

# Factors to Consider for Including Species in Federal Management



April 2023

# Factors to Consider

- Magnuson-Stevens Act requires a Council prepare a fishery management plan for each fishery under its authority and in need of conservation and management.
- The National Standard Guidelines advise that stocks predominately caught in Federal waters and that are overfished or subject to overfishing, or likely to become overfished or subject to overfishing, would require conservation and management.
- Councils may determine that additional stocks require conservation and management.



# Factors to Consider

- Is the species an important component of the marine environment
- Is the species caught and a target of a fishery
- Would an FMP improve or maintain the condition of the species
- Is the species important to commercial, recreational, or subsistence users
- Is the species important to the Nation or to a regional economy



# Factors to Consider

- Would FMP further conflict resolution among user groups or competing interests
- Would FMP promote efficient utilization of the resource
- Would FMP address the needs of a developing fishery, and promote orderly growth
- The extent to which a species is already adequately managed by states, by state/Federal programs, or by Federal regulations pursuant to other FMPs or international commissions, or by industry self-regulation, consistent with the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act and other applicable law.



# Factors to Consider

- In evaluating factors, a Council should consider the specific circumstances of a species, based on the best scientific information available, to determine whether there are biological, economic, social and/or operational concerns that can and should be addressed by Federal management.
- One or more of the above factors, and any additional considerations that may be relevant to the particular species, may provide the basis for determining that a stock requires conservation and management.



# Tripletail Regulations - Florida

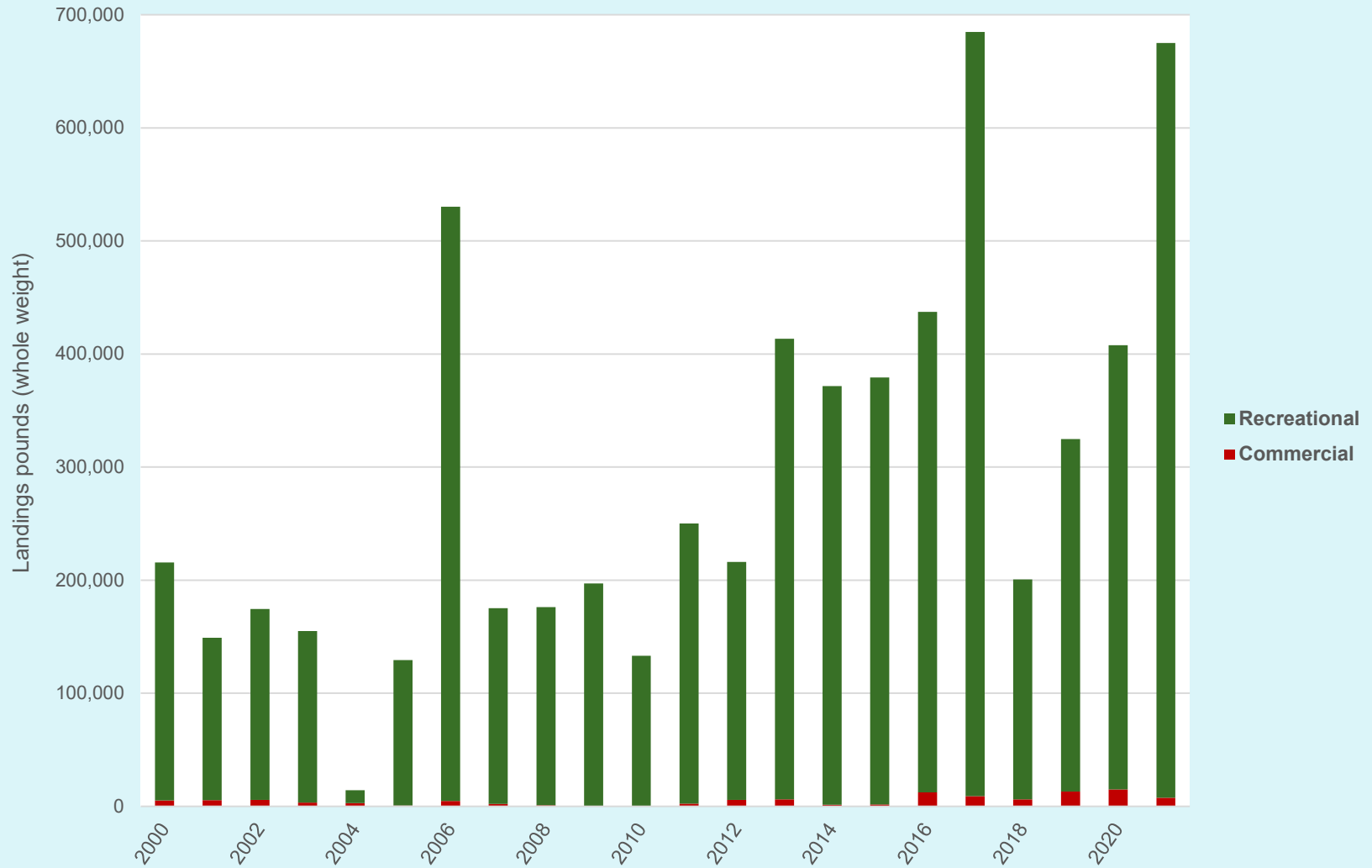
- Minimum Size Limit: 18" TL
- Daily Bag Limit: 2 fish per person
- State regulations apply in Federal waters.
- Season: Open year-round
- Gear Regulations: Hook and line gear only
- Commercial Bag Limit: 10 tripletail per day.

# Tripletail Regulations

## Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Texas

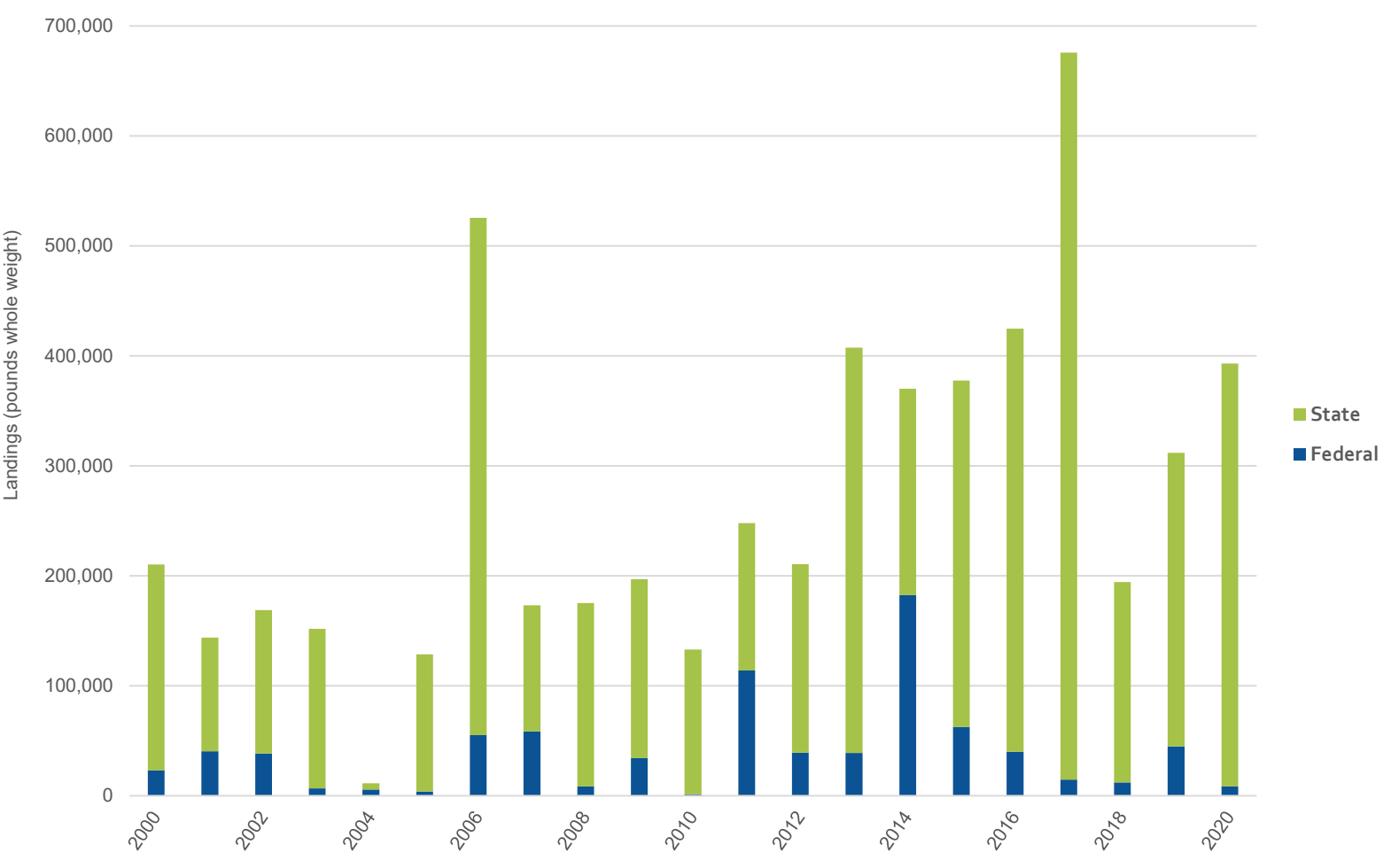
- Size Limit: 18" minimum TL (AL, LA, MS)
- Size Limit: 17" minimum TL (TX)
- Possession Limit: 3 per person (AL, MS, TX)
- Possession Limit: 5 per person (LA)

# Recreational and Commercial Tripletail Landings

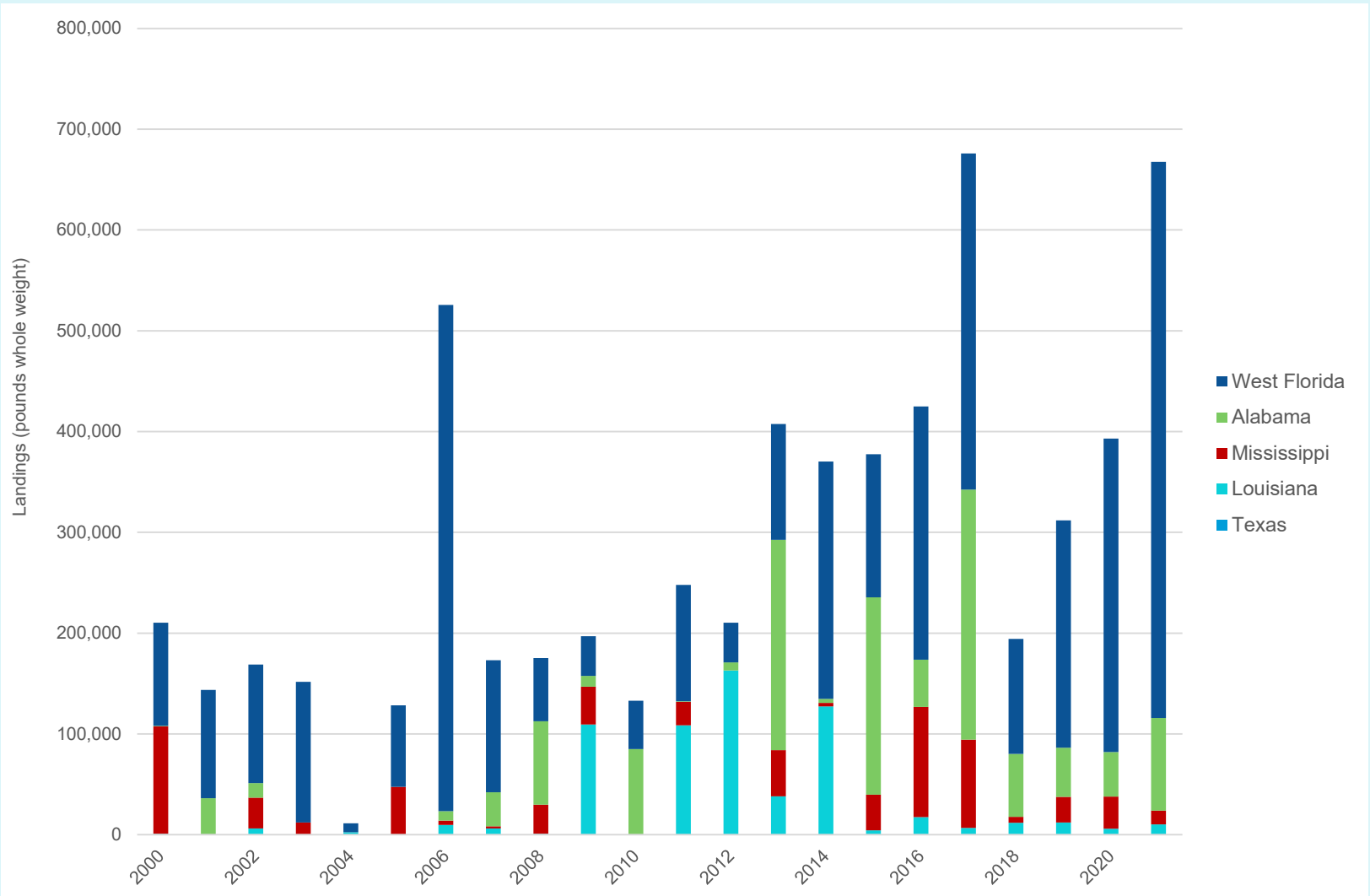




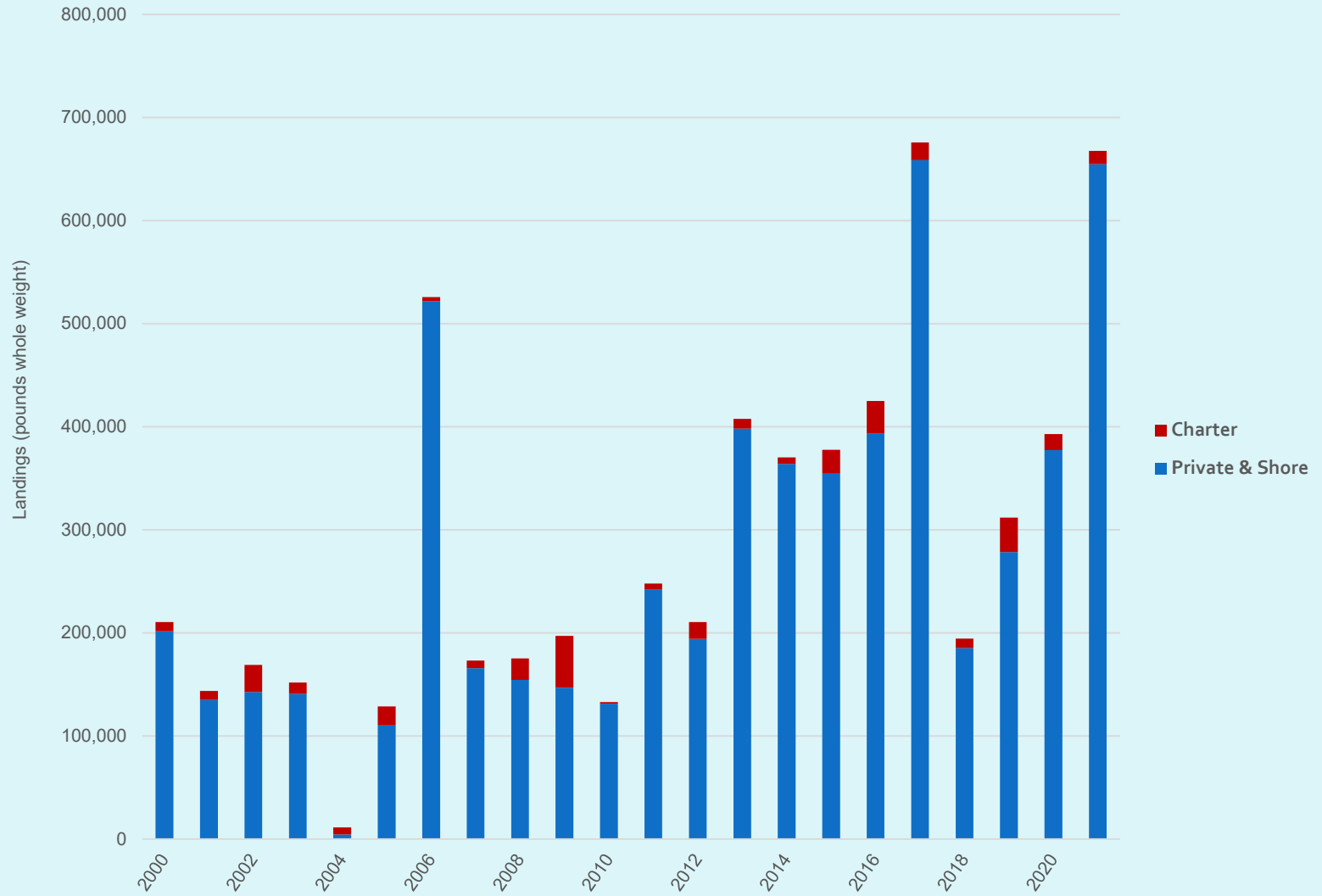
# Recreational Tripletail Landings from State and Federal Waters



# Recreational Tripletail Landings by State



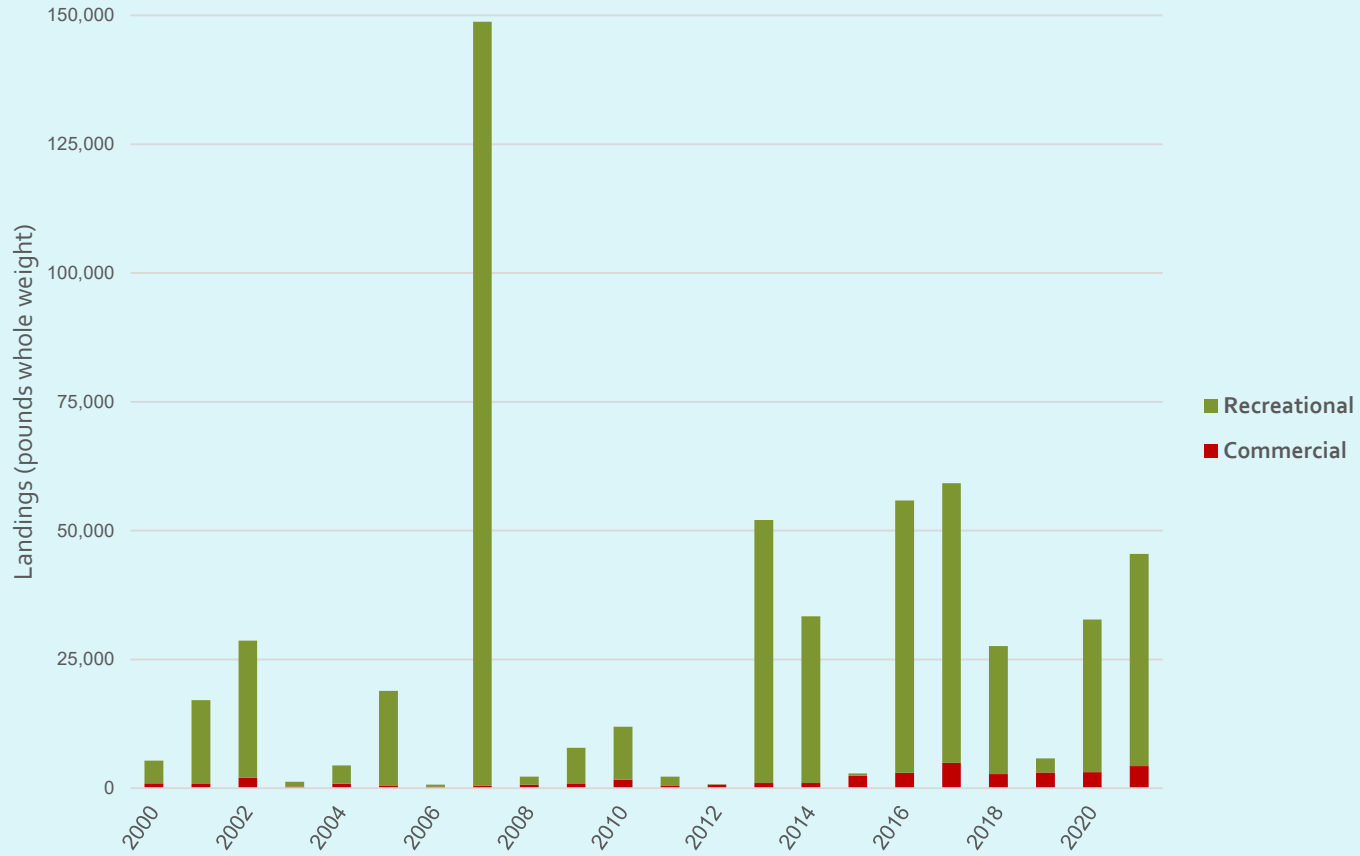
# Recreational Tripletail Landings by Mode



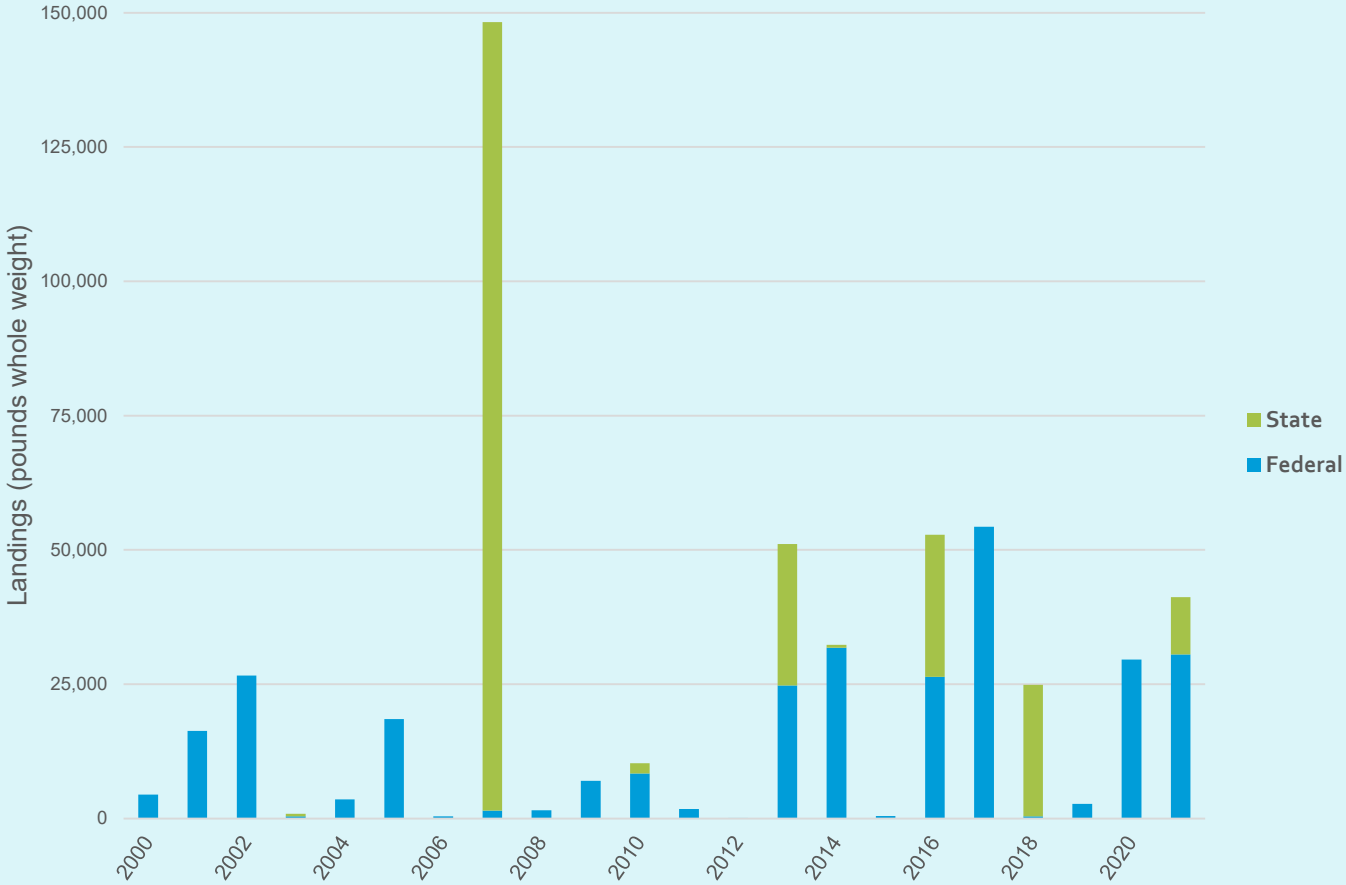
# African Pompano Regulations Florida

- Minimum Size Limit: 24" fork length
- Daily Bag Limit: 2 per harvester
- Vessel Limit: No more than 2 per vessel
- Season: Open year-round

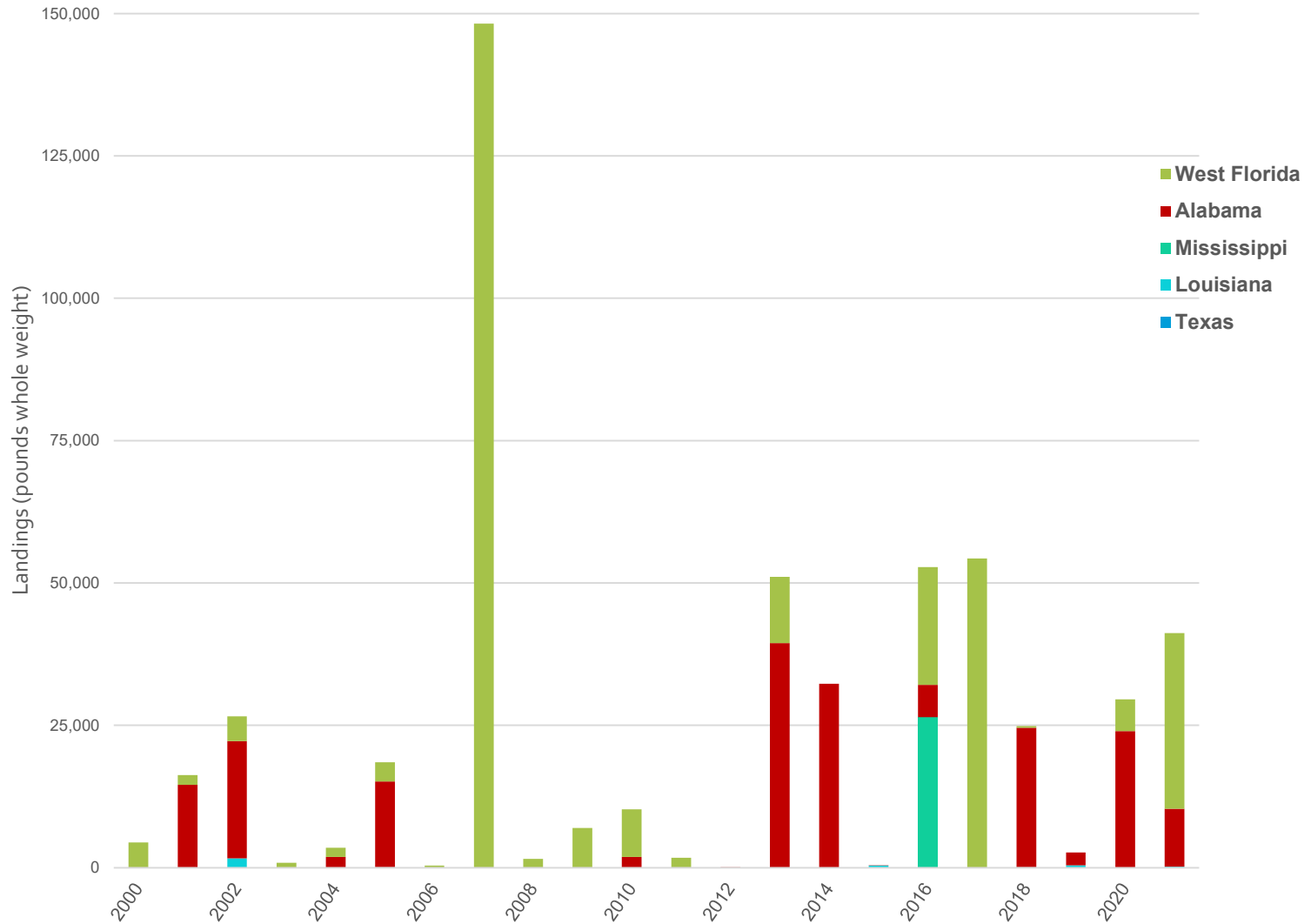
# Recreational and Commercial African Pompano Landings



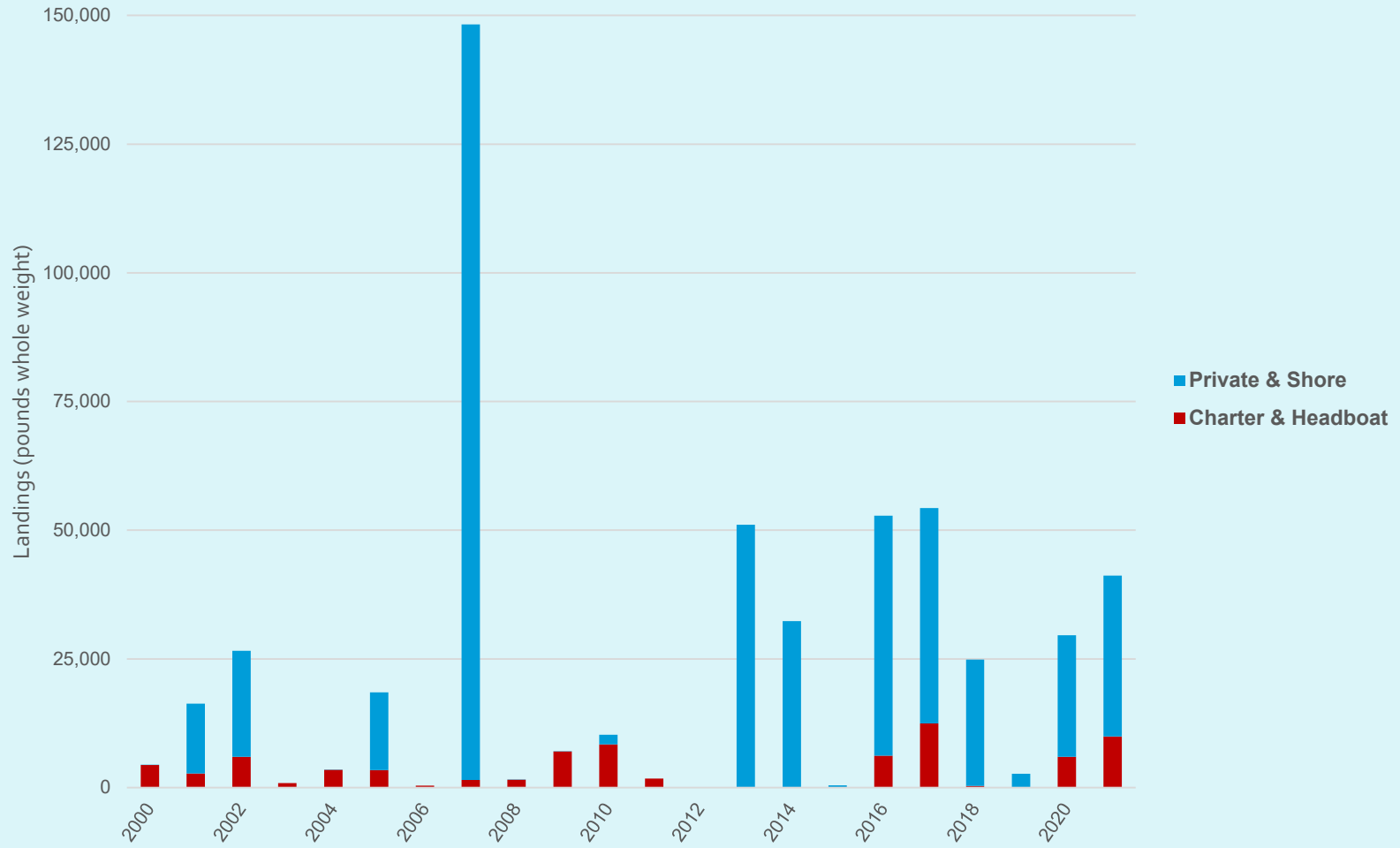
# Recreational African Pompano Landings from State and Federal Waters



# Recreational African Pompano Landings by State



# Recreational African Pompano Landings by Mode





# Next Steps – Process Discussion

- Formal process for other Regional Fishery Management Councils not found.
- Council passes a motion to initiate discussion/evaluation
  - Gather and synthesize data from Gulf States – determine where the majority of landings occur and/or states who manage the species
  - Coordinate with state(s) where most of the landings occur
  - Ask states about stock status and other available relevant information
  - Evaluate SERO and SEFSC recommendations (if any)
- Is there a need to create a formal process/policy to consider the inclusion of species in federal management?