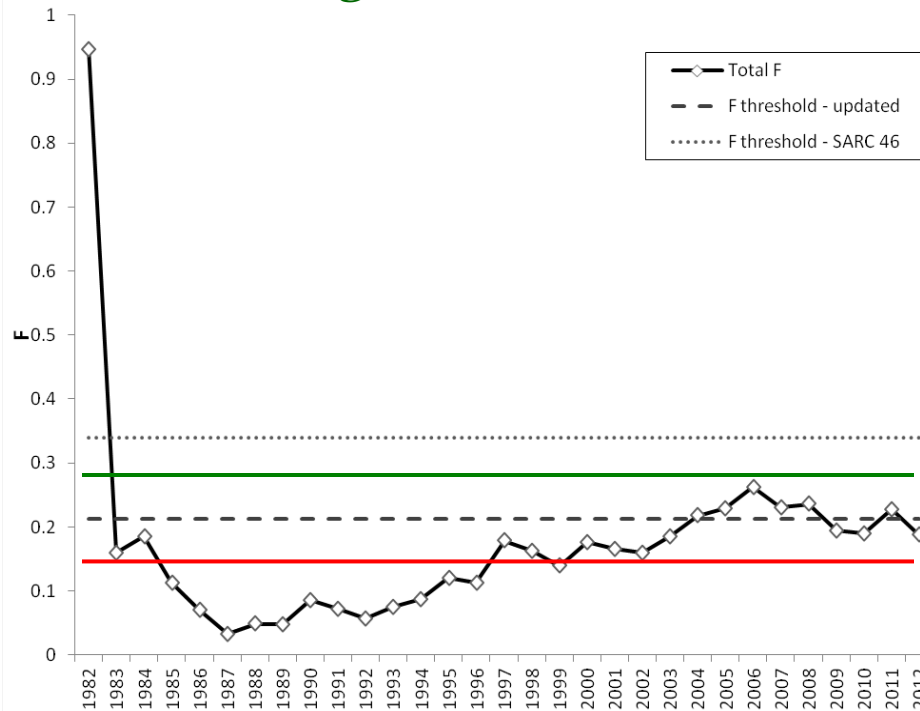


**Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission**  
**October 1, 2013**

### ~Status of the Stock~

### Relative to the new Biological Reference Points (BRPs)

- *In 2012:*
  - *Fishing Mortality (F) estimated @ 0.188*
  - *Between the Target (0.175) and Threshold (0.213)*



~Not Overfishing~

**Current Threshold -  $F_{MSY}$**

**Current Target – 24% Exploitation**

**Updated Threshold – To Obtain  $SSB_{thresh}$**

**Updated Target – To Obtain  $SSB_{target}$**

~ Female Spawning Stock Biomass ~  
*Relative to the new Biological Reference Points (BRPs)*

- *Updated in 2012:*
  - *Spawning Stock Biomass (SSB) estimated @ 61,544 mt*
  - *Between the Target (72,380 mt) and Threshold (57,904 mt)*

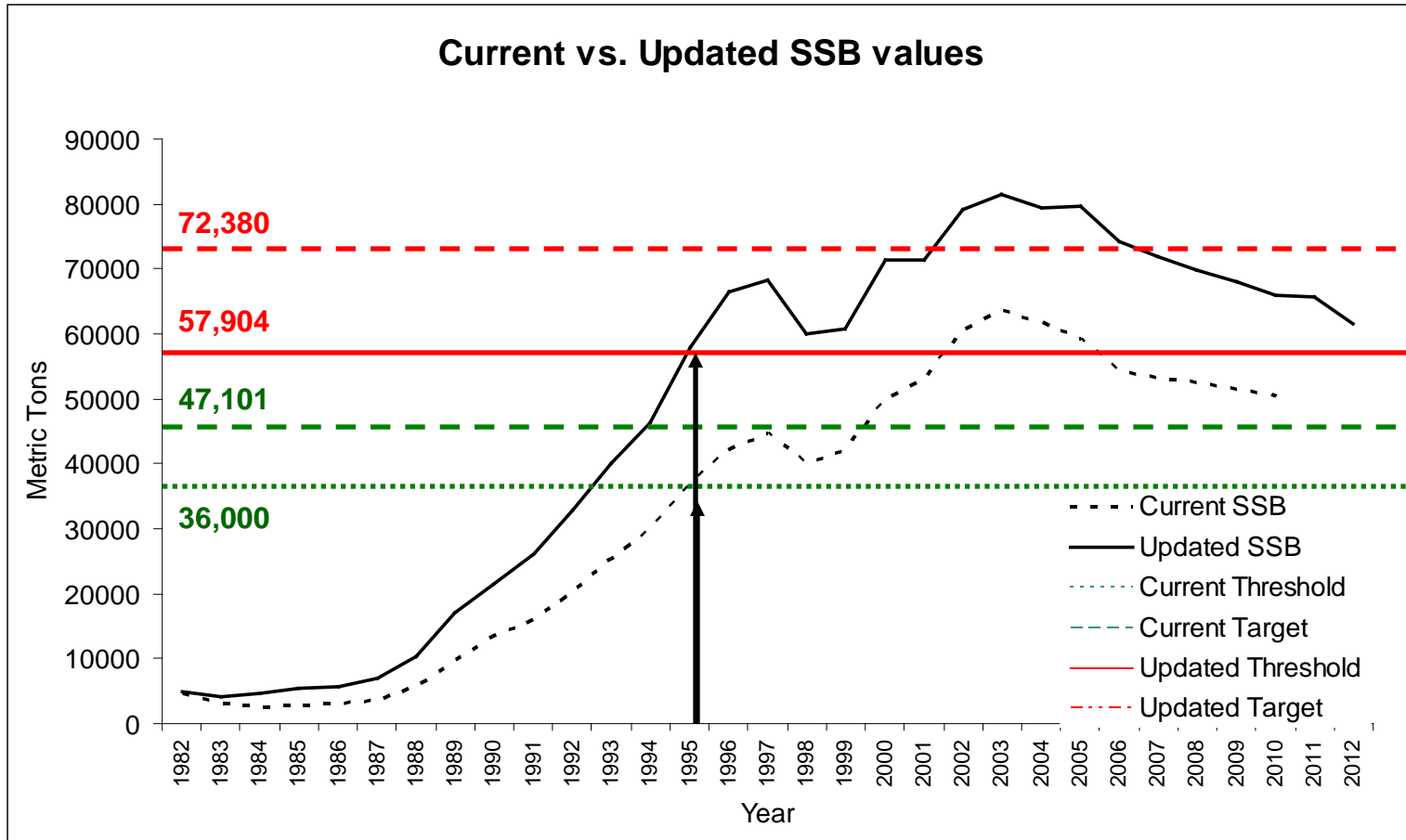


~*Not Overfished*~

- *A new SSB time series resulted from the new assessment:*
  - *Estimates of Total Biomass are larger in this assessment*
  - *New data - Natural Mortality is higher on younger year-classes*

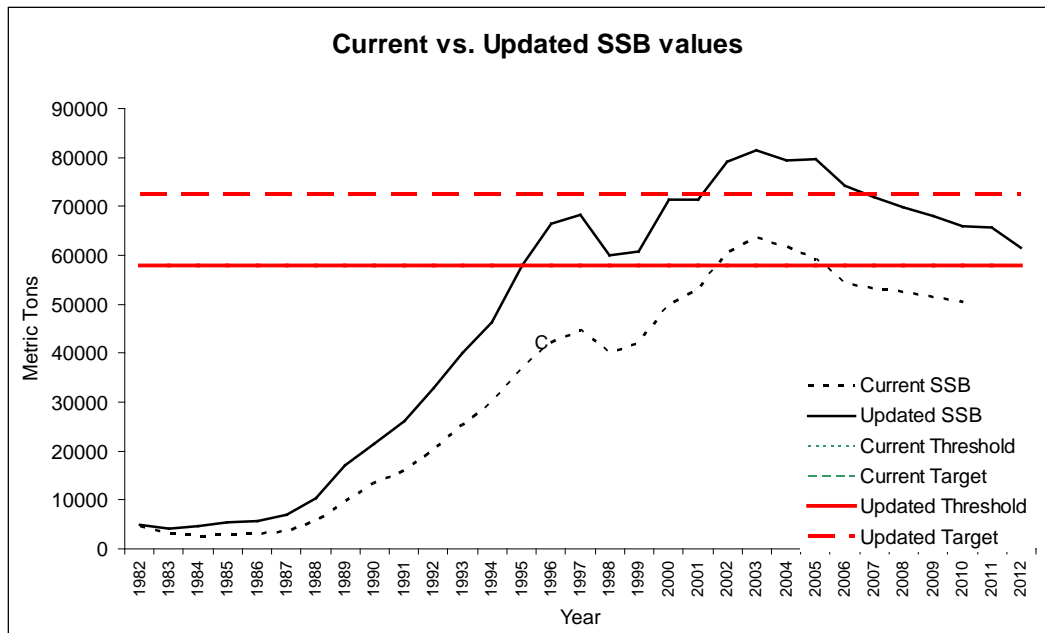
*Lets Look at this Graphically*

### ~Female Spawning Stock Biomass ~



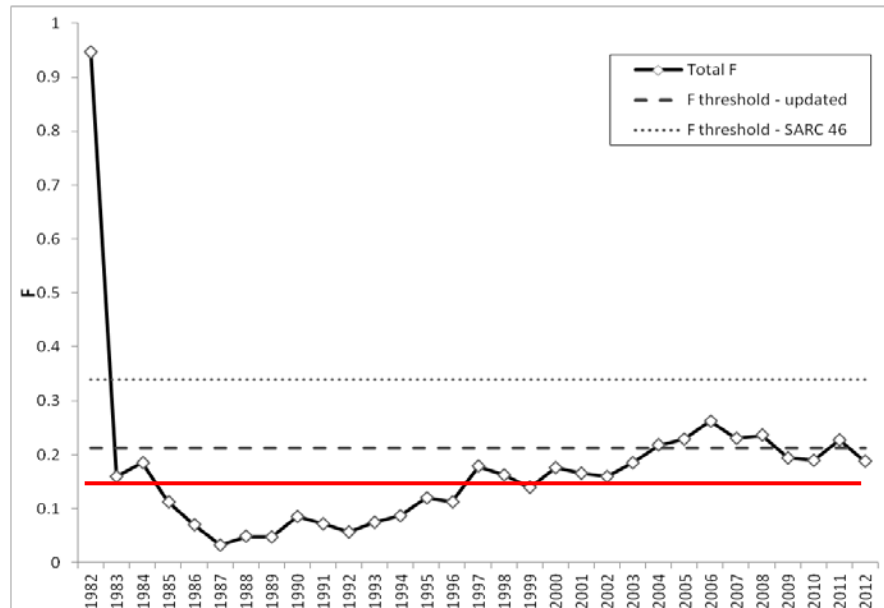
### ~Projections~ A 5 Year Look (2013 – 2017)

- *Maintaining the current Fishing Mortality =  $F = 0.188$ :*
  - *Probability of being below the SSB threshold increases until 2015/2016*
  - *Probability Declines thereafter...*



### ~Projections~ A 5 Year Look (2013 – 2017)

- *Maintaining the current removals (landings and dead discards = 3.59 M fish)*
  - *Probability of F being above the threshold increases in 2013 / ~100% in 2014*
  - *Reducing removals reduces the risk of exceeding the F threshold*



~Questions & Discussion ~

