

Science, Service, Stewardship



Data Timeliness: SE Region Case Studies

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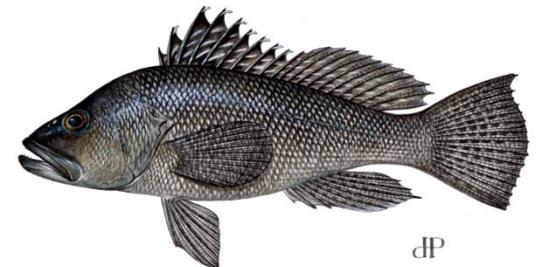
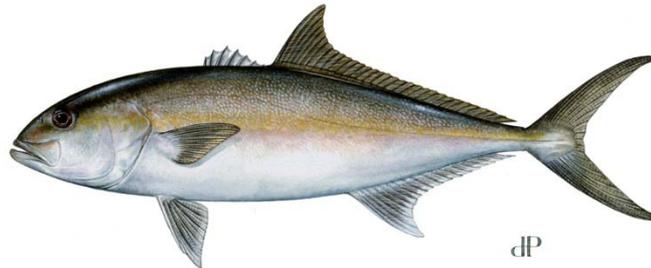
**NOAA
FISHERIES
SERVICE**



Quota Monitored Species

Species	Quota/ACL	Season
Gulf Red Snapper	3,403,000 lbs ww	2009: Jun 1-Aug 15 2010: Jun 1-Jul 23 + 24 fall weekend days
Gulf Greater Amberjack	1,368,000 lbs ww	2009: Jan 1-Oct 24 2010: Jan 1-Dec 31
South Atlantic Black Sea Bass	409,000 lbs gw	2010/11: Jun 1-Feb 12

* All stocks are overfished; greater amberjack and black sea bass are undergoing overfishing





Data Availability



MRFSS

- by wave, 45 day lag-time

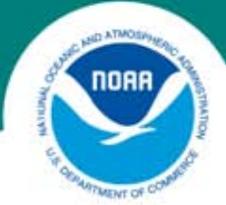
Headboat

- logbook, estimates available at end of calendar year; can receive preliminary monthly estimates in-season



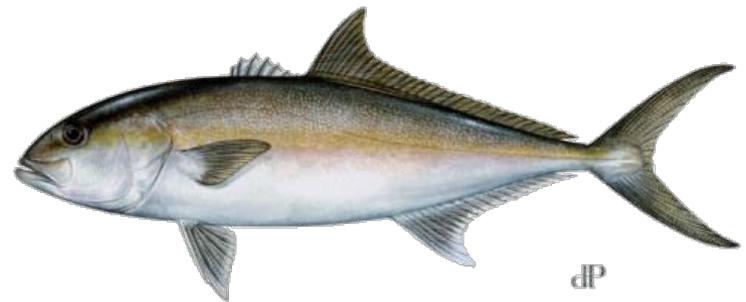
Texas Parks and Wildlife

- high (May 15-Nov 20) and low-use (Nov 21-May 14) waves; 3+ month lag time



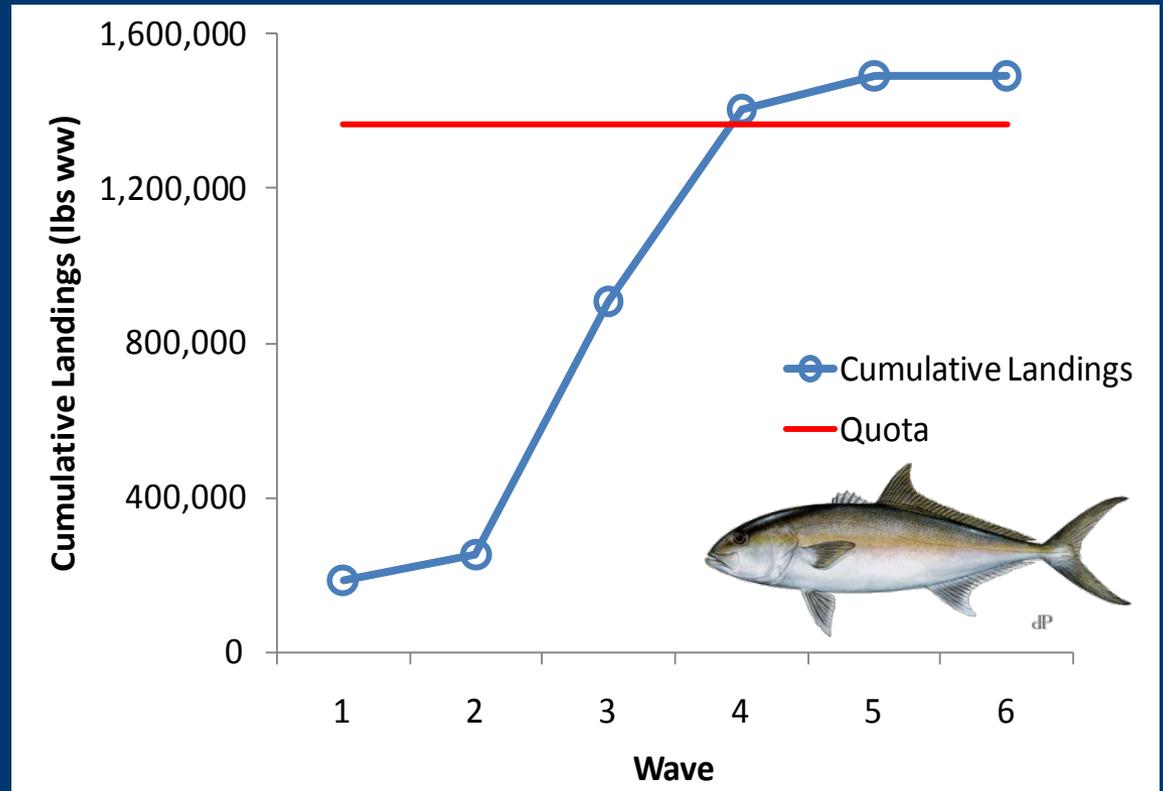
Case Study #1: Gulf Greater Amberjack

- Stock is overfished, undergoing overfishing
- In year 8 of 10 year rebuilding plan
- 73% of ACL is allocated to recreational sector
- **Accountability Measure**
 - o Overage payback
 - o In-season quota closure



Case Study #1: Gulf Greater Amberjack Projections (2009)

- Higher than expected landings during Jul-Aug 2009; overage not known until mid-Oct.
- Quota closure in late Oct. 2009;
- 2010 quota reduced by 124,816 lbs; no seasonal closure due to DWH oil spill



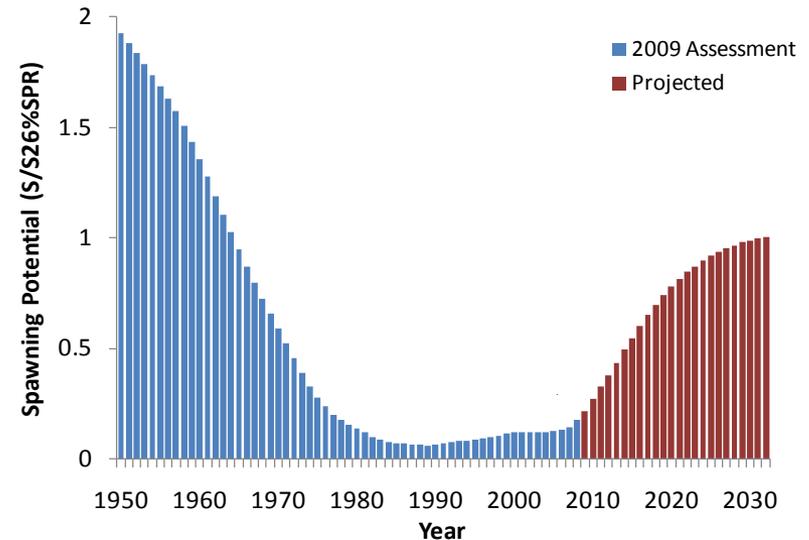


Case Study #2: Gulf Red Snapper

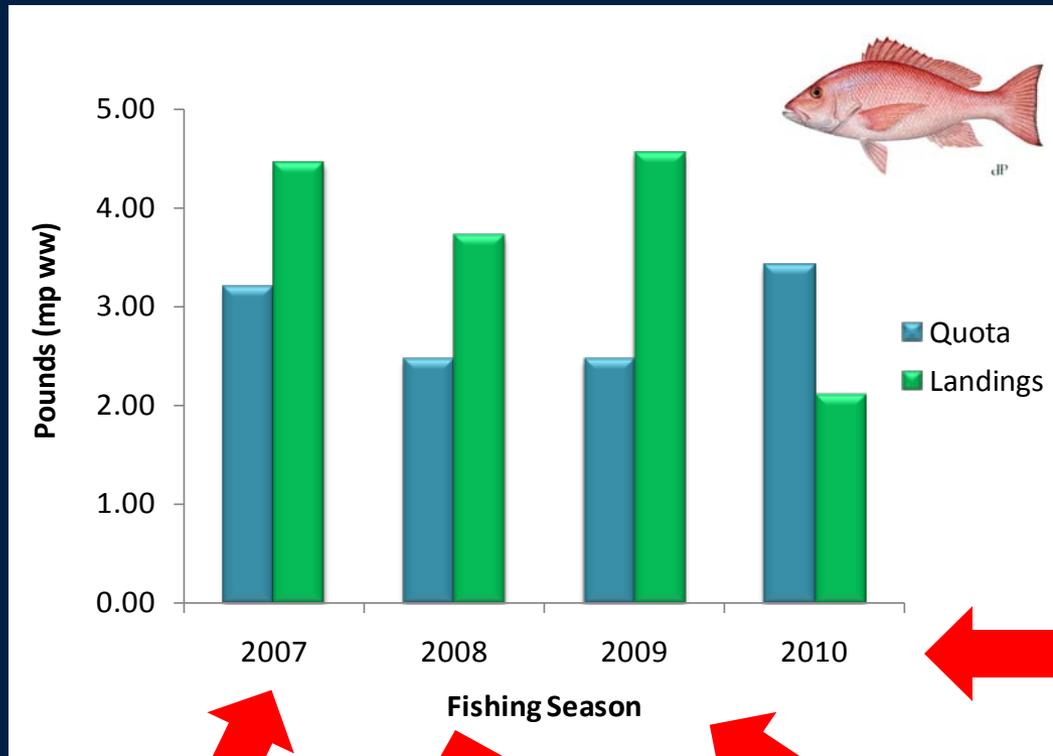
- Stock is overfished, overfishing ended in 2009
- In year 11 of 32 year rebuilding plan

Accountability Measure

- o No quota overage payback
- o Quota closure date announced prior to season
- o MSA Sec. 407 prohibits recreational harvest once quota met or projected to be met



Case Study #2: Gulf Red Snapper Projections



**Quota
increased;
DWH oil spill**

**53 days + 24
weekend
openings**

**Quota/bag limit
reduced;**

194 days

**Incompatible
state
regulations**

65 days

**State adopts
compatible
regulations**

75 days

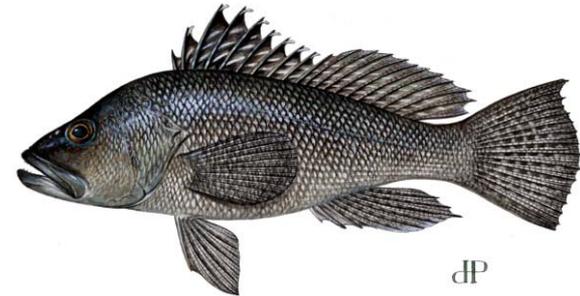


Case Study #3: SA Black Sea Bass

- Stock is overfished and undergoing overfishing
- Large portion of catch from headboats (34% in 2009)
- Fishing season starts June 1

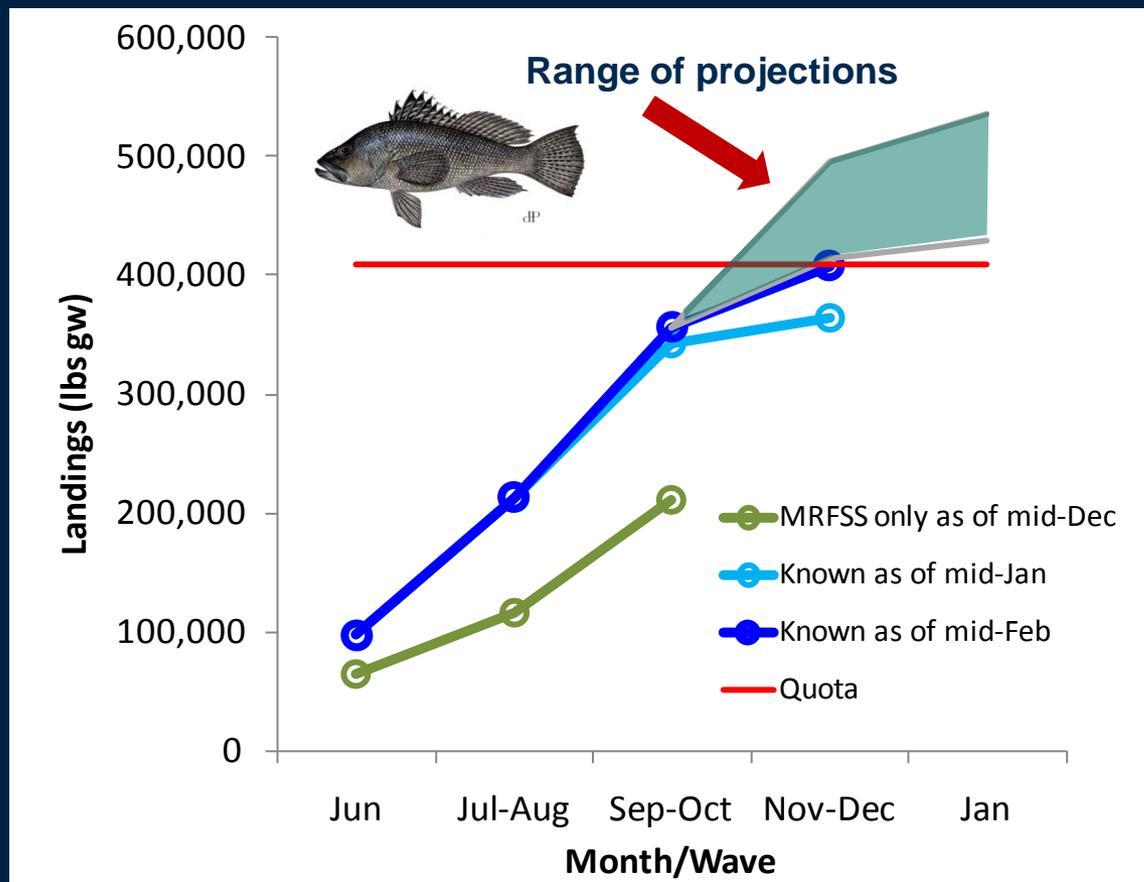
Accountability Measure

- o Fishery closed when quota met or projected to be met
- o Quota overage payback



Case Study #3: SA Black Sea Bass Projections (2010/2011)

- Only at 50% of quota based on MRFSS through Oct 2010
- Lag in obtaining headboat data
- Projections highly variable and dependent on historic catch rates



Fishery closed on February 12, 2011



Conclusions

- Poor track record monitoring recreational quotas
- Increasing data timeliness will:
 - Reduce potential for quota overages
 - Provide more timely notice of closures
 - Result in less reliance on historical data and projections
 - Allow for in-season management adjustments
- Many challenges, including but not limited to data timeliness

Questions

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Quota closure analyses

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/GrouperSnapperandReefFish.htm>

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/SASnapperGrouperHomepage.htm>