



Gag Grouper



Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

Biology



Spawning behavior: Form spawning aggregations

- *January-April; Peak Spawning: February-March*

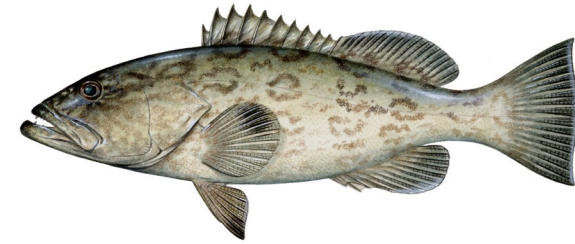
Age/Size at maturity: 3.9 years; 24 in

- *Max Age: 31 years; Max Size: 57 in*

Species-specific biology: Protogynous hermaphrodites;

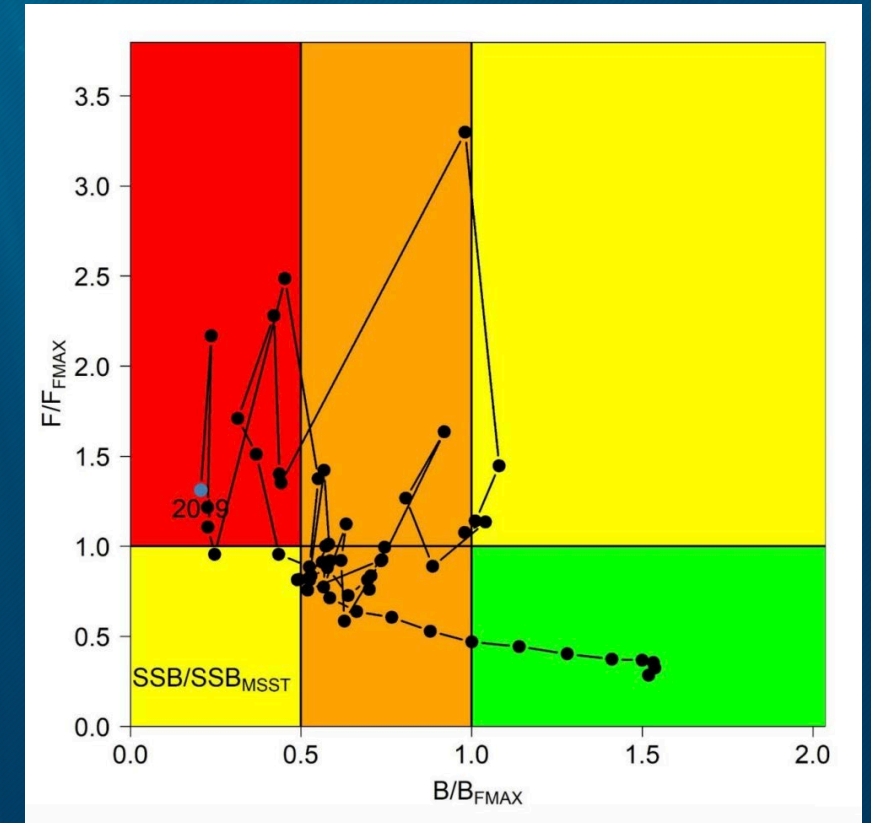
- *Females may migrate offshore at age 8; transition between 10-11 years / 35-45 in*
- *No males found shallower than 40 meters*

Stock Status



Gag

SEDAR	Terminal Year	SPR%	Overfished	Overfishing
<u>SEDAR 10</u>	2004	30%	No	No
<u>SEDAR 10</u> <u>Update</u>	2008	30%	Yes	Yes
<u>SEDAR 33</u>	2012	30%	No	No
<u>SEDAR 33</u> <u>Update</u>	2015	30%	No	No
<u>SEDAR 72</u>	2019	40%	Yes	Yes

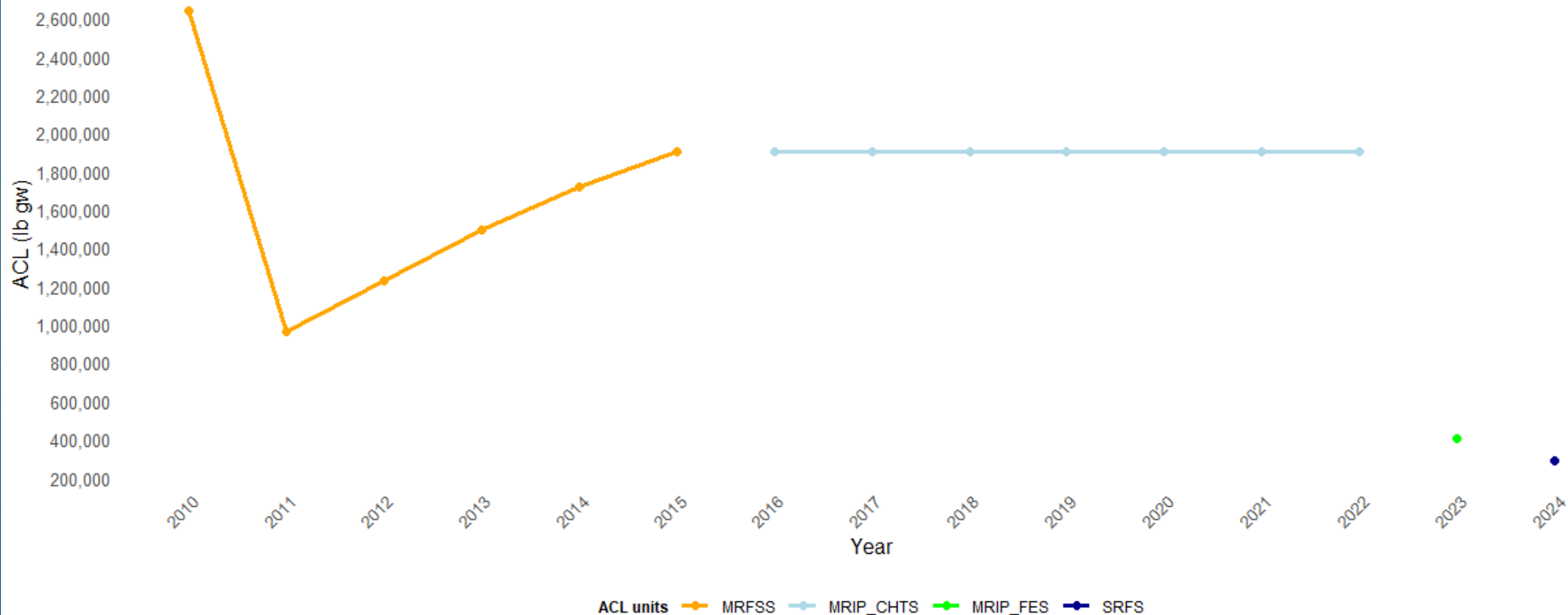


SEDAR 72: 2021

Catch Limits and Data Units



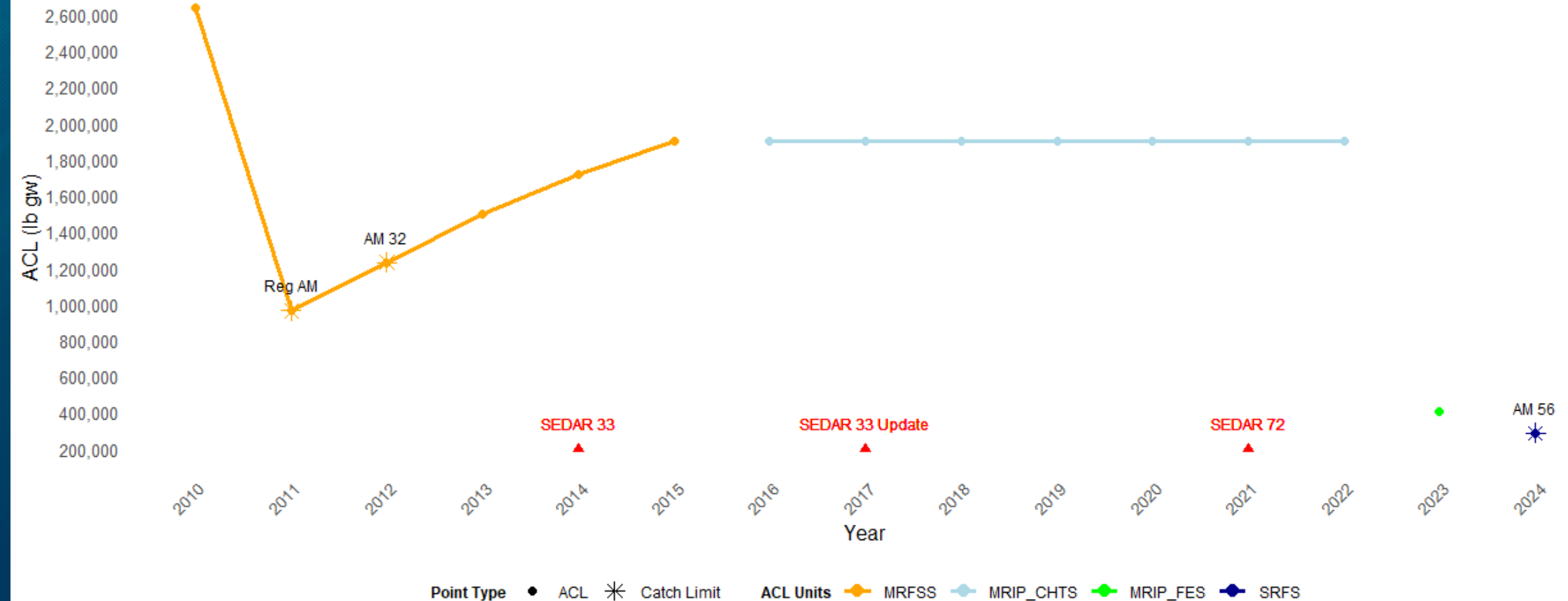
Gag Grouper Recreational ACL



Stock Assessments and Catch Limit Changes



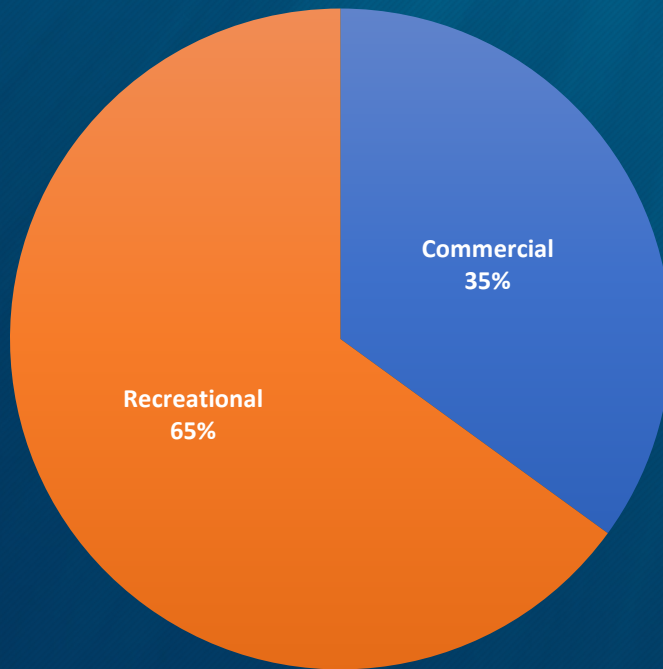
Gag Grouper Recreational ACL



Regulations



ALLOCATION



Season: Open September 1

Minimum size limit: 24 in TL

Daily bag limit: 2 per person within 4 grouper aggregate bag limit

Allocation:

AM 56 revised allocation 61:39 to 65:35

Changes in recreational data collection system (SRFS units)

Accountability Measures



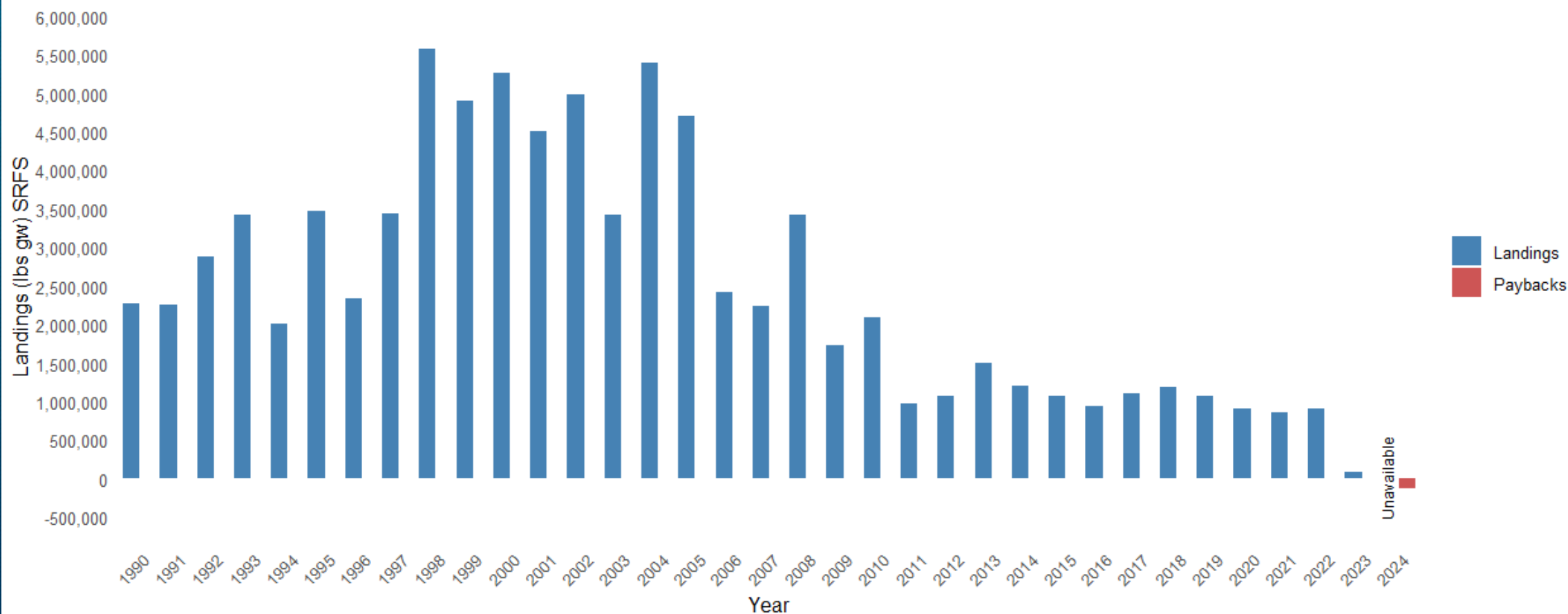
In season: Close the season for remainder of the year when harvest is projected reach the ACT.

Post Season: If recreational harvest exceeds the ACL, it triggers a reduction in the recreational ACL and ACT for the following year by the amount of the ACL overage in the prior fishing year, unless the best scientific information available determines that a greater, lesser, or no overage adjustment is necessary.

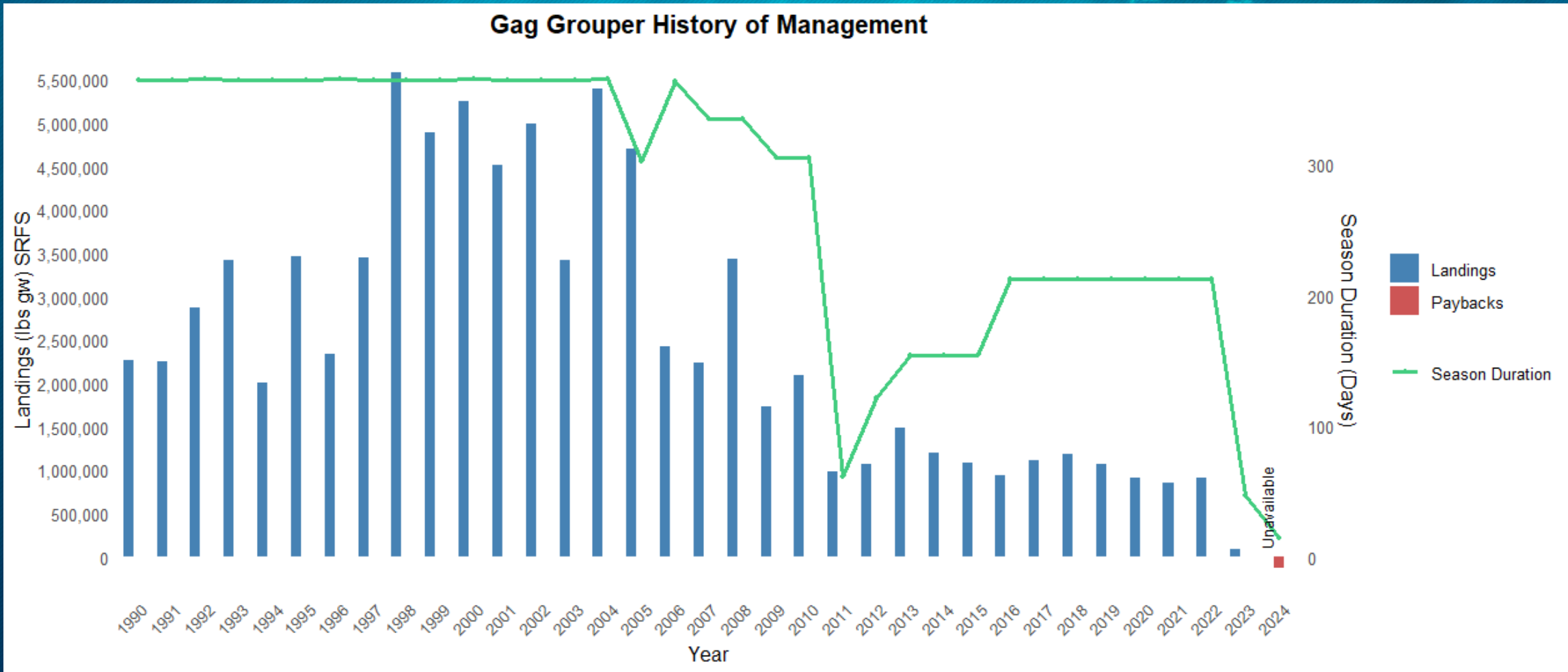
Landings/Overages



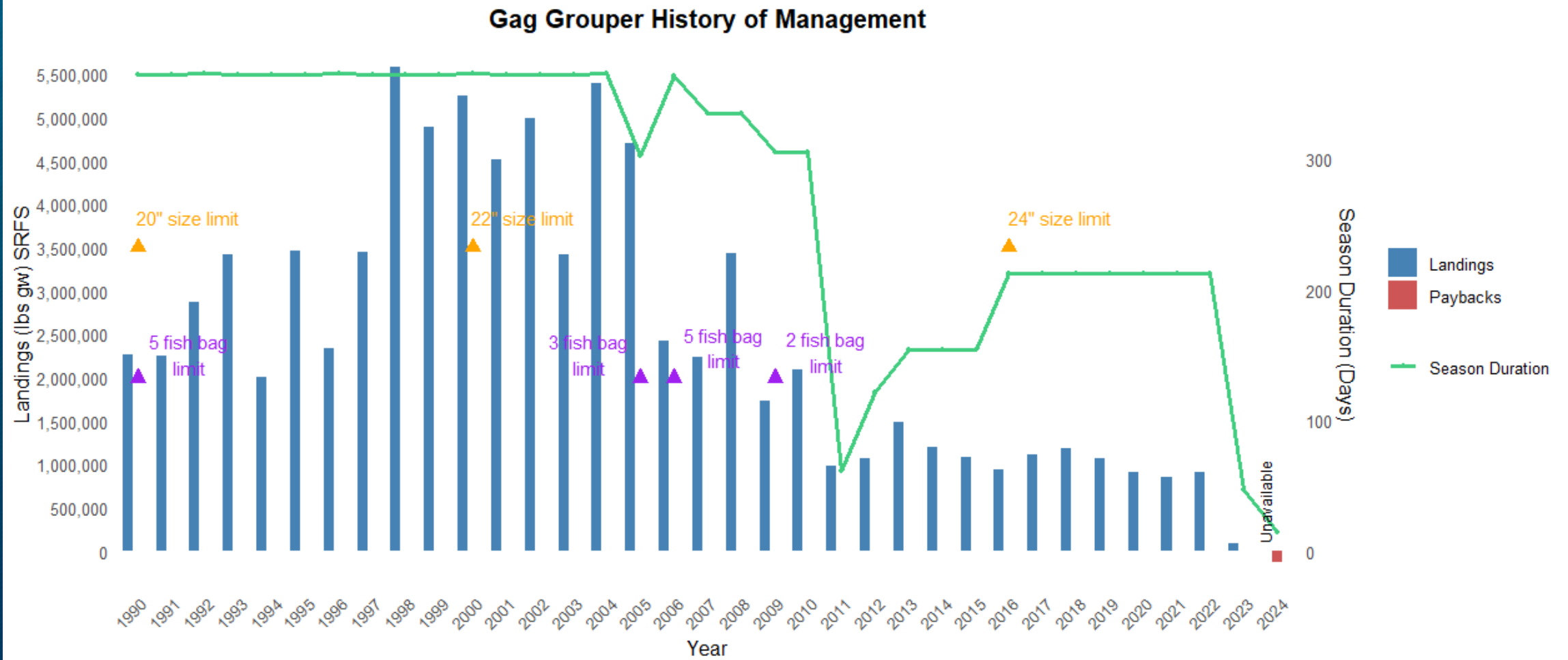
Gag Grouper History of Management



Season Duration



Management Measures



Questions?

