

News Release

P.O. Box 95009, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98145-2009

January 24, 2005

HALIBUT COMMISSION COMPLETES 2005 ANNUAL MEETING

The International Pacific Halibut Commission completed its Eighty-first Annual Meeting in Victoria, British Columbia, with Dr. Richard J. Beamish of Nanaimo, British Columbia presiding as Chair. The Commission is recommending to the governments of Canada and the United States, catch limits for 2005 totaling 73,820,000 pounds, a 3.5% decrease from the 2004 catch limit of 76,510,000 pounds.

The Commission staff reported on the 2004 assessment of the Pacific halibut stock which implemented only minor technical changes from the previous year. The halibut stock is healthy in the central and southern portions of the range (Areas 3A through 2A) but is believed to have declined in Areas 3B through Area 4, and lower catch limits are required in those areas. The recruitment of the 1994 and 1995 year classes appears to be relatively strong in most areas, although Area 4B is showing a notably lower level of recruitment of these same year classes compared with other regulatory areas. Estimates of fishing rate, hence exploitable biomass, derived from mark-recapture analysis of PIT-tagged halibut are not yet used directly for determining recommended catch limits. The primary tagging took place in 2003 and there are not yet sufficient recoveries of tagged fish, particularly for the western areas, to determine mixing rates among and exploitable biomass within regulatory areas.

In 2004, Commission staff identified a 25% harvest rate as a candidate target rate for use with a new population assessment, pending its evaluation using the sex-specific population model. This updated evaluation was completed and indicated that a harvest rate less than 25% would result in a 50% lower probability that the stock biomass would reach a level requiring reductions in harvest rate. Accordingly, the Commission adopted a harvest rate of 22.5% as the baseline harvest rate for the central Gulf of Alaska and southward regulatory areas. For the western Gulf of Alaska (Area 3B) and the Bering Sea (Area 4), a 20% harvest rate is maintained due to concern that the long term productivity of these areas may not be as high as that in the central and southern areas of the stock.

Seasons and Catch Limits

The Commission received regulatory proposals for 2005 from the scientific staff, Canadian and United States harvesters and processors, and other fishery agencies. The Commission will recommend to the governments the following catch limits for 2005 in Area 2A (California, Oregon, and Washington), Area 2B (British Columbia), Area 2C (southeastern Alaska), Area 3A (central Gulf), Area 3B (western Gulf), Area 4A (eastern Aleutians), Area 4B (western Aleutians), Area 4C (Pribilof Islands), Area 4D (northwestern Bering Sea), and Area 4E (Bering Sea flats):

2005 Catch Limits

| Area | Catch Limit (pounds) |
|--|-------------------------|
| 2A Non-treaty directed commercial (south of Point Chehalis) | 226,203 |
| 2A Non-treaty incidental catch in salmon troll | 39,918 |
| 2A Non-treaty incidental catch in sablefish longline fishery (north of Point Chehalis) | 70,000 |
| 2A Treaty Indian commercial | 452,500 |
| 2A Treaty Indian ceremonial and subsistence (year-round) | 38,000 |
| 2A Sport – North of Columbia River | 237,257 |
| <u>2A Sport – South of Columbia River</u> | <u>266,122</u> |
| Area 2A total | 1,330,000 |
| 2B (includes sport catch allocation) | 13,250,000 |
| 2C | 10,930,000 |
| 3A | 25,470,000 |
| 3B | 13,150,000 |
| 4A | 3,440,000 |
| 4B | 2,260,000 |
| 4C | 1,815,000 |
| 4D | 1,815,000 |
| <u>4E</u> | <u>359,000</u> |
| Area 4 total | 10,240,000 |
| Total | 73,820,000 |

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada will allocate the adopted Area 2B catch limit between sport and commercial fisheries.

The IPHC sets biologically-based catch limits for Areas 4A, 4B, and a combined Area 4C-D-E. The catch limits for Regulatory Areas 4C, 4D, and 4E reflect the catch-sharing plan implemented by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC). The catch-sharing plan allows Area 4D Community Development Quota (CDQ) harvest to be taken in Area 4E.

The catch-sharing plan implemented by the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) for Area 2A was adopted by the Commission and is reflected in the catch limits adopted for the Area 2A fisheries. In Area 2A, seven 10-hour fishing periods for the non-treaty directed commercial fishery are recommended: June 29, July 13, July 27, August 10, August 24, September 14, and September 28, 2005. All fishing periods will begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 6:00 p.m. local time, and will be further restricted by fishing period limits announced at a later date.

Area 2A fishing dates for an incidental commercial halibut fishery concurrent with salmon troll fishing seasons and the incidental commercial halibut fishery during the sablefish fishery north of Point Chehalis will be established under United States domestic regulations by the National Marine Fisheries Service

(NMFS). The remainder of the Area 2A catch-sharing plan, including sport fishing seasons and depth restrictions, will be determined under regulations promulgated by NMFS. For further information of the depth restrictions in the commercial directed halibut fishery, incidental halibut during the sablefish fishery, and the sport fisheries, call the NMFS hotline (1-800-662-9825).

The Commission continued its discussions on the season extension issue and received several industry proposals and public testimony. The Commission also received a staff report indicating very little difference between the size compositions of halibut landed in the first two weeks compared with that during the last two weeks of March in 2004. After reviewing staff information and proposals from the harvesting and processing sector, the Commission voted on a season similar to 2003 and 2004. Further, it was agreed to open the season on a Sunday to facilitate marketing. Therefore, seasons will commence at 12 noon local time on February 27 and terminate at 12 noon local time on November 15, 2005 for the following fisheries and areas: the treaty Indian commercial fishery in Area 2A, the Canadian Individual Vessel Quota (IVQ) fishery in Area 2B, and the United States Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) and CDQ fisheries in Areas 2C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, and 4E. In addition, the Commission formed a working group, composed of staff and members of its advisory bodies, to examine and report on the relative merits and expense of different research to understand the timing and extent of winter migratory movements of halibut among regulatory areas. The working group will consider both pop-up satellite and transponder tagging, as well as an experimental winter fishery, and make recommendations to the Commission prior to its next Annual Meeting.

Regulatory Changes and Issues

The Commission approved changes to the regulations that will allow Area 4C IFQ and CDQ fishing to occur in Areas 4C or 4D. This measure facilitates implementation of action approved by the U.S. NPFMC. A component of this measure is a modification of the IPHC clearance regulations that will allow a vessel to clear simultaneously into Areas 4C and 4D.

At the request of NOAA Enforcement, the Commission will clarify its regulations to ensure that halibut fillets are not allowed on board a commercial vessel. The clarification will change the wording and move the regulation paragraph from the size limit section to the receipt and possession section. This clarification will not change the current exceptions for cheeking of halibut in accordance with NMFS regulations, or for filleting of weighed and recorded IFQ fish (Section 13 (2) (a) and (b)).

Other Actions

The staff proposal to recognize First Nations' ceremonial and subsistence fishing in IPHC regulations was deferred, pending clarification of this regulation.

The Commission and its advisory bodies reviewed the request from the Alaska Food Coalition for a food bank donation program in the Gulf of Alaska, funded by retained halibut bycatch from trawl fisheries. Neither the Commission nor its advisory bodies approved of this proposal. While the Commission understood the intent of the proposal, it believed that this proposal would work against the Commission's agreement between the two countries to reduce halibut bycatch mortality in non-target fisheries. The advisory bodies also believed that other available sources of acceptable fish protein should be thoroughly evaluated.

The Commission honoured Mr. Casey Knight of Petersburg, Alaska as the third recipient of the IPHC Merit Scholarship. Mr. Knight was unable to attend the meeting because of academic commitments but has been presented with a certificate and plaque, as well as the scholarship of \$2,000 (U.S.). The Commissioners expressed their continued support for the scholarship program and commended the Scholarship Committee for their efforts in assessing the candidates.

The Commission noted that halibut bycatch mortality in non-target fisheries was reduced slightly in 2004, and was at the lowest level since 1987, continuing the trend initiated by the 1991 Commission agreement to achieve lower bycatch mortality levels. However, the Commission agrees that further reductions are desirable and that current levels of mortality reduce yield to the directed halibut fisheries. The Commission will continue to work with agencies of the two governments to achieve reductions in halibut bycatch mortality.

The recommended regulations for the 2005 halibut fishery will become official as soon as they are approved by the Canadian and United States Governments. The Commission will publish and distribute regulation pamphlets.

The next Annual Meeting of the Commission is planned for Bellingham or Seattle, Washington from January 17 to 20, 2006. The United States Government commissioner, Dr. James Balsiger, was elected Chair for the coming year. The Canadian Government commissioner, Dr. Richard Beamish, was elected as Vice Chair. Other Canadian commissioners are Clifford Atleo and John Secord. The other United States commissioners are Ralph Hoard and Phillip Lestenkof. Dr. Bruce Leaman is the Executive Director of the Commission.

- END -

Bruce M. Leaman, Executive Director
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FAX: (206) 632-2983
Web: www.iphc.washington.edu

*Ho before mtg
29.05*

COMMISSIONERS:

- CLIFF ATLED
PORT ALBERNI, B.C.
- JAMES BALSIGER
JUNEAU, AK
- RICHARD J. BEAMISH
NANAIMO, B.C.
- RALPH G. HOARD
SEATTLE, WA
- PHILLIP LESTENKOF
ST. PAUL, AK
- JOHN SECORD
VANCOUVER, B.C.

INTERNATIONAL PACIFIC HALIBUT COMMISSION

ESTABLISHED BY A CONVENTION BETWEEN CANADA
AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

P.O. BOX 95009
SEATTLE, WA 98145-2009

TELEPHONE
(206) 634-1830

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(206) 632-2983

February 4, 2005

Mr. Chris Oliver, Executive Director
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
605 W 4th Ste 306
Anchorage, AK 99501-2252

Dear Chris,

The International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) completed its 81st Annual Meeting in Victoria B.C., during January 18-21, 2005. A news release detailing the outcome of the meeting is attached for your information. I am also grateful for your provision of the opportunity to make a brief presentation to the Council at your meeting in Seattle, under agenda item B-8. I wish to highlight several items of concern to the Council.

1. Areas 4C/4D permeability for IFQ/CDQ fishing

The Council has recommended to the Secretary of Commerce that holders of IPHC Area 4C IFQ and CDQ halibut quotas be permitted to fish those quotas in either Areas 4C or 4D. The Commission had indicated previously that it was not opposed to this recommendation. To facilitate the Council's action, the Commission approved changes to its regulations that will allow Area 4C IFQ and CDQ fishing to occur in either Areas 4C or 4D. A component of this measure is a modification of the IPHC clearance regulations that will allow vessels to use a single clearance for Areas 4C and 4D.

2. North Pacific Fishery Management Council Areas 4C/D/E Catch Sharing Plan

The Commission approved a catch limit for Areas 4C/D/E as a unit (3.990 million lb, Mlb) but also adopted the Council's Catch Sharing Plan for Areas 4C/D/E. Accordingly, the allocation by IPHC Area is: Area 4C 1.815 Mlb, Area 4D 1.815 Mlb, and Area 4E 0.359 Mlb.

3. Gulf of Alaska Rationalization

The Commission expresses its support for the Council's initiative on Gulf of Alaska Rationalization. While the Commission recognizes the complex nature of the proposal and its alternatives, the Commission believes that elements of the proposal will provide opportunities to reduce halibut bycatch mortality and looks forward to progress on this proposal.

4. Industry proposals

The Commission and its advisory bodies received a proposal from the Alaska Food Coalition concerning landing of halibut from trawl catches for distribution to food banks in Alaska. While recognizing the value of such programs, neither the Commission nor its advisory

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bodies approved this proposal. The primary reasons for this decision were that the proposal worked against the intent of programs for bycatch mortality reduction put in place by the U.S. and Canada, and the availability of other fish protein presently landed but not used in fish plants.

5. Estimation of subsistence halibut catches

The Commission received a report by Dr. Jim Fall of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game on the estimation of subsistence catches for 2003. The Commission was pleased to see the effort put into the estimation of this catch and appreciated Dr. Fall's presentation. The mail-out portion and associated non-response corrections for this estimation appear to be executed efficiently. However, the Commission does express its concern for the lack of validation of the subsistence harvest, similar to that employed in the integration of the creel survey sampling and the mail-out Alaska Statewide Harvest Survey for sport fishing. Such validation is a necessary component of accurate estimation for this subsistence harvest.

I will be attending the February meeting of the Council and would be happy to address any questions on these matters during my presentation under Agenda Item B-8.

Sincerely,



Bruce M. Leaman
Executive Director

cc: IPHC Commissioners

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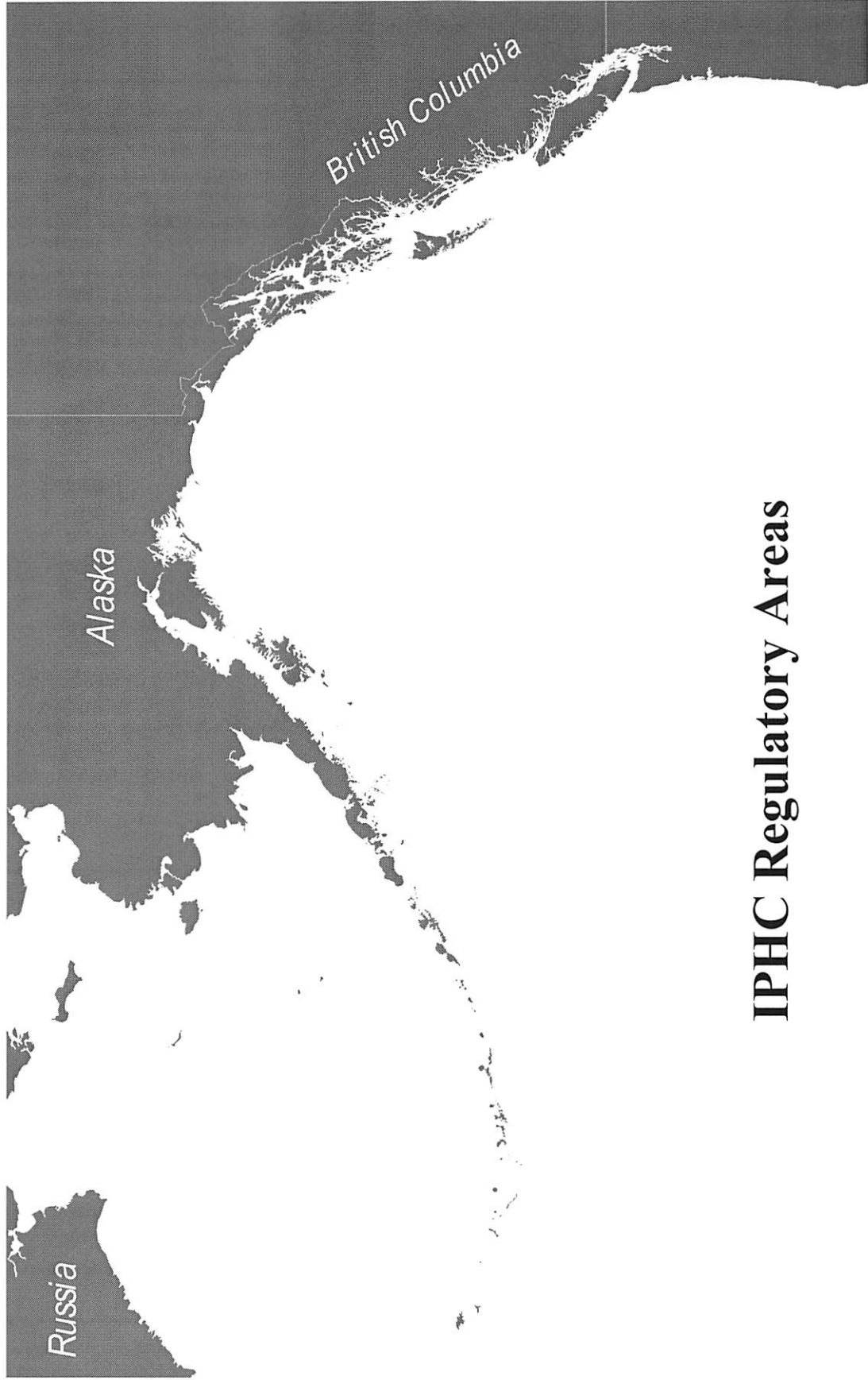
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2005 IPHC Annual Meeting

B-8 IPHC PPT
presentation
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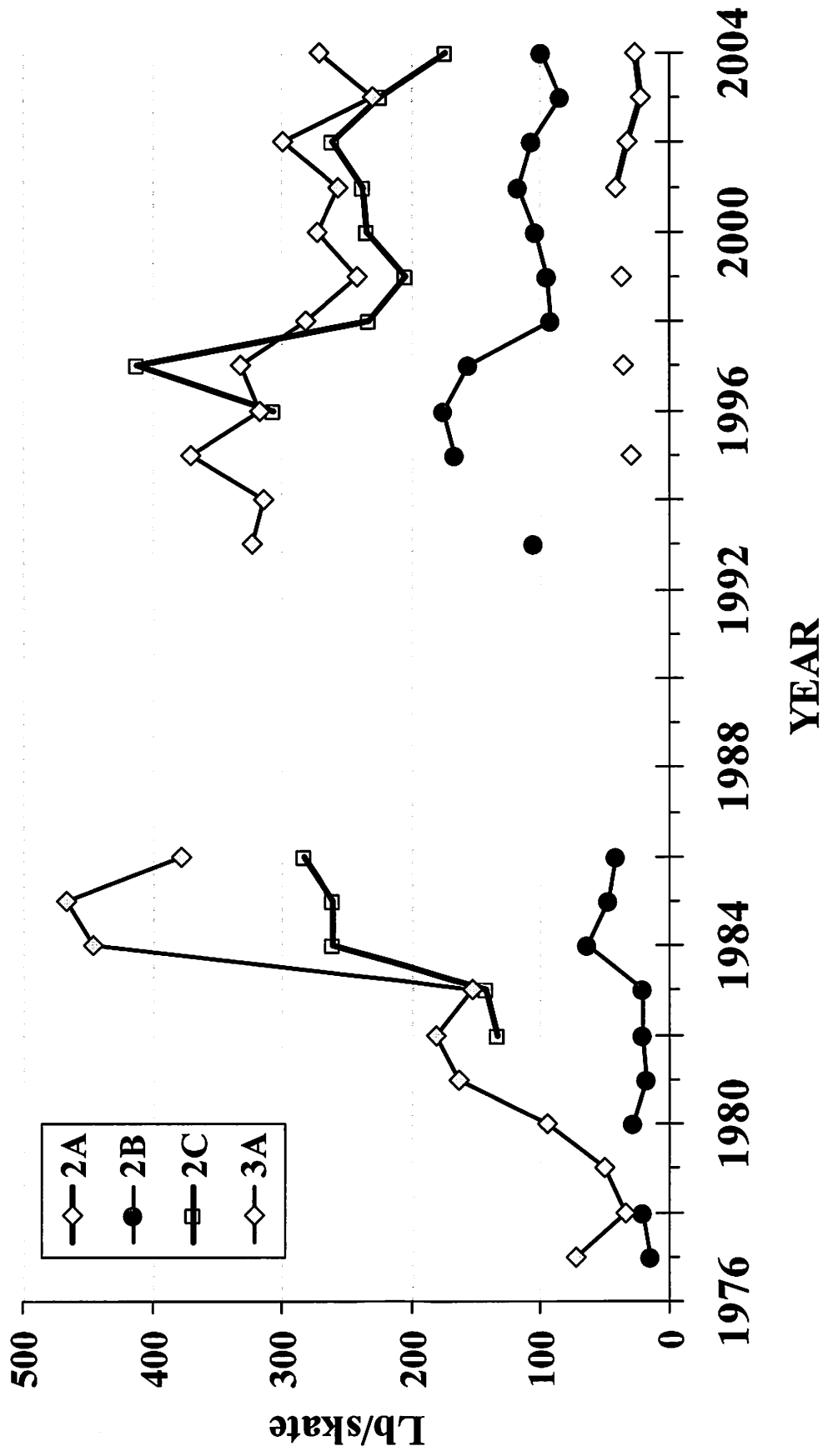


IPHC Regulatory Areas

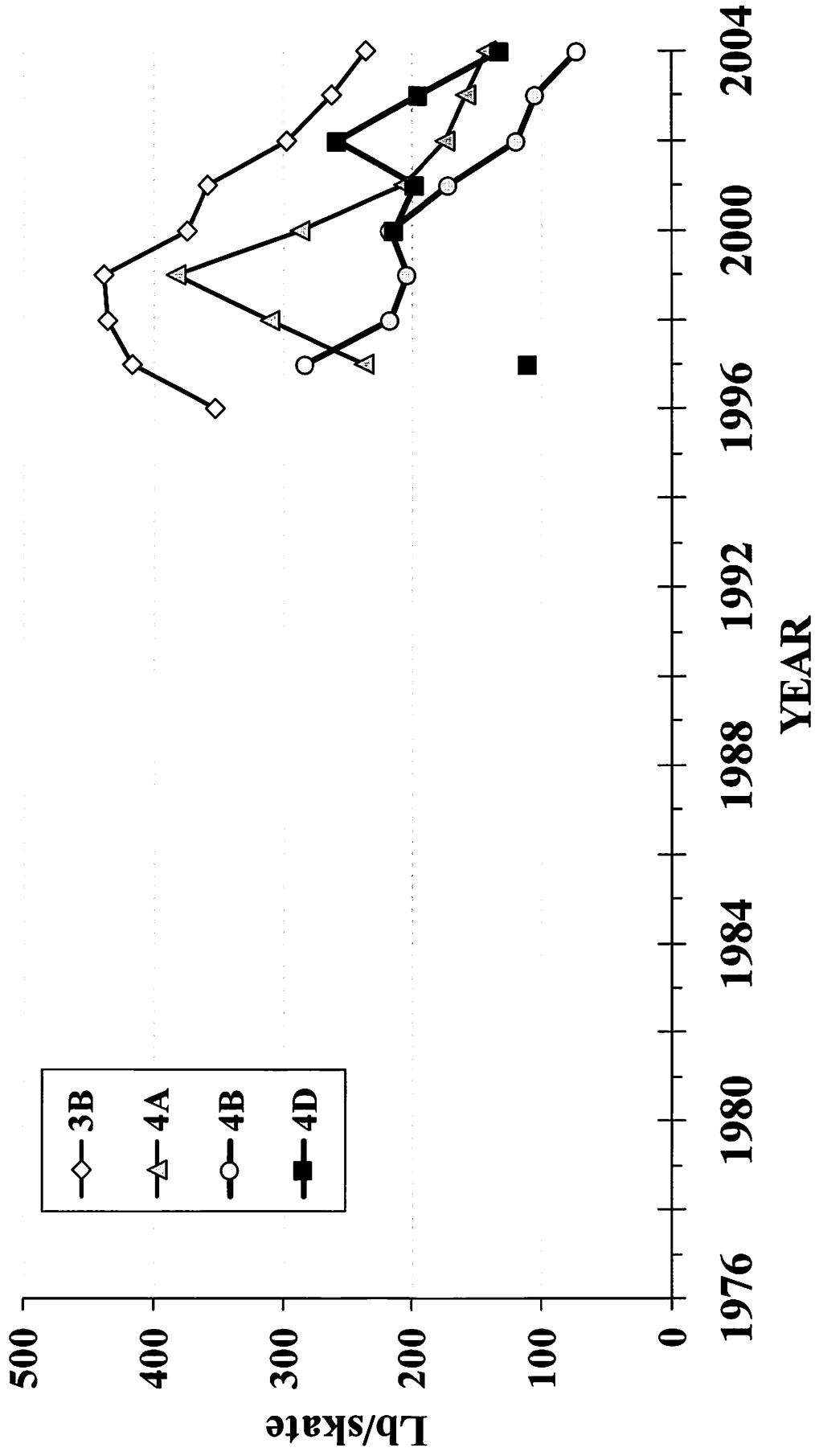
Stock Condition Indicators

- **Survey CPUE**
- **Commercial CPUE**
- **Analytic assessment**

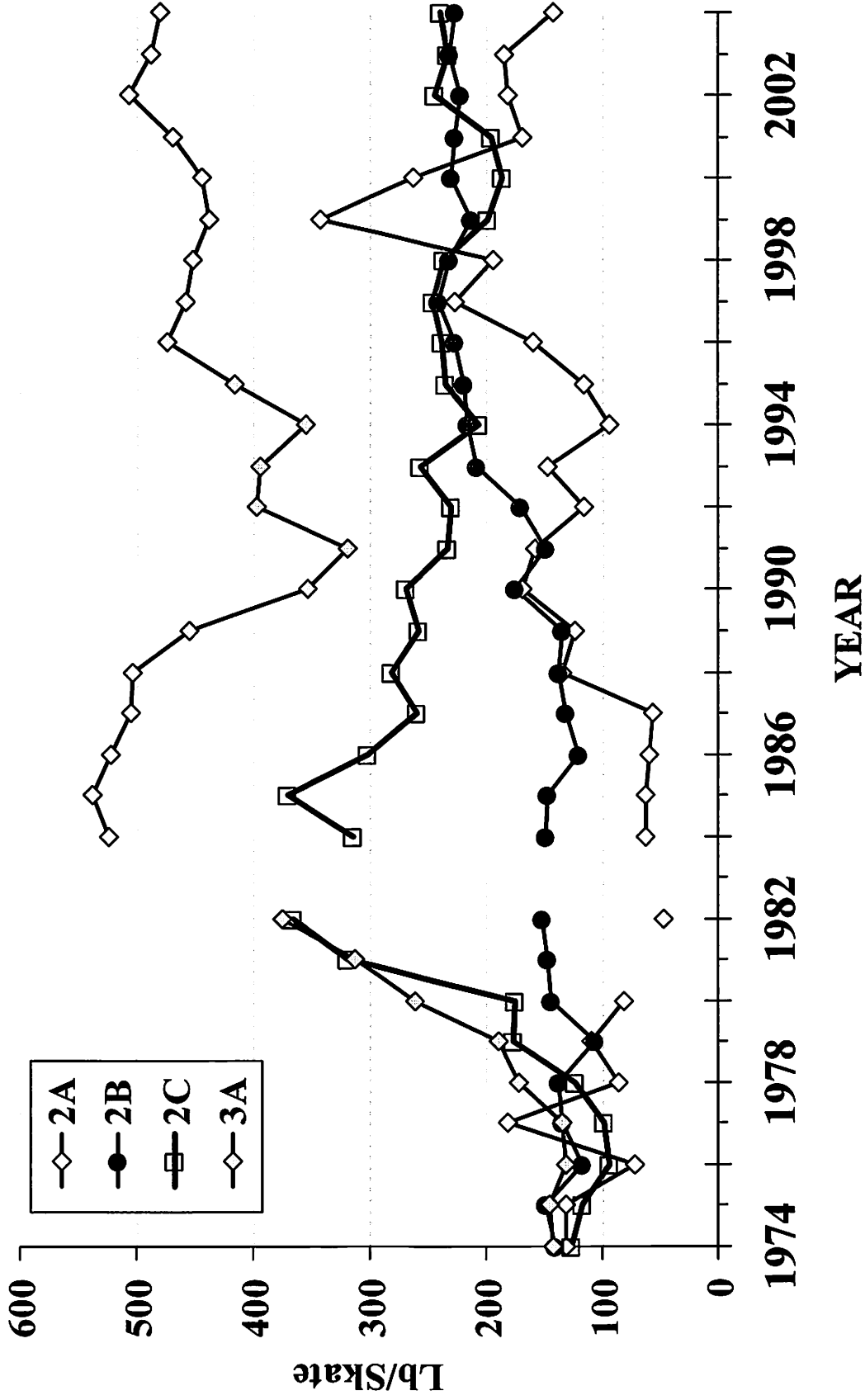
Survey CPUE



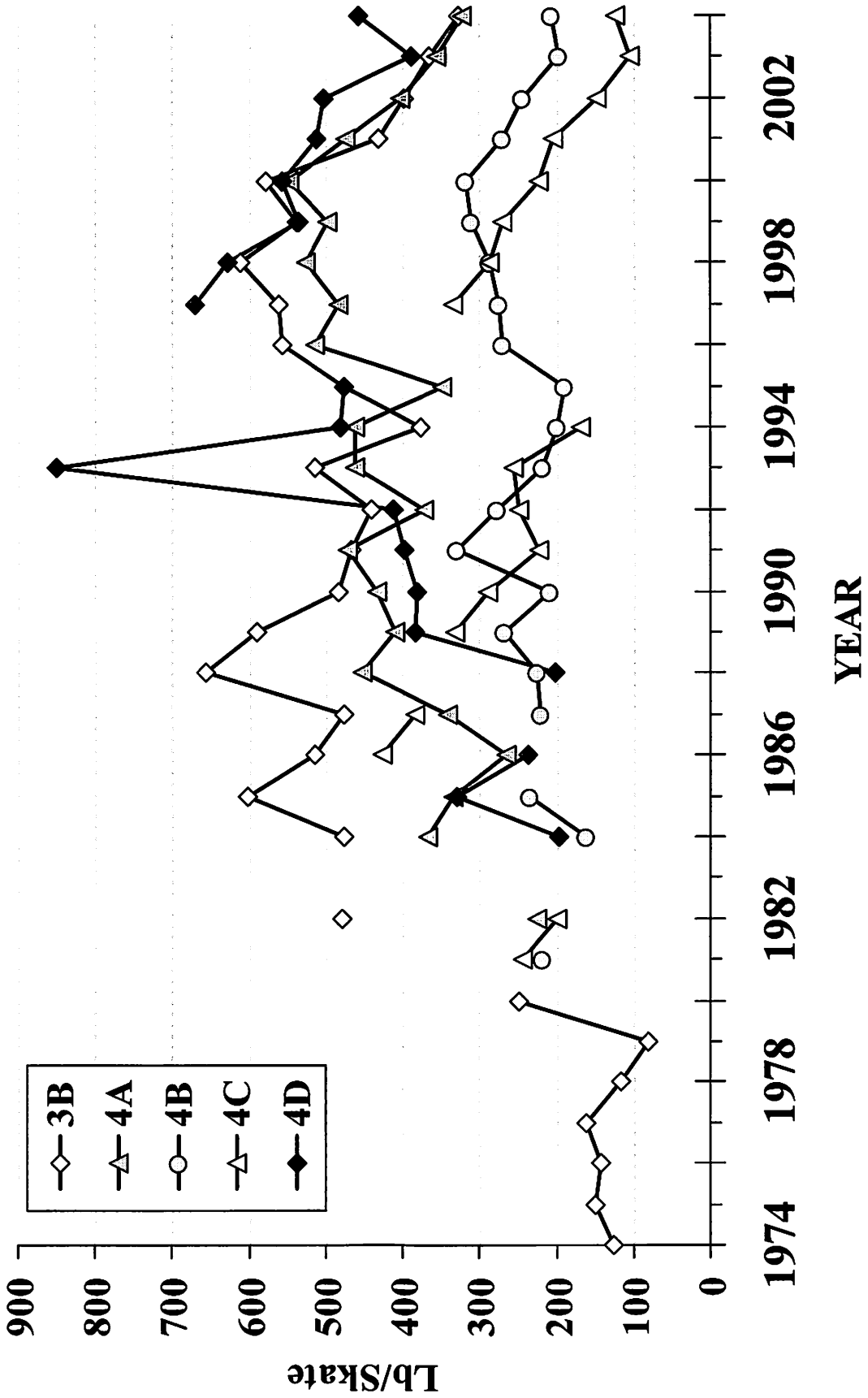
Survey CPUE



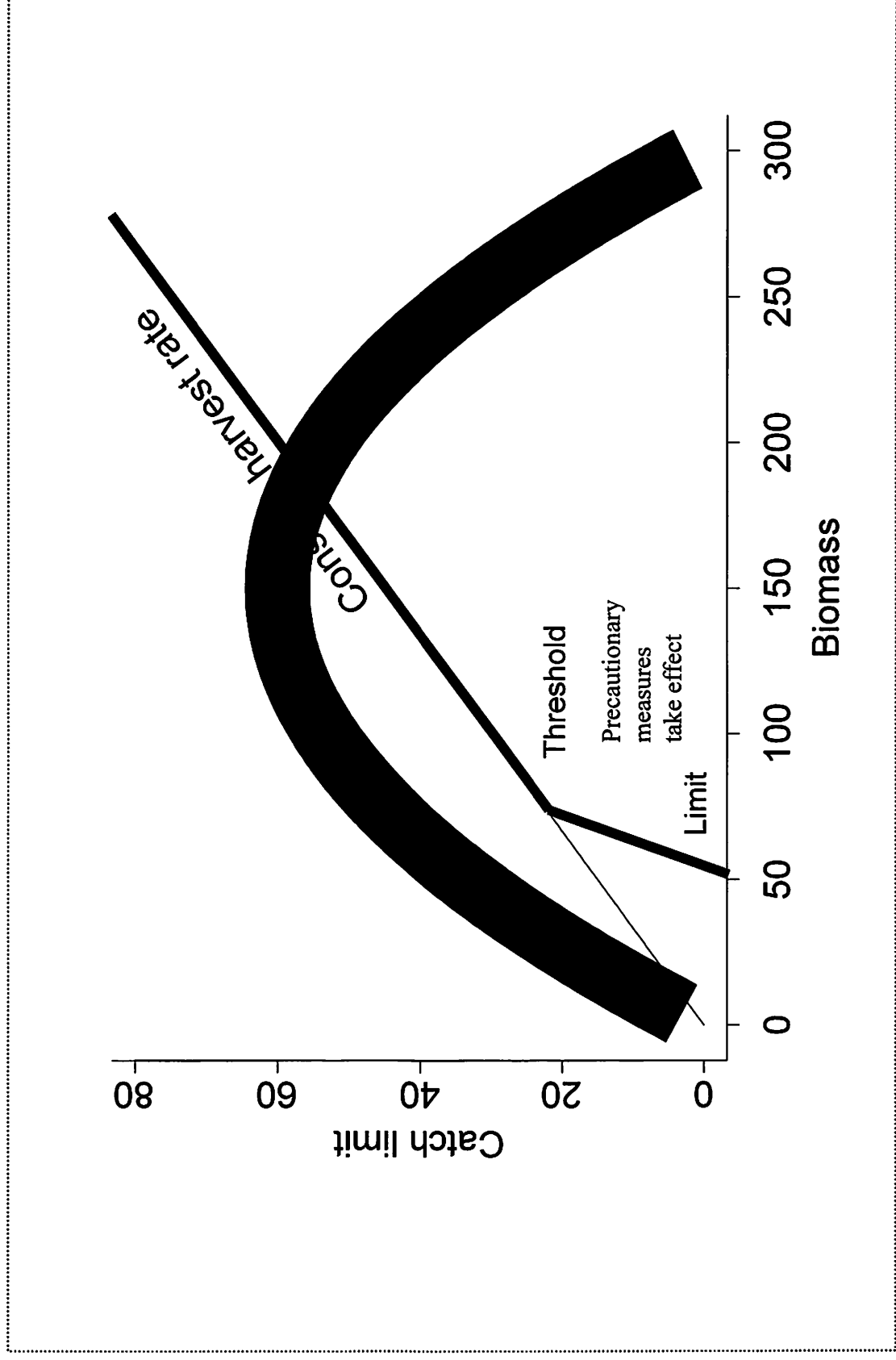
Commercial CPUE



Commercial CPUE



A modified constant harvest rate policy



Simulation results

Most Likely Scenario

| HR | Average Annual Yield (million pounds) | | |
|-------|--|------|------|
| | 2B | 2C | 3A |
| 0.000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.200 | 15.4 | 16.3 | 45.1 |
| 0.225 | 16.2 | 17.2 | 49.4 |
| 0.250 | 16.8 | 18.0 | 53.2 |
| 0.275 | 17.3 | 18.6 | 56.5 |
| 0.300 | 17.7 | 19.0 | 59.3 |

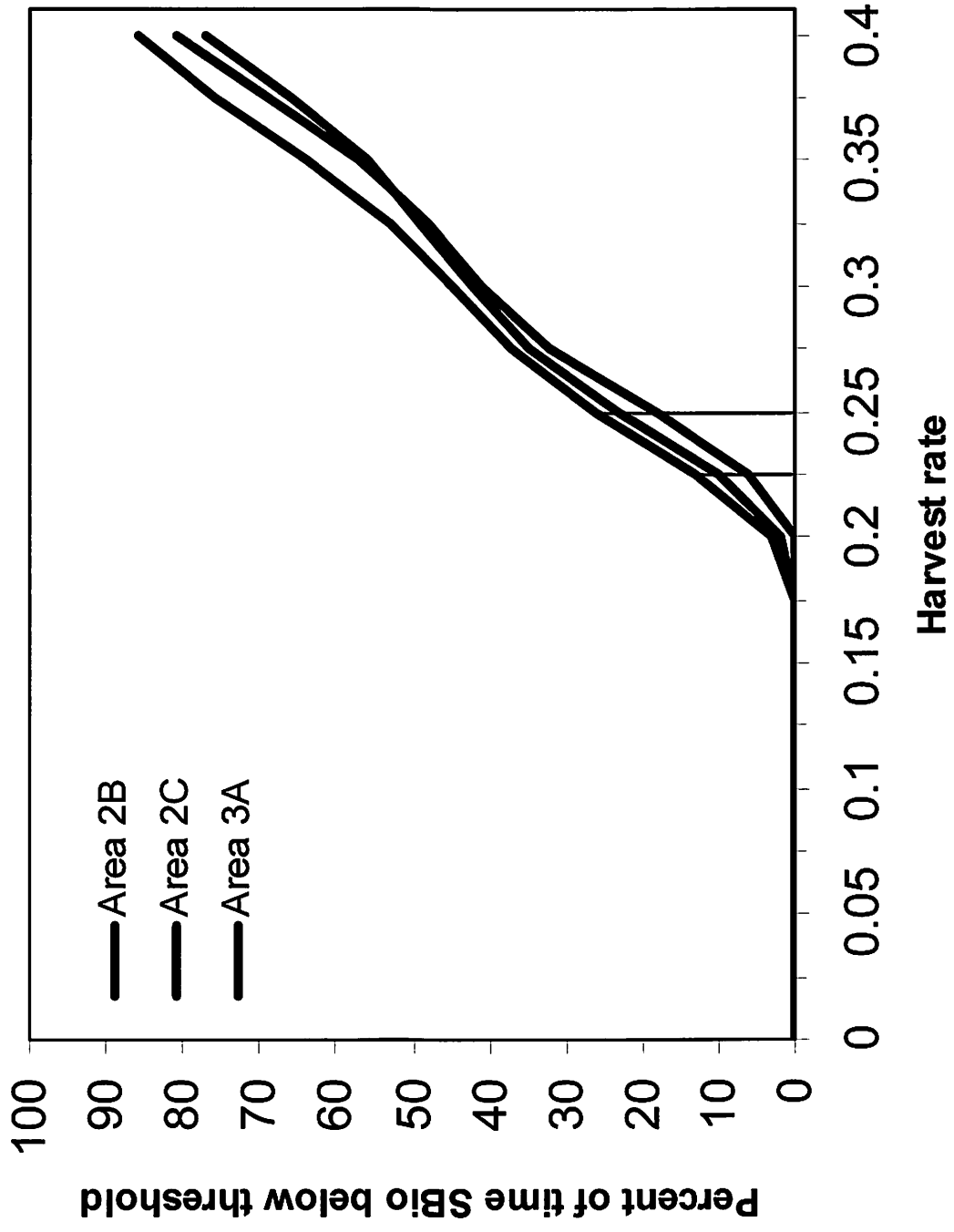
| HR | % of time Sbio reaches Threshold | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|----|----|
| | 2B | 2C | 3A |
| 0.000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.200 | 0 | 2 | 3 |
| 0.225 | 6 | 11 | 13 |
| 0.250 | 19 | 24 | 27 |
| 0.275 | 32 | 35 | 37 |
| 0.300 | 42 | 43 | 45 |

Slow Growth Scenario

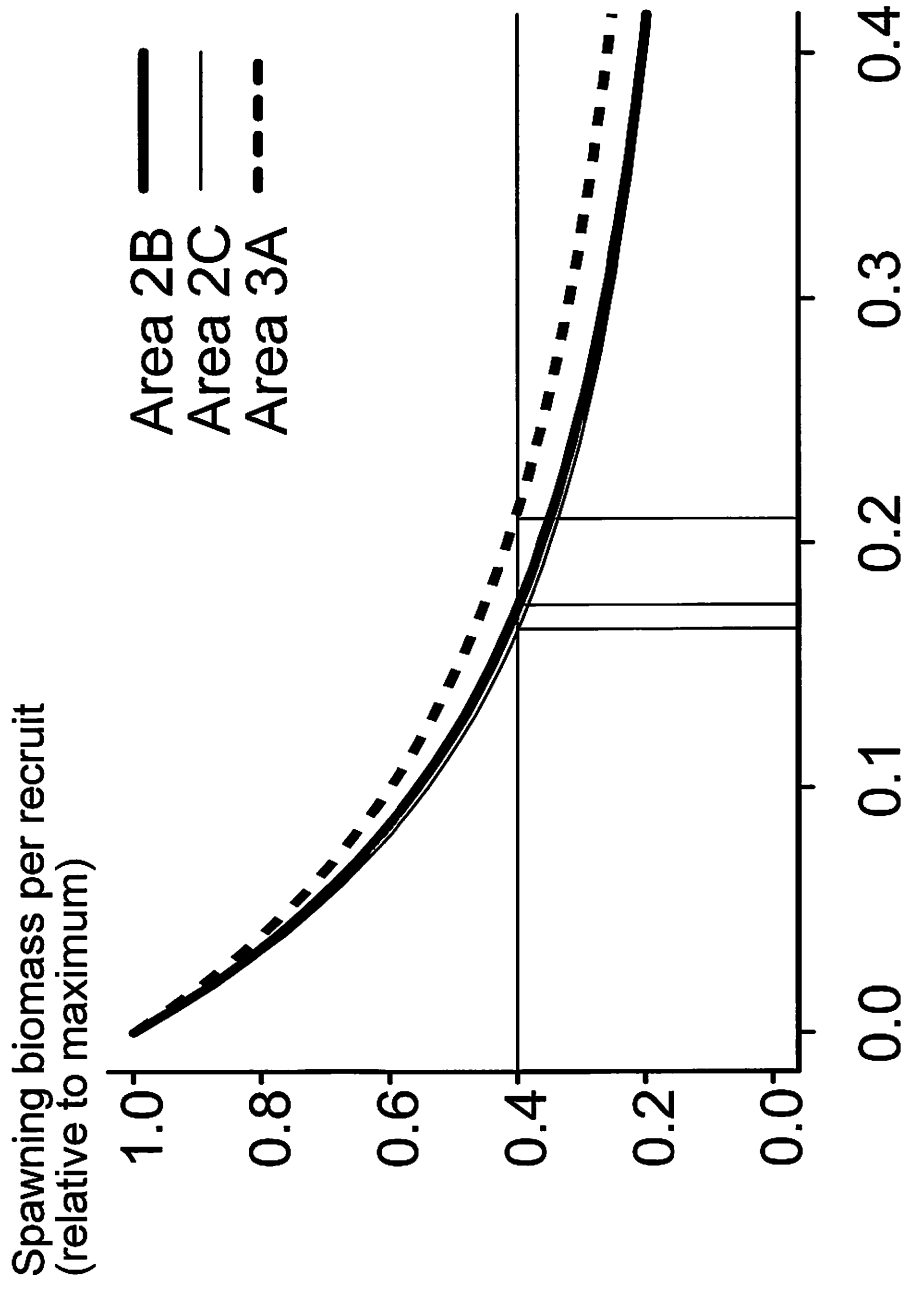
| HR | Average Annual Yield (million pounds) | | |
|-------|--|------|------|
| | 2B | 2C | 3A |
| 0.000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.200 | 11.6 | 11.6 | 23.8 |
| 0.225 | 12.1 | 12.0 | 24.7 |
| 0.250 | 12.4 | 12.3 | 25.5 |
| 0.275 | 12.7 | 12.6 | 26.2 |
| 0.300 | 12.9 | 12.8 | 26.8 |

| HR | % of time Sbio reaches Threshold | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|----|----|
| | 2B | 2C | 3A |
| 0.000 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 0.200 | 6 | 8 | 20 |
| 0.225 | 17 | 19 | 29 |
| 0.250 | 29 | 30 | 36 |
| 0.275 | 38 | 38 | 41 |
| 0.300 | 45 | 44 | 45 |

Harvest rate and SBio threshold



Spawning Biomass Per Recruit



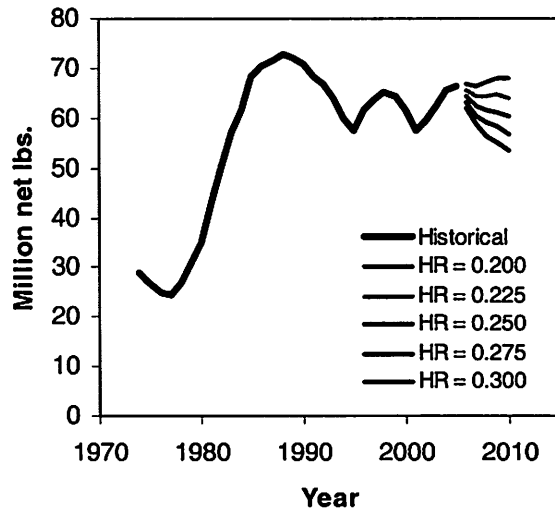
Conclusions

- **Harvest rate of 0.2 still appropriate for Areas 3B and 4**
 - **Do not have as complete understanding of productivity**
 - **Recruitment is lower and possibly more episodic (“spiky”)**
 - **Equilibrium analysis suggests 0.2 or lower rate**
- **Harvest rate re-evaluated whenever significant change in population dynamics or assessment model warrants**

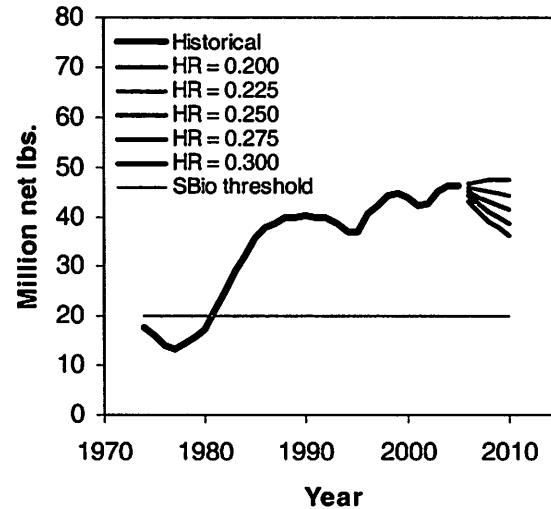
Short term projections – Area 2C

| Average Annual Yield - Total Removals (M net lbs.) | | | | | |
|--|-------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| HR | 0.200 | 0.225 | 0.250 | 0.275 | 0.300 |
| 2005 | 13.2 | 14.8 | 16.5 | 18.1 | 19.8 |
| 2006 | 13.3 | 14.7 | 16.1 | 17.4 | 18.6 |
| 2007 | 13.3 | 14.5 | 15.6 | 16.6 | 17.6 |
| 2008 | 13.4 | 14.5 | 15.4 | 16.2 | 16.9 |
| 2009 | 13.6 | 14.5 | 15.3 | 16.0 | 16.6 |
| 2010 | 13.6 | 14.4 | 15.1 | 15.6 | 16.1 |
| 6 yr. avg. | 13.4 | 14.6 | 15.7 | 16.7 | 17.6 |

Exploitable Biomass



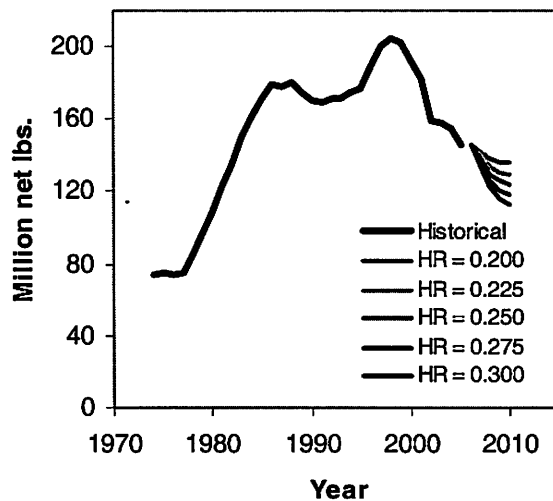
Spawning Biomass



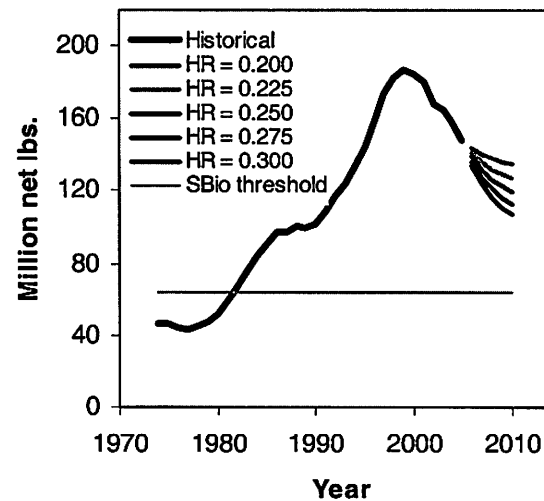
Short term projections – Area 3A

| Average Annual Yield - Total Removals (M net lbs.) | | | | | |
|--|-------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| HR | 0.200 | 0.225 | 0.250 | 0.275 | 0.300 |
| 2005 | 29.2 | 32.9 | 36.5 | 40.2 | 43.8 |
| 2006 | 28.2 | 31.2 | 34.2 | 37.0 | 39.7 |
| 2007 | 27.5 | 30.1 | 32.5 | 34.7 | 36.7 |
| 2008 | 27.2 | 29.5 | 31.5 | 33.3 | 34.9 |
| 2009 | 27.1 | 29.1 | 30.9 | 32.4 | 33.8 |
| 2010 | 27.0 | 28.8 | 30.4 | 31.8 | 33.0 |
| 6 yr. avg. | 27.7 | 30.3 | 32.7 | 34.9 | 37.0 |

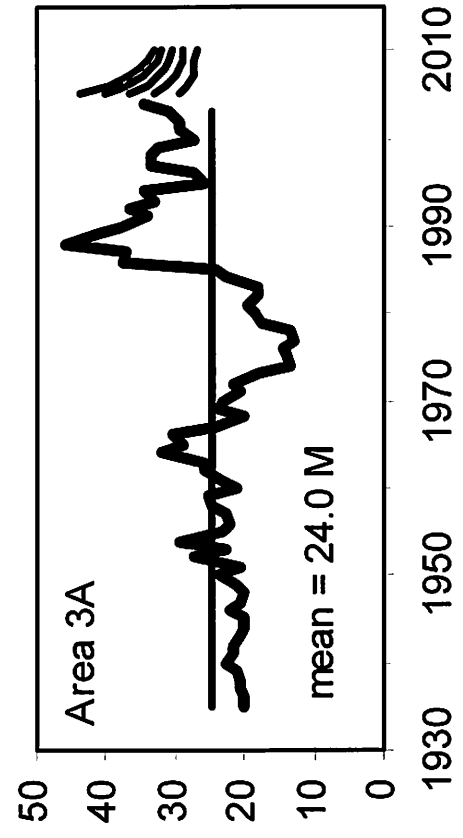
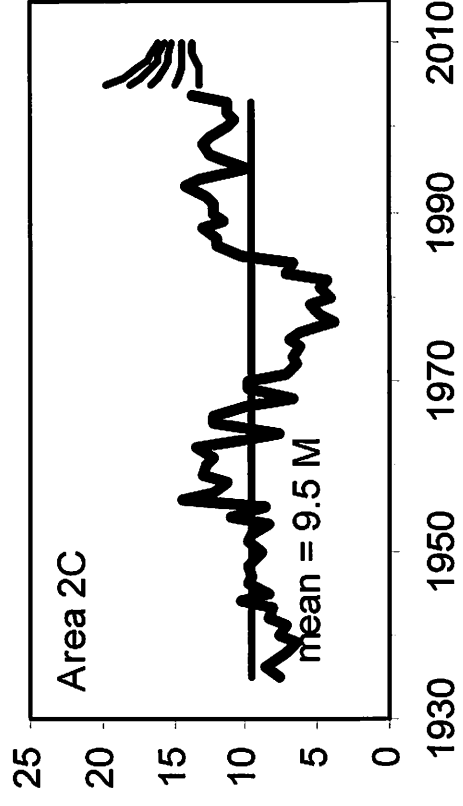
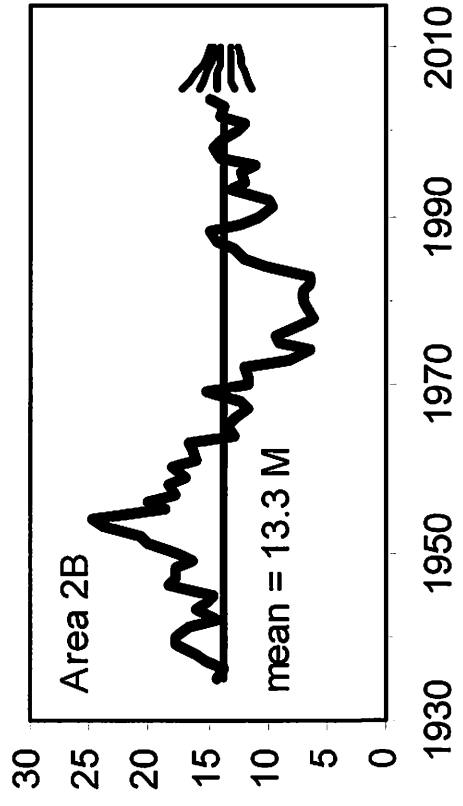
Exploitable Biomass



Spawning Biomass



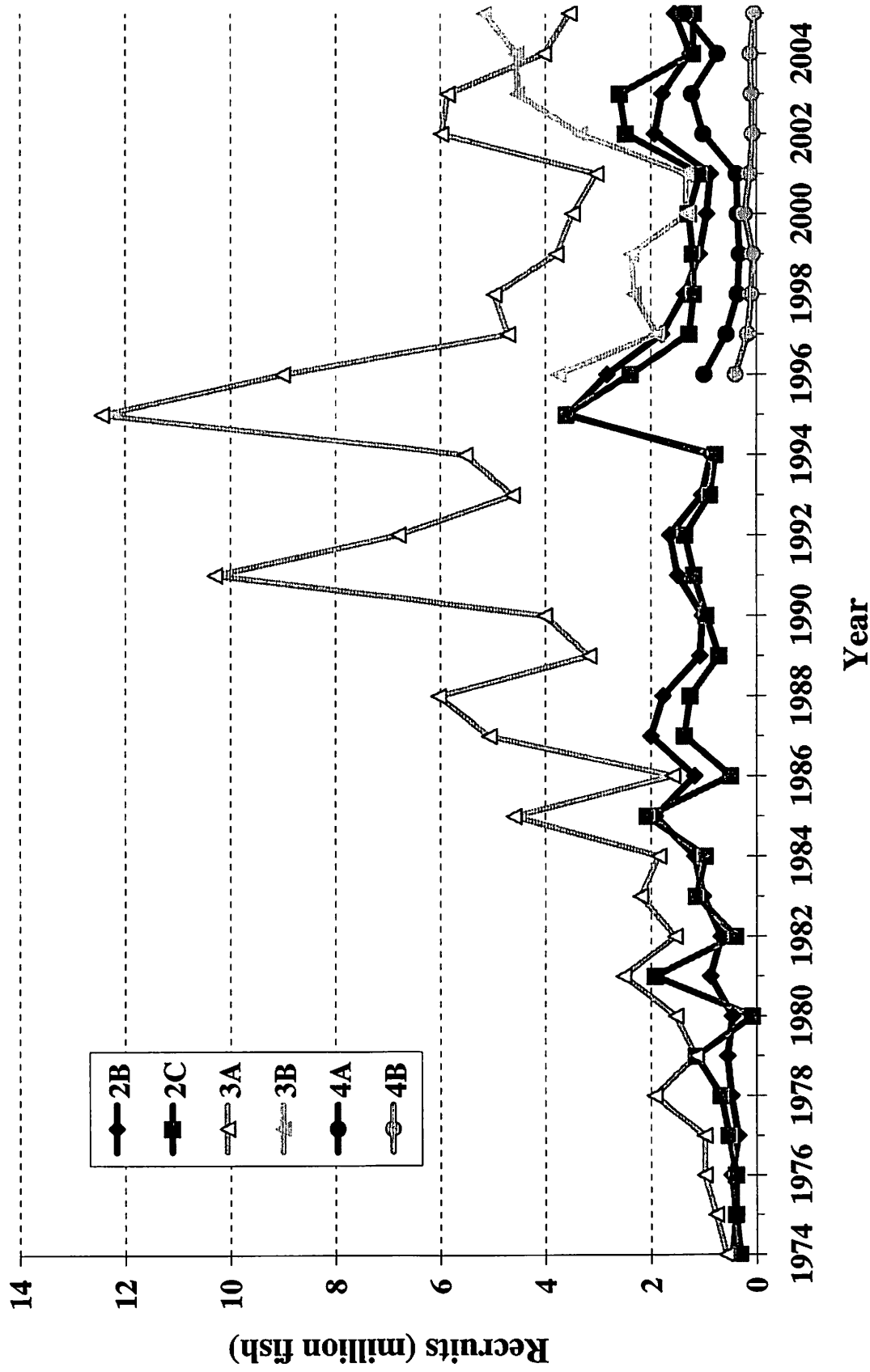
Long-term harvest patterns



Catch Limit Concerns

- **Trajectories of relative abundance indices and recruitment**
- **Areas 3B and 4 sustainability**
- **Technical assessment capabilities in some areas**

Age 8 Recruitment Estimates



| | Area 2A | Area 2B | Area 2C | Area 3A | Area 3B | Area 4A | Area 4B | Area 4CDE | Total |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2005 exploitable biomass (2004 assessment) | 7.0 | 58 | 66 | 146 | 56 | 20 | 10 | 32 | 395.0 |
| Other removals | | | | | | | | | |
| Sport catch | 0.51 | 1.37 | 2.31 | 4.74 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8.96 |
| Legal-sized bycatch | 0.37 | 0.14 | 0.15 | 1.52 | 0.39 | 0.52 | 0.29 | 1.92 | 5.3 |
| Personal use | 0.02 | 0.30 | 0.63 | 0.28 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.08 | 1.36 |
| Legal-sized wastage | 0.00 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.00 | 0.01 | 0.18 |
| Total | 0.90 | 1.83 | 3.12 | 6.61 | 0.46 | 0.58 | 0.29 | 2.01 | 15.8 |
| ...excluding sport catch | 0.39 ¹ | 0.44 ² | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| Total CEY at 20% | 1.40 | 11.6 | 13.2 | 29.2 | 11.2 | 4.0 | 2.0 | 6.4 | 79 |
| Fishery CEY at 20% | 1.01 | 11.2 | 10.1 | 22.6 | 10.7 | 3.5 | 1.7 | 4.5 | 65.11 |
| Total CEY at 22.5% | 1.56 | 13.1 | 14.9 | 32.9 | 12.6 | 4.5 | 2.3 | 7.2 | 89.06 |
| Fishery CEY at 22.5% | 1.17 | 12.7 | 11.8 | 26.3 | 12.2 | 3.9 | 2.0 | 5.2 | 75.27 |

Notes:

1. Fishery CEY includes sport catch in Areas 2A and 2B.

2. Combined sport and commercial CEY for Area 2B includes Area 2B sport catch landed in the U.S. (0.200 million lb) and legal sized wastage (0.02 million lb) to conform with the Canadian allocation program. If sport landings in the U.S. are left out of fishery CEY, they become a subtraction from total CEY and fishery CEY is reduced to 12.5 million lb.

Setline Catch Limit Calculation

| Reg Area | Exploitable biomass | CEY at 22.5% (20% in Areas 3B and 4) | 2004 Other Removals | 2004 Catch Limit | 2005 Fishery CEY | 2005 Catch Limit Recommendation | |
|--------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|-----|
| 2A | 6.96 | 1.56 | 0.39 | 1.48 | 1.17 | 1.33 | 1,4 |
| 2B | 58.00 | 13.10 | 0.44 | 13.80 | 12.70 | 13.25 | 2,4 |
| 2C | 66.00 | 14.90 | 3.12 | 10.50 | 11.80 | 10.93 | 3 |
| 3A | 146.00 | 32.90 | 6.61 | 25.06 | 26.30 | 25.47 | 3 |
| 3B | 56.00 | 11.20 | 0.46 | 15.60 | 10.70 | 13.15 | 4 |
| 4A | 20.00 | 4.00 | 0.58 | 3.47 | 3.40 | 3.44 | 4 |
| 4B | 10.00 | 2.00 | 0.29 | 2.81 | 1.70 | 2.26 | 4 |
| 4CDE | 32.00 | 6.40 | 2.01 | 3.79 | 4.40 | 3.99 | 3 |
| Total | 394.96 | 86.06 | 13.90 | 76.51 | 72.17 | 73.82 | |

¹ Catch limit for 2A includes commercial, sport, and treaty subsistence catches

² 2004 and 2005 Catch limit for 2B includes commercial, sport catch, and legal-sized wastage

³ Calculated as 2004 catch limit plus 1/3 of the difference between
2005 Setline CEY and 2004 Catch Limit

⁴ Calculated as 2004 Catch Limit minus 50% of the difference between
2004 Catch Limit and 2005 Setline CEY

2005 Adopted Limits

| Regulatory Area | Millions of Pounds | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| | IPHC Staff Recomm | Conf Bd Recomm | Processor Recomm | IPHC Adopted |
| 2A* | 1.33 | 1.33 | 1.33 | 1.33 |
| 2B^ | 13.25 | 13.25 | 13.25 | 13.25 |
| 2C | 10.93 | 10.93 | 10.93 | 10.93 |
| 3A | 25.47 | 25.47 | 25.47 | 25.47 |
| 3B | 13.15 | 13.15 | 13.15 | 13.15 |
| 4A | 3.44 | 3.44 | 3.44 | 3.44 |
| 4B | 2.26 | 2.26 | 2.26 | 2.26 |
| 4CDE | 3.99 | 3.99 | 3.99 | 3.99 |
| TOTAL | 73.82 | 73.82 | 73.82 | 73.82 |

*^Includes sport, tribal (in Area 2A only) and commercial fisheries

Other Regulatory Measures

Fishing periods and catch sharing

- **February 27 - November 15 for quota share fisheries and treaty Indian fisheries**
- **In 2A, a series of 10-h periods for the directed fishery**
- **Endorsed Management Councils' catch sharing plans for Areas 2A and 4C/D/E. Resulting catch limits in Areas 4C/D/E are: 4C 1.815 Mlb, 4D 1.815 Mlb, 4E 0.359 Mlb**

Other Regulatory Measures

Allow Area 4C IFQ and CDQ fishing in Area 4D

- **Requested by NPFMC**
- **Similar to existing permission for Area 4D CDQ to be fished in Area 4E**
- **Clearance regulations will be modified to allow a single clearance into Areas 4C and 4D**

Clarify prohibition of fillets aboard vessels

- **Will not change current exemptions for cheeking, or weighed and filleted IFQ fish**

Other Issues

Alaska Food Coalition proposal

Neither the Commission nor its advisory bodies approved the AFC proposal to retain halibut from trawlers for distribution to food banks. While the intent is laudatory, it works against the programs of bycatch mortality reduction implemented by the U.S. government. The advisory bodies also believed other sources of fish protein should be evaluated thoroughly and invited the proponents to work with the halibut industry to achieve their goals.

Other Issues

Season Extension

- **Joint industry staff working group will evaluate and recommend research programs to gain detailed information on timing, extent, and magnitude of halibut seasonal migration.**
- **Information needed to evaluate potential impacts of extension of the halibut fishing season into periods when migrating fish may be intercepted.**
- **Candidate approaches include satellite tagging, PIT tagging, and experimental winter fisheries.**