



# Overview of Draft Addendum XXXIII and Council Amendment Alternatives

*Commercial Black Sea Bass Management*



Presented to ASMFC Summer Flounder, Scup  
and Black Sea Bass Board and Mid-Atlantic Council  
August 6, 2020

# Presentation Outline



- 1. Background**
- 2. Problem and Goal Statement**
- 3. Status of the Fishery**
- 4. Management Options for State Allocations**
  - A. Status Quo
  - B. Increase CT Quota to 5%
  - C. Dynamic Adjustments to Regional Allocations
  - D. Trigger Approach
  - E. Trigger Approach (Increase CT and NY first )
  - F. Percentage Approach
  - G. Regional Configuration
- 5. Federal Management Options**
  - A. Options for Adding State Allocations to Council FMP
  - B. Options for Federal In-season Closures
- 6. Next Steps**

# Background



**Date**

**Activity/Action**

October 2019

Board initiated addendum to consider adjustments to commercial black sea bass state allocations based on PDT report

December 2019

Council initiated a complementary amendment

January-July 2020

PDT developed Draft Addendum XXXIII

**August 2020**

**Consider Draft Addendum XXXIII / Council Amendment for public comment**

# Problem Statement



- State allocations of commercial black sea bass coastwide quota originally implemented in 2003 (Amendment 13)
  - Loosely based on historical landings from 1980-2001
- Significant changes to stock abundance and distribution
  - Larger expansion N of Hudson Canyon relative to S
- Current allocations do not align with resource distribution/availability

# Goal Statement



- Consider adjusting the current commercial black sea bass allocations using current distribution and abundance of black sea bass as one of several adjustment factors to achieve more balanced access to the resource. These adjustment factors will be identified as the development process moves forward.
- Consider whether the state allocations should continue to be managed only under the Commission's FMP or whether they should be managed under both the Commission and Council FMPs.

# Status of the Fishery



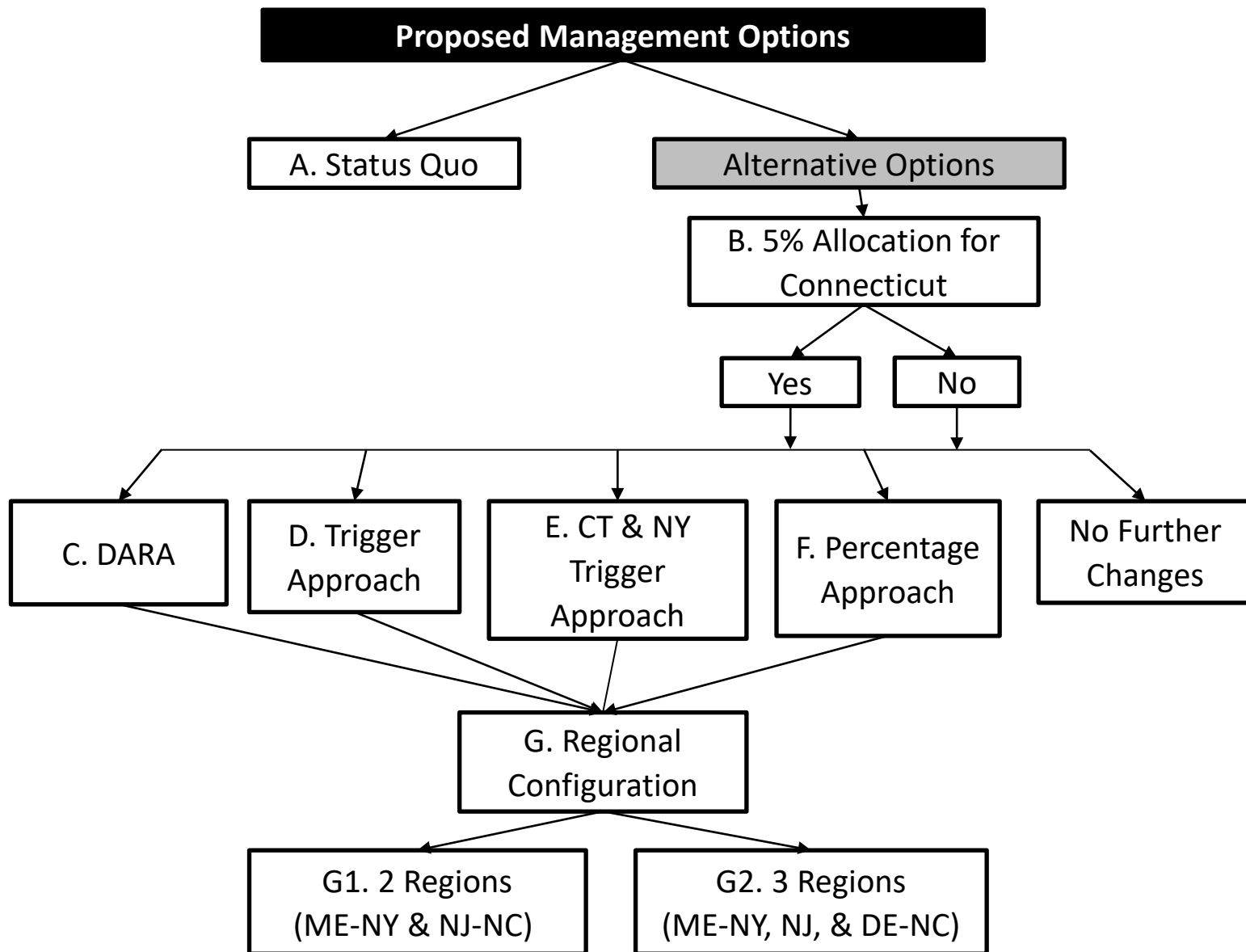
- Information on landings, price, gear type, location of catch, and quota transfers among states.
- Based on dealer data, VTRs, and input from fishermen and dealers.

# Status of the Fishery



- **Correction to Section 2.4, page 8, paragraph 3**
  - The average price per pound paid to fishermen by dealers for black sea bass (adjusted to 2019 values based on the Gross Domestic Product Price Deflator) appears to show an inverse relationship with landings in the southern region states (New Jersey - North Carolina) during 2010-2019 (i.e., price generally decreased with increases in landings,  $p=0.002$ ). There did not appear to be a strong relationship between price and landings in the northern region (Maine - New York) during 2010-2019 ( $p=0.498$ , Figure 3).

# Management Options for State Allocations





# A. Status Quo



- State allocations of commercial black sea bass coastwide quota originally implemented in 2003 (Amendment 13)
  - Loosely based on historical landings from 1980-2001
- Managed under Commission FMP only

State	Allocation
ME	0.5 %
NH	0.5 %
MA	13 %
RI	11 %
CT	1 %
NY	7 %
NJ	20 %
DE	5 %
MD	11 %
VA	20 %
NC	11 %

# B. Increase CT Quota to 5%



- Addresses disparity between CT's low quota and BSB availability
  1. DE and NY held constant
  2. Move 0.25% from ME and NH to CT
  3. Move quota from remaining states, proportional to current allocations, to total 5%
- Option can stand alone, or be combined with other options

Proposed changes in state allocations			
State	Current % Allocation	Change in % Allocation	New % Allocation
ME	0.5%	-0.25%	0.25%
NH	0.5%	-0.25%	0.25%
MA	13%	-0.53%	12.47%
RI	11%	-0.45%	10.55%
CT	1%	4.00%	5.00%
NY	7%	0.00%	7.00%
NJ	20%	-0.81%	19.19%
DE	5%	0.00%	5.00%
MD	11%	-0.45%	10.55%
VA	20%	-0.81%	19.19%
NC	11%	-0.45%	10.55%

## C. Dynamic Adjustments to Regional Allocations

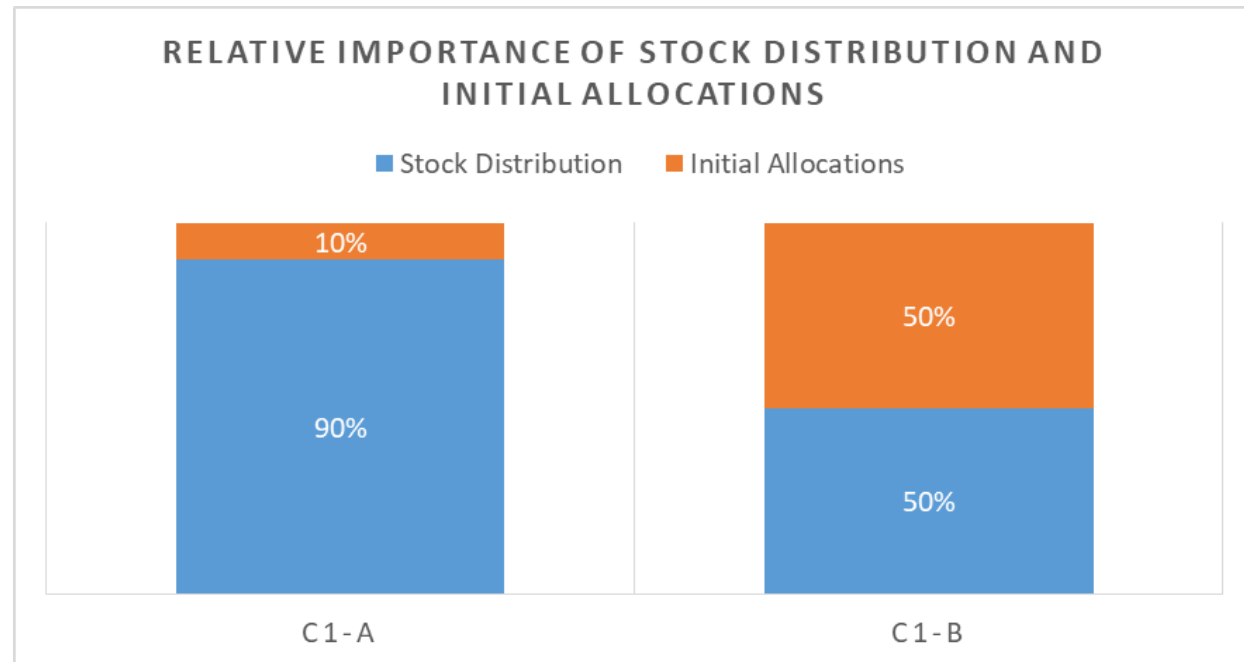


- **DARA** approach balances fishery stability and response to changing stock distribution
- Phase 1: Formulaic transition through gradual adjustments from initial quotas to quotas partially influenced by stock distribution
- Phase 2: Allocations updated routinely when new stock distribution information available
- Sub-options determine scale and pace of allocation changes

# C. DARA - Sub-option set 1



1. Final relative importance of initial allocations versus resource distribution
  - **Sub-option C1-A:** allocations based 90% on stock distribution, 10% on initial allocations
  - **Sub-option C1-B:** allocations based 50% on stock distribution, 50% on initial allocations

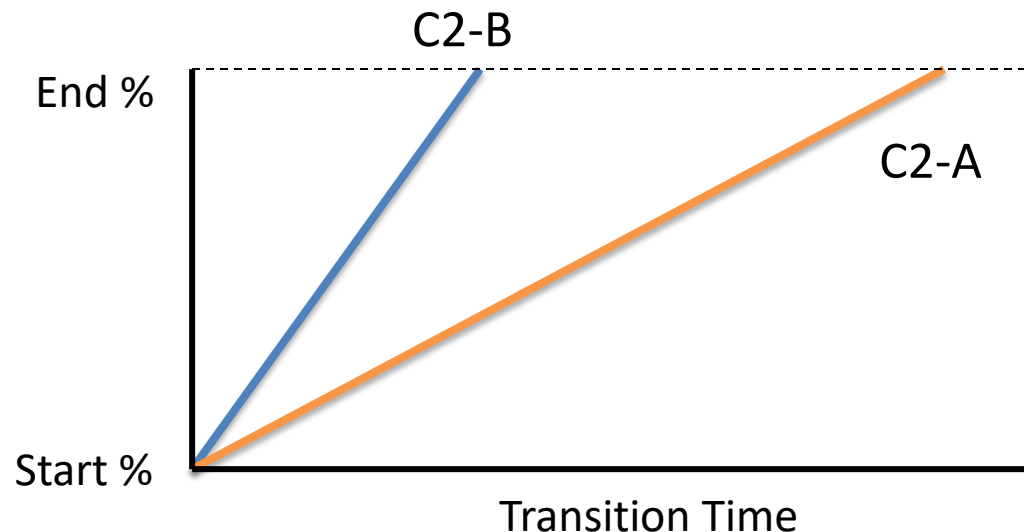


# C. DARA - Sub-option set 2



2. Change in relative weights of each factor (initial allocations and stock distribution) per adjustment

- **Sub-option C2-A:** relative weights change by 5% per adjustment
- **Sub-option C2-B:** relative weights change by 20% per adjustment

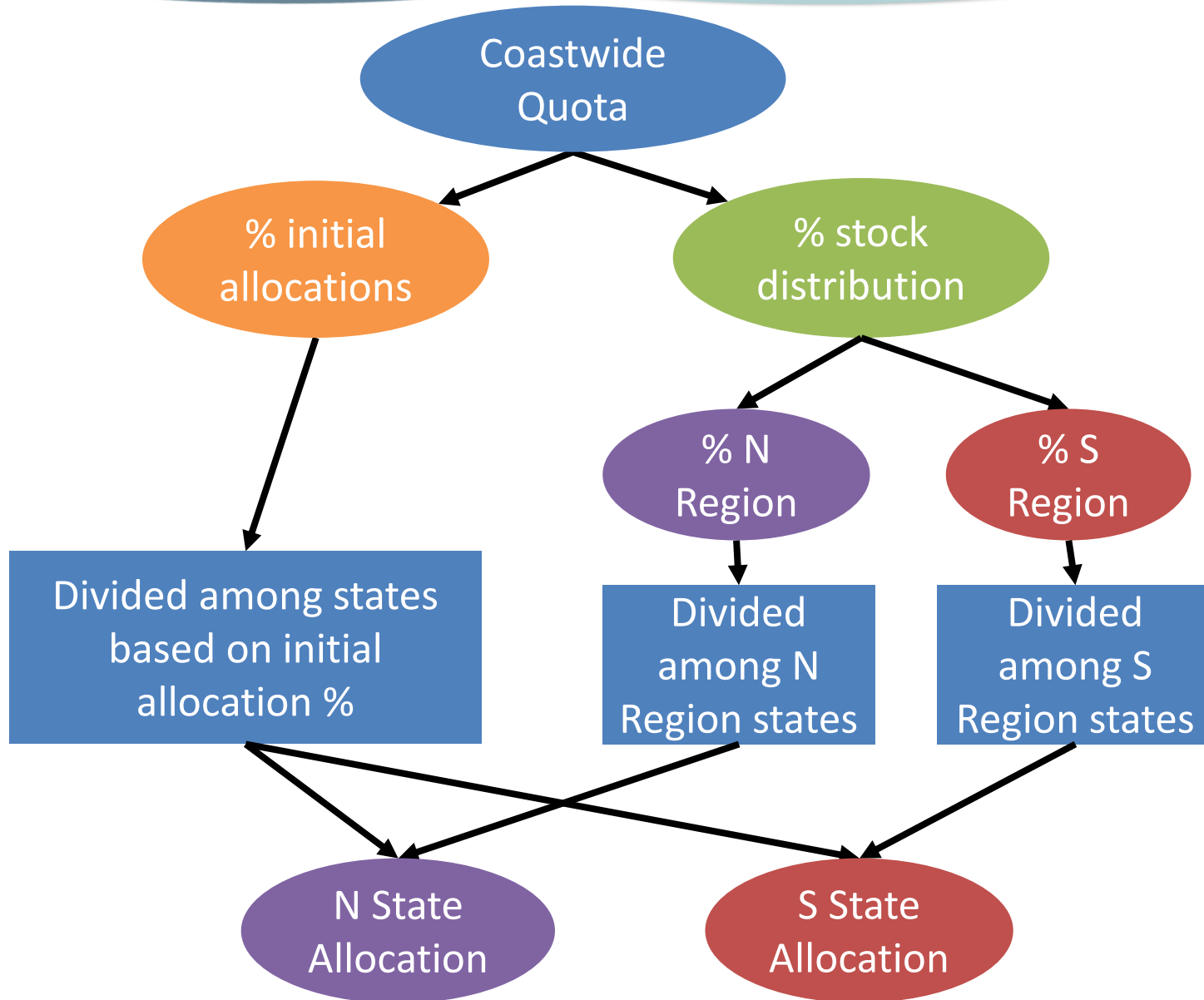


## C. DARA - Sub-option sets 3 and 4



3. Frequency of weight adjustments during transition
  - **Sub-option C3-A:** Adjustments every year
  - **Sub-option C3-B:** Adjustments every other year
  
4. Regional allocation adjustment cap
  - **Sub-option C4-A:** Max of 3% change per adjustment
  - **Sub-option C4-B:** Max of 10% change per adjustment
  - **Sub-option C4-C:** No cap

# C. DARA – Formula Visualization



# D. Trigger Approach



- Coastwide quota up to and including established trigger amount is distributed according to “base allocations”
  - Trigger determined by sub-option set 1
- Amount of quota above established trigger amount (surplus quota) distributed using a different allocation scheme
  - Determined by sub-option sets 2 and 3

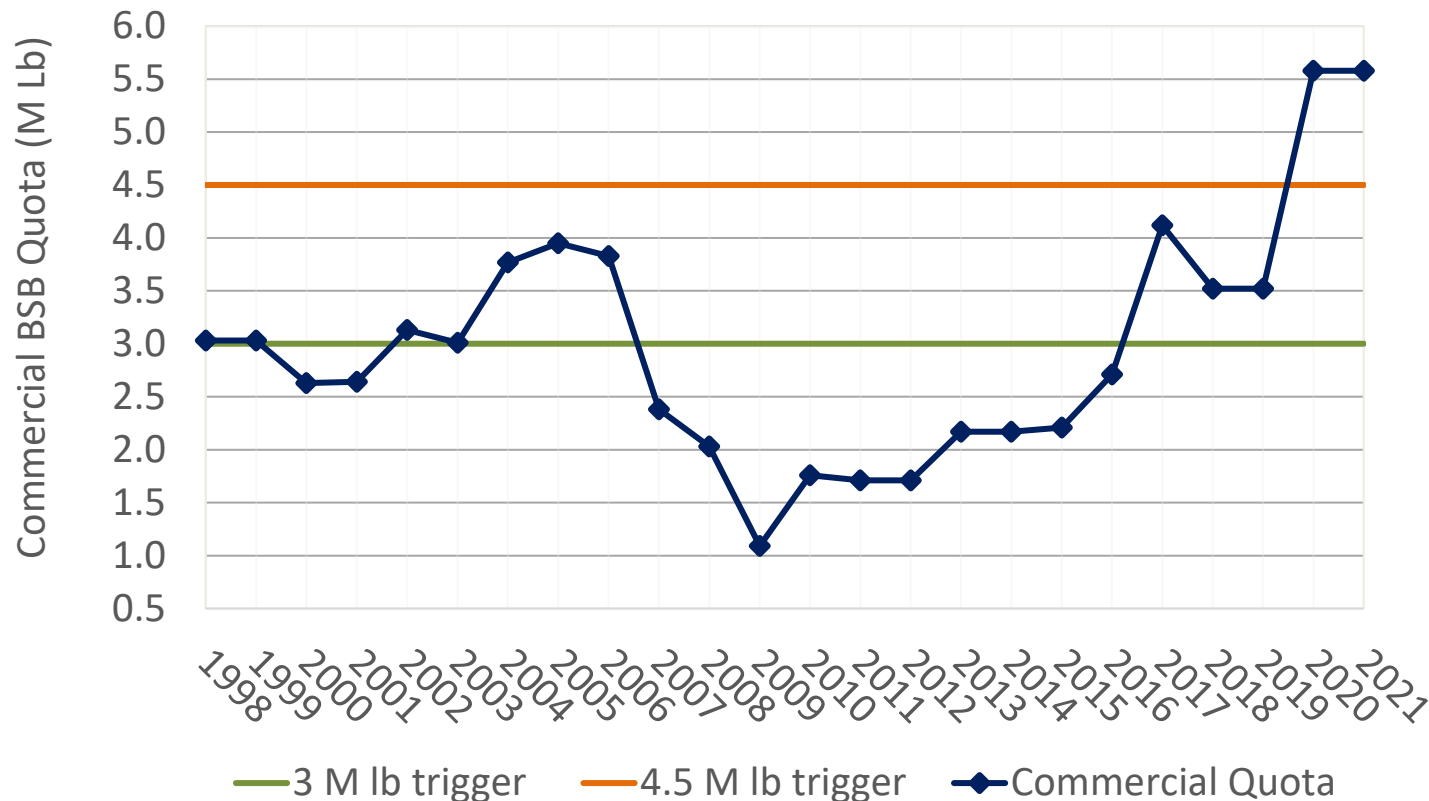


# D. Trigger Approach- Sub-option set 1



## 1. Trigger Value Sub-options


- **Sub-option D1-A:** Trigger value of 3 million pounds
- **Sub-option D1-B:** Trigger value of 4.5 million pounds



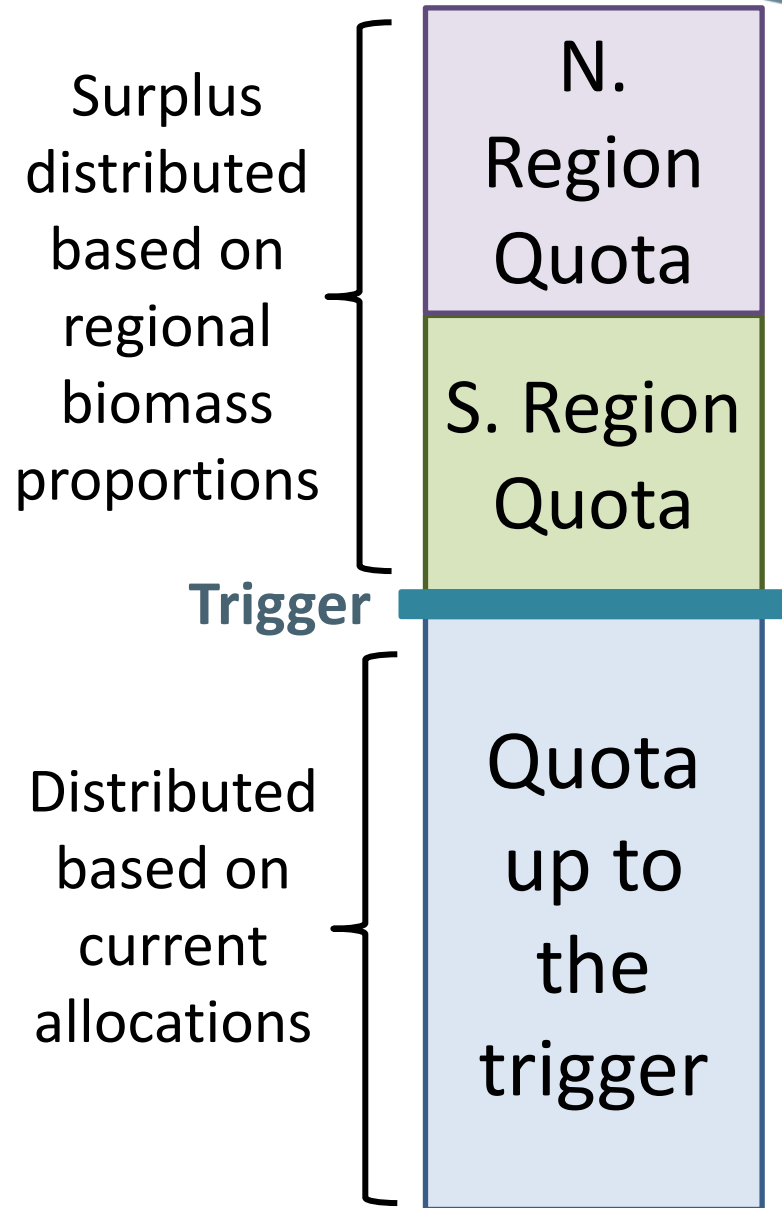
# D. Trigger Approach- Sub-option set 2



## 2. Distribution of surplus quota

- **Sub-option D2-A:**  
Even distribution of surplus quota\*
- **Sub-option D2-B:**   
Distribution of surplus quota based on regional biomass from stock assessment

\*ME and NH each receive 1% of surplus quota



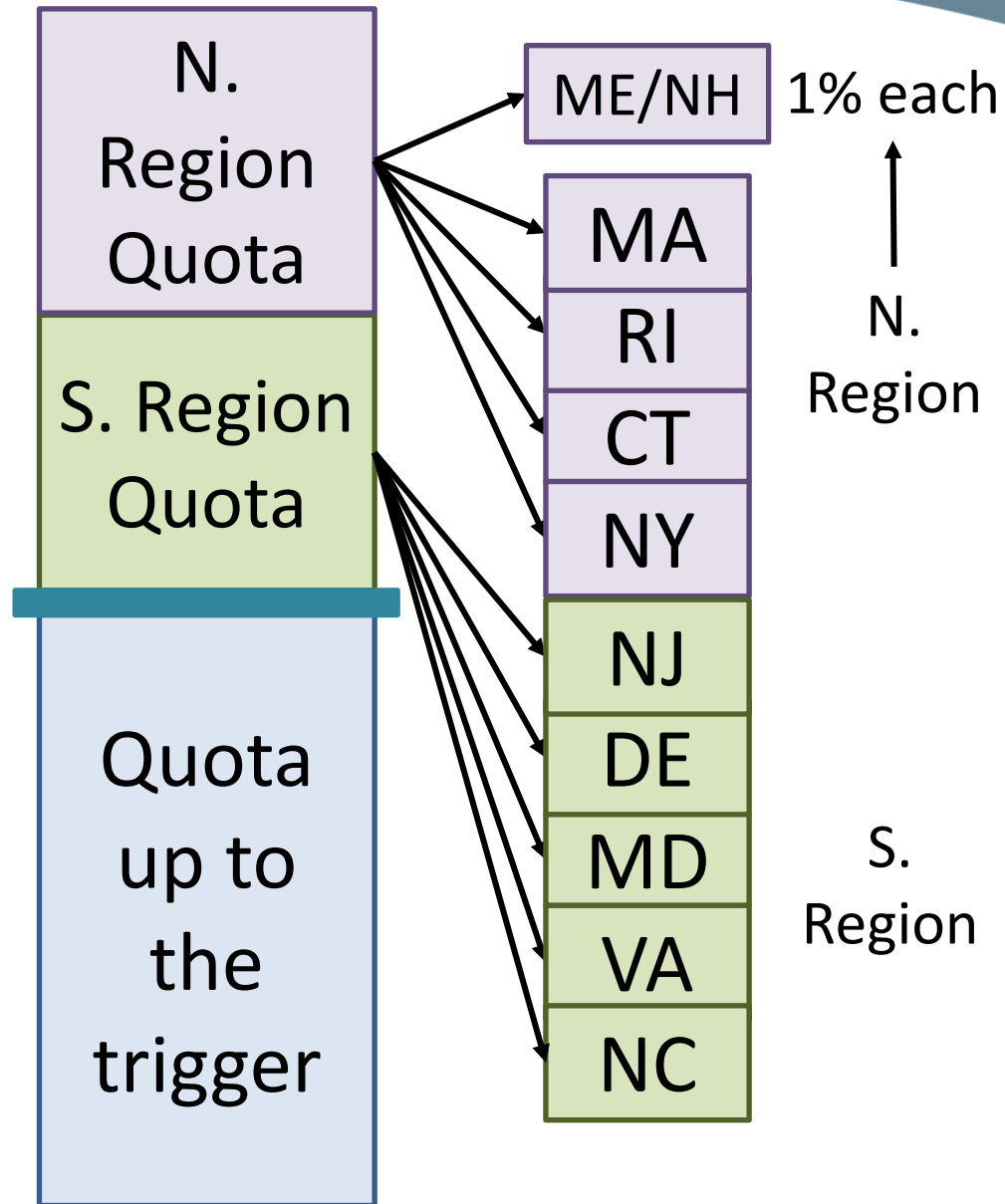
# D. Trigger Approach- Sub-option set 3



## 3. Distribution of regional surplus quota (*only with D2-B*)

- **Sub-option D3-A:** Even distribution of regional surplus quota\*
- **Sub-option D3-B:** Regional surplus quota distributed to the states within each region in proportion to their initial allocations\*

\*ME and NH would each receive 1% of N. surplus under both options



# D. Trigger Approach- Sub-option set 4



- 4. Allowing “base” allocations to change over time
  - **Sub-option D4-A: Static base allocations**
  - **Sub-option D4-B: Dynamic base allocations**
- Only applicable under Sub-option D2-B (regional surplus allocation)
- Dynamic base allocations creates potential for more rapid change in state allocations than static

## E. Trigger w/ increase to CT & NY first)



- 3 million pound trigger (no sub-options)
- Coastwide quota up to and including 3 million pounds distributed based on initial allocations
- Surplus quota distributed as follows:
  1. Increase CT's allocation to 5% of the overall quota
  2. Increase NY's allocation to 9% of the overall quota
  3. Remaining surplus quota split N/S according to proportion of biomass in each region, then allocated to states within each region in proportion to initial intra-regional allocations

# F. Percentage Approach

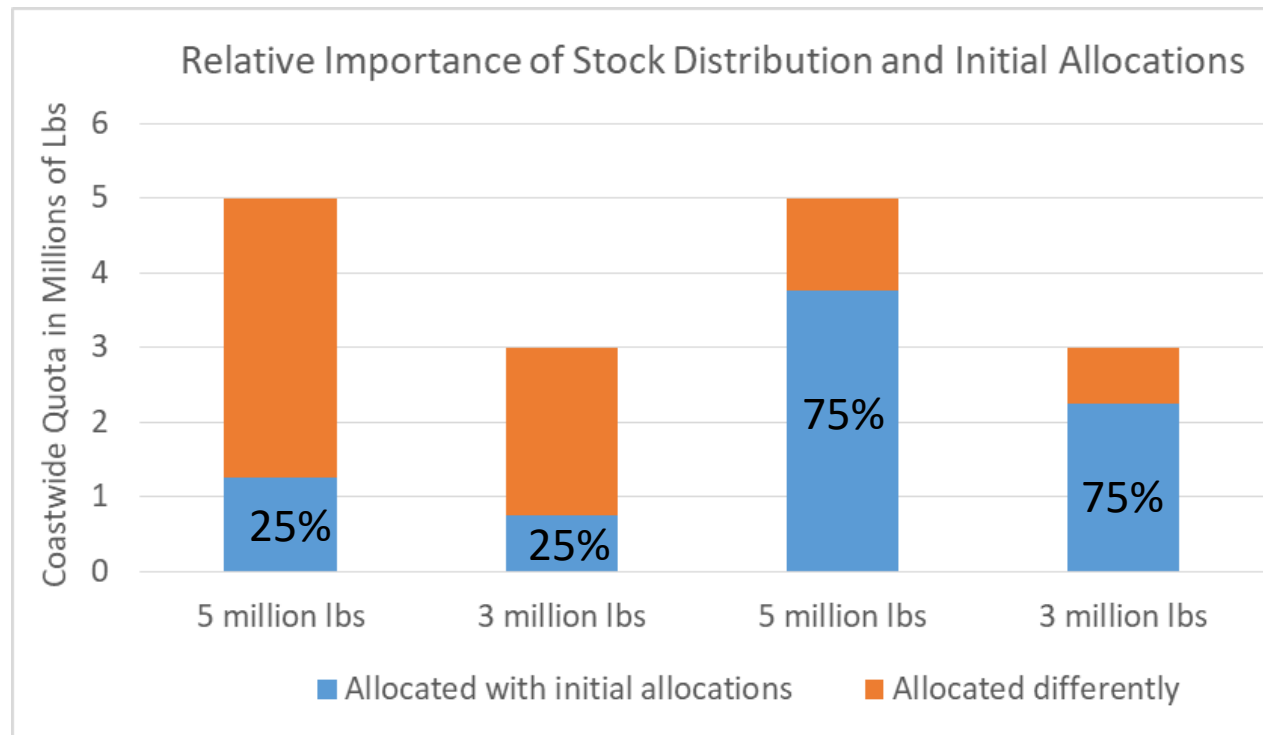


- Allocate a fixed % of the annual coastwide quota using the initial allocations regardless of coastwide quota amount
- Allocate remaining quota to states differently (determined by sub-options)
- Allows a portion of the quota to be allocated using a distribution other than the initial allocations even under lower coastwide quotas

# F. Percentage Approach – Sub-option set 1



1. Percentage of annual coastwide quota to be allocated using initial allocations
  - **Sub-option F1-A: 25%**
  - **Sub-option F1-B: 75%**





## 2. Distribution of remaining quota

- **Sub-option F2-A:** Even distribution of remaining quota to all states\*
- **Sub-option F2-B:** Distribution of remaining quota based on regional biomass from stock assessment

\*ME and NH each receive 1% of remaining quota



## F. Percentage Approach – Sub-option set 3



3. Distribution of regional quota to states within a region (*only with F2-B*)
- **Sub-option F3-A:** Even distribution of regional quota to states within each region\*
  - **Sub-option F3-B:** Remaining quota distributed to the states within each region in proportion to their initial allocations\*

\*ME and NH would each receive 1% of northern region quota

# G. Regional Configuration



Options C through F consider incorporating regional distribution information from the stock assessment and require a regional configuration.

- **Sub-option G1:** Two regions: 1) ME-NY, and 2) NJ-NC.
- **Sub-option G2:** Three regions: 1) ME-NY; 2) NJ; and 3) DE-NC.
  - NJ's initial 20% allocation is treated as if 10% comes from N. region and 10% comes from S. region.
  - NJ's total allocation will be the sum of the N. and S. components



# Federal Management Options

# Adding State Allocations to Council FMP



- A. Status Quo (No action):** Commercial state allocations included only in the Commission's FMP
- B. Commercial state allocations for black sea bass included in both Commission and Council FMPs**
  - Future allocation changes considered through joint action between Commission and Council
  - Landings monitored by NOAA Fisheries
  - Interstate transfers managed by NOAA Fisheries

# Sub-options for state quota overage paybacks



If state allocations are added to Council FMP these sub-options determine when paybacks of state quota overages are required:

- **Sub-option B1:** Paybacks only if coastwide quota is exceeded (current process under Commission Addendum XX)
- **Sub-option B2:** States always pay back overages (exact amount of lbs by which a state exceeds its quota deducted from their allocation in a following year)

# Options for federal in-season closures



## **A. Status Quo (No action)**

- Coastwide federal in-season closure when landings are projected to exceed the coastwide quota

## **B. Coastwide federal in-season closure when landings projected to exceed commercial quota plus a buffer of up to 5%**

- Council and Board agree to appropriate buffer for the upcoming year through the specifications process

## **C. Coastwide federal in-season closure when commercial ACL is projected to be exceeded**

- Discards in weight cannot be monitored in-season; requires GARFO to make assumptions about discards in the current year

# Next Steps



Date	Activity/Action
<b>August 2020</b>	<b>Consider Draft Addendum XXXIII / Draft Council Amendment for public comment</b>
Summer/Fall 2020	Joint public hearings
December 2020	Board and Council consider final approval of Addendum XXXIII / Council Amendment
January 2021	Addendum XXXIII effective for Commission
December 2020 – late 2021	Preparation of Council documents and federal rulemaking.

# Public Hearings



- Hearings could be scheduled for September-October
- All hearings can be joint ASMFC/MAFMC
- Virtual hearings given COVID-19
- Recommendation for combined, rather than individual state hearings



# Board and Council Action



- Are any modifications to the Draft Addendum XXXIII options /Amendment alternatives desired?
- Consider approval of Draft Addendum XXXIII and Amendment hearing document for public comment

# Questions?

