

C3 Bering Sea Aleutian Islands Groundfish September Plan Team Report

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October 2023, Presentation to the SSC



BSAI Presentation Summary

Topic	Presenter	Type	Action
<u>CEATTLE</u>	Kirstin Holsman	Information	No
<u>Pollock AVO Index</u>	Nate Lauffenburger	Information	No
<u>Pollock Movement</u>	Robert Levine	Information	No
<u>EBS Pollock Model</u>	Jim Ianelli	Model Update (recorded)	Yes
<u>Yellowfin Sole Model</u>	Ingrid Spies	Model Update	No
<u>AI Pacific Cod Model</u>	Ingrid Spies	Model Update	Yes
<u>EBS Pacific Cod Model</u>	Steve Barbeaux	Model Update (recorded)	Yes
<u>Northern Rockfish Stock Structure</u>	Paul Spencer	Information/Model Update	Yes
<u>Proposed Specifications</u>	Steve Whitney		
<u>Halibut DMRs</u>	Diana Stram		

Note: Underlined text has a link to presentation



Yellowfin Sole Model Considerations



- **Model Explorations:**
 - Change split-sex to single time-varying fishery selectivity
 - Similar change was adopted for survey selectivity last year
- **Motivation and Results:**
 - Little difference between male and female fishery selectivity post 1980s
 - Switching to single-sex reduces number of parameters
 - Little change to model results
- **Recommendation:**
 - Team agreed with author's recommendation to use single-sex selectivity



AI Pacific Cod Model Considerations



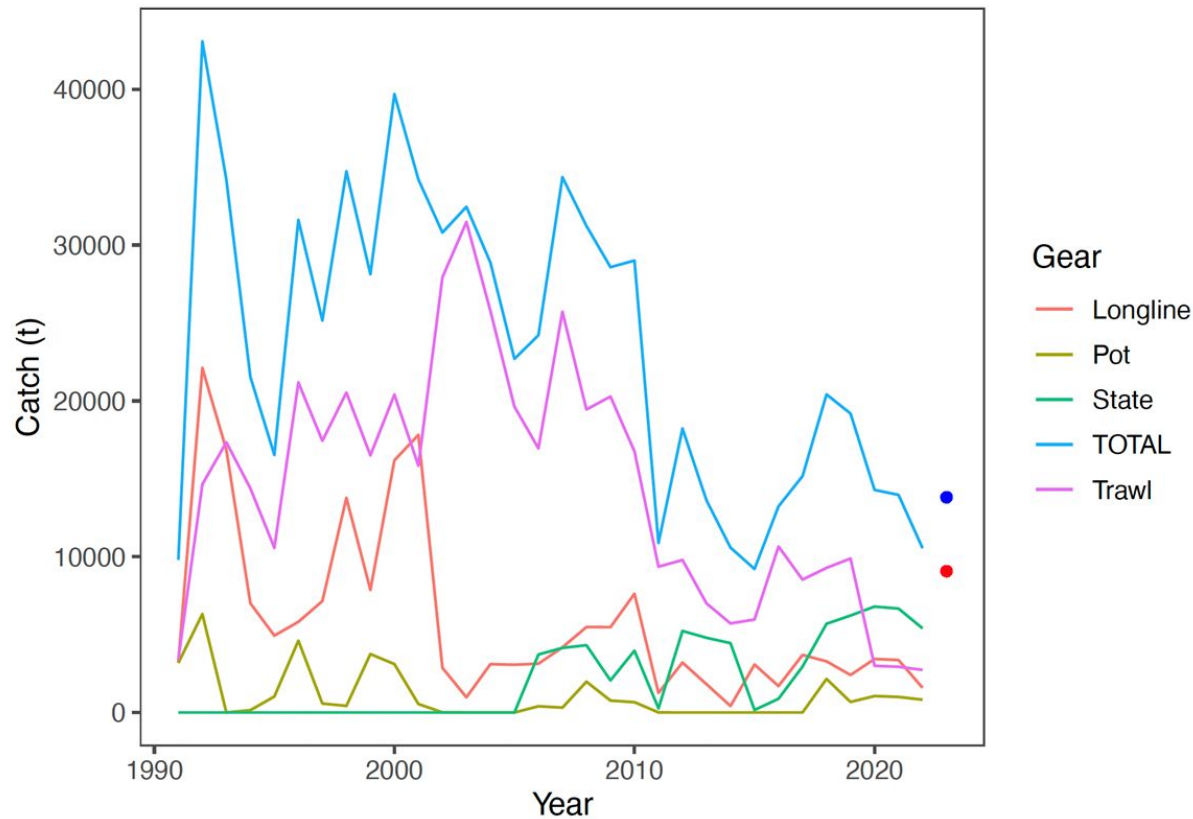
- **Model Explorations:**
 - Sensitivity tests evaluating conditional age-at-length and bootstrapping input sample sizes to be adopted for future models
 - Several new models including time-varying fishery selectivity, longline survey estimates, and time-varying growth
- **Results/Discussion:**
 - Modest improvement in retro pattern with time-varying fishery selectivity
 - Large improvement in retro pattern with time-varying growth
 - Longline survey was not recommended for other Aleutian Islands (AI) stocks (only spans eastern to half of central AI)
 - Sensitivity of model to choice of natural mortality, fixing it may improve stability



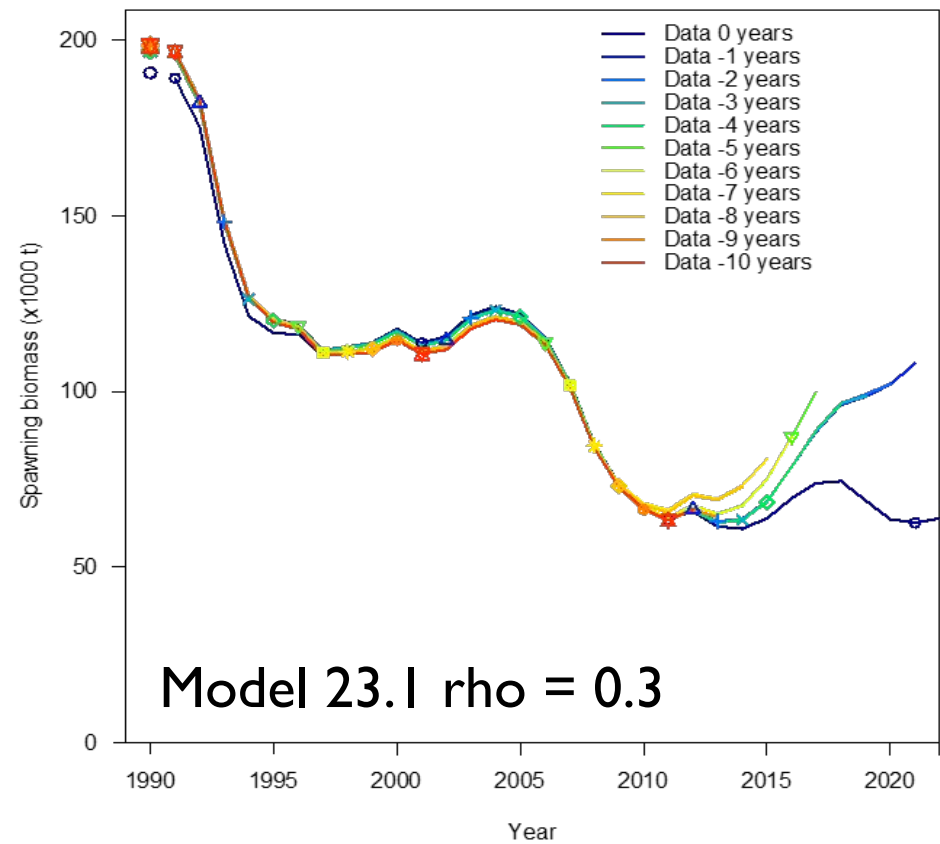
AI Pacific Cod Model Considerations



Fishery Catch by Gear



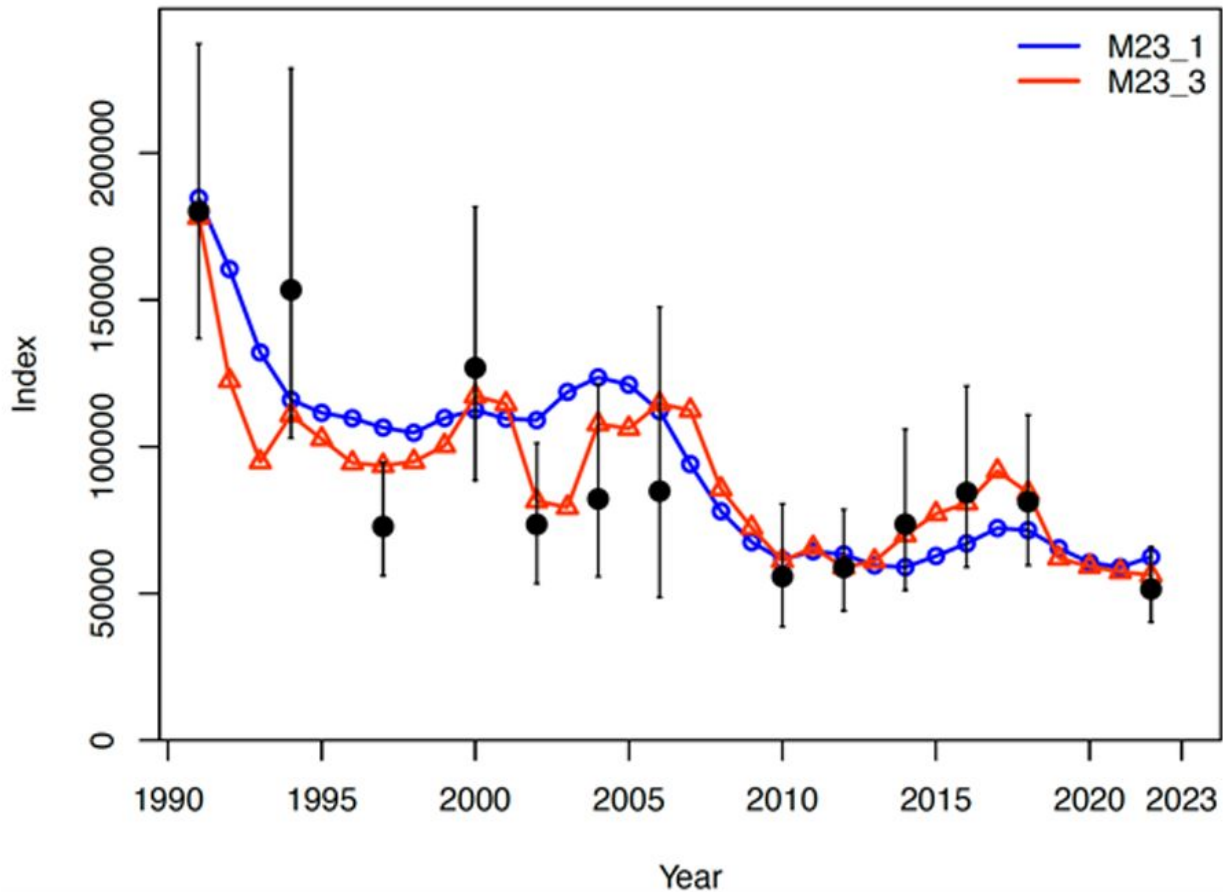
SSB with time-varying fishery selectivity



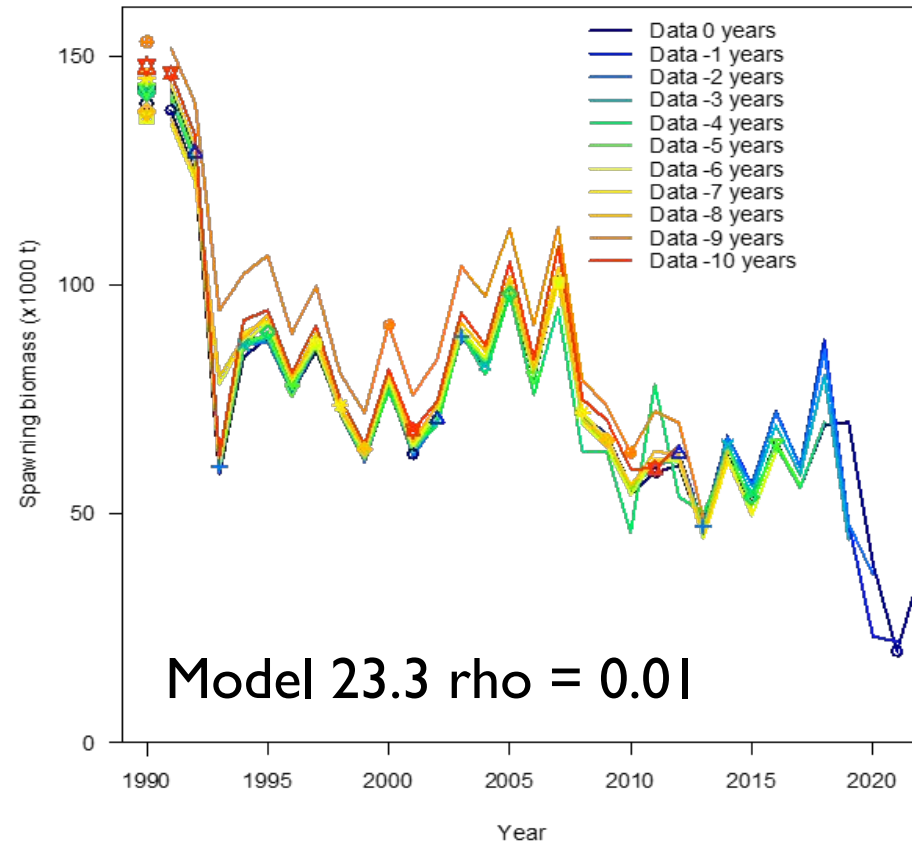
AI Pacific Cod Model Considerations



Survey Index Fit



SSB with time-varying growth



AI Pacific Cod Model Considerations



- **Recommendations:**

- Three models for November: 1) Tier 5 base model, 2) Tier 3 model with time-varying growth using low variability option, and 3) Tier 3 model with time-varying growth and time blocks for fishery selectivity
- Team supported authors recommendation for error tuning on time-varying growth
- AI and EBS Pacific cod authors continue to coordinate on their decisions regarding constraints on natural mortality for consistency



Northern Rockfish Stock Structure



- **Highlights:**
 - Overview on re-evaluation (3rd) of stock structure for northern rockfish
 - Number of tows targeting recently increased but could be smaller nets
 - Indications of high stock structure based on [Larson study](#)
 - Author plans to include new aging error matrix in update model
- **Recommendation:**
 - Team recommended the stock structure information be included in the risk table for November and to continue to monitor stock for potential spatial concerns

Thanks to Paul Spencer



EBS Pollock Model



Switch to Recorded Presentation



EBS Pollock Model Summary



- **Model Explorations:**

- Use the revised acoustic vessels of opportunity (AVO) index
- Random effects model for spawning weight-at-age
- Expanded model capacity for using ageing errors on different data components in preparation for FT-NIRS pollock ageing
- Compared process and observation error related to acoustic trawl survey
- Other sensitivities presented but not planned for November

- **Recommendation:**

- Adopt the new full AVO index, evaluation of process-error weights, and include random effects model estimates



EBS Pacific Cod Model



Switch to Recorded Presentation



EBS Pacific Cod Model Summary



- **Model Explorations:**
 - Current ensemble of models are problematic for a suite of reasons
 - A series of simpler models were explored with complexity added sequentially
 - Natural mortality estimated outside the model using Phylogenetic structural equation model on max age
- **Results:**
 - Simpler models perform well and address issues with ensemble models
 - Estimating natural mortality outside the model and using a fixed model greatly stabilizes model results



EBS Pacific Cod Model Summary



- Recommendations:

- The Team recommended going to a single model approach, away from the ensemble
- The Team recommended the authors explore a model similar to M23.1.0.d with the following changes:
 - use conditional age-at-length data (CAAL) from the survey, remove marginal age comps for the years with CAAL, and include all length composition data,
 - fix M at 0.3866 based on a maximum age of 14, and
 - at the discretion of the author estimate growth CVs
- The Team recommended that Model 23.1.0.a be brought forward in November as a sensitivity to better understand uncertainty.



BSAI Proposed Harvest Specifications

Area	Gear	Operation	2023 DMRs (specified)	2024/25 DMRs (recommended)
BSAI	Pot	All	26%	26% ^b
	Hook-and-line	CP	9%	7%
	Hook-and-line	CV	9% ^a	7% ^a
	Non-pelagic trawl	Mothership / CP	85%	85%
	Non-pelagic trawl	CV	62%	63%
GOA	Pot	All	27%	26% ^b
	Hook-and-line	CP	13%	11%
	Hook-and-line	CV	9%	10% ^b
	Non-pelagic trawl	Mothership / CP	83%	83%
	Non-pelagic trawl	CV	74%	69%
	Non-pelagic trawl	CV-Rockfish Prog	55%	56% ^b
All	Pelagic trawl	All	100%*	100%*

^a Based on BSAI HAL CP

^b 4-year average

*Fixed, not estimated

Thanks to Michael Fey (AKFIN) and other Halibut DMR Working Group members: Jen Cahalan (PSMFC), Jennifer Ferdinand (NMFS AFSC), Mary Furuness (NMFS AKRO), Jason Gasper (NMFS AKRO), Ian Stewart (IPHC)



BSAI Proposed Harvest Specifications

Table 1. Plan Team Proposed recommended OFL, ABC for Groundfish in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (metric tons) for 2024-2025

9/14/2023

Species	Area	2022				Catch as of 12/31/2022	2023				Plan Team Proposed 2024/2025		
		OFL	ABC	TAC			OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch as of 9/13/2023	OFL	ABC	TAC
Pollock	EBS	1,469,000	1,111,000	1,111,000	1,105,677	3,381,000	1,910,000	1,300,000	1,250,856	4,639,000	2,275,000		
	AI	61,264	50,752	19,000	3,058	52,383	43,413	19,000	2,694	52,043	43,092		
	Bogoslof	113,479	85,109	250	259	115,146	86,360	300	117	115,146	86,360		
Pacific cod	BS	183,012	153,383	136,466	120,448	172,495	144,834	127,409	82,262	166,814	140,159		
	AI	27,400	20,600	13,796	6,450	18,416	13,812	8,425	2,763	18,416	13,812		
	BSAI/GOA	40,432	34,521	n/a		47,390	40,502			48,561	41,539		
Sablefish	BS	n/a	5,264	5,264	5,514	n/a	8,417	7,996	4,796	n/a	10,185		
	AI	n/a	6,463	6,463	2,230	n/a	8,884	8,440	1,919	n/a	10,308		
Yellowfin sole	BSAI	377,071	354,014	250,000	154,253	404,882	378,499	230,000	71,967	495,155	462,890		
Greenland turbot	BSAI	7,687	6,572	6,572	1,478	4,645	3,960	3,960	1,248	3,947	3,364		
	BS	n/a	5,540	5,540	1,038	n/a	3,338	3,338	771	n/a	2,836		
	AI	n/a	1,032	1,032	440	n/a	622	622	477	n/a	528		
Arrowtooth flounder	BSAI	94,445	80,389	20,000	7,857	98,787	83,852	15,000	5,910	103,070	87,511		
Kamchatka flounder	BSAI	10,903	9,214	9,214	8,369	8,946	7,579	7,579	6,753	8,776	7,435		
Northern rock sole	BSAI	214,084	206,896	66,000	18,399	166,034	121,719	66,000	22,833	196,011	119,969		
Flathead sole	BSAI	77,967	64,288	35,500	14,690	79,256	65,344	35,500	7,522	81,167	66,927		
Alaska plaice	BSAI	39,305	32,697	29,221	11,253	40,823	33,946	17,500	9,489	43,328	36,021		
Other flatfish	BSAI	22,919	17,189	10,000	2,559	22,919	17,189	4,500	2,874	22,919	17,189		



Thanks to Steve Whitney

BSAI Proposed Harvest Specifications

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Species	Area	2022				2023				Plan Team Proposed 2024/2025		
		OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch as of 12/31/2022	OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch as of 9/13/2023	OFL	ABC	TAC
Pacific Ocean perch	BSAI	42,605	35,688	35,385	34,782	50,133	42,038	37,703	29,580	49,279	41,322	
	BS	n/a	10,352	10,352	10,066	n/a	11,903	11,903	8,078	n/a	11,700	
	EAI	n/a	8,083	8,083	7,996	n/a	8,152	8,152	5,494	n/a	8,013	
	CAI	n/a	5,950	5,950	5,837	n/a	5,648	5,648	4,792	n/a	5,551	
	WAI	n/a	11,303	11,000	10,882	n/a	16,335	12,000	11,216	n/a	16,058	
Northern rockfish	BSAI	23,420	19,217	17,000	7,898	22,776	18,687	11,000	9,867	22,105	18,135	
Blackspotted/Rougheye Rockfish	BSAI	598	503	503	455	703	525	525	489	763	570	
	EBS/EAI	n/a	326	326	204		359	359	190	n/a	388	
	CAI/WAI	n/a	177	177	250		166	166	299	n/a	182	
Shortraker rockfish	BSAI	722	541	541	284	706	530	530	199	706	530	
Other rockfish	BSAI	1,751	1,313	1,144	1,308	1,680	1,260	1,260	1,034	1,680	1,260	
	BS	n/a	919	750	651		880	880	576	n/a	880	
	AI	n/a	394	394	657		380	380	458	n/a	380	
Atka mackerel	BSAI	91,870	78,510	66,481	58,107	118,787	98,588	69,282	55,903	101,188	86,464	
	EAI/BS	n/a	27,260	27,260	19,138	n/a	43,281	27,260	15,369	n/a	37,958	
	CAI	n/a	16,880	16,880	16,761	n/a	17,351	17,351	16,601	n/a	15,218	
	WAI	n/a	34,370	22,341	22,208	n/a	37,956	24,671	23,932	n/a	33,288	
Skates	BSAI	47,790	39,958	30,000	29,236	46,220	38,605	27,441	20,205	44,168	36,837	
Sharks	BSAI	689	517	500	127	689	450	250	307	689	450	
Octopuses	BSAI	4,769	3,576	700	251	4,769	3,576	400	119	4,769	3,576	
Total	BSAI	2,953,182	2,383,653	1,871,000	1,594,941	4,859,585	3,155,268	2,000,000	1,591,707	6,219,700	3,590,412	



Thanks to Steve Whitney

Questions?



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