



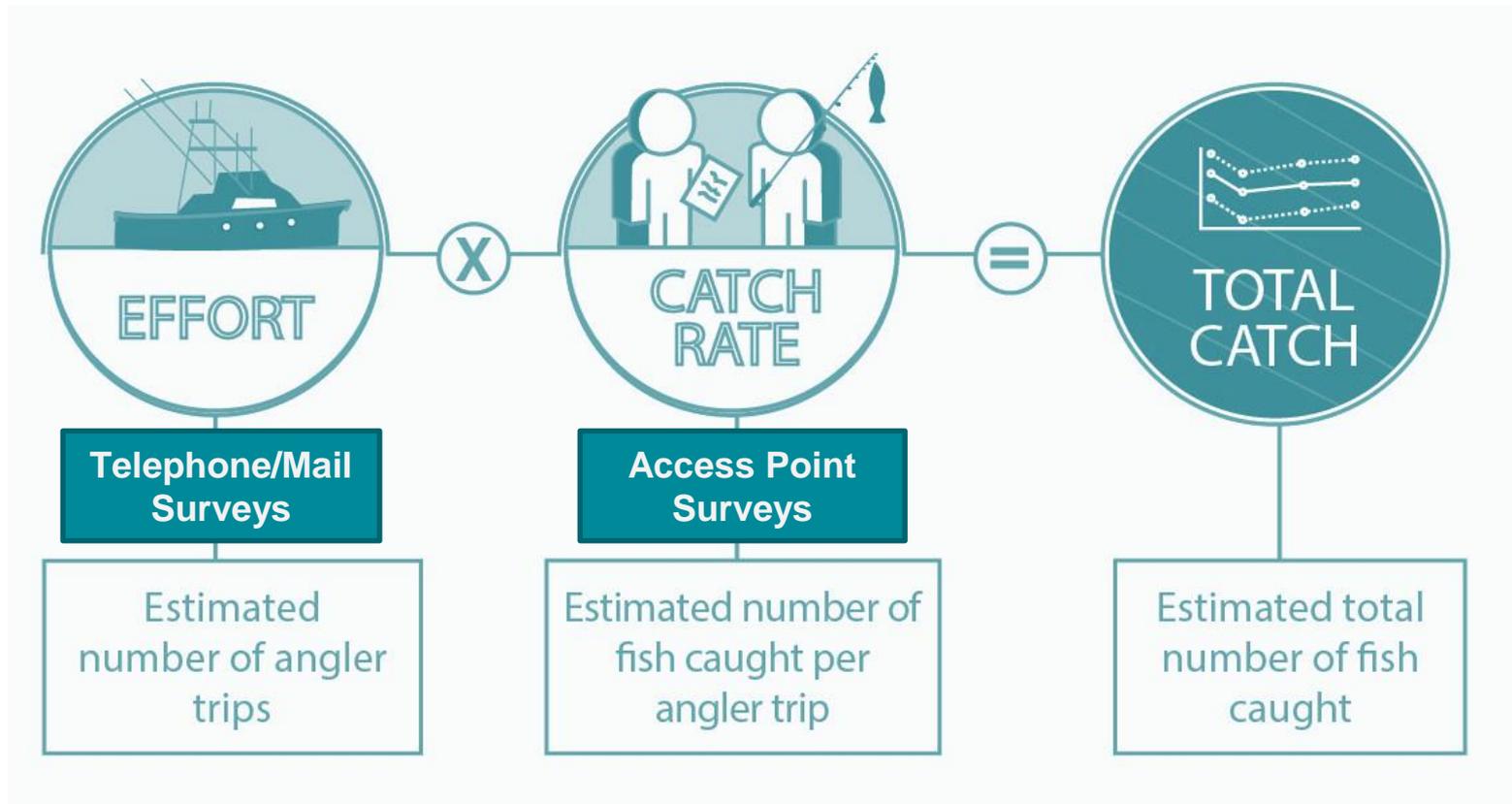
**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Marine Recreational Information Program

Transition to Improved Survey Designs

Dave Van Voorhees
Kelly Denit

Estimating Total Recreational Catch



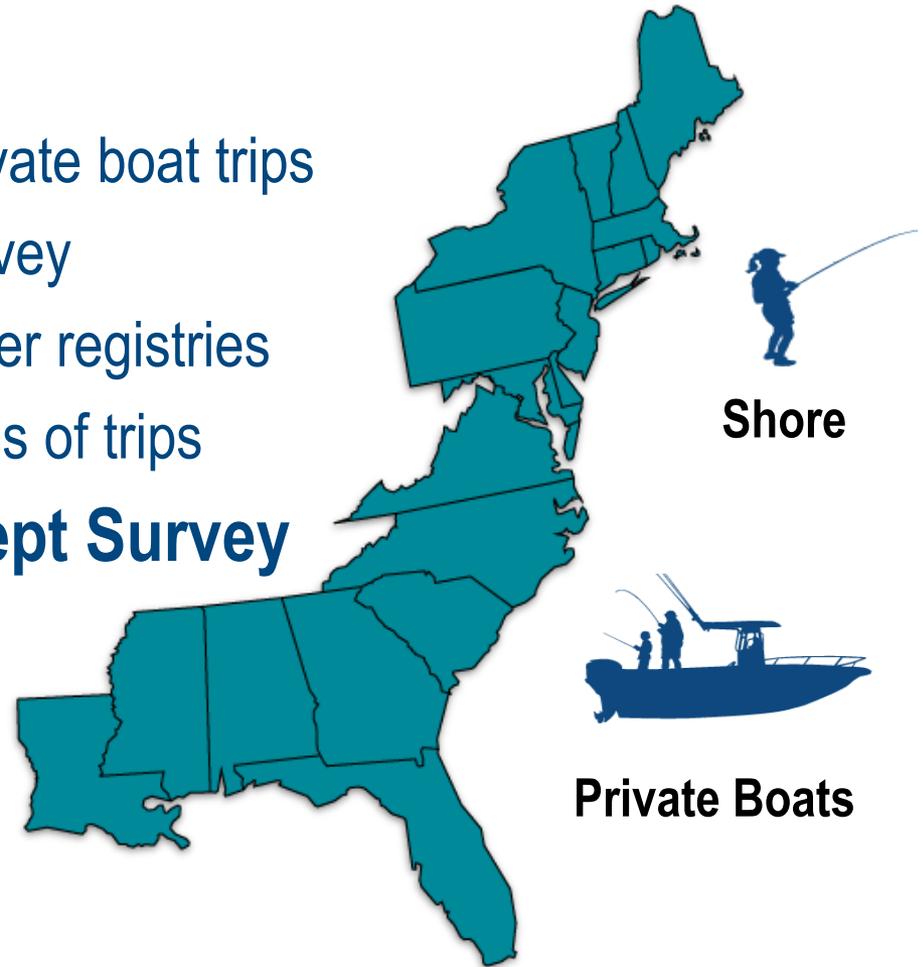
Improved Survey Designs

Fishing Effort Survey

- New mail survey of shore & private boat trips
- Replaces legacy telephone survey
- Uses USPS database and angler registries
- Higher, more accurate estimates of trips

Access Point Angler Intercept Survey

- New design for sampling catch
- Better time-of-day coverage
- More statistically sound



Fishing Effort Survey



We're reaching more anglers.



Surveys get into the right hands.

3X

Much higher response rate.



Improved questionnaire.



More complete answers.

Extensive Testing and Peer Review

“The [Fishing Effort Survey] methodologies, including the address-based sampling survey design, are **major improvements.**”

“The current methods used in the **APAIS** ... are a vast improvement over the previous sampling and estimation procedures and reflect **state of the art methods** in survey sampling.”

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Academies of*

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Transition Plan

Improving designs can change estimates

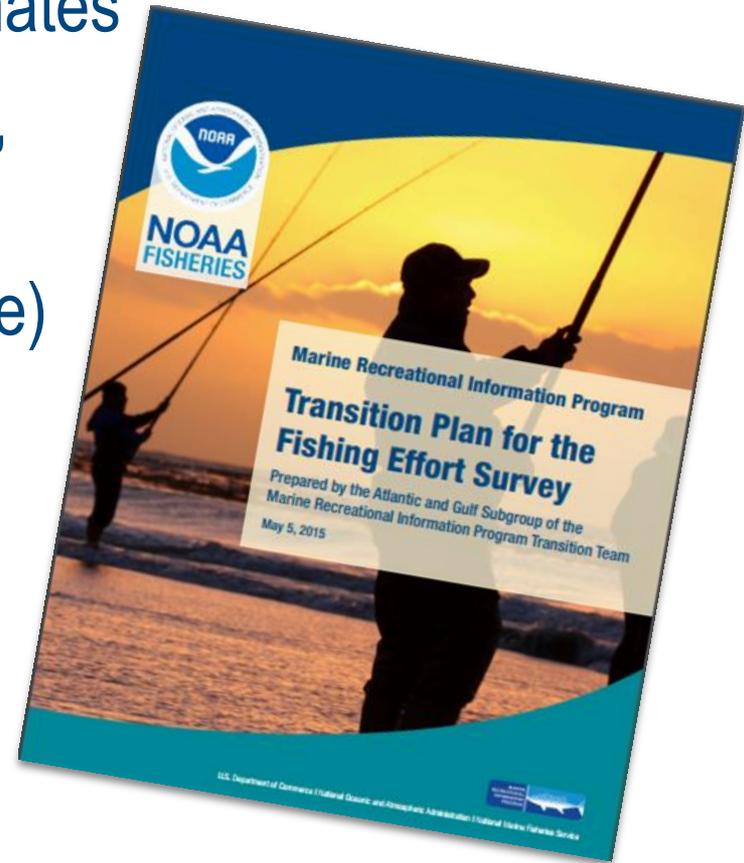
Transition Plan developed by NOAA, states, councils, and commissions.

- ✓ Benchmarking (mail vs. phone)
- ✓ Calibration (old vs. new)
- ✓ Convert “old” estimates into “new” currency

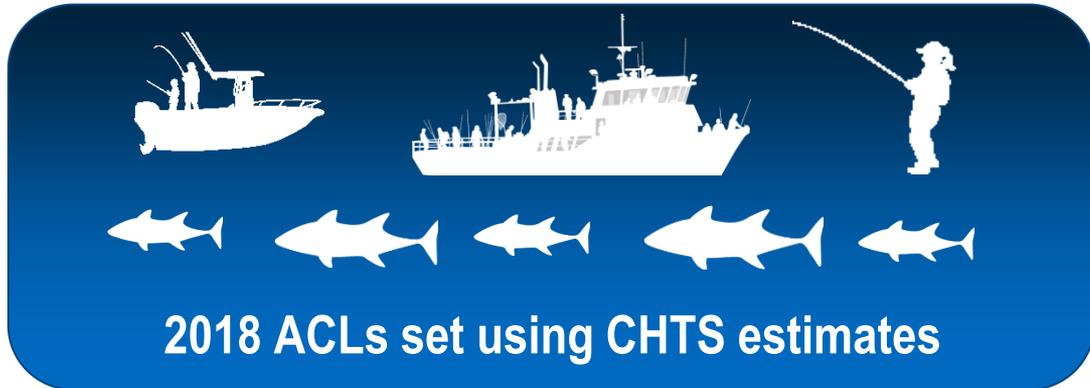


Stock assessments

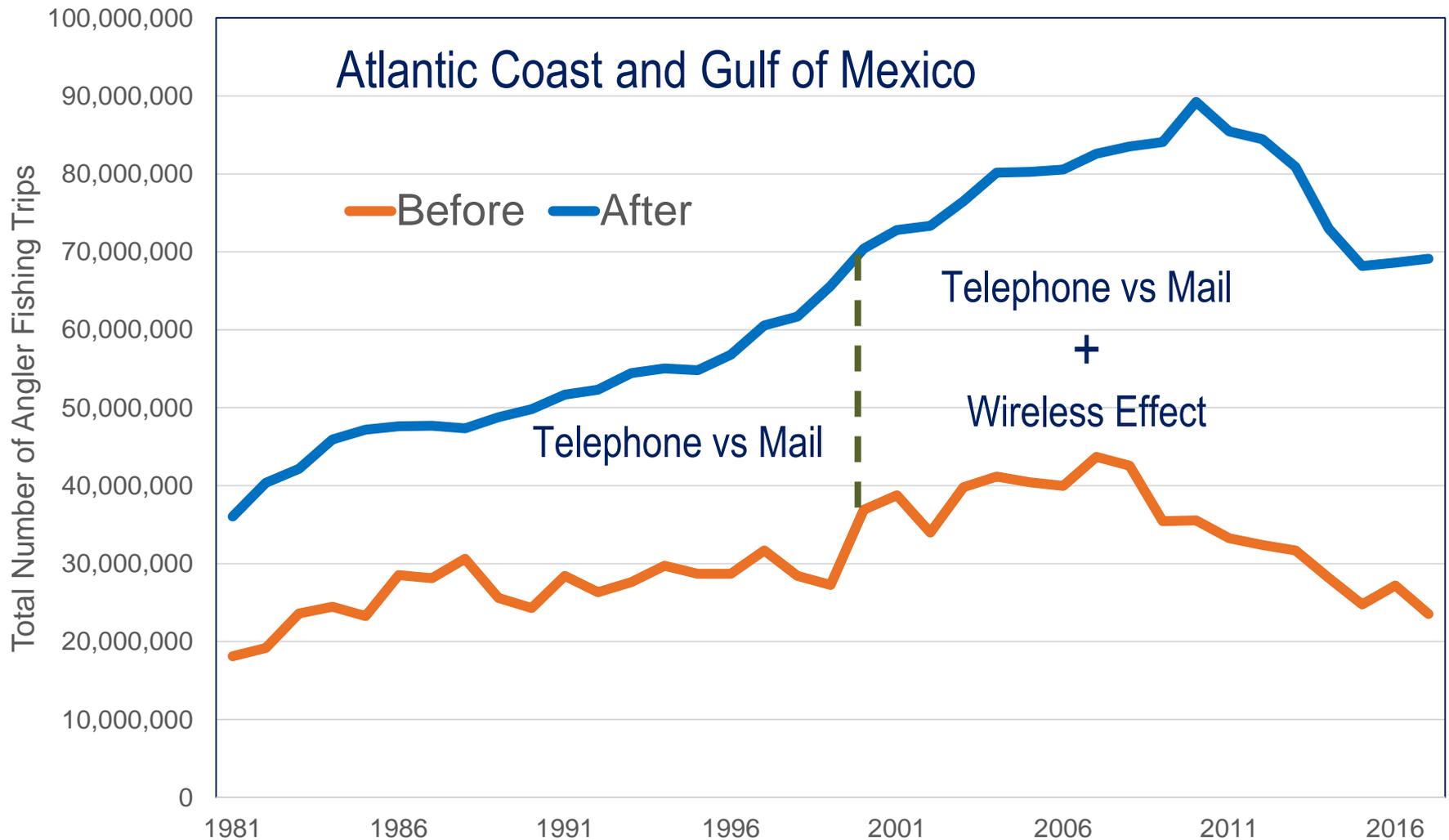
Management decisions



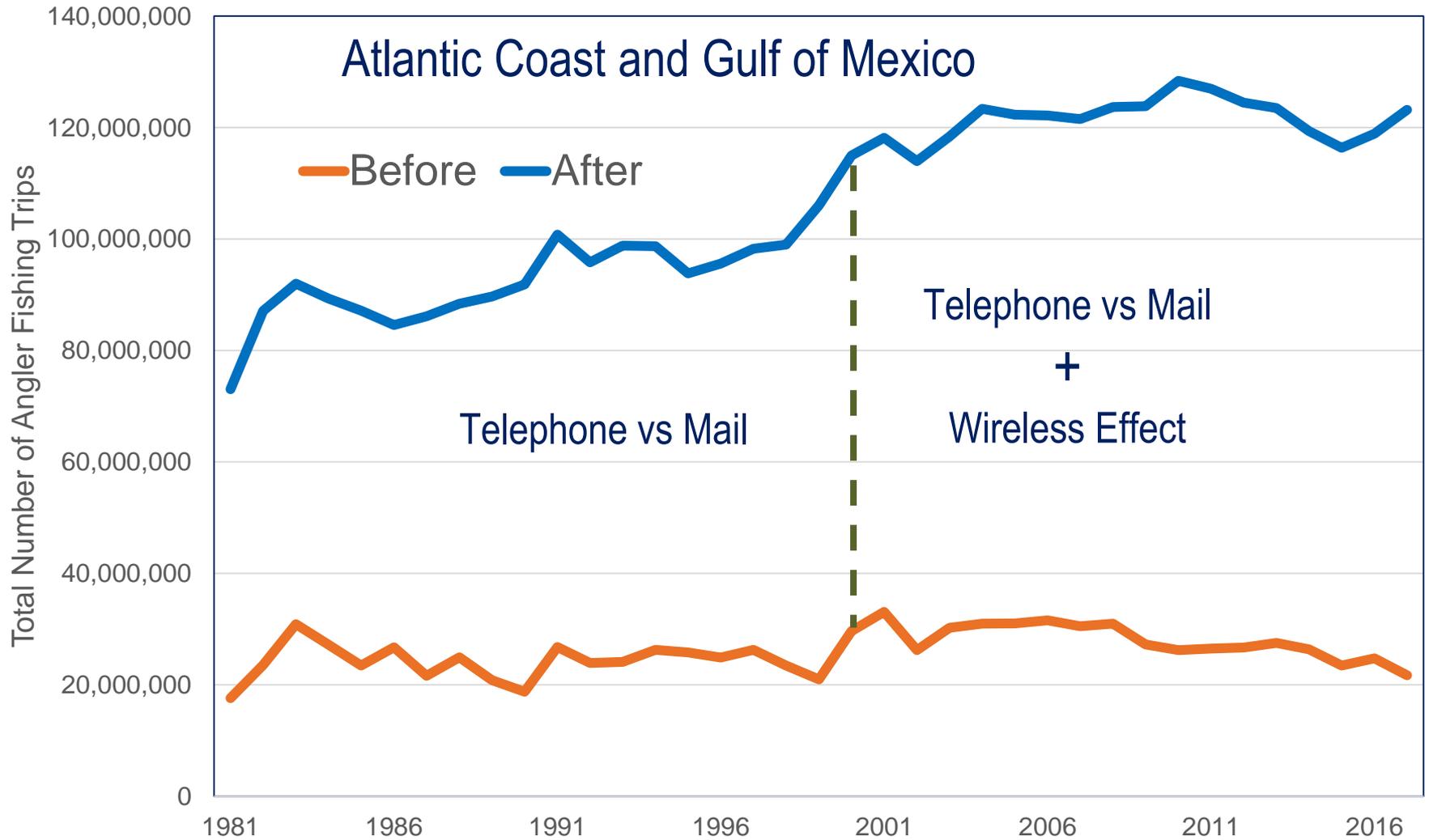
2018 Annual Catch Limits



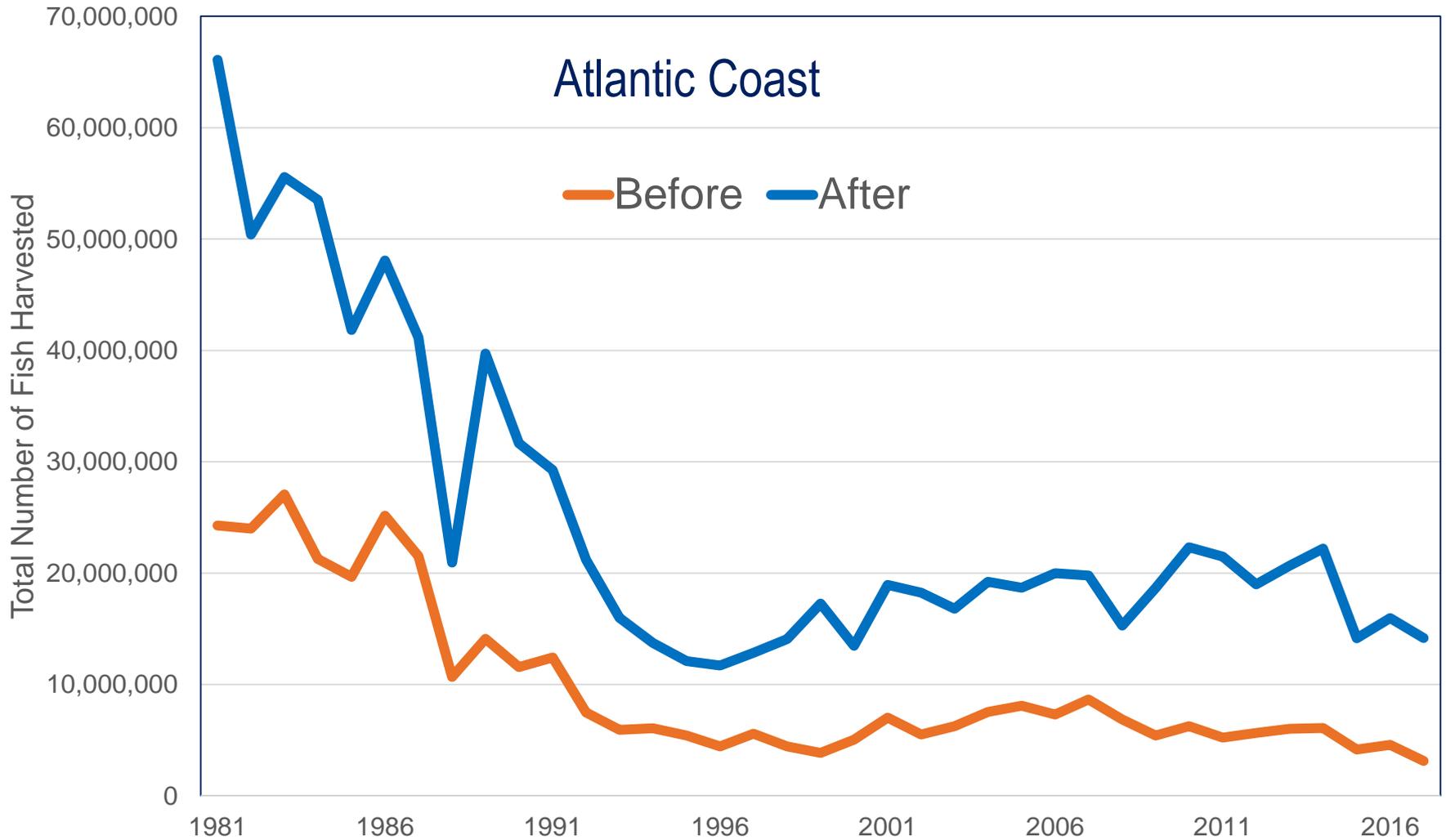
Private Boat Effort



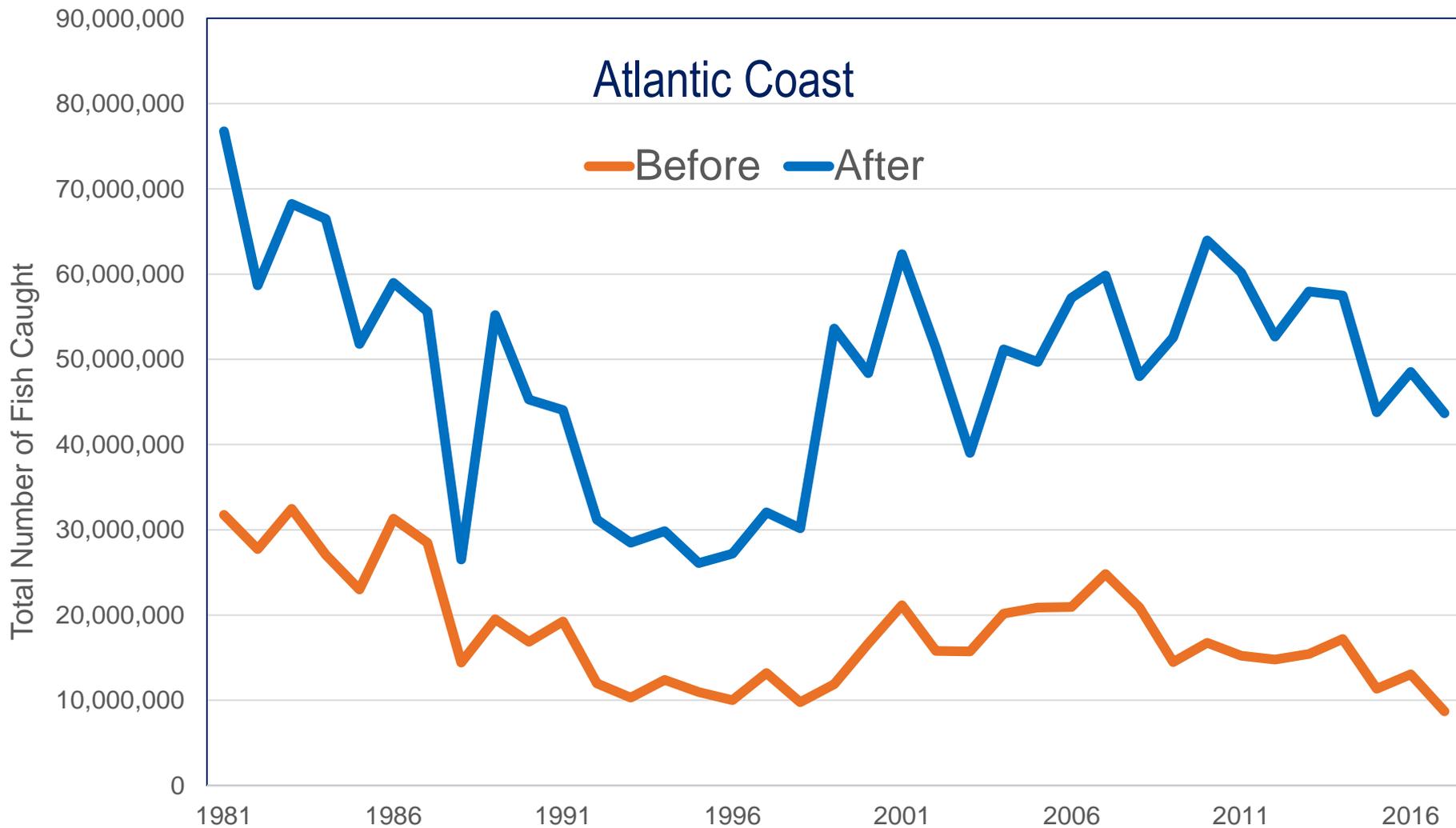
Shore Effort



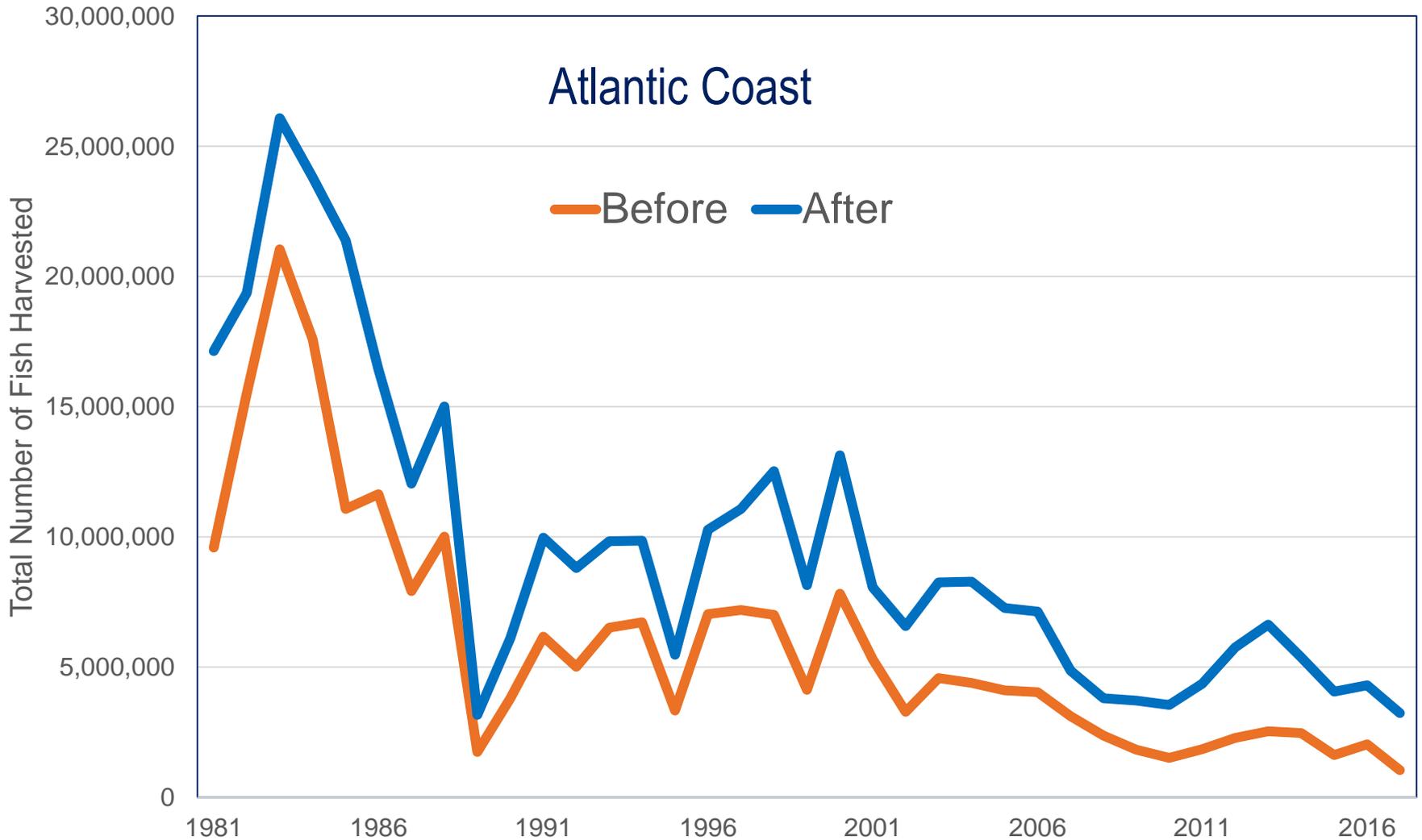
Bluefish Harvest



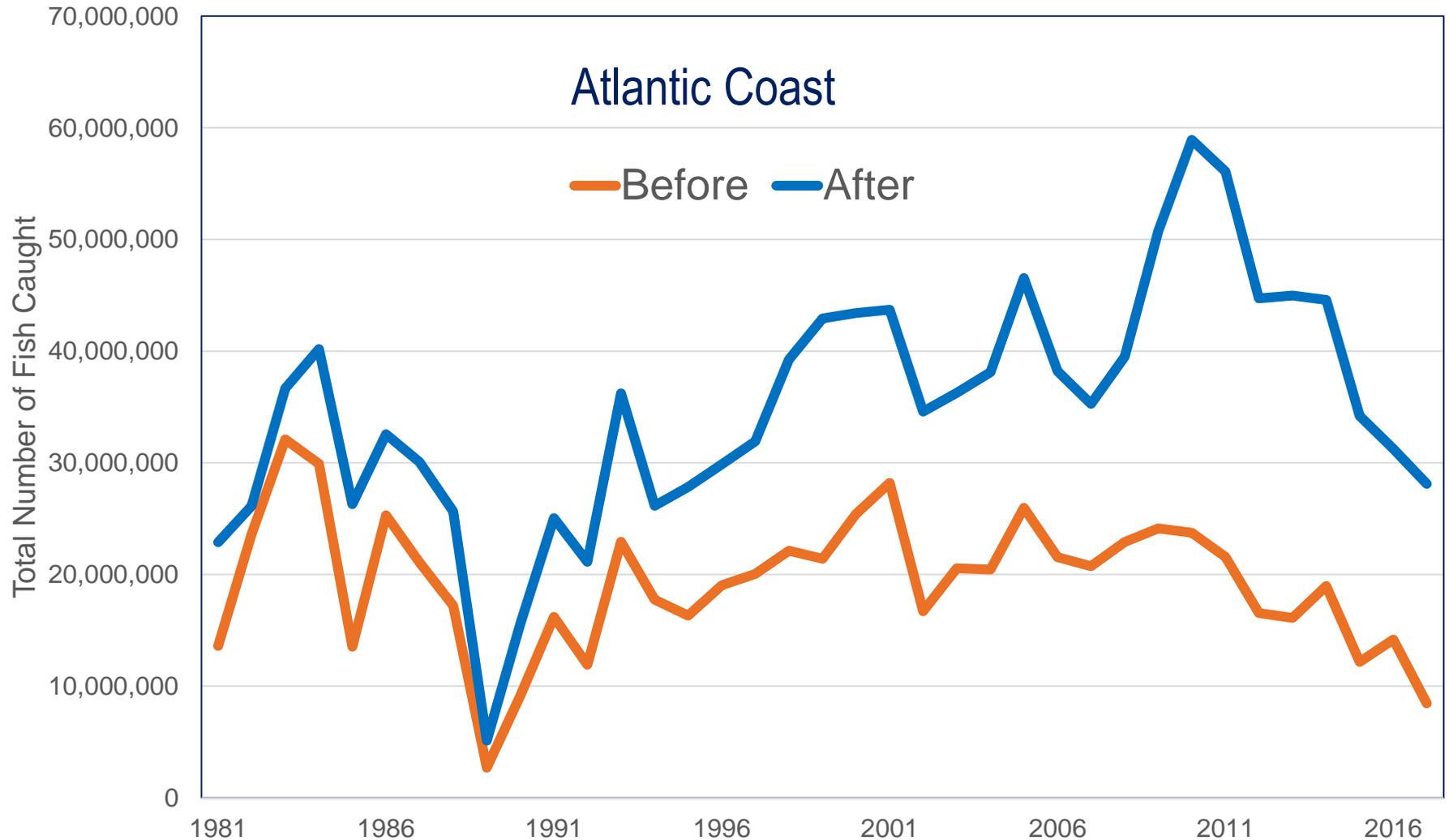
Bluefish Total Catch



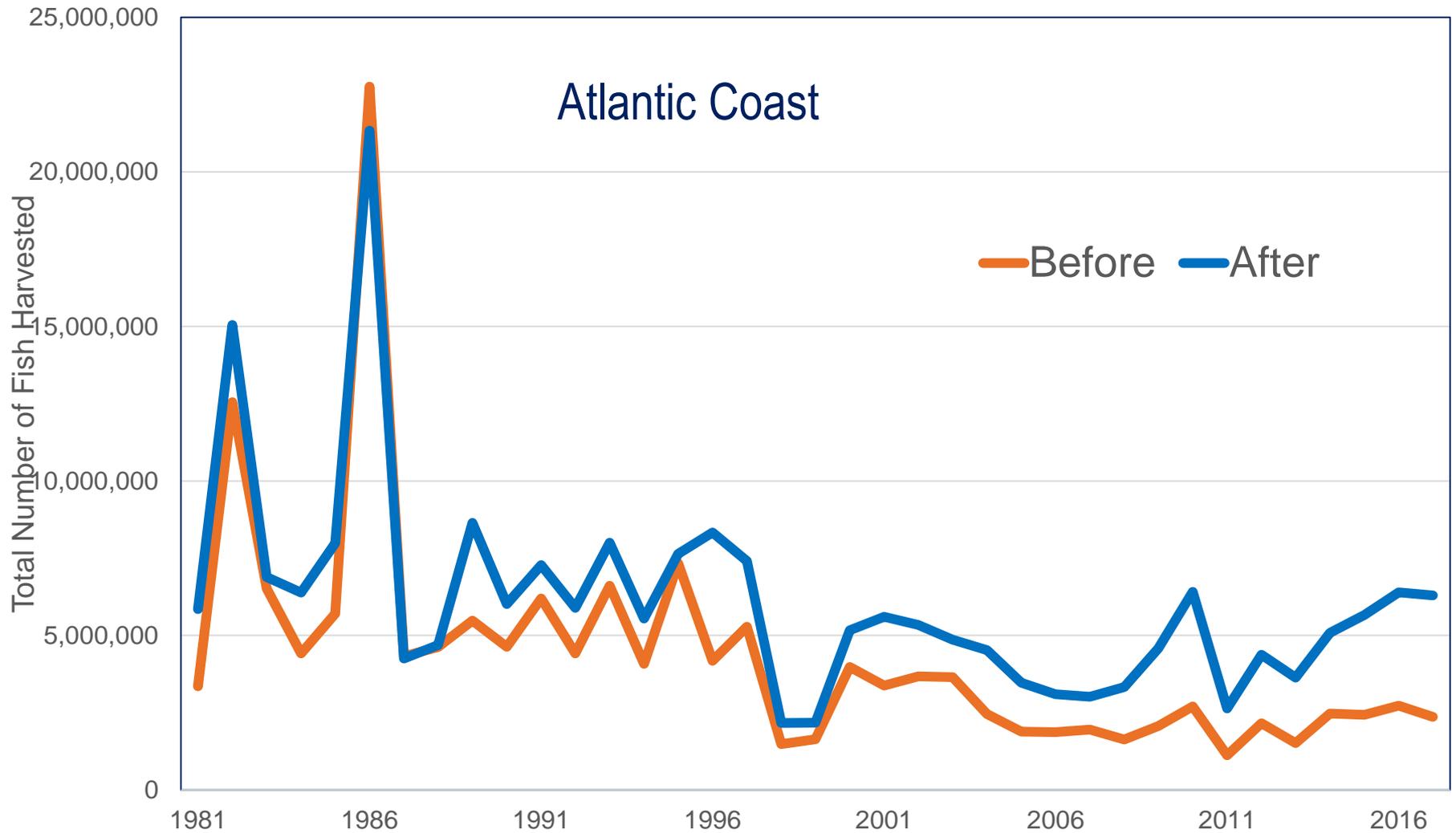
Summer Flounder Harvest



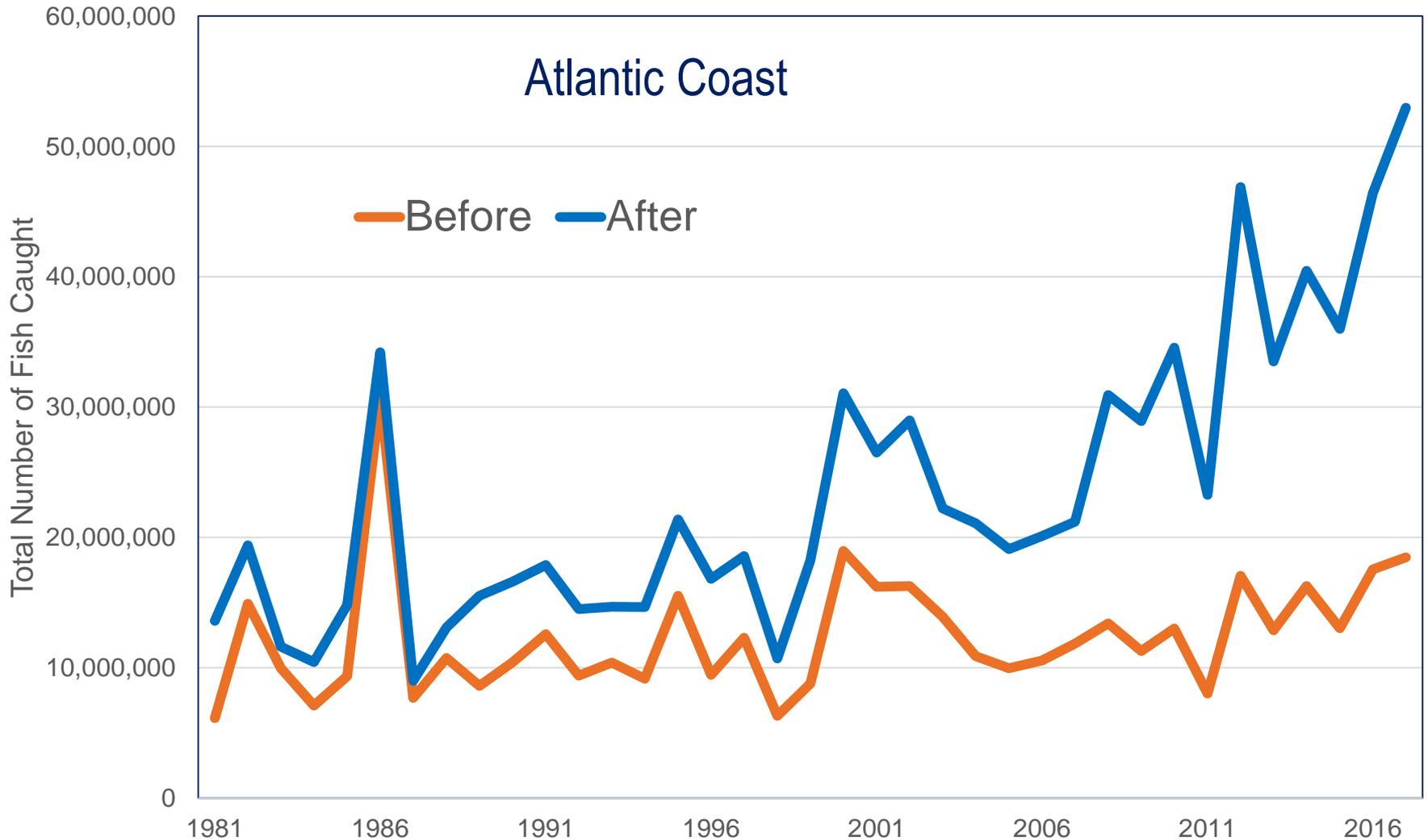
Summer Flounder Total Catch



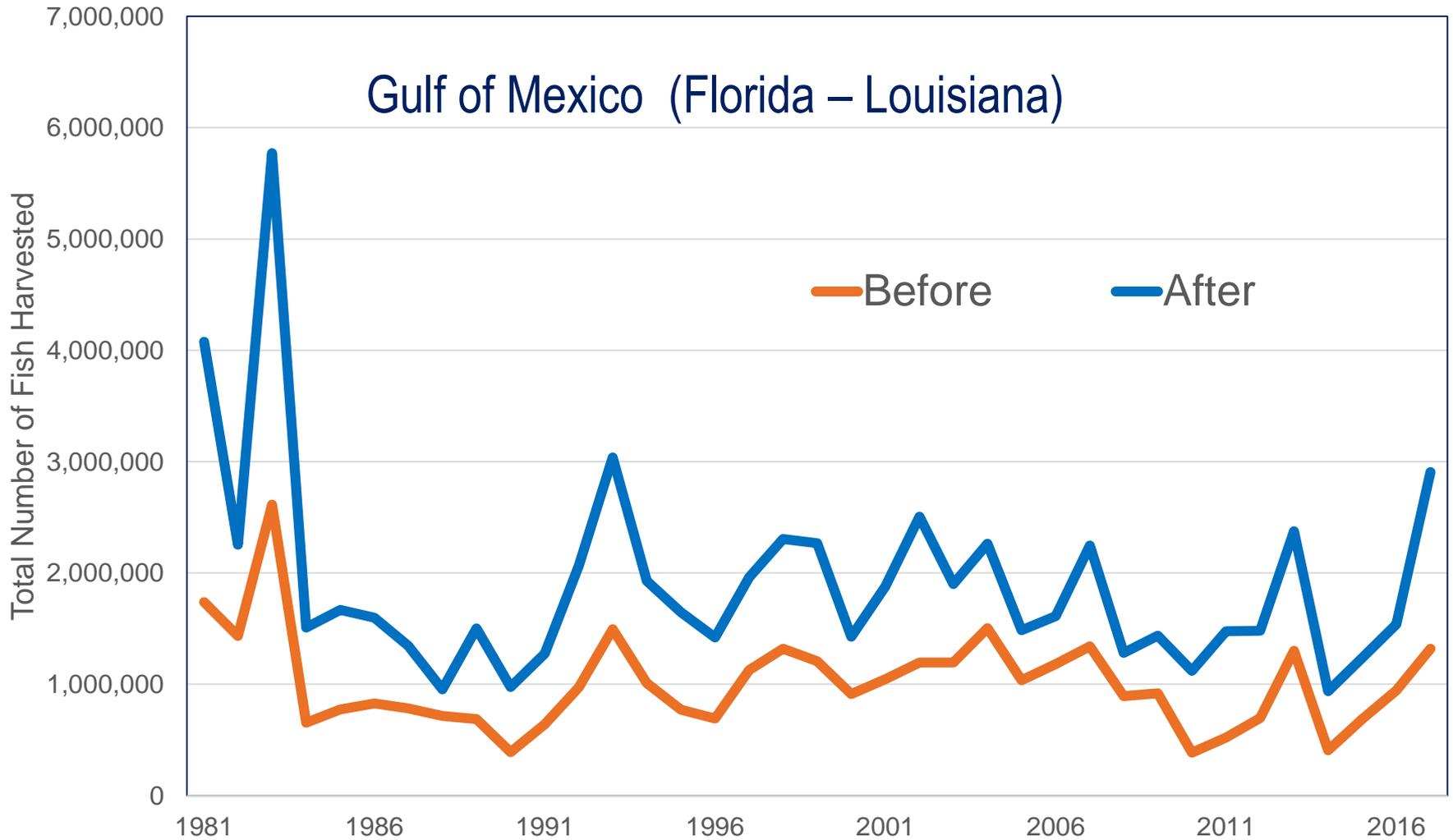
Black Sea Bass Harvest



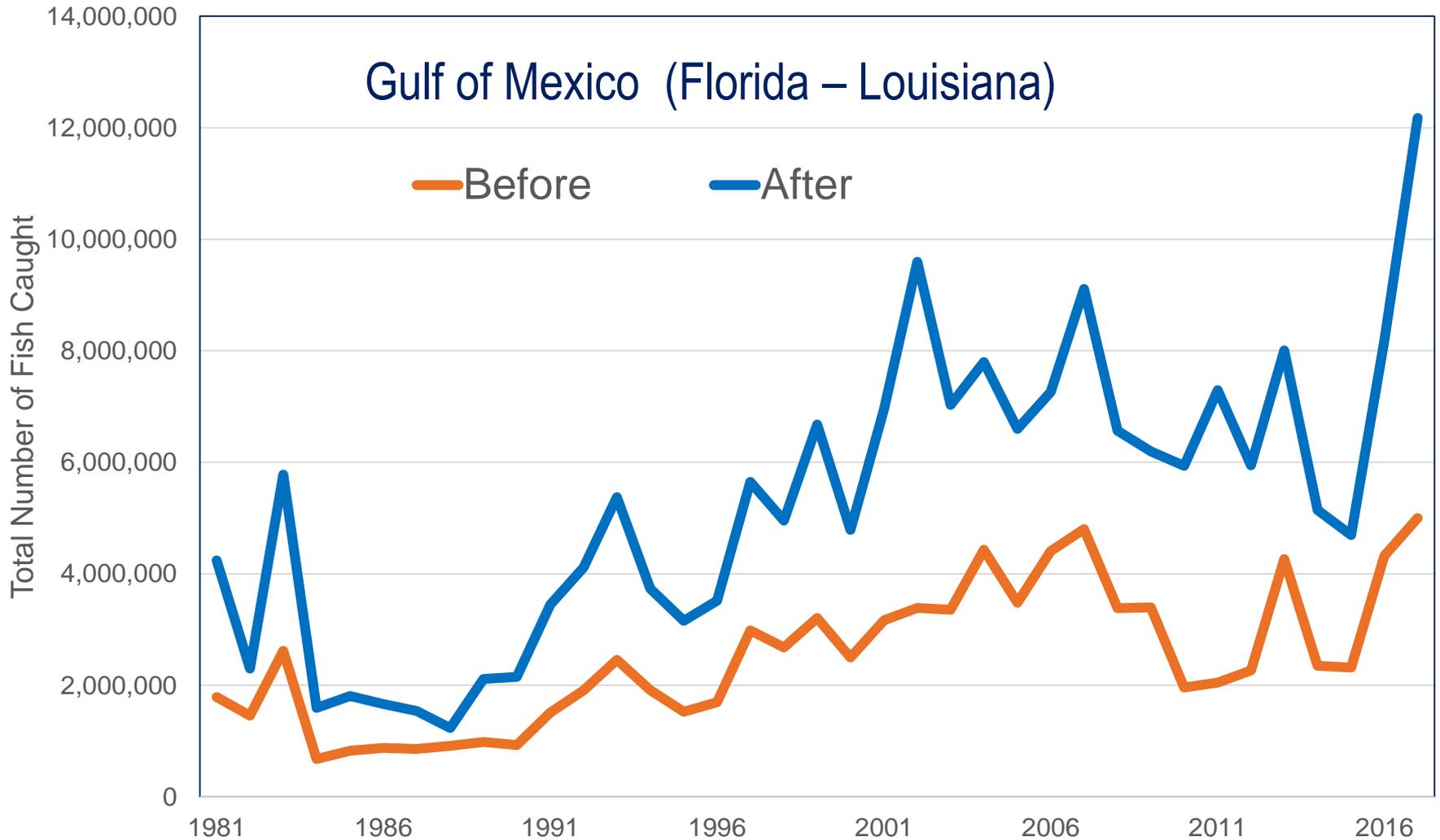
Black Sea Bass Total Catch



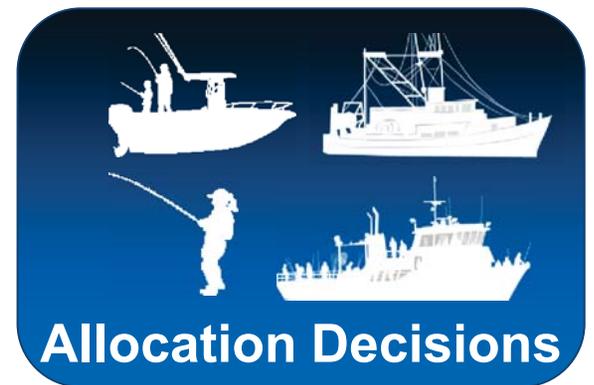
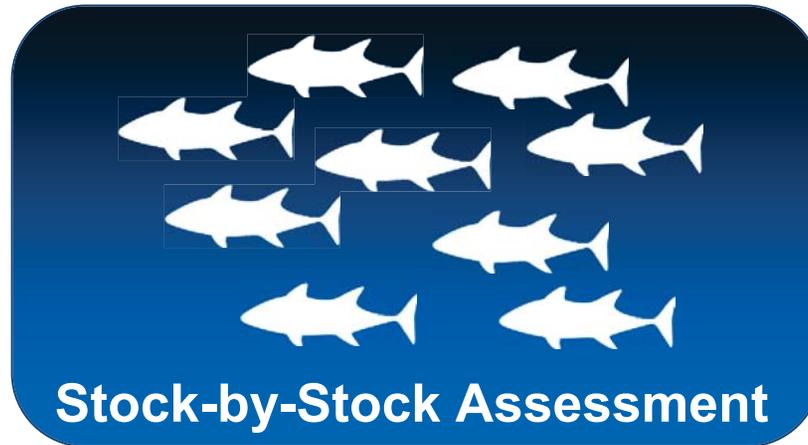
Gulf Red Snapper Harvest



Gulf Red Snapper Total Catch



Impacts on Recreational Fishing



Stock Assessment Schedule

Species	Region	Type	Timing
Striped Bass	Atlantic Coast	Benchmark	Fall 2018
Summer Flounder	Mid-Atlantic Coast	Benchmark	Fall 2018
Black Sea Bass	Mid-Atlantic Coast	Operational	Early 2019
Bluefish	Atlantic Coast	Operational	Early 2019
Scup	Atlantic Coast	Operational	Early 2019
Spot	Atlantic Coast	Operational	Early 2019
Red Porgy	Southern Atlantic Coast	Full Update	May 2019
Greater Amberjack	Southern Atlantic Coast	Full Update	May 2019
Red Grouper	Gulf of Mexico	Full Update	July 2019
Gray Triggerfish	Gulf of Mexico	Full Update	Aug. 2019
Yellowtail Snapper	Southern Atlantic Coast/Gulf of Mexico	Benchmark	Nov. 2019
Red Snapper	South Atlantic	Full Update	2020

Key Takeaways

- We see a substantial increase in effort, especially in the shore mode.
- Those stocks that have high proportion of catch from shore are more heavily impacted.
- The changes in effort are generally larger in more recent years, mostly driven by the “wireless” effect.
- 2018 catch will be back-calibrated to ensure ACLs and catch are in the same “currency.”
- Stock assessments incorporating this new data will be used to determine if there is overfishing.



What's Next

2018

- Revised total catch estimates available in July for use in planned stock assessments.
- 2018 ACLs and catch estimates will be in the **same currency**.

2019

- Preliminary management changes may be made for re-assessed stocks.
- Calibrated statistics incorporated into additional stock assessments.

2020

- Based on new stock assessments, management changes could occur for a number of species.



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Questions?



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