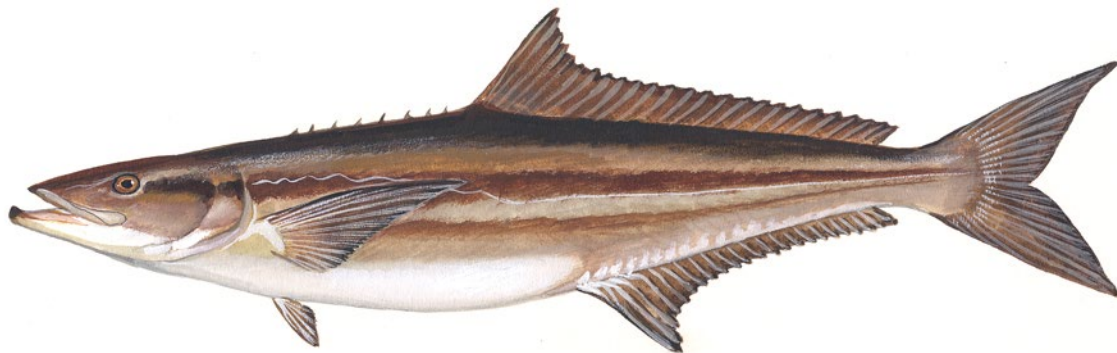




ASMFC Cobia Fishery Management



CCC November 2019

Presentation Outline



- Goal and Objectives
- Recreational Fishery
- Commercial Fishery
- Federal Waters

Goal and Objectives



- Goal: Efficient management structure that implements coastwide measures, providing equitable and sustainable access to the resource throughout the management unit in a timely manner
- This goal is supported by a flexible management system that includes:
 - A harvest specification procedure
 - Measures allowing for sustainable harvest
 - Monitoring
 - Protections for recruits

Harvest Specification Process



- Coastwide Specs set up to 3 years
 - Total Harvest Quota
 - Vessel, possession or bag limits
 - Minimum size limits
 - Commercial closure triggers
- Allocation
 - 92% Recreational
 - 8% Commercial

Recreational Fishery



- 36" min size, 1 fish per person, no more than 6 fish per vessel
- State Specific Seasons
- RHL, currently derived from CMP FMP recreational ACL, allocated as state harvest targets (with 1% *de minimis* set aside, 222 fish)
 - Landings evaluated against targets as 3-year averages

State	Recreational Harvest Target (num)
VA	8,724
NC	8,436
SC	2,679
GA	2,018

Recreational Fishery Evaluation



	Year	Vessel Limit/Season	Harvest	Evaluation Status & Specification
Harvest Target: 100,000 lb	2018	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 1-Aug. 30	110,000	Not evaluated
	2019	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 1-Aug. 30	90,000	Not evaluated
	2020	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 1-Aug. 30	95,000	Not evaluated
	2021	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 1-Aug. 30	105,000 lb	Evaluated: Achieved target in 2018-2020 . Regulations set for 2022-2024.
	2022	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 1-Aug. 30	115,000 lb	Not evaluated
	2023	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 1-Aug. 30	95,000 lb	Not evaluated
	2024	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 1-Aug. 30	110,000 lb	Evaluated: Over target by average of 5,000 lb per year in 2021-2023 . Required reduction of season or vessel limit. Regulations set for 2025-2027.
	2025	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 10-Aug. 30	80,000 lb	Not evaluated
	2026	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 10-Aug. 30	75,000 lb	Not evaluated
	2027	Vessel Limit: 4 fish Season: June 10-Aug. 30	85,000 lb	Evaluated: Achieved target in 2025-2026 (different regulations in 2024). May submit liberalized measures for TC and Board review, for implementation in 2028. Regulations set for 2028-2030.

Commercial Management Measures



- 33" FL or 37"TL min size, 2 fish possession, not to exceed the vessel limit of 6 fish.
- Coastwide Quota of 50,000 lbs (3% to *de minimis* states)
- Closure of the Quota based on trigger

Recommendation for Federal Waters



- Enforce recreational measures to the vessel state of landing
- Enact a commercial closure in federal waters to mirror any coastwide state closure.

Questions?

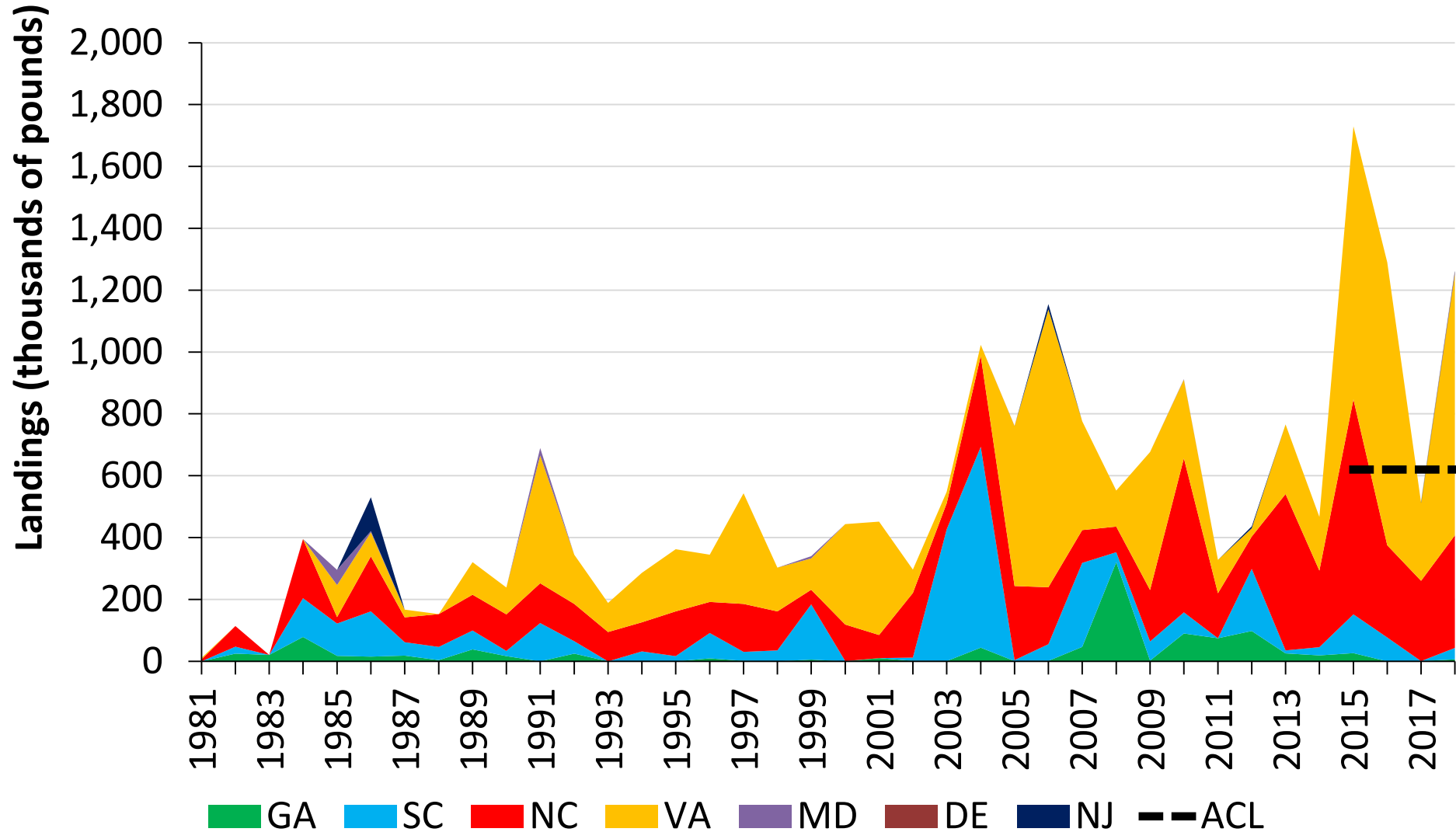


Photo © Eszter Keresztes

CHTS Recreational Fishery



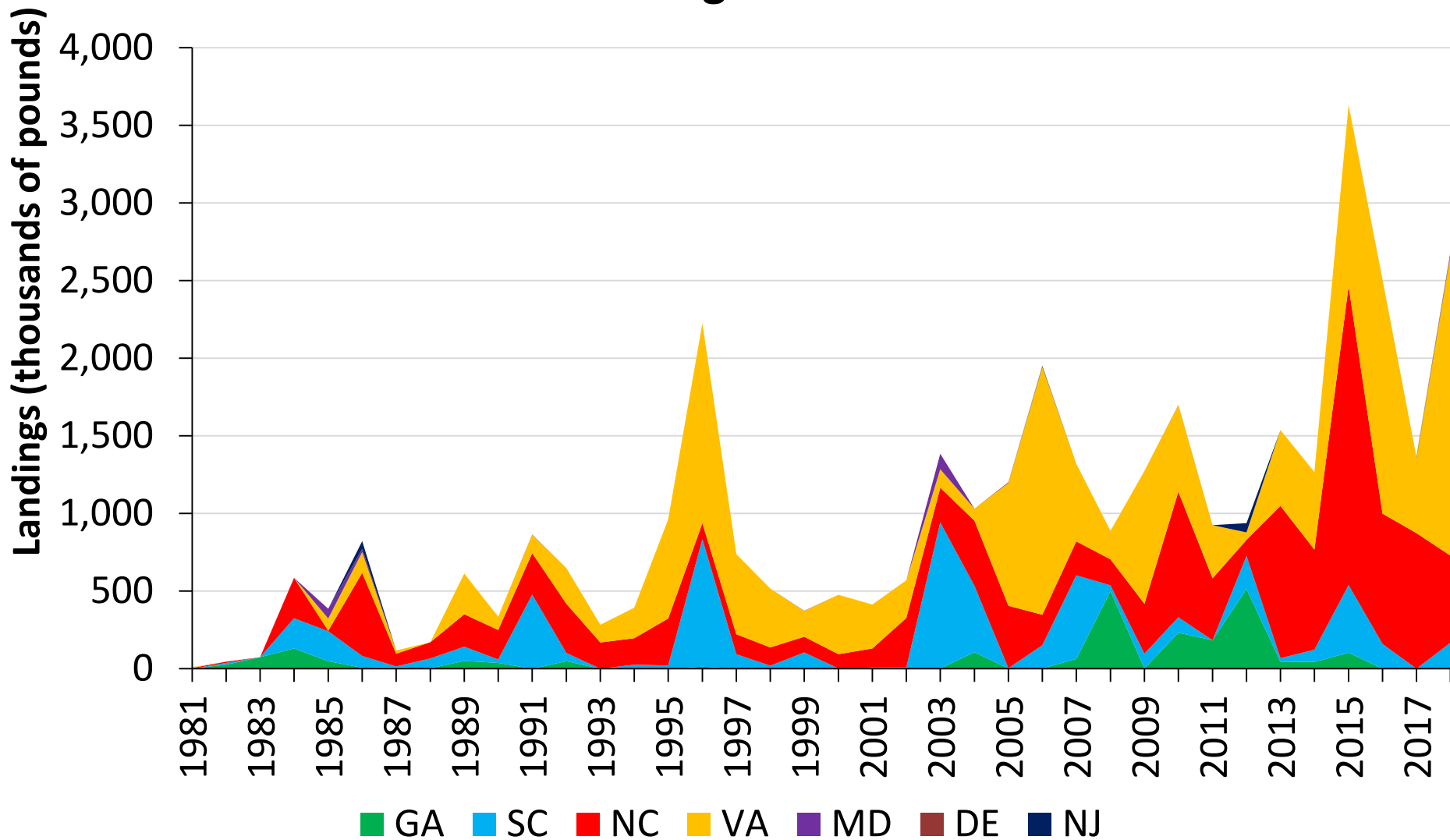
CHTS Landings Estimates



FES Recreational Fishery



FES Landings Estimates



Commercial Fishery

