

C3 Joint Groundfish September Plan Team Report

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Kalei Shotwell, Diana Stram, Cindy Tribuzio



October 2023, Presentation to the AP



GF Plan Team Meetings, September 19-22, 2023

- Hybrid, see [e-agenda](#) for Joint Teams, then BSAI and GOA
- Vacancies on both teams

BSAI Groundfish Plan Team Members:

Steve Barbeaux	AFSC REFM (co-chair)	Kalei Shotwell	AFSC REFM (co-chair)
Diana Stram	NPFMC (coordinator)	Phil Joy	ADF&G
Steven Whitney	NMFS AKRO	Cindy Tribuzio	AFSC ABL (vice chair)
Allan Hicks	IPHC	Andrew Seitz	UAF
Lisa Hillier	WDFW	Beth Matta	AFSC REFM
Kirstin Holsman	AFSC REFM	Jane Sullivan	AFSC ABL
Andy Kingham	AFSC FMA		

GOA Groundfish Plan Team Members:

Jim Ianelli	AFSC REFM (co-chair)	Sandra Lowe	AFSC REFM
Chris Lunsford	AFSC ABL (co-chair)	Nat Nichols	ADF&G
Sara Cleaver	NPFMC (coordinator)	Jan Rumble	ADF&G
Abby Jahn	NMFS AKRO	Paul Spencer	AFSC REFM
Craig Faunce	AFSC FMA	Kristan Blackhart	NMFS OS&T
Lisa Hillier	WDFW	Ben Williams	AFSC ABL
Pete Hulson	AFSC ABL	Cecilia O’Leary	AFSC RACE



Joint Plan Team presentation summary (1 of 2)

Topic	Presenter	Type	Action
<u>Research Priorities</u>	Nicole Watson	Information	Yes
<u>Halibut DMRs</u>	Michael Fey	Information	In individual teams
<u>SAFE Guidelines and Scheduling</u>	Chris Lunsford	Information	Yes
<u>ESP Overview and Update</u>	Kalei Shotwell	Ecosystem Update	Yes
<u>ESR Climate Update</u>	Bridget Ferriss	Ecosystem Update	No
<u>ESR CIE Review</u>	Ivonne Ortiz	Information	No
<u>Rockfish Genetic Stock Structure</u>	Wes Larson	Information	No
<u>EBS Krill Index</u>	Mike Levine	Information	No
<u>Draft 2024 ADP</u>	Craig Faunce	Information	No
<u>Longline Survey</u>	Kevin Siwicke	Survey Update	No
<u>GOA Trawl Survey</u>	Ned Laman	Survey Update	No
<u>Winter Acoustic Survey</u>	Denise McKelvey	Survey Update	No
<u>Summer Acoustic Pollock Survey</u>	Dave McGowan	Survey Update	No

Note: Underlined text has a link to presentation



Joint Plan Team presentation summary (2 of 2)

Topic	Presenter	Type	Action
<u>EBS/NBS Trawl Survey</u>	Duane Stevenson	Survey Update	No
<u>EBS BTS Survey Modernization</u>	Stan Kotwicki	Information	No
<u>Ecosystem Surveys</u>	Lauren Rogers	Survey Update	No
<u>Sablefish Model</u>	Daniel Goethel	Model Update	No
<u>Sablefish Fleet Changes</u>	Matt Cheng	Information	No
<u>M Priors Methods</u>	Jim Thorson	Information	No
<u>Archival Tag Methods</u>	Jim Thorson	Information	No
<u>One Step Ahead Residuals</u>	Cole Monnahan	Information	No
<u>Index Likelihoods</u>	Cole Monnahan	Information	No
<u>Retrospective Patterns</u>	Meaghan Bryan	Information	No
<u>Acoustic Trawl Survey Uncertainty</u>	Sam Urmy	Information	No
<u>Age and Length Sample Sizes</u>	Pete Hulson	Information	No
<u>Age Composition Methods</u>	Thomas Helser	Information	No

Note: Underlined text has a link to presentation



Research Priorities

● Highlights:

- Groundfish Plan Teams provide review of existing research priorities, new priorities submitted to the online portal, and additional PT priorities
- Teams will meet January 17, 2024 and develop list of priorities that will be distilled into 3-5 priorities and forwarded to the SSC

● Recommendation:

- AFSC track the progress of AFSC led projects that address any of the 8-12 priorities selected by the Council



SAFE Guidelines and Scheduling

● Highlights:

- Review of the stock prioritization and assessment definitions
- Update on AFSC contingency plan for stock assessments in the event of a US government shutdown

● Recommendation:

- Council staff request feedback from the SSC and Council in October meeting regarding the preference for >20 day plan of action in response to the government shutdown
- Council staff consider ability to obtain feedback from federal SSC membership prior to government shutdown



SAFE Guidelines and Scheduling

- **New Plan:**
 - CR takes us through the November Plan Team meeting
- **All assessments to be produced and reviewed as planned**
 - Finalization of SAFEs TBD but will be available for decision-making in December



ESP Overview and Update

● Highlights:

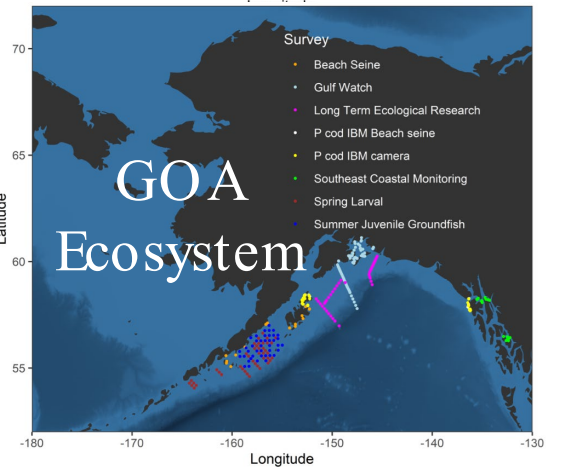
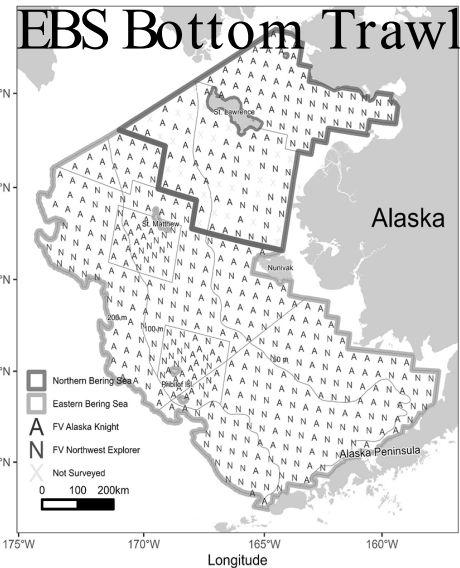
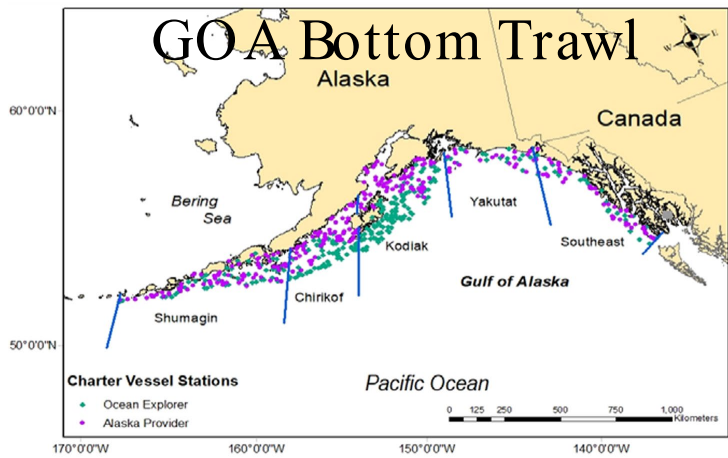
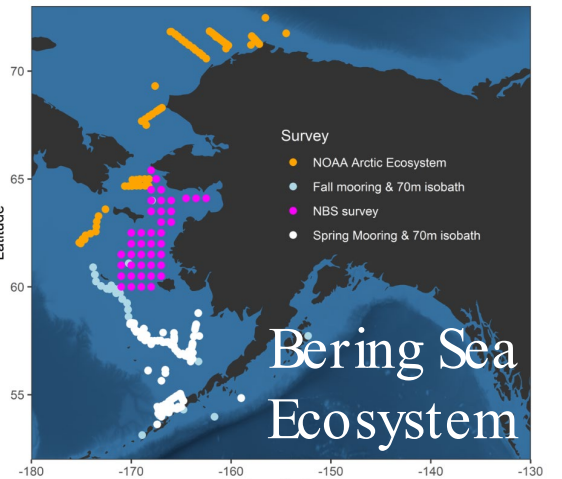
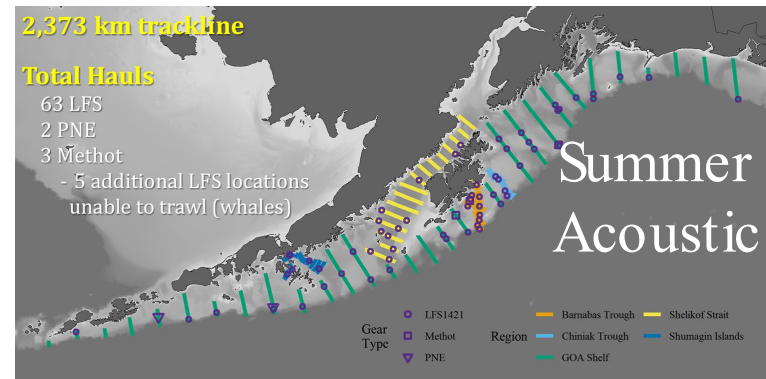
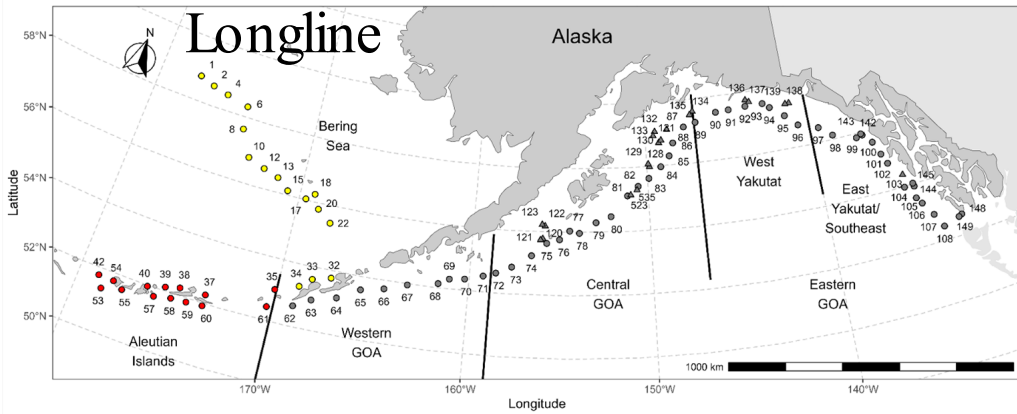
- Statistical importance, report reproducibility, data modernization, and climate readiness projects were reviewed
- Plan to begin Request For Information (RFI) process in 2024 to organize ESP contributions, National ESP Initiative workshops summary

● Recommendation:

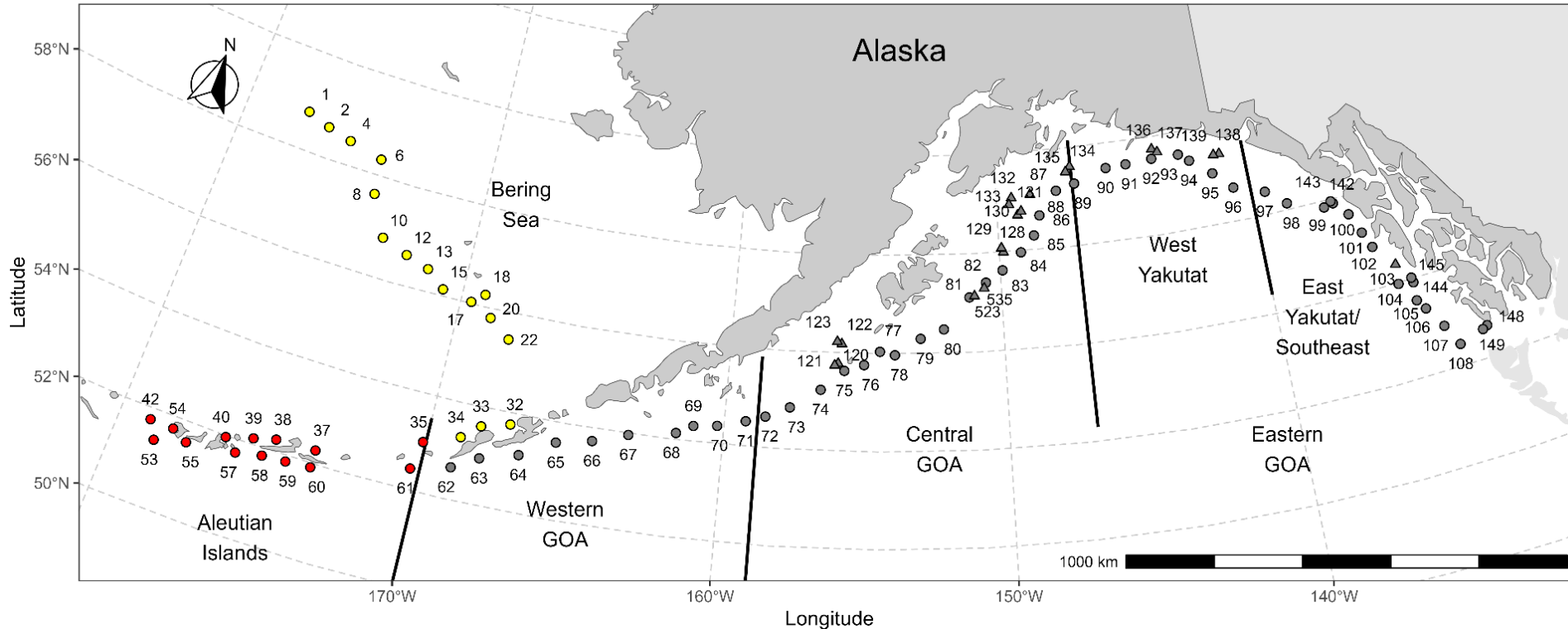
- Climate information within the ESP as a potential on-ramp be presented at the Council's CCTF November 2023 meeting
- Opportunity for product sharing between survey and ESP teams



Surveys



Longline Survey Geographic Coverage



- Bering Sea – odd years
- Aleutian Islands – even years
- GOA - annual
- 180 skates per day
- 45 hooks per skate
- Data depth stratified

Longline Survey

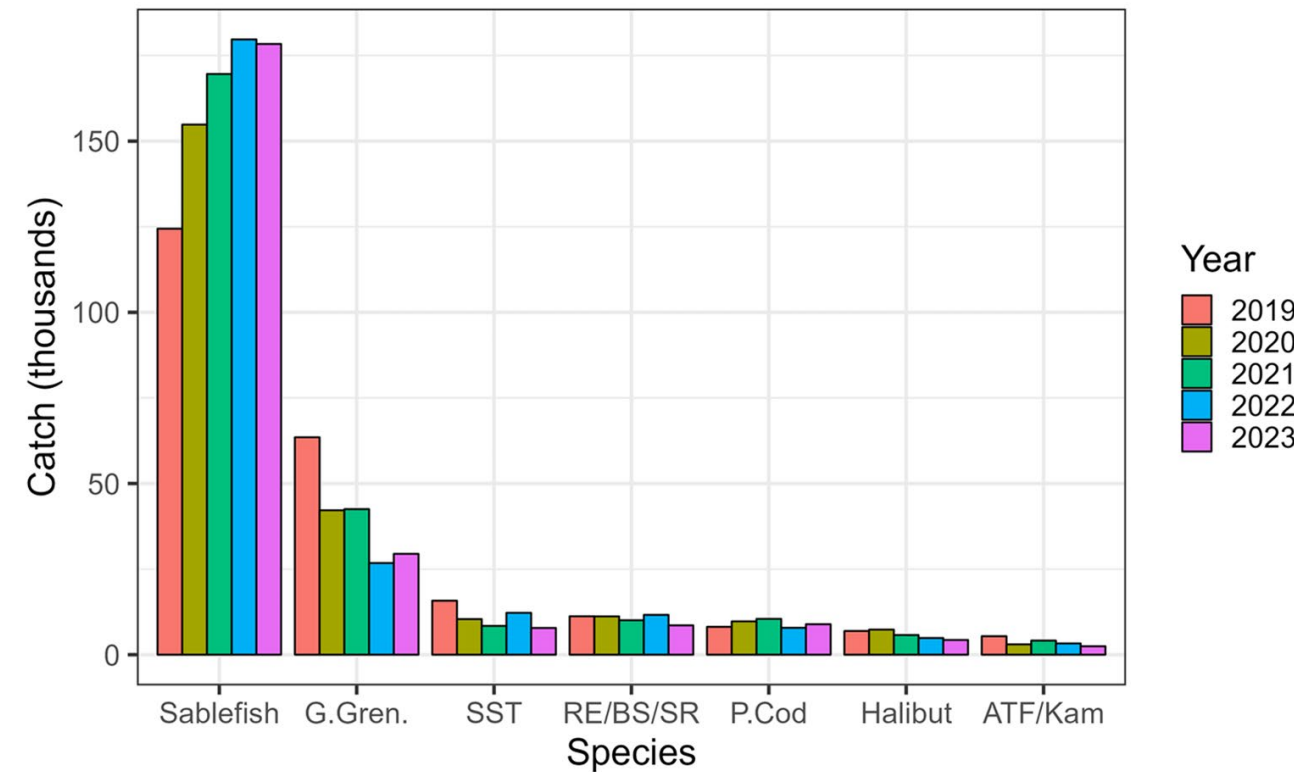
● Highlights:

- Survey methods update and standard data collections
- Update on slinky pot project

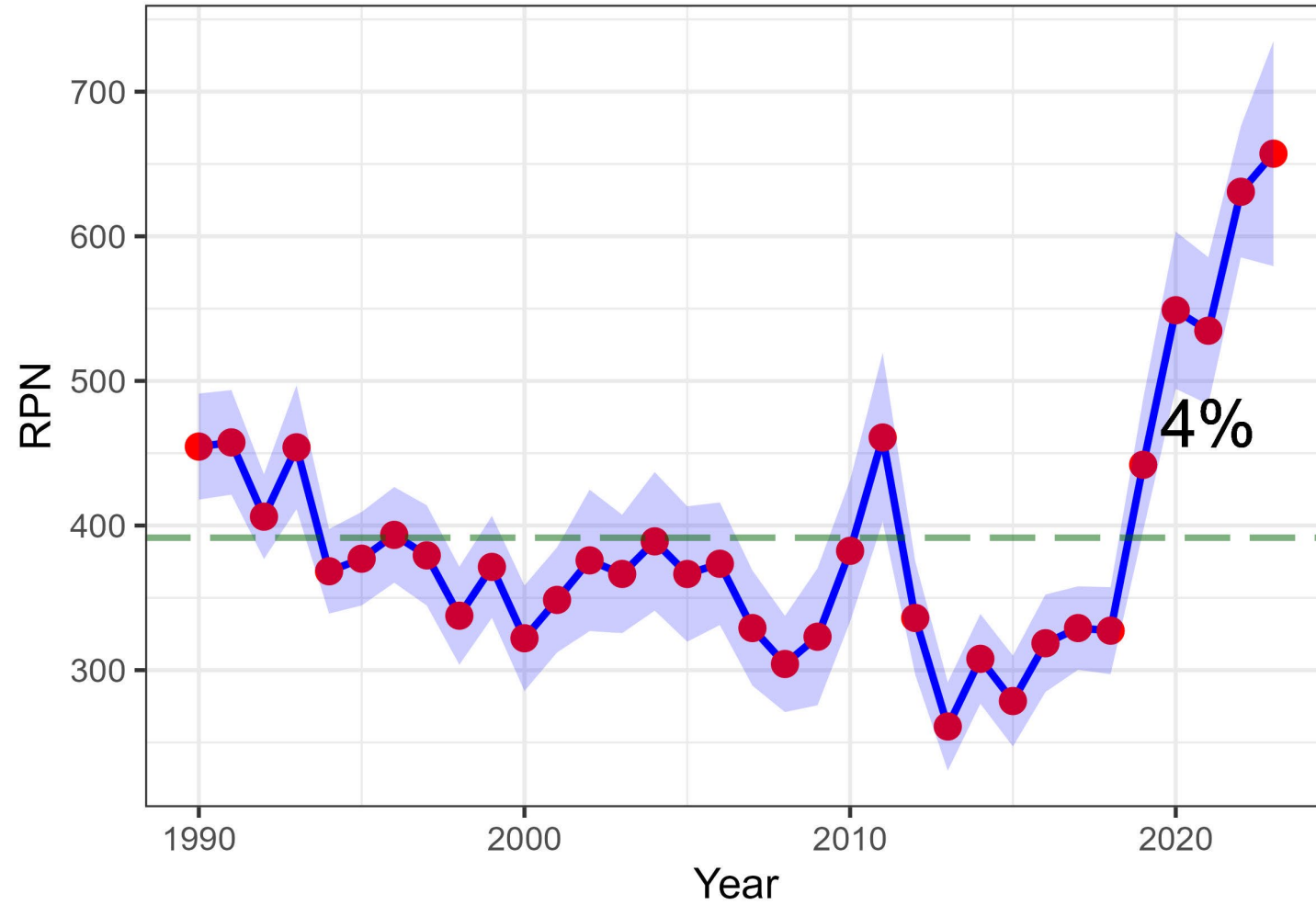
● Discussion:

- Escape rings, pot fullness, sablefish getting stuck
- Hook competition concerns

Recent raw catches by species

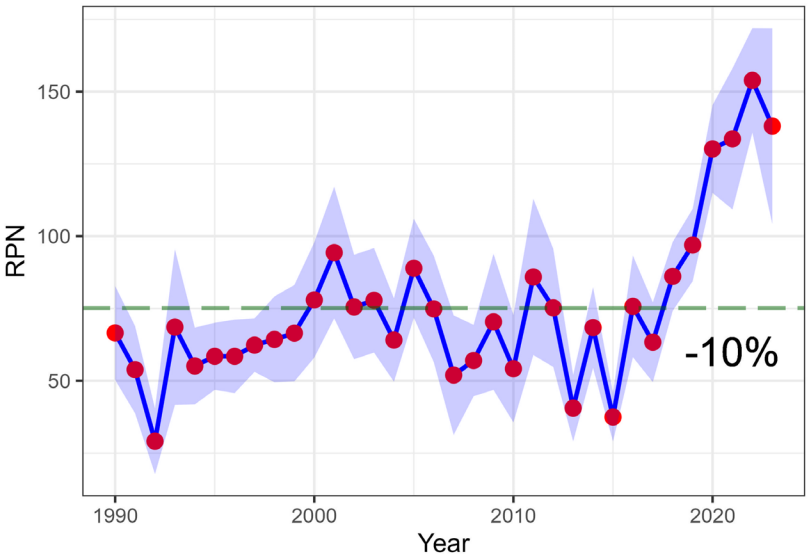


GOA Sablefish longline survey RPNs

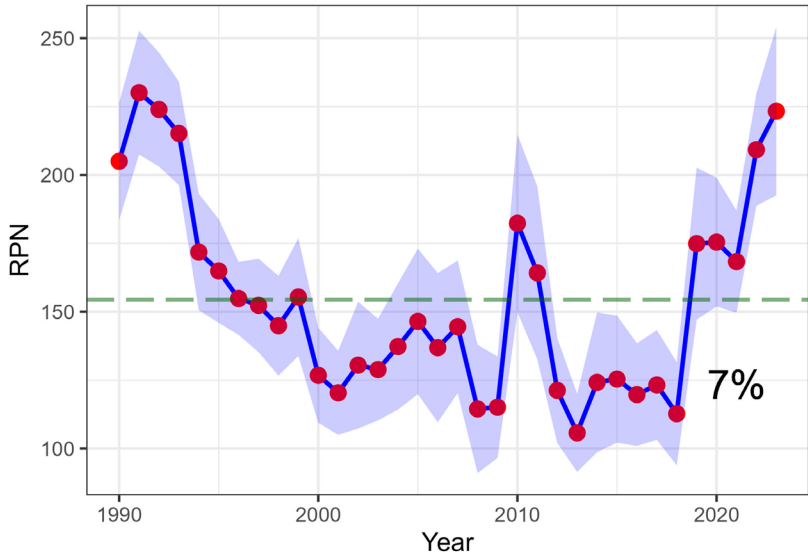


Sablefish: GOA

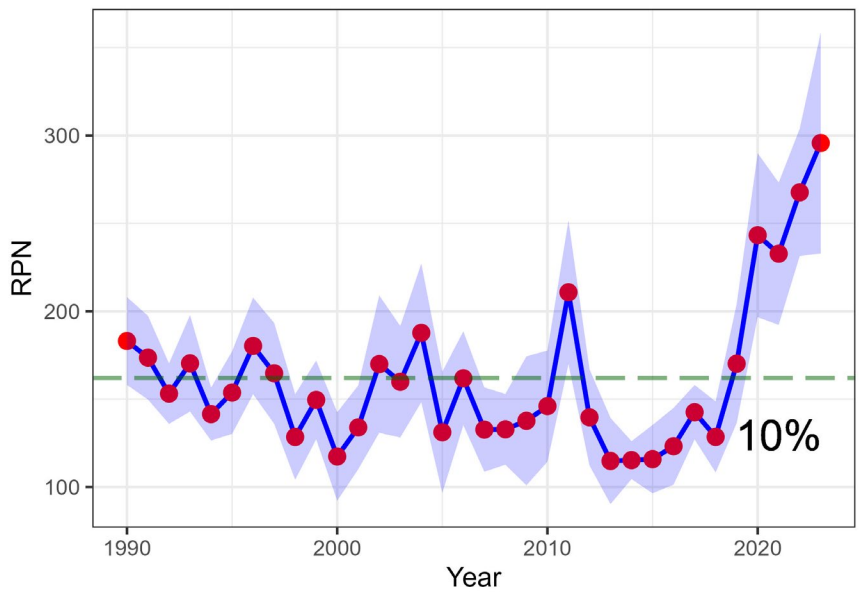
Western Gulf of Alaska Sablefish longline survey RPN



Eastern Gulf of Alaska Sablefish longline survey RPN

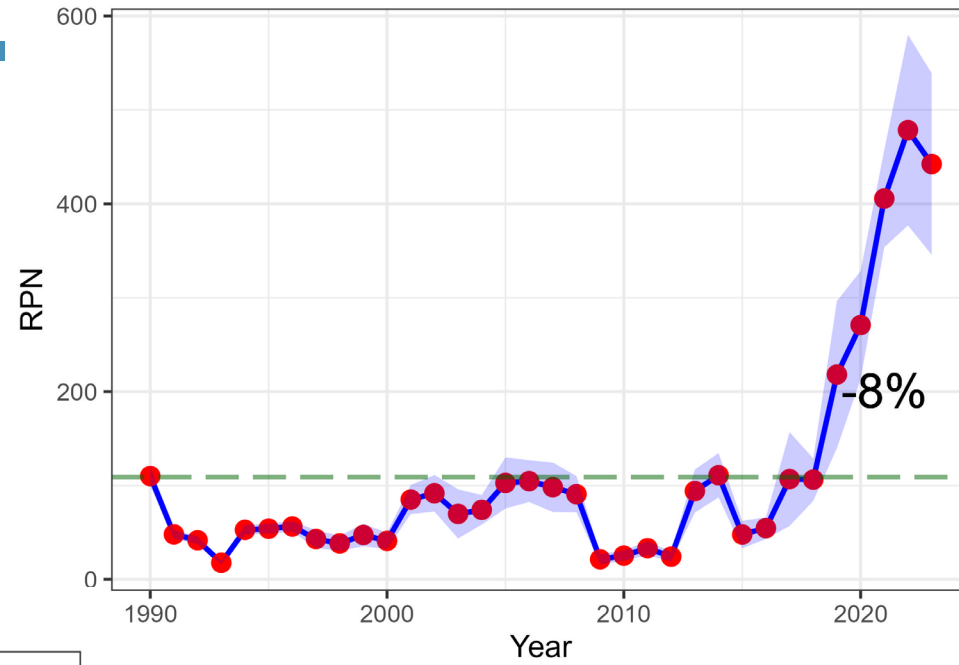


Central Gulf of Alaska Sablefish longline survey RPNs

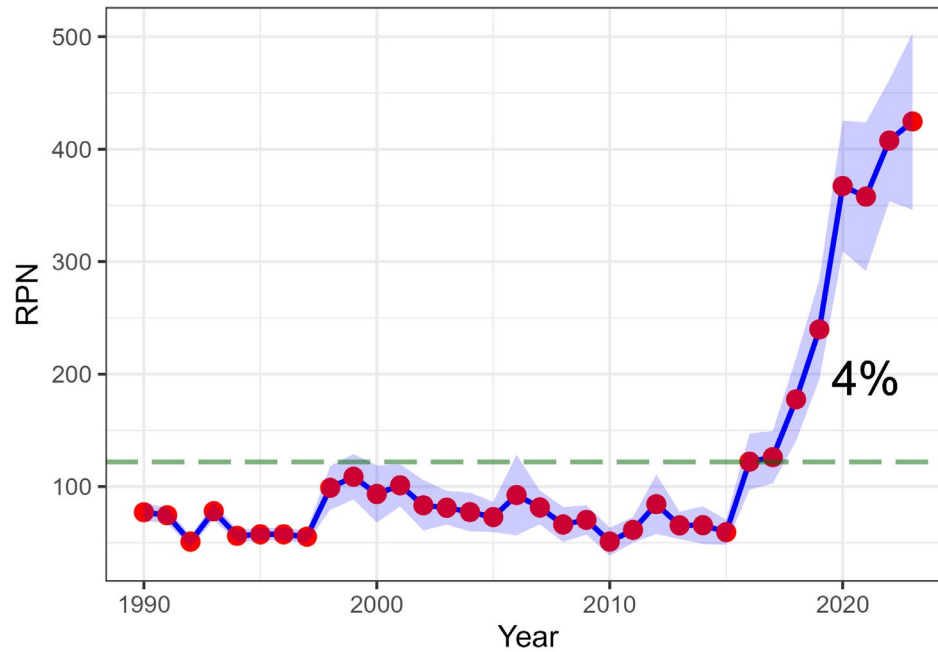


Sablefish: BSAI

Bering Sea Sablefish longline survey RPNs

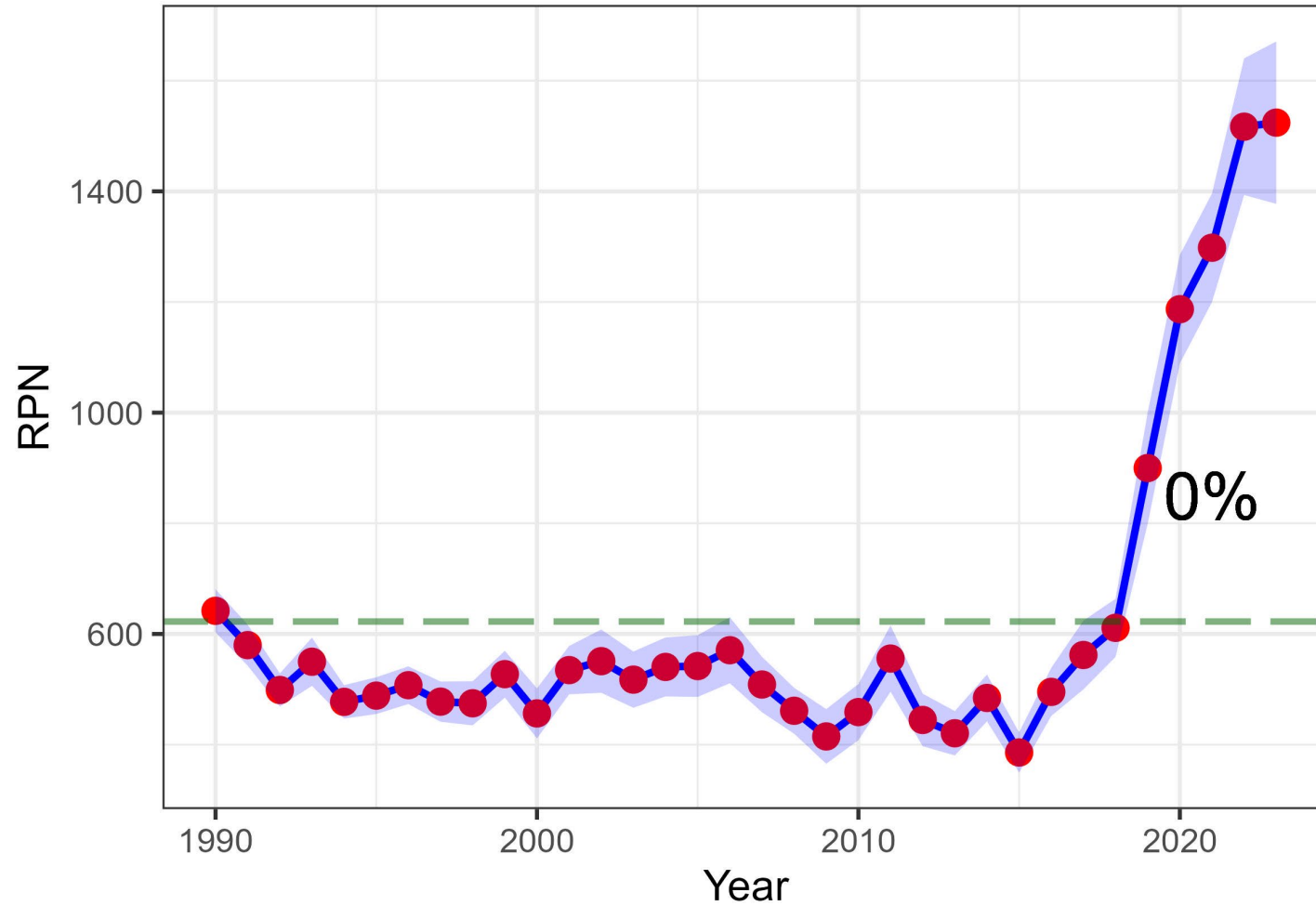


Aleutians Sablefish longline survey RPNs



AK-wide: Sablefish

Alaska Sablefish longline survey RPNs



Sablefish Model

● Model Explorations:

- Work continues on Template Model Builder (TMB) model version (from ADMB)
- Preliminary results of a spatially explicit sablefish model
- Nominal longline CPUE converting to standardized index with pot and longline

● Results/Discussion:

- Limited impact of adding standardized index to the model
- 2024 explorations may include migrating to TMB, how to handle CPUE in future, address changes in fishery dynamics that may result from discarding small sablefish



Sablefish Model

- Plan Team Support for all proposed modeling changes in 2023 including: CPUE index with index that includes both pot and H&L gear, and using last year's whale depredation values
- Support for exploring sensitivity runs to start the model at age 3 versus 2 as an option for dealing with proposed small sablefish release
- Support to continue management strategy evaluations

Thanks to Daniel Goethel



Questions?



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