

# Important Fisheries of the Tidal Potomac River

## Biological Metrics & Economic Implications

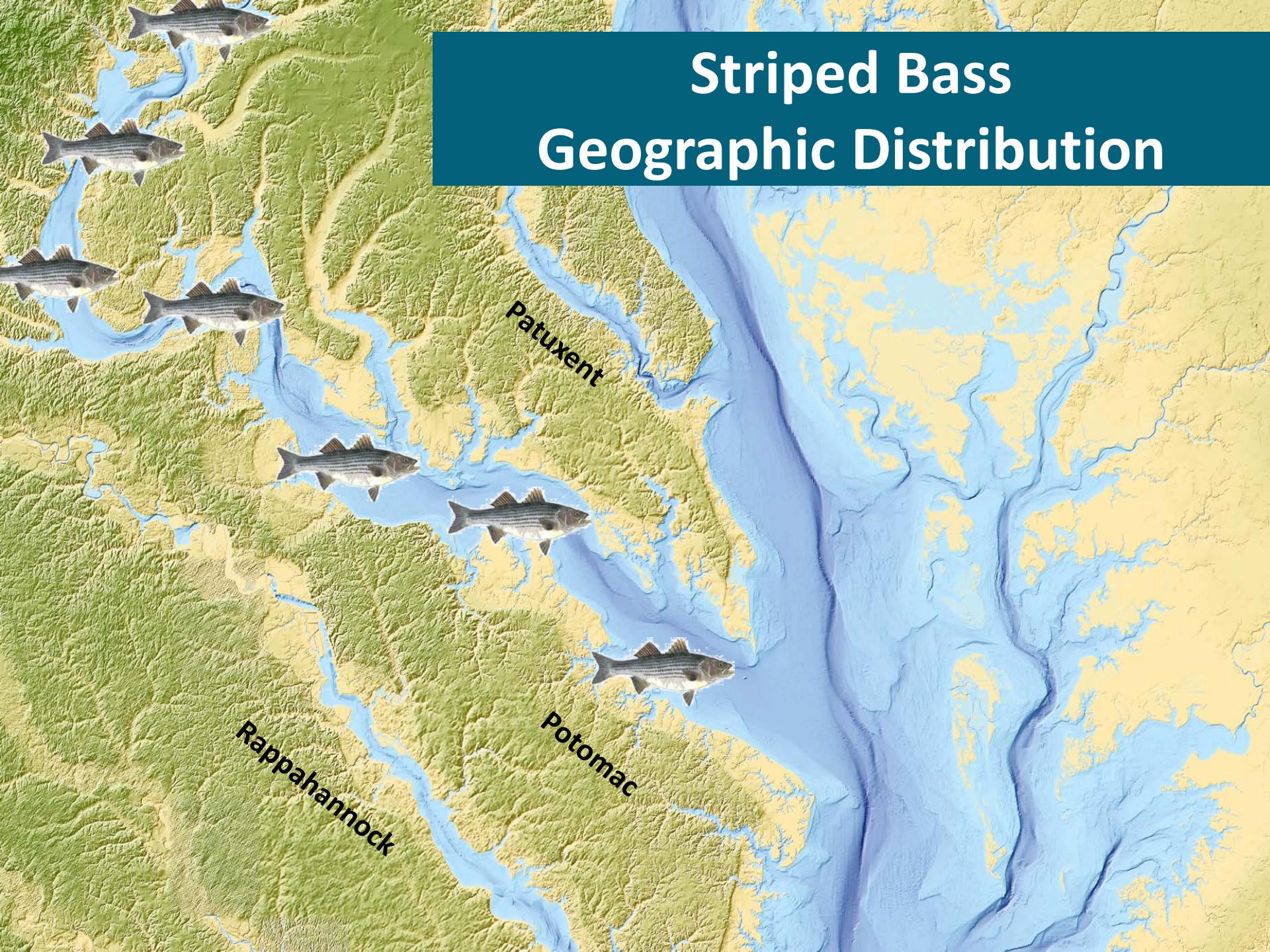


Martin L. Gary

November 17, 2017



# Striped Bass Geographic Distribution



# Potomac Striped Bass Fisheries

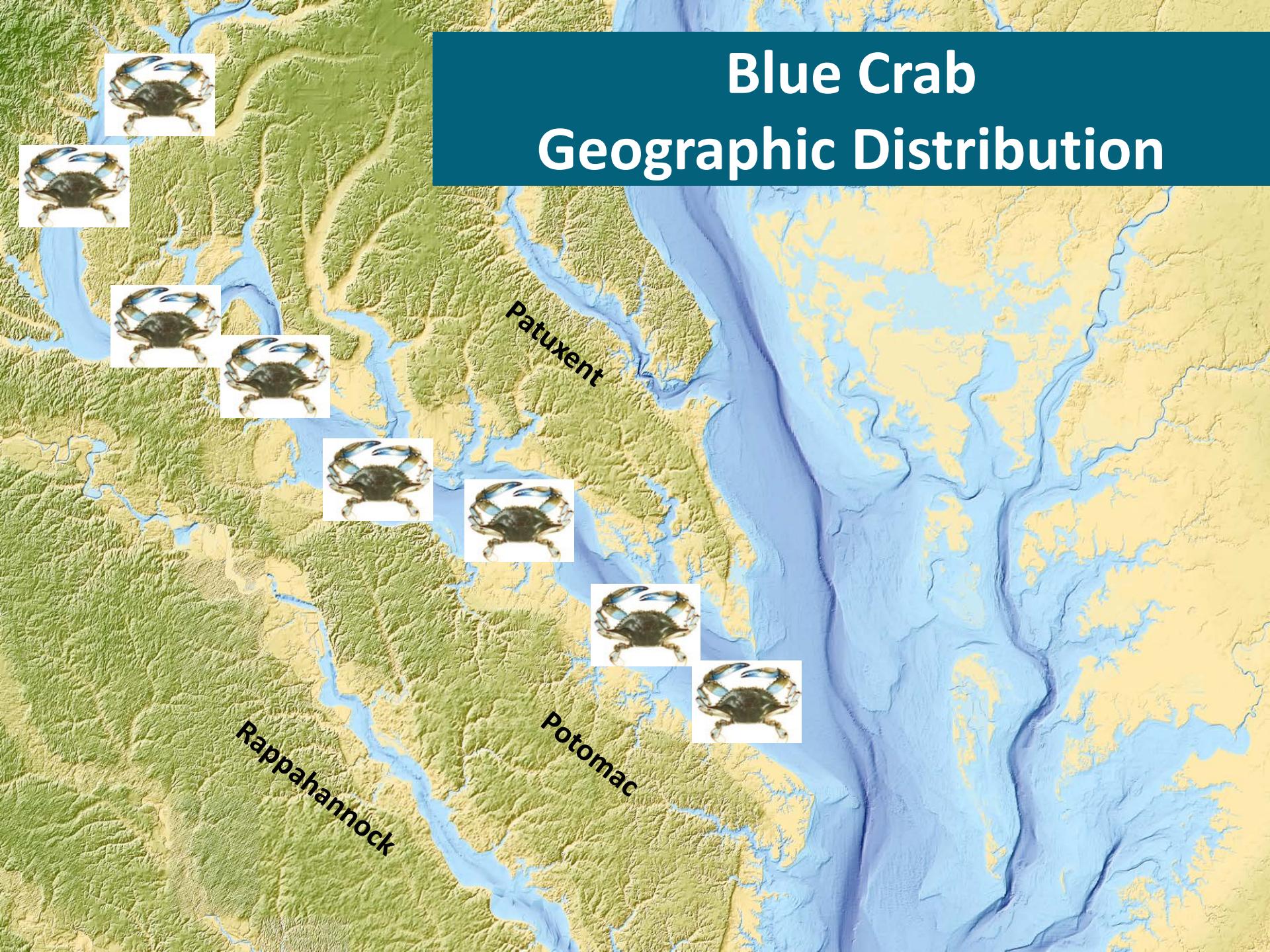
2016 Commercial Harvest and Other Losses				Data source:	
Region	Addendum IV Quota	2016 Quota	Landings (Pounds)	Landings (number of fish)	Mean Fish Weight
Potomac River		583,362 lbs.	519,803	70,737	7.35

**Estimate of any other commercial fish loss, if possible (e.g., bycatch, poaching, and personal consumption):**

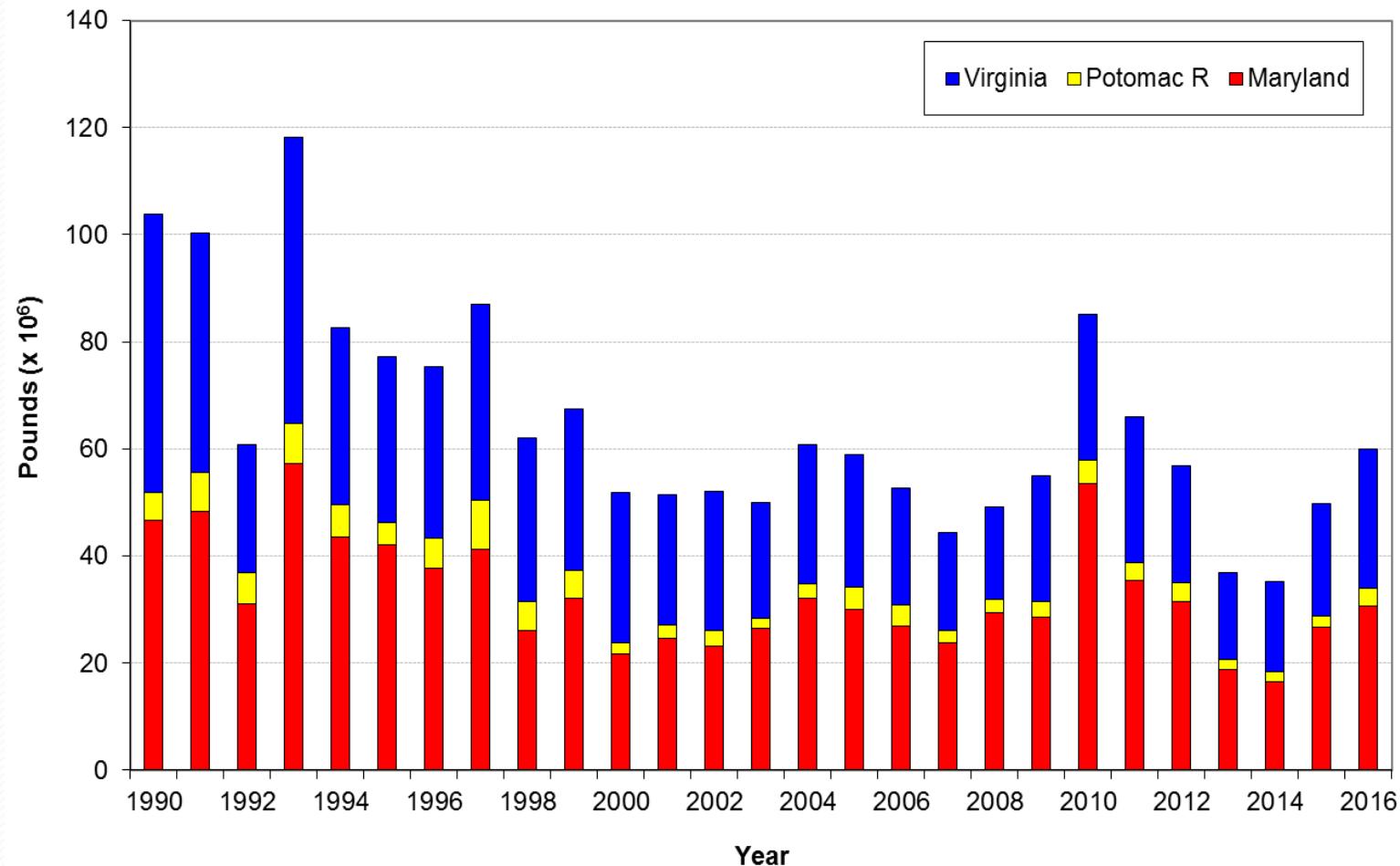
**Estimate of commercial fishing effort where possible (e.g., days fished, total trips, etc.):**

<b>Commercial</b>	<u># of Fish</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Mean Fish Wt.</u>	<u>Effort Data (Units)</u>
Gill Net	42,746	358,444	8.38	2,485,454 (yds)
Pound Net	20,469	116,796	5.71	700 (net days)
Hook and Line	6,719	38,105	5.67	6,574 (hrs.)
Miscellaneous	<u>803</u>	<u>6,458</u>	8.04	98 (gear days)
Sub-Total	70,737	519,803		

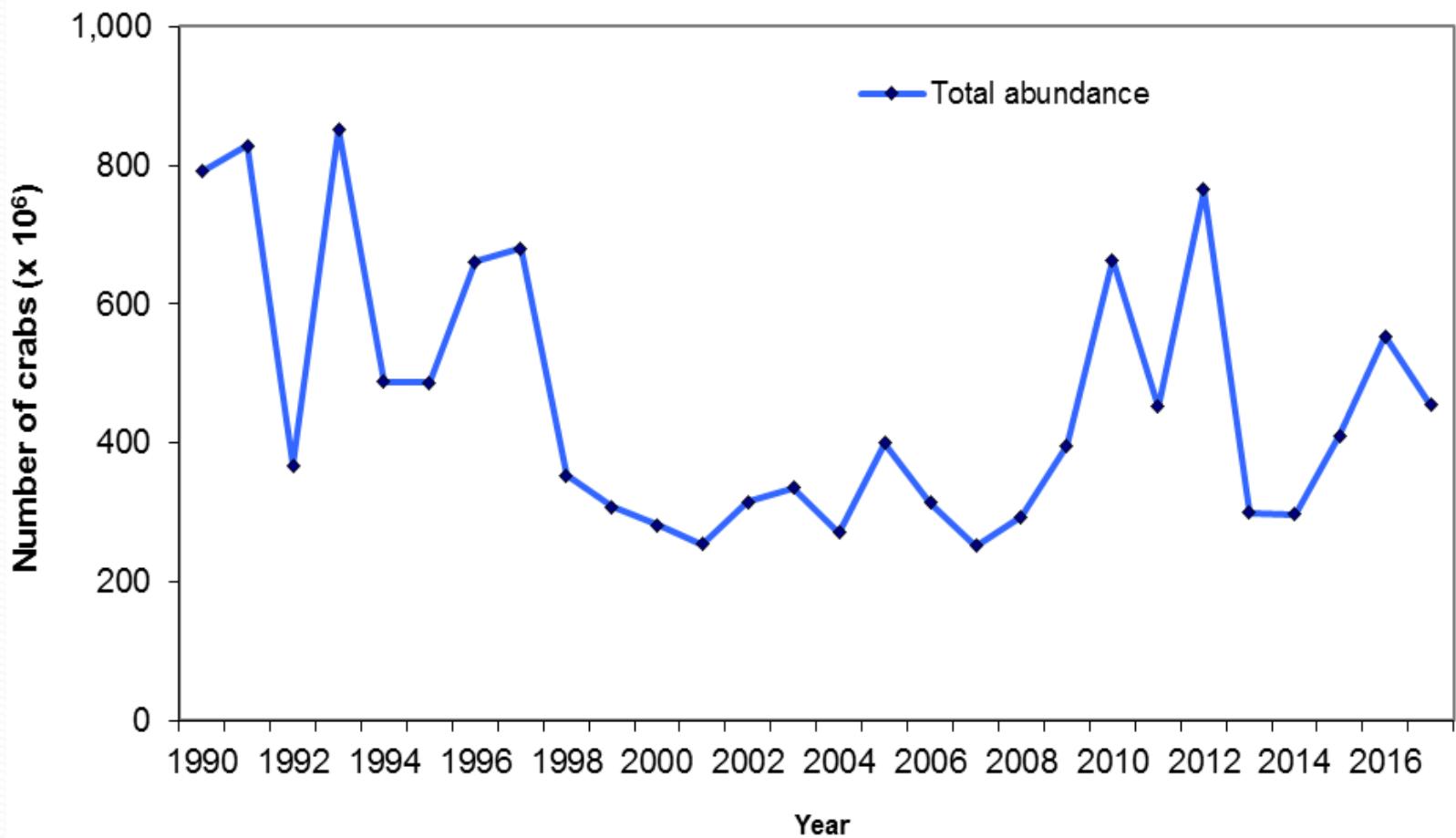
# Blue Crab Geographic Distribution



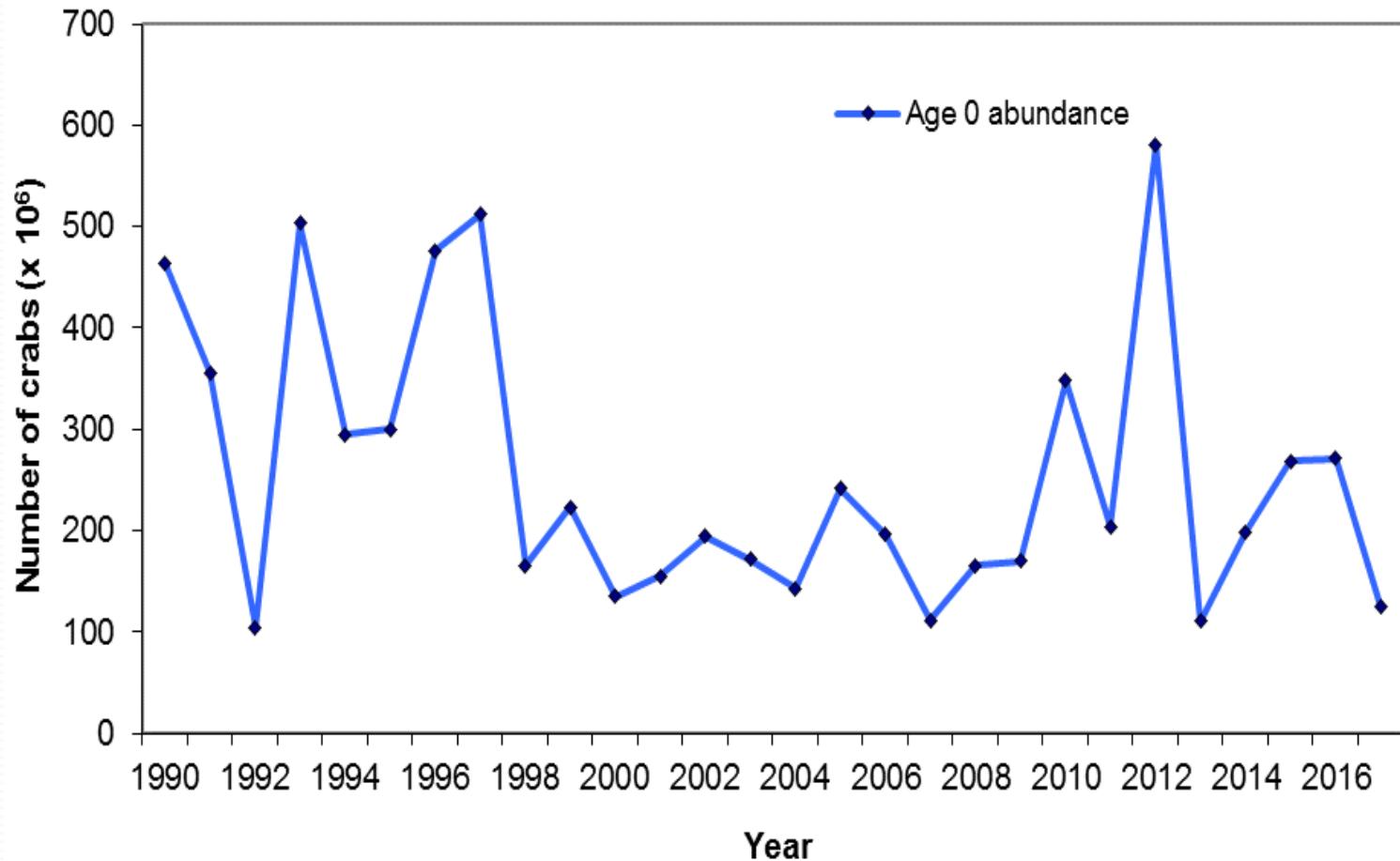
# Bay & Potomac Blue Crab Fishery



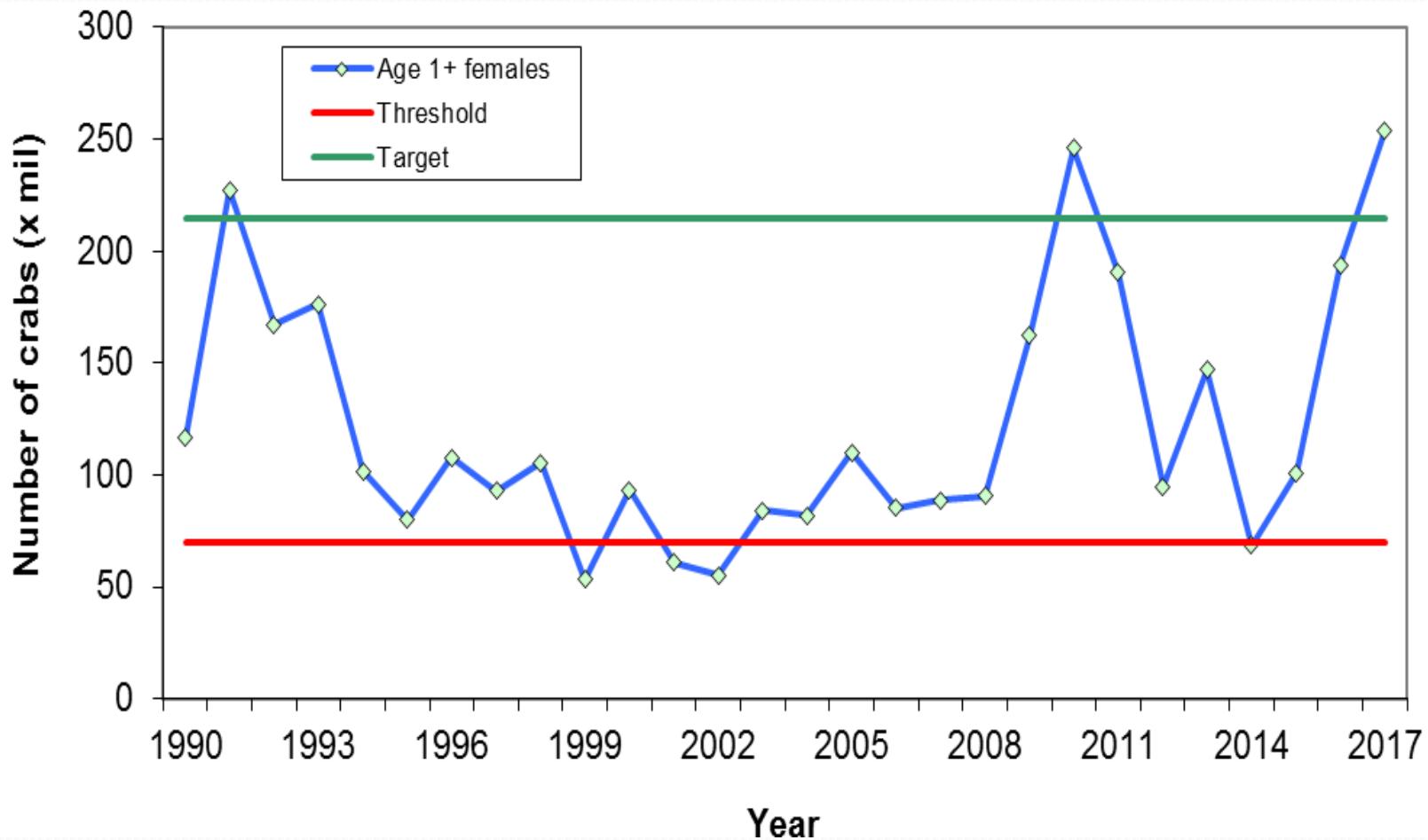
# Total crab abundance



# Recruits

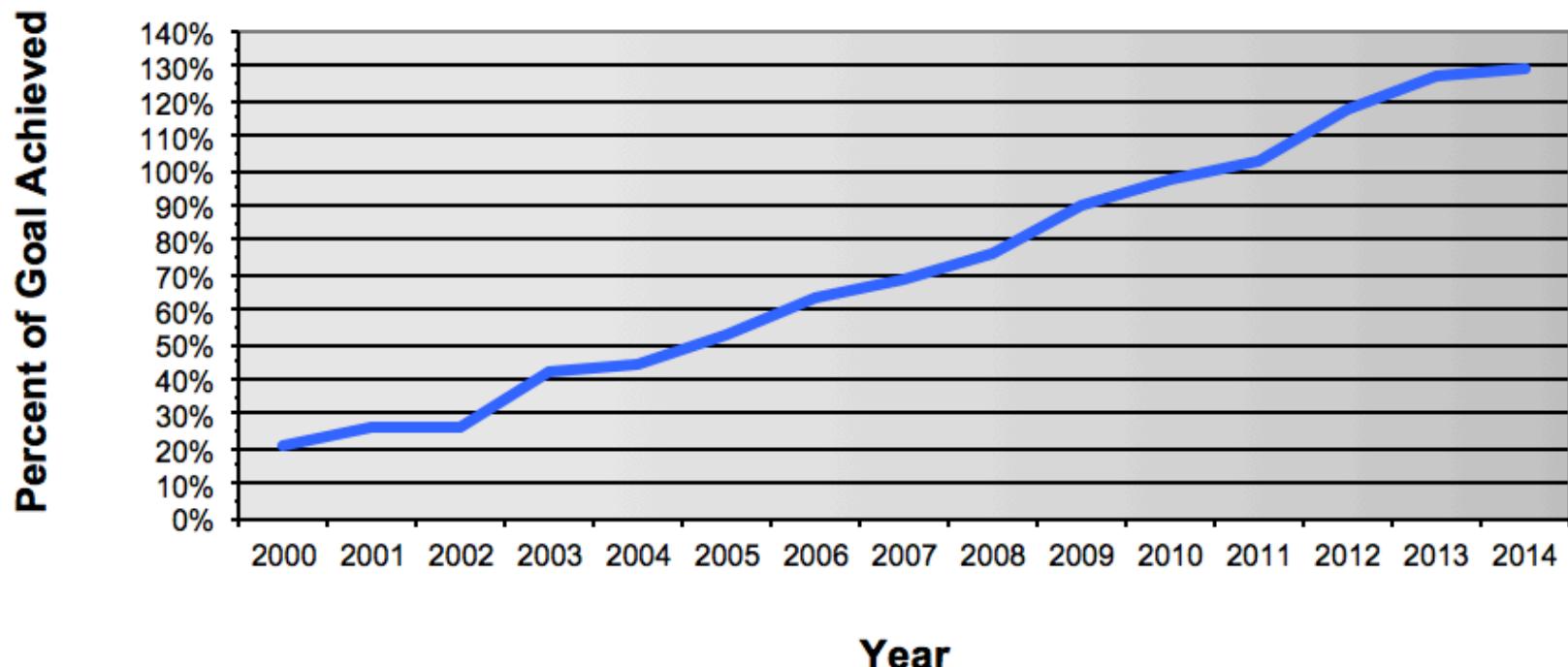


# Adult females

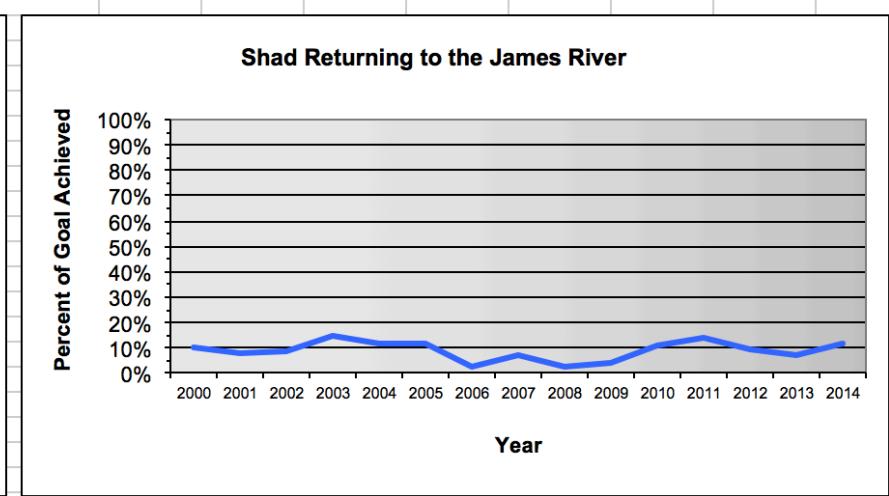
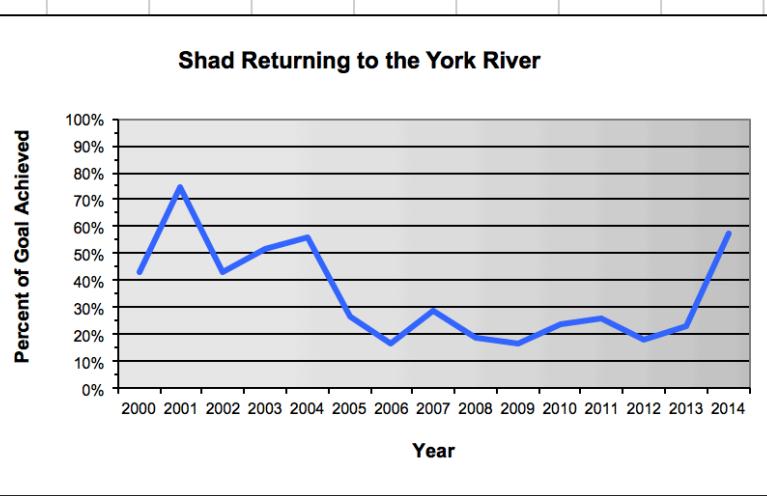
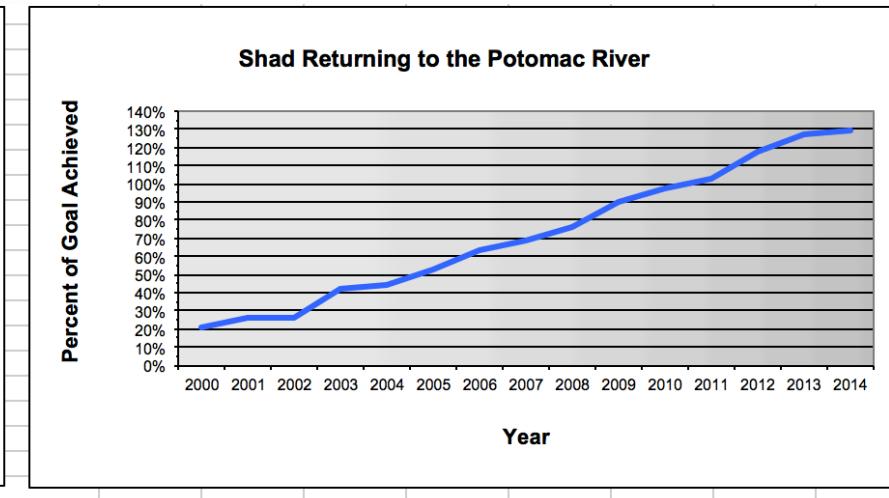
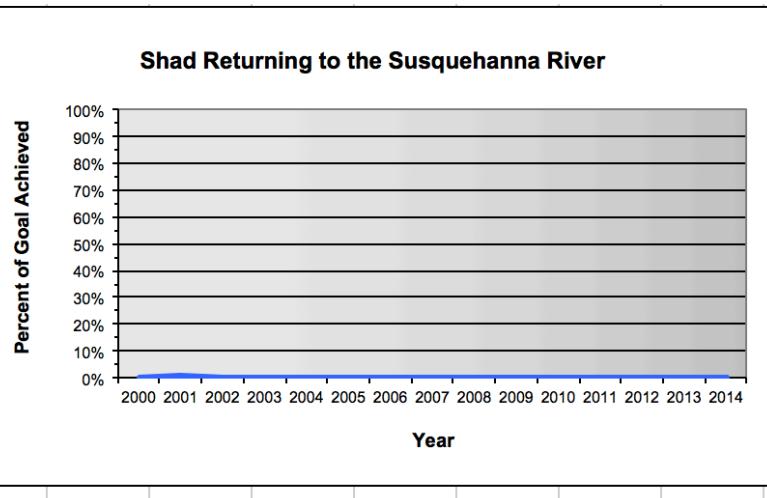


# American Shad in the Potomac River

**Shad Returning to the Potomac River**



# American Shad Return Comparison



# Potomac Atlantic Menhaden Fishery

Potomac River Commercial Menhaden Harvest							
	Harvest in Pounds and Metric Tons, with Percent of Harvest by Pound Nets						
Year	Total Pounds	Total MT	% by PN	Year	Total Pounds	Total MT	% by PN
1964	6,781,993	3,076.3		1991	5,376,264	2,438.6	100.0%
1965	7,235,827	3,282.1		1992	5,061,565	2,295.9	100.0%
1966	5,776,200	2,620.0		1993	7,884,001	3,576.1	99.8%
1967	2,955,967	1,340.8		1994	6,680,937	3,030.4	100.0%
1968	2,622,760	1,189.7		1995	7,002,818	3,176.4	100.0%
1969	2,098,808	952.0		1996	5,111,423	2,318.5	100.0%
1970	4,290,459	1,946.1		1997	5,757,370	2,611.5	100.0%
1971	3,542,921	1,607.0		1998	3,980,738	1,805.6	99.4%
1972	6,156,529	2,792.6		1999	4,860,883	2,204.9	99.9%
1973	11,162,850	5,063.4		2000	5,023,374	2,278.6	99.7%
1974	9,831,072	4,459.3		2001	3,329,035	1,510.0	99.7%
1975	10,542,082	4,781.8		2002	3,122,050	1,416.1	99.7%
1976	11,817,553	5,360.4	91.6%	2003	2,438,790	1,106.2	99.0%
1977	19,969,104	9,057.8	91.9%	2004	5,411,043	2,454.4	99.8%
1978	17,298,486	7,846.5	98.7%	2005	4,759,905	2,159.1	99.8%
1979	14,436,804	6,548.4	96.2%	2006	3,413,517	1,548.3	99.9%
1980	18,721,387	8,491.9	100.0%	2007	5,036,906	2,284.7	99.9%
1981	20,366,865	9,238.3	100.0%	2008	4,820,645	2,186.6	99.9%
1982	17,989,434	8,159.9	100.0%	2009	3,191,905	1,447.8	99.7%
1983	20,820,945	9,444.2	100.0%	2010	2,790,728	1,265.9	99.7%
1984	13,121,597	5,951.9	99.9%	2011	2,759,597	1,251.7	99.7%
1985	16,768,889	7,606.2	100.0%	2012	5,892,228	2,672.7	99.3%
1986	10,971,973	4,976.8	99.8%	2013	3,295,295	1,494.7	99.9%
1987	13,120,698	5,951.5	100.0%	2014	3,175,893	1,440.5	99.5%
1988	13,231,368	6,001.7	100.0%	2015	2,739,035	1,242.4	99.9%
1989	8,334,174	3,780.3	100.0%	2016	2,504,823	1,136.2	99.6%
1990	4,523,776	2,052.0	100.0%				

# Potomac Atlantic Menhaden Fishery



# Potomac Oyster Fishery

- Management by Special Management Area Designation (SMAs)
- Rotational SMAs
- Aquaculture SMAs
- Ecological SMAs
- Experimental SMAs

# Potomac Oyster Fishery



# Potomac Oyster Fishery



# Invasive Blue Catfish

## Making Lemonade out of Lemons

Potomac River Commercial Harvest (lbs) for **BLUE CATFISH** by gear type

YEAR	HAUL SEINE	POUND NET	FYKE NET	GILL NET	HOOK & LINE	FISH POT	TROTLINE	POUNDS LANDED IN MARYLAND	POUNDS LANDED IN VIRGINIA	TOTAL
2003	110	-	498	55	8	13,570	7,701	734	21,208	21,942
2004	-	6,707	1,577	1,924	-	13,598	13,145	7,255	29,696	36,951
2005	778	308	1,861	835	-	12,996	5,106	2,716	19,168	21,884
2006	924	1,273	2,637	4,518	-	31,987	19,771	3,368	57,742	61,110
2007	2,882	434	1,406	16,297	-	33,276	16,902	10,758	60,439	71,197
2008	3,982	244	2,021	14,156	-	85,290	60,636	82,578	83,751	166,329
2009	2,515	29	3,465	20,972	760	124,156	56,624	116,087	92,434	208,521
2010	3,113	487	7,463	36,880	523	132,953	44,447	81,774	144,092	225,866
2011	3,079	62,350	6,499	89,248	135	160,337	67,961	117,529	272,080	389,609
2012	6,534	2,059	7,605	134,847	410	206,971	147,283	237,381	268,328	505,709
2013	14,038	446	4,454	56,513	68	108,463	187,670	98,288	273,364	371,652
2014	9,842	5,191	11,214	53,327	-	218,270	311,031	315,901	292,974	608,875
2015	10,583	3,251	8,792	116,272		394,612	622,942	842,128	314,324	1,156,452
2016	28,732	12,708	8,085	57,258		366,434	901,897	1,195,708	179,406	1,375,114

Note: Prior to 2003 Blue Catfish was included in Catfish (mixed)

# Invasive Blue Catfish

## Making Lemonade out of Lemons





**END**