

Size Frequency Distribution of Cobia from Dockside Sampling of Recreational and Commercial Landings in the Gulf of Mexico 1986-2011

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SEDAR-DW08

Size Frequency Distribution of Cobia from Dockside Sampling of
Recreational and Commercial Landings in the Gulf of Mexico 1986-2011

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Introduction

Size frequency distributions of Gulf of Mexico cobia were summarized analyzed for the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistical Survey (MRFSS), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Survey (TPWD), the NMFS, SEFSC, Headboat Survey (HBS) and the NMFS, SEFSC, Trip Interview Program (TIP) size data sets through 2011.

MRFSS and TPWD

Size data for all Gulf areas are available starting in 1981 (Figure 1). A total of 2769 cobia were measured (Table 1). Of those, 1252 were from Louisiana (Table 2). An average of 84 fish per year was measured.

NMFS, SEFSC, HEADBOAT SURVEY

Size data for all Gulf areas are available starting in 1983 (Figure 2). A total of 2769 cobia were measured (Table 3). Of those, 1252 were from Louisiana and 991 were from east Florida (Table 4). An average of 99 fish per year was measured.

NMFS, SEFSC, TIP

Size data for all Gulf areas are available starting in 1983 (Figure 3). A total of 2017 cobia were measured (Table 5). Of those, 1033 were from west Florida and 662 were from Louisiana (Table 6). An average of 69 fish per year was measured.

Table 1.—Number of cobia lengths samples from the headboat survey by year.

Year	N
1979	19
1980	12
1981	30
1982	21
1983	27
1984	41
1985	22
1986	85
1987	67
1988	50
1989	65
1990	46
1991	51
1992	121
1993	154
1994	142
1995	173
1996	158
1997	154
1998	238
1999	216
2000	87
2001	119
2002	76
2003	100
2004	42
2005	36
2006	65
2007	87
2008	60
2009	65
2010	84
2011	56

Table 2.—Number of cobia lengths samples from the headboat survey by year.

State	n
FLE	991
FLW	58
AL/MS	134
LA	1252
TX	334

Table 3.—Number of cobia lengths samples from the MRFSS survey by year.

Year	n
1979	19
1980	12
1981	30
1982	21
1983	27
1984	41
1985	22
1986	85
1987	67
1988	50
1989	65
1990	46
1991	51
1992	121
1993	154
1994	142
1995	173
1996	158
1997	154
1998	238
1999	216
2000	87
2001	119
2002	76
2003	100
2004	42
2005	36
2006	65
2007	87
2008	60
2009	65
2010	84
2011	56

Table 4.—Number of cobia lengths samples from the MRFSS survey by state.

State	n
FLW	58
FLE	991
AL	134
LA	1252
MS	0
TX	334

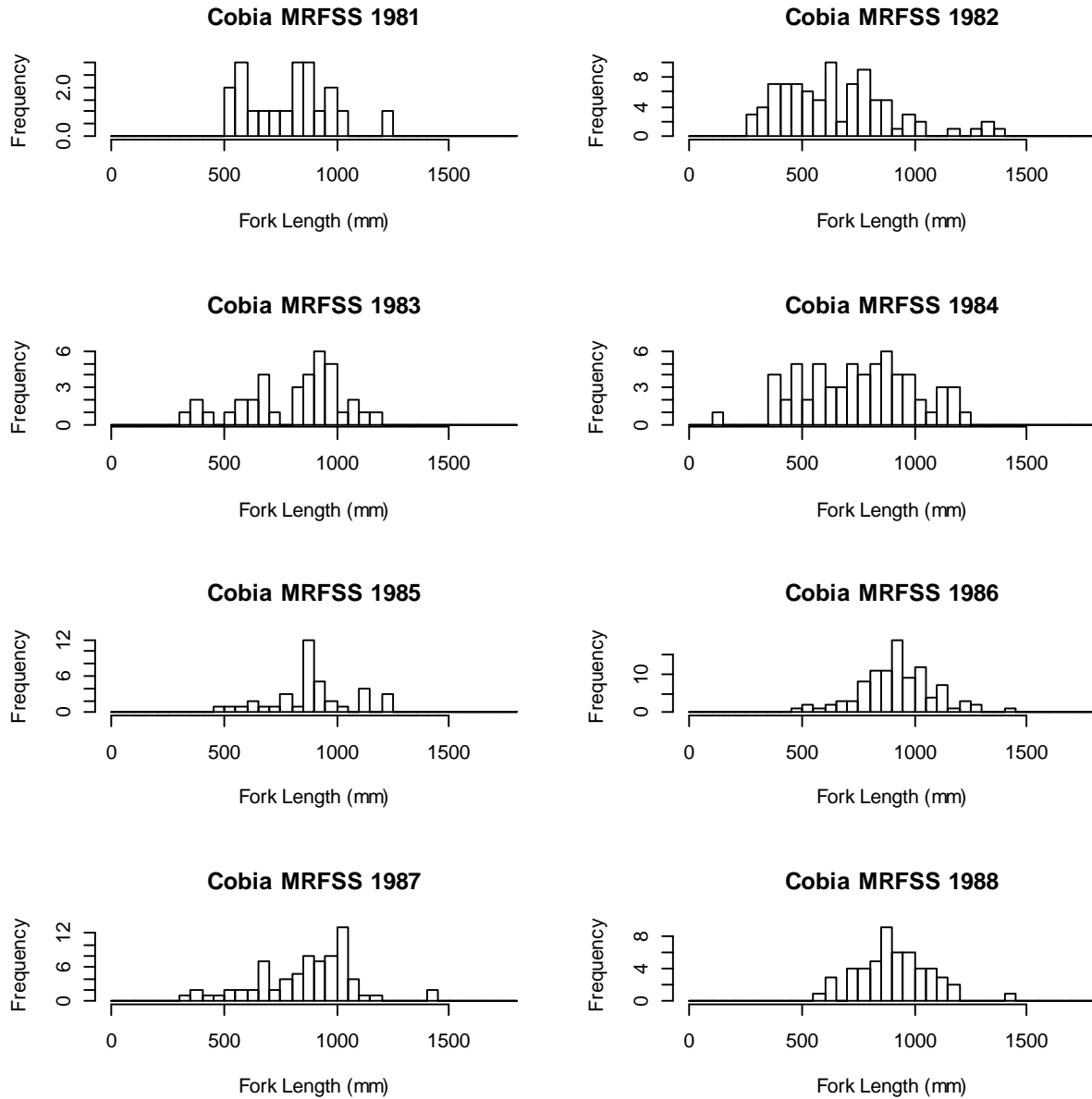
Table 5.—Number of cobia lengths samples from the TIP survey by year.

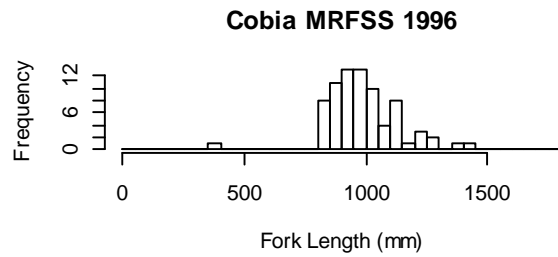
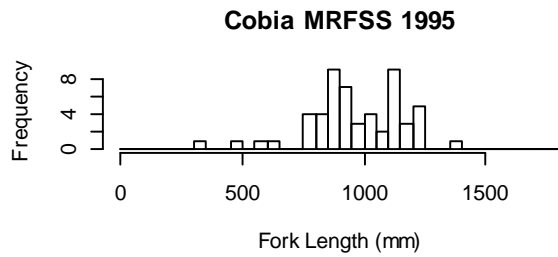
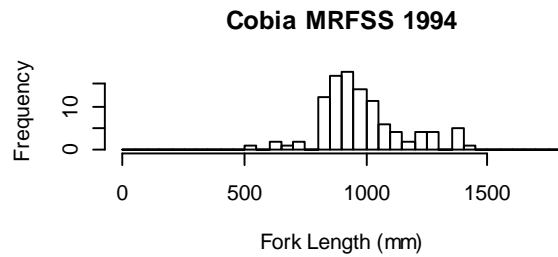
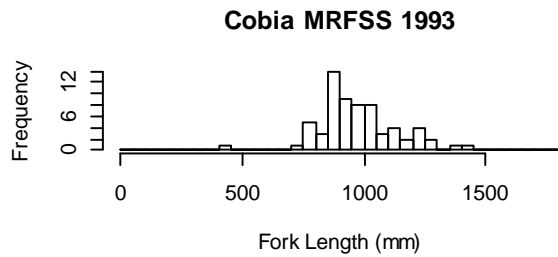
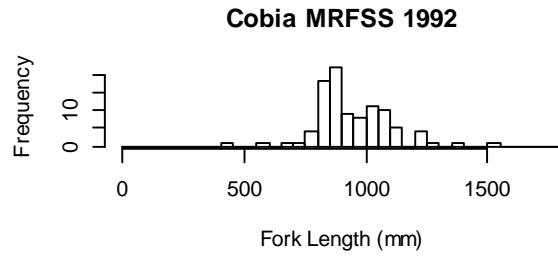
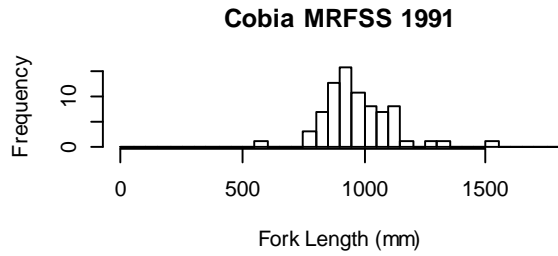
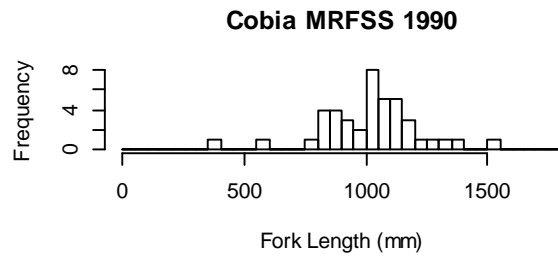
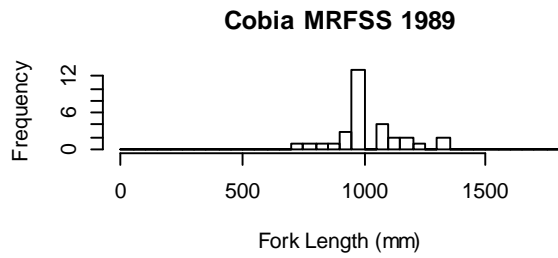
Year	n
1983	10
1984	100
1985	108
1986	46
1987	11
1988	23
1989	7
1990	48
1991	103
1992	134
1993	102
1994	107
1995	68
1996	66
1997	96
1998	37
1999	30
2000	39
2001	67
2002	52
2003	53
2004	180
2005	122
2006	53
2007	68
2008	51
2009	63
2010	81
2011	92

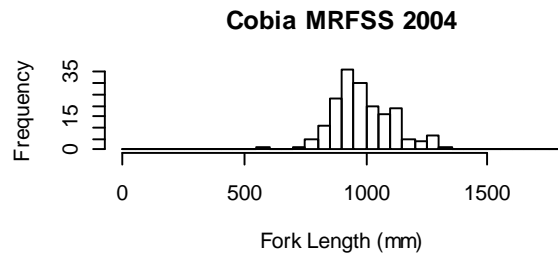
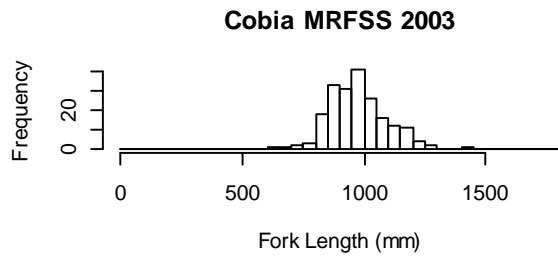
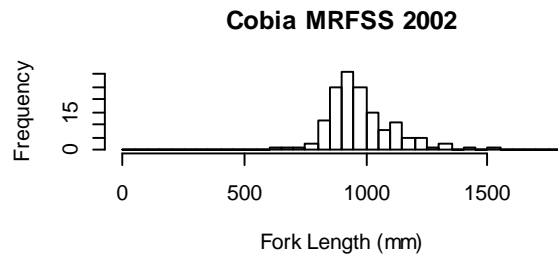
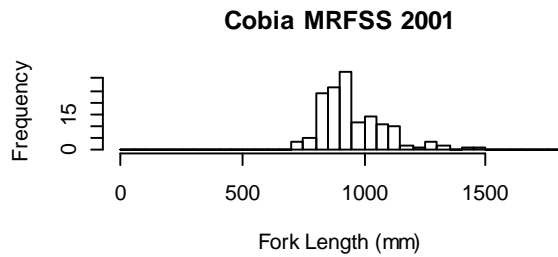
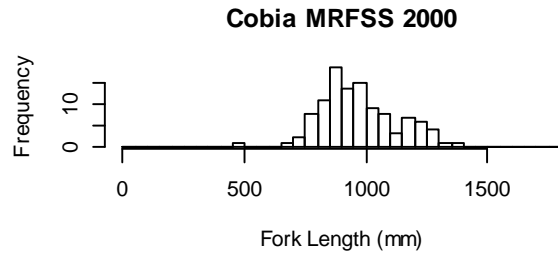
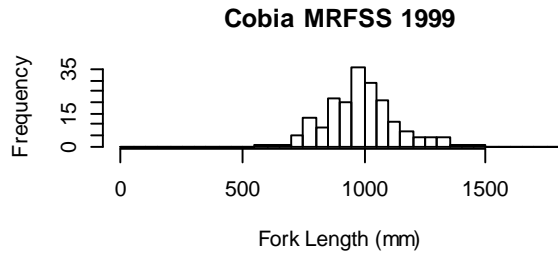
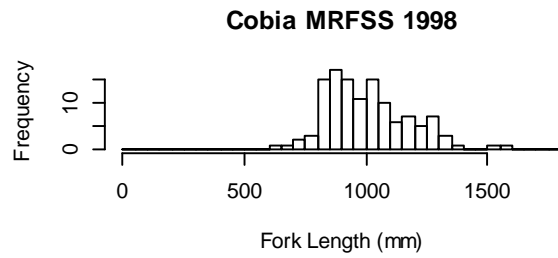
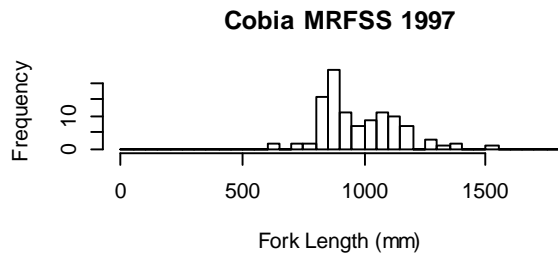
Table 6.—Number of cobia lengths samples from the TIP survey by area.

State	n
FL	1033
AL	13
LA	662
MS	110
TX	22
ATL	177

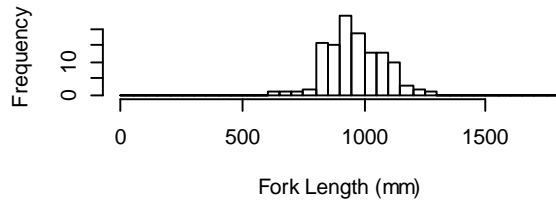
Figure 1.--Length frequency distribution of cobia measured from headboat survey samples, 1983-2011.



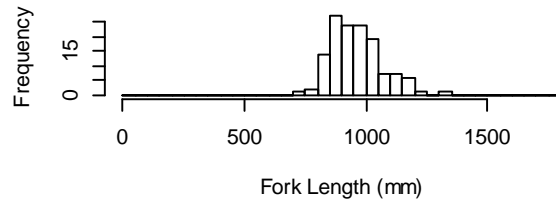




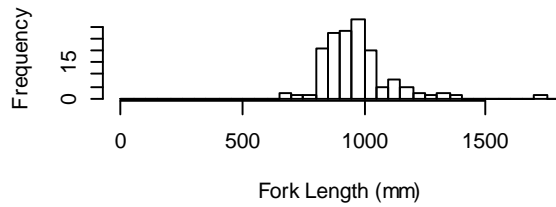
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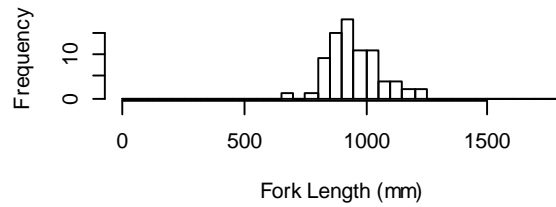
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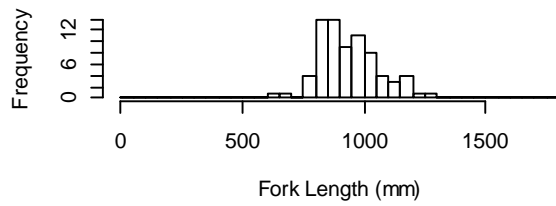
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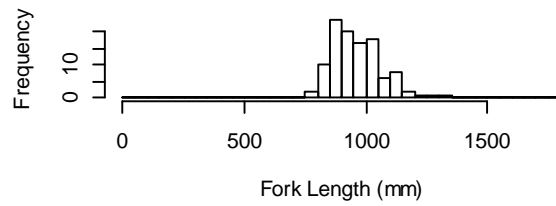
Cobia MRFSS 2008



Cobia MRFSS 2009



Cobia MRFSS 2010



Cobia MRFSS 2011

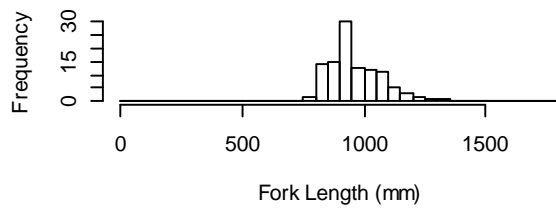
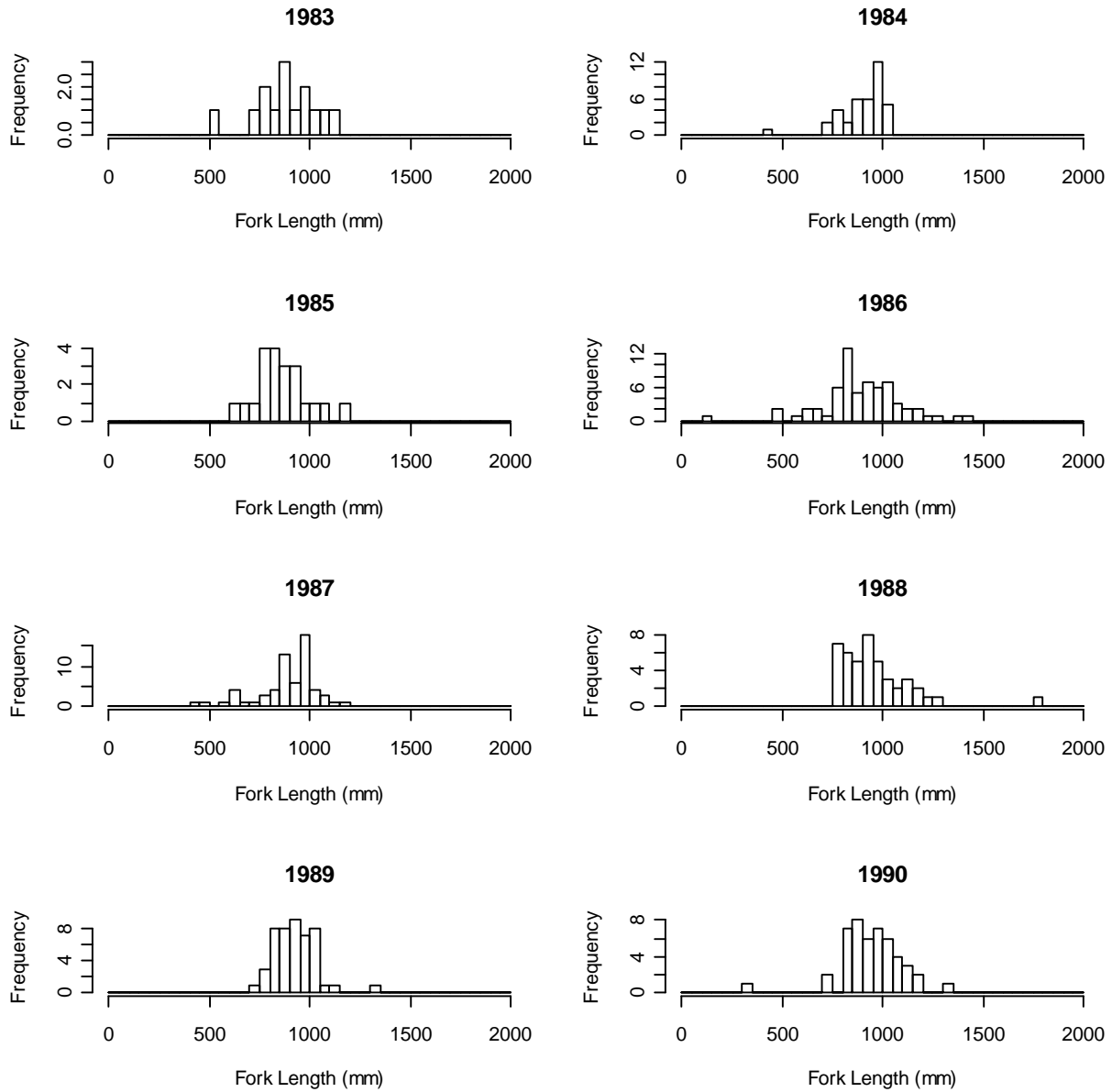
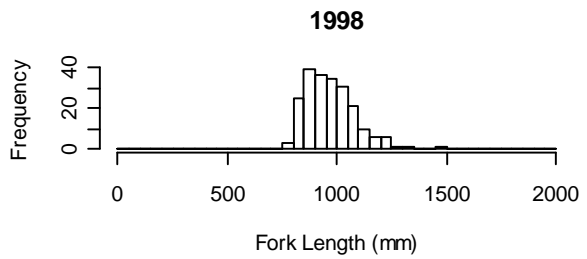
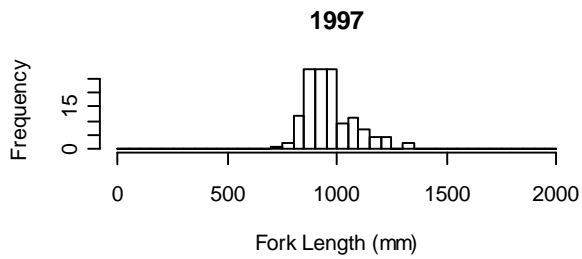
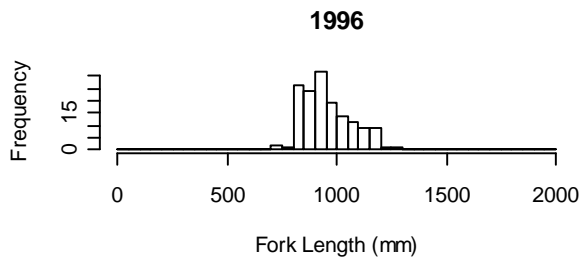
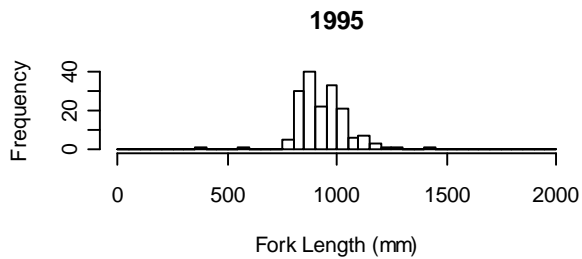
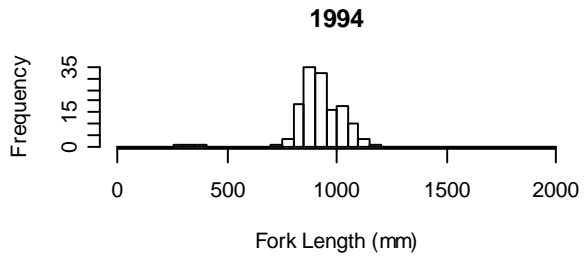
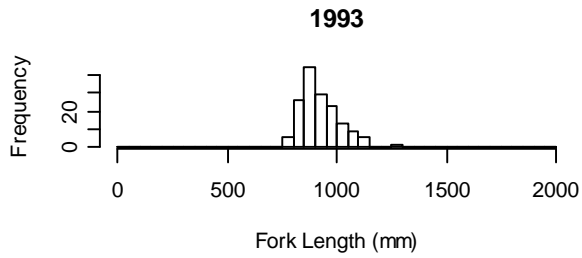
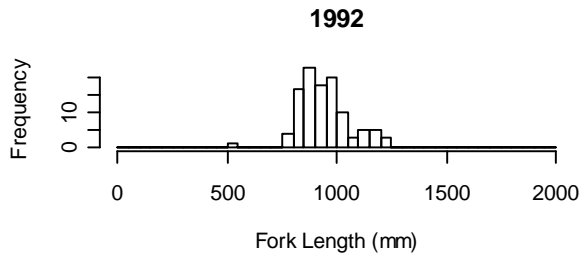
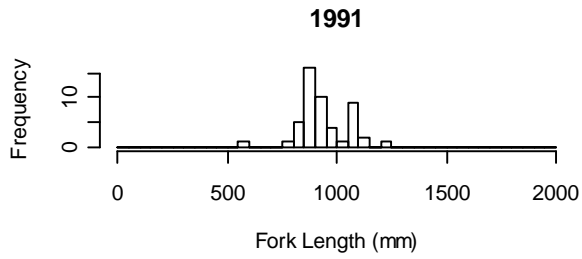
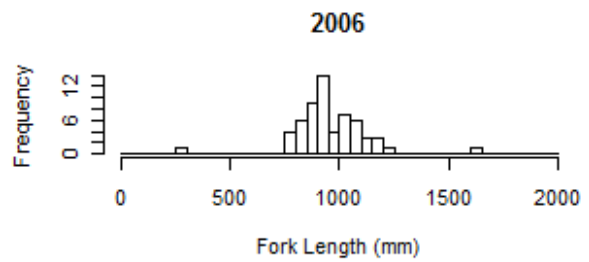
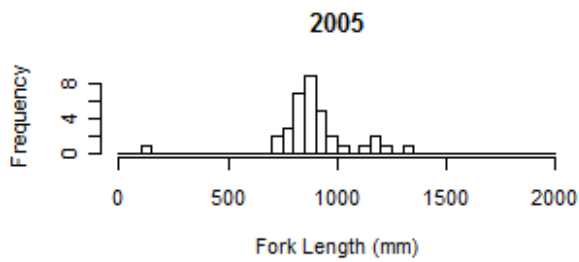
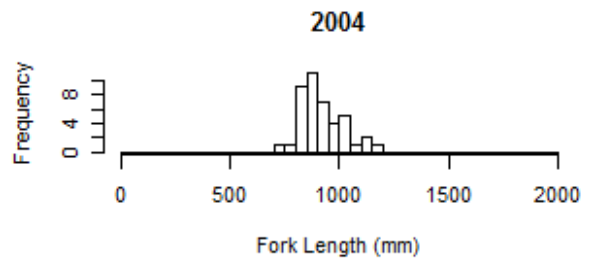
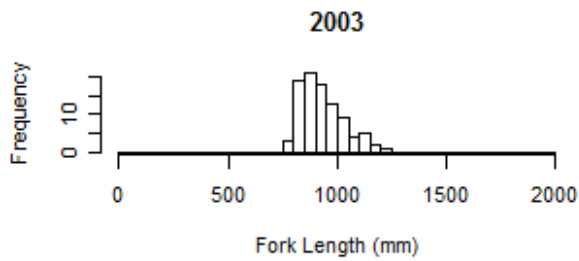
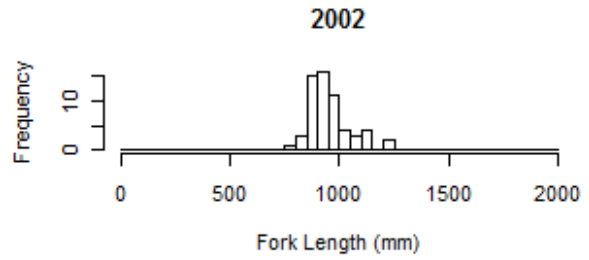
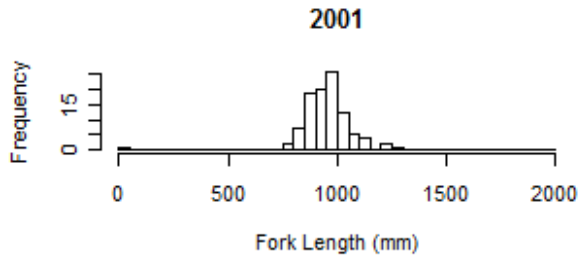
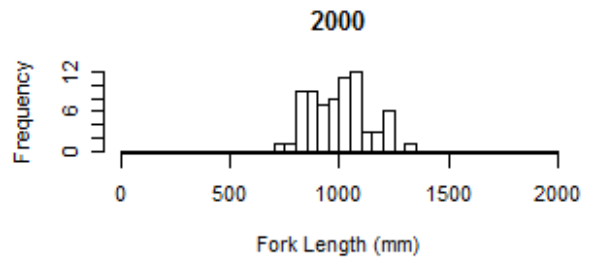
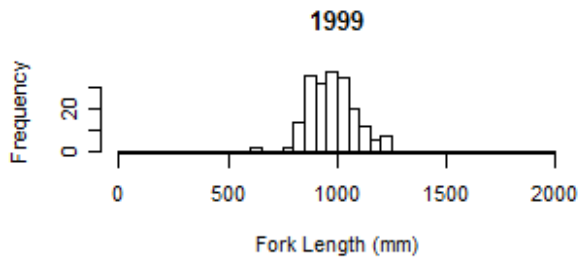


Figure 2.--Length frequency distribution of cobia measured from headboat survey samples, 1983-2011.







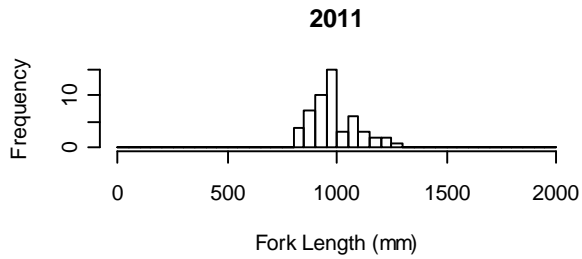
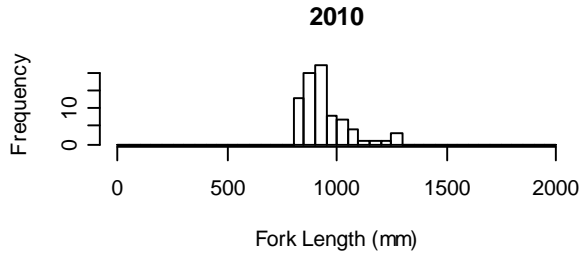
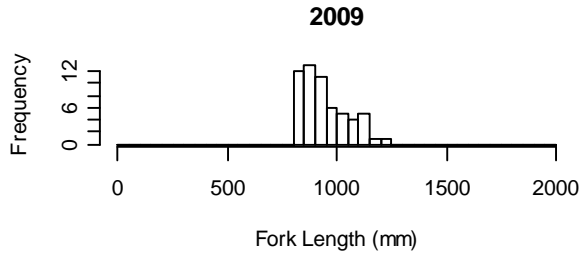
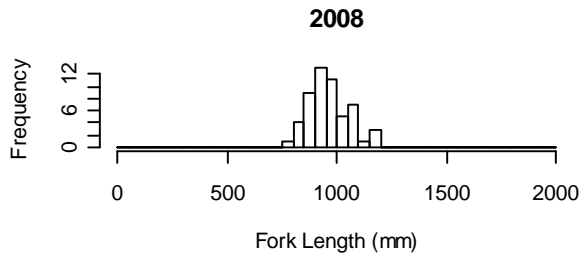
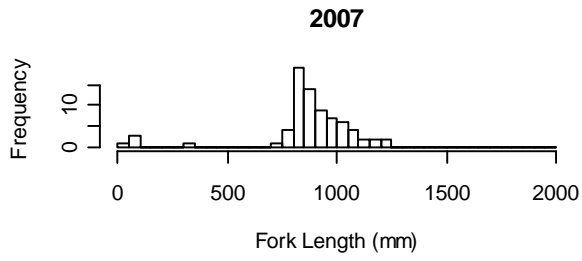


Figure 3.--Length frequency distribution of cobia measured from headboat survey samples, 1983-2011.

