



**Summer Flounder, Scup,  
and Black Sea Bass  
Commercial/Recreational Allocations**



**Council and Board  
October 9, 2019  
Durham, NC**

# Overview

- MRIP revisions have changed understanding of historic & recent recreational/commercial harvest proportions
- Management implications given fixed sector allocations in the FMP
- Council and Board should consider whether action is needed to re-evaluate current sector allocations

# Current Sector Allocations

	Allocation	Base Years	Action	Year
<b>Summer Flounder</b>	<b>60%</b> comm./ <b>40%</b> rec. (landings)	<b>1980-1989</b>	Am. 2	1993
<b>Scup</b>	<b>78%</b> comm./ <b>22%</b> rec. (catch)	<b>1988-1992</b>	Am. 8	1996
<b>Black Sea Bass</b>	<b>49%</b> comm./ <b>51%</b> rec. (landings)	<b>1983-1992</b>	Am. 9	1996

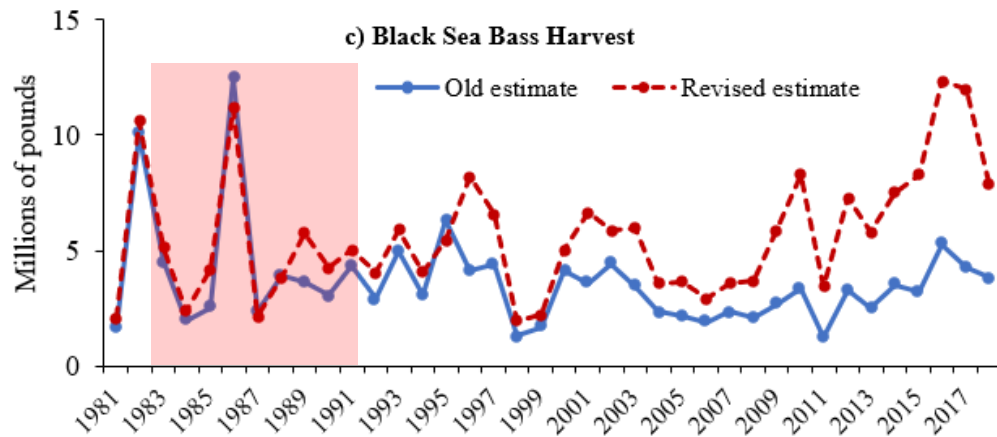
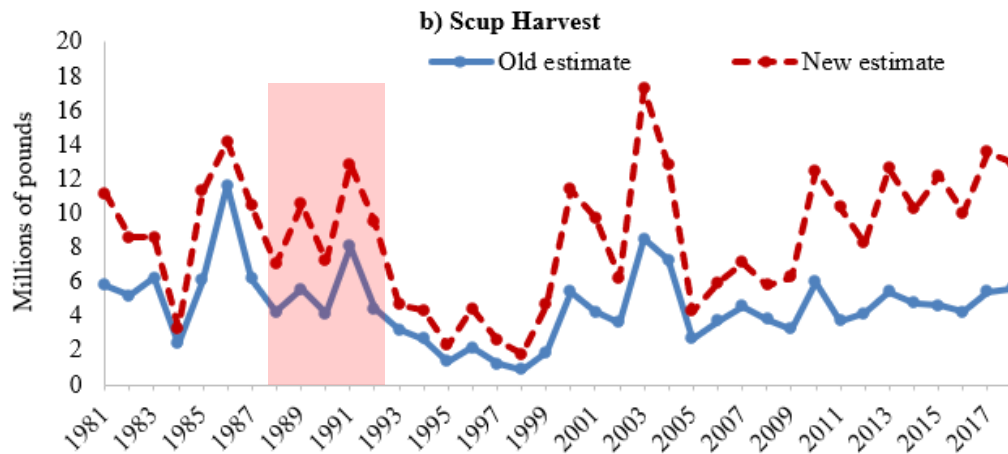
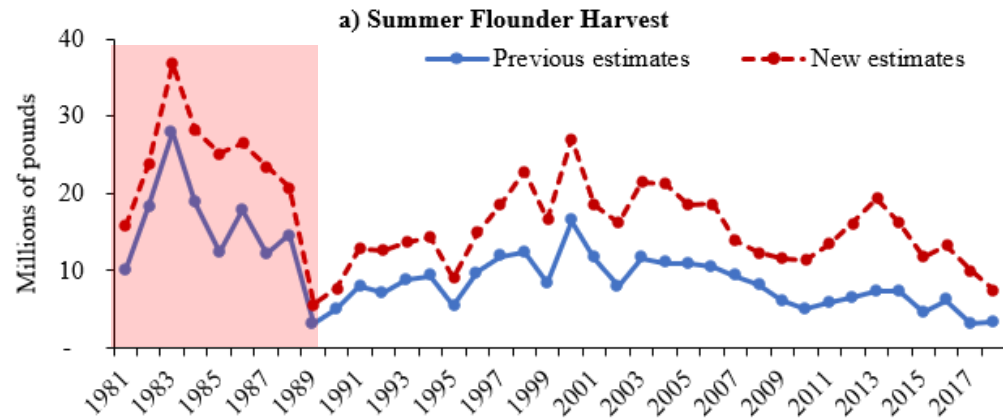
# Catch Vs. Landings-Based Allocations

**Landings-Based:** Summer flounder and black sea bass

- Total allowable landings (landings portion of ABC) is split according to allocation
- ABC discards portion is split according to Monitoring Committee recommendations (recent trends in discards by sector)

**Catch-based:** Scup

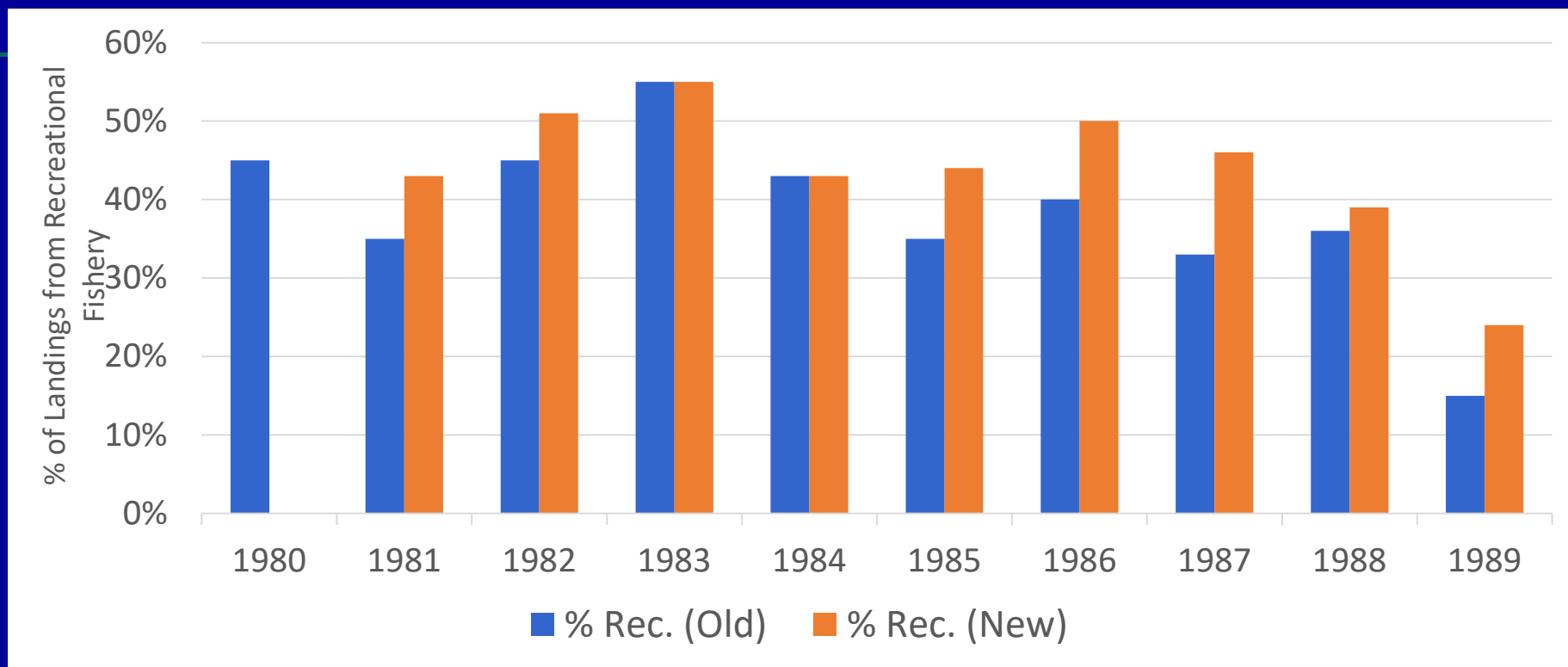
- ABC (landings & discards) split 78%/22%
- Determined in Am. 8 to be more “fair/equitable;” incentivizes each sector to reduce discards



# Allocation Base Year Data Changes

- Next few slides are presented to illustrate how data has changed for allocation base years
- No specific recommendations for possible revisions at this stage

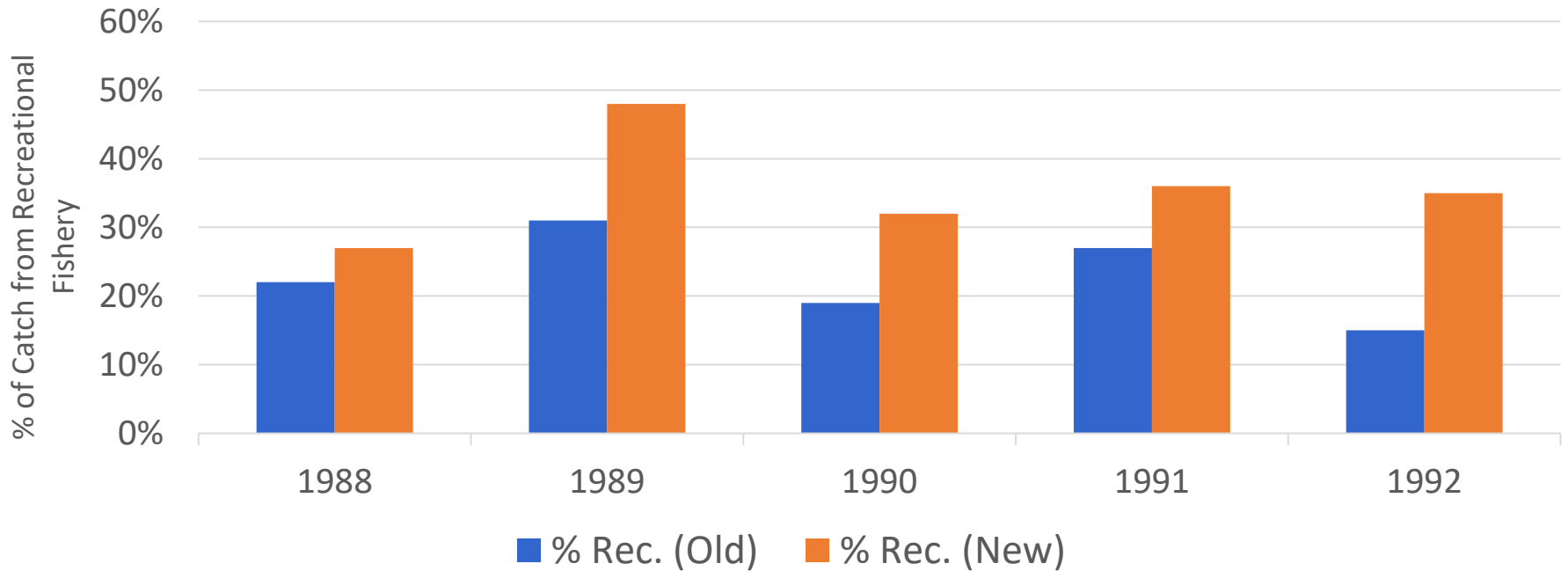
# Summer Flounder



	Amendment 2 (1993)				Current Data (2018 Assessment)			
Avg. 1980 - 1989	Com. landings	Rec. landings	% Com.	% Rec.	Com. landings	Rec. landings	% Com.	% Rec.
	27.91	19.00	<b>59%</b>	<b>41%</b>	27.54	22.89	<b>55%</b>	<b>45%</b>

(Revised MRIP data not available for 1980; recent proportions based on 1981-1989)

# Scup



	Amendment 8 (1996)					Current Data (2019 Update)				
Avg.	Com. Catch	Rec. catch	Total catch	% Com.	% Rec.	Com. catch	Rec. catch	Total catch	% Com.	% Rec.
1988										
1992	19.23	5.53	24.75	78%	22%	17.44	9.55	27.00	65%	35%

(Highlighted text reflects corrections from printed briefing materials)

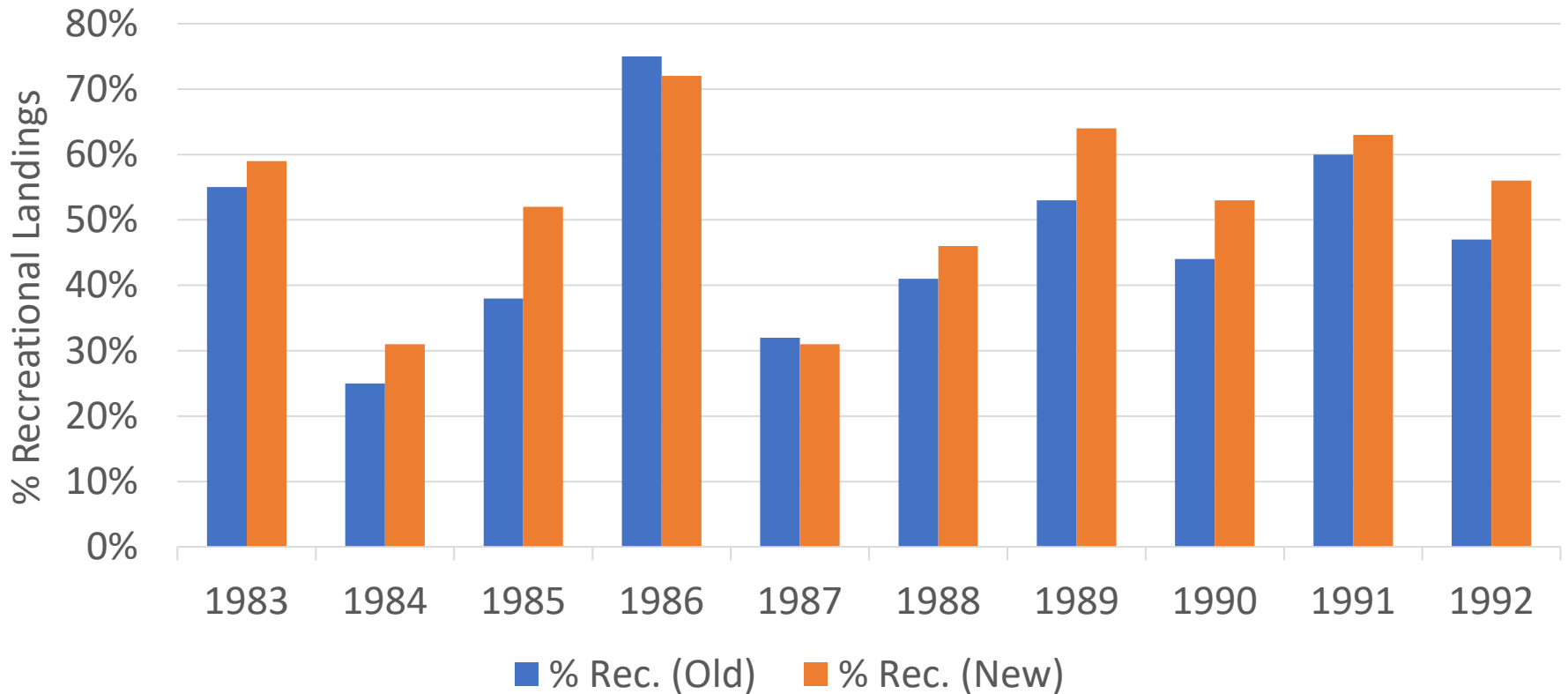


# Scup

- Scup commercial discard estimates have changed due to revised discard estimation methodology
- Implications for catch-based allocation

Year	Am. & Comm. Catch	2019 Operational Update Comm. Catch	Difference
1988	16.29	19.08	+17%
1989	12.98	11.60	-11%
1990	18.07	15.51	-14%
1991	22.93	23.08	+1%
1992	25.86	17.95	-31%
Avg	19.23	17.44	-9%

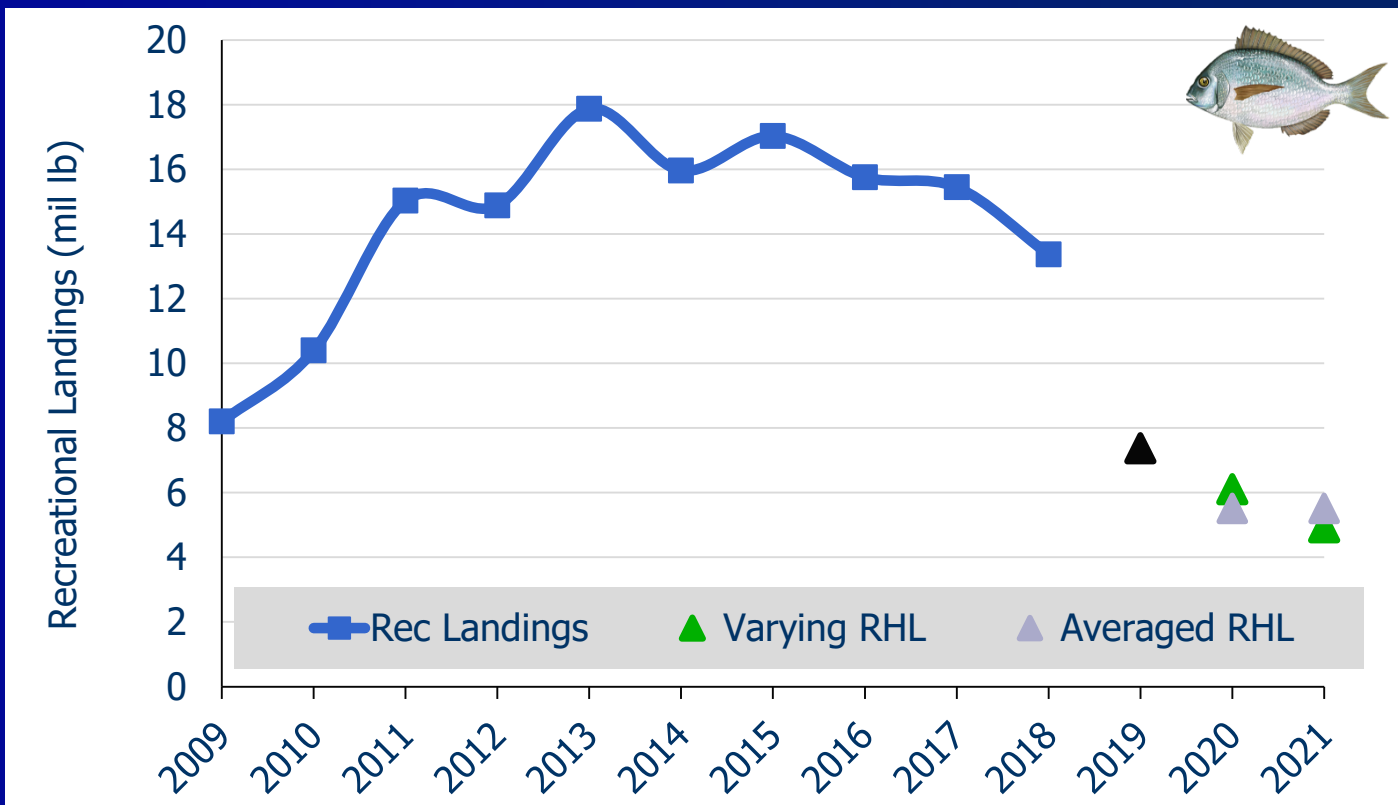
# Black Sea Bass



	Amendment 9 (1996)				Current Data			
Avg. 1983 - 1992	Com. landings	Rec. landings	% Com.	% Rec.	Com. landings	Rec. landings	% Com.	% Rec.
	3.58	3.78	<b>49%</b>	<b>51%</b>	3.58	4.47	<b>45%</b>	<b>55%</b>

# Management Implications of MRIP Transition

- Substantial recreational reductions may be needed given that harvest limits are not increasing to the same degree as harvest estimates



# Reconsideration of Sector Allocations

- Council and Board should consider whether existing allocations are meeting/will continue to meet the FMP objectives
- Staff and the Monitoring Committee recommend initiating a joint amendment and prioritizing expedited development
- Modifications would require an amendment

# Reconsideration of Sector Allocations

- Amendment should consider broad range of alternatives, not necessarily just updating base years with revised data
- Could consider more modern data sources for both fisheries, as well as catch-based vs. landings-based allocations
- Timeline uncertain but likely to take at least 2 years to implementation

# Summer Flounder Allocation Model

- December 2016: Council and Board received presentation on Council-contracted economic allocation model (Schnier and Hicks)
- Expect update with revised MRIP estimates in December 2019
- Could expand or fund similar work for scup and black sea bass

# Staff Recommendation

- Initiate joint amendment to reconsider sector allocations
- Consider approval of scoping document at December joint meeting?