

pollock

Estimated catch rates for pollock in the Eastern Bering Sea have been derived from retrospective surveys conducted by the Russian fishing fleet. These estimates are used to inform management decisions and to evaluate the sustainability of the fishery. The analysis includes data on ages, time, vessels, levels, and rates. The results show that the estimated catch rates are consistent with observed harvest levels. The biomass survey data indicate that the stock is currently at a low level, which may be due to overfishing. The survey also found evidence of recruitment, which suggests that the stock may be recovering. The analysis also includes information on the relationship between abundance and year class, as well as the distribution of the stock across the Bering Sea area.

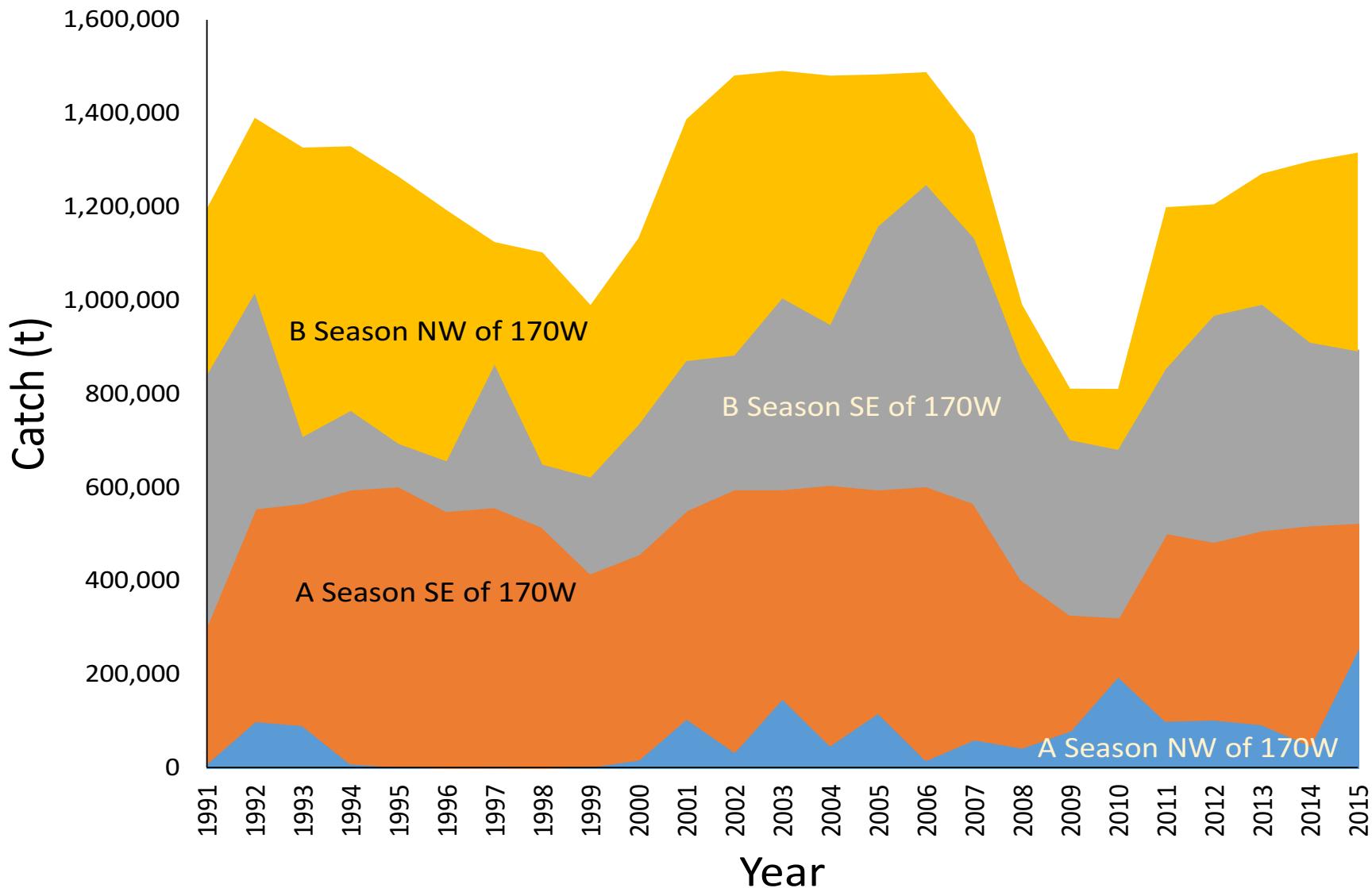
Eastern Bering Sea Pollock assessment



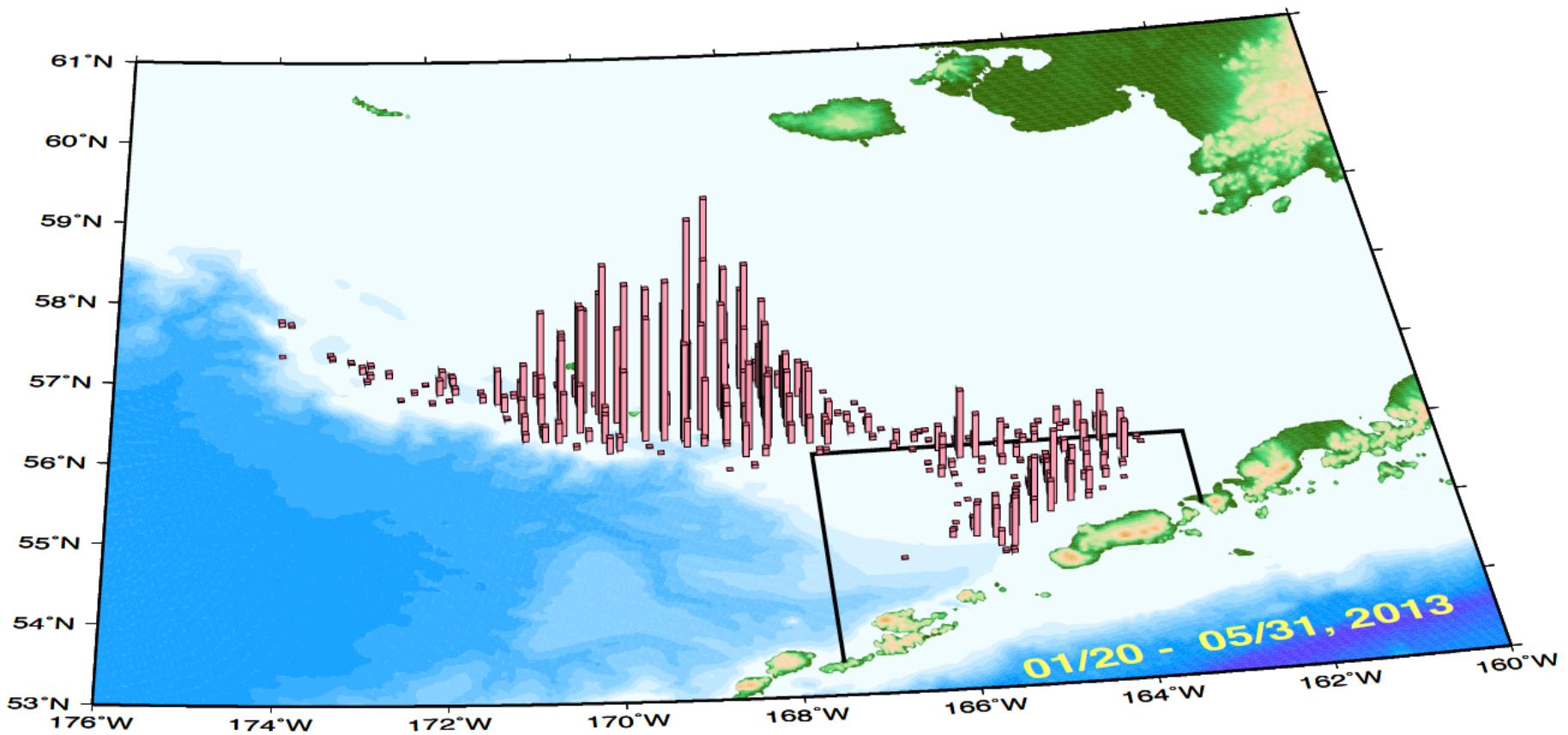
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Barbeaux and Stan Kotwicki
Alaska Fisheries Science Center
November 10th 2015

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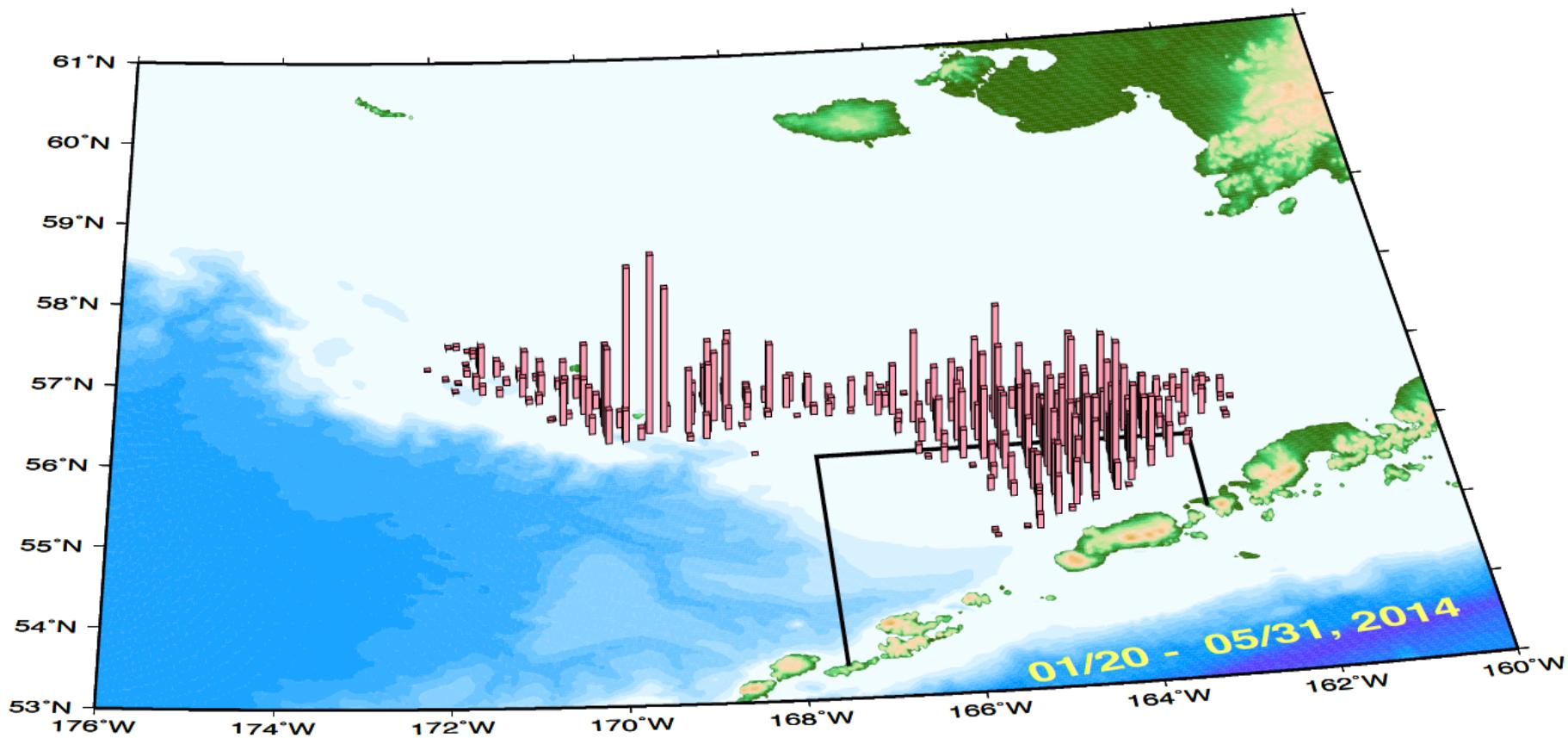
Catch by season and area



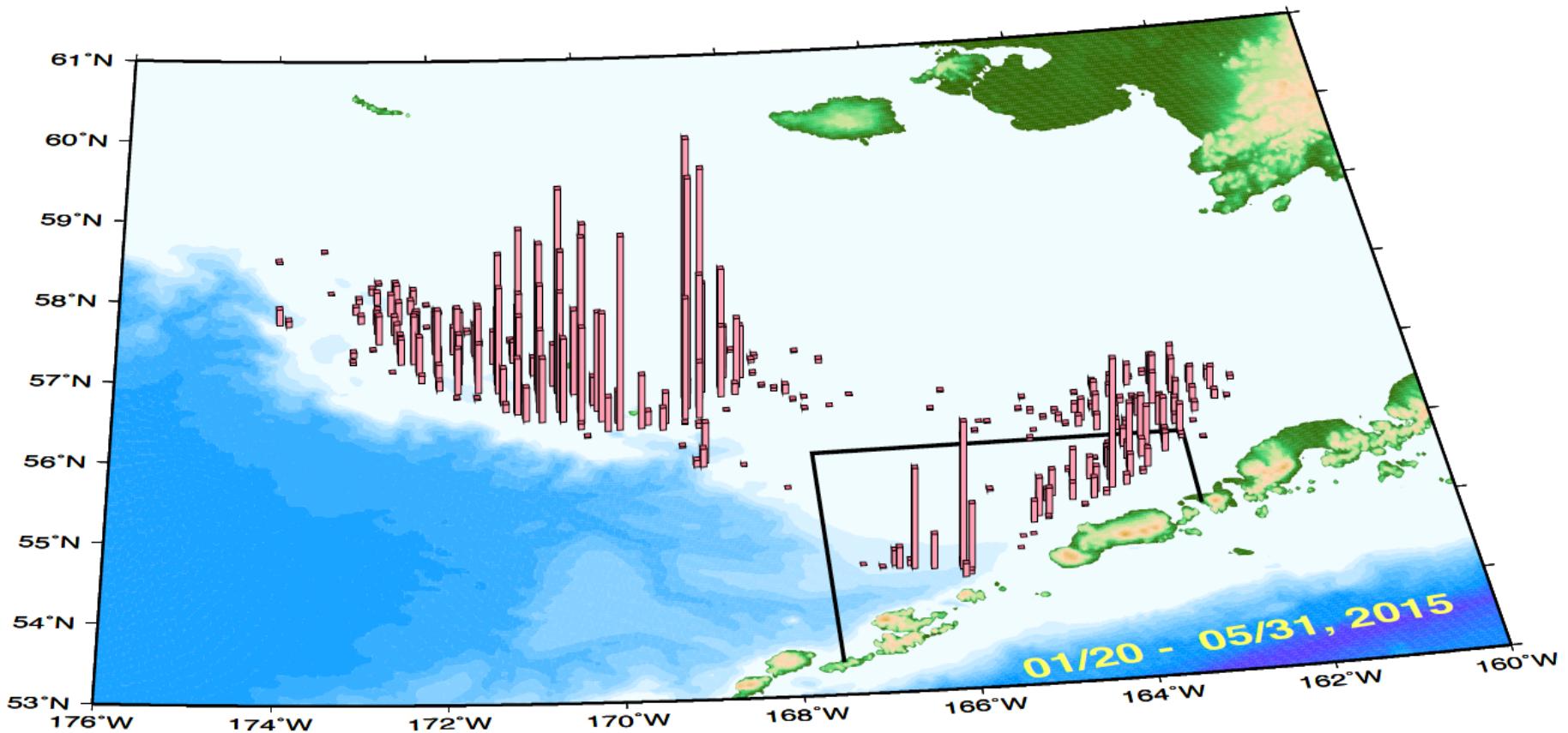
Winter 2013 fishery Eastern Bering Sea (EBS)



Winter 2014 fishery Eastern Bering Sea (EBS)



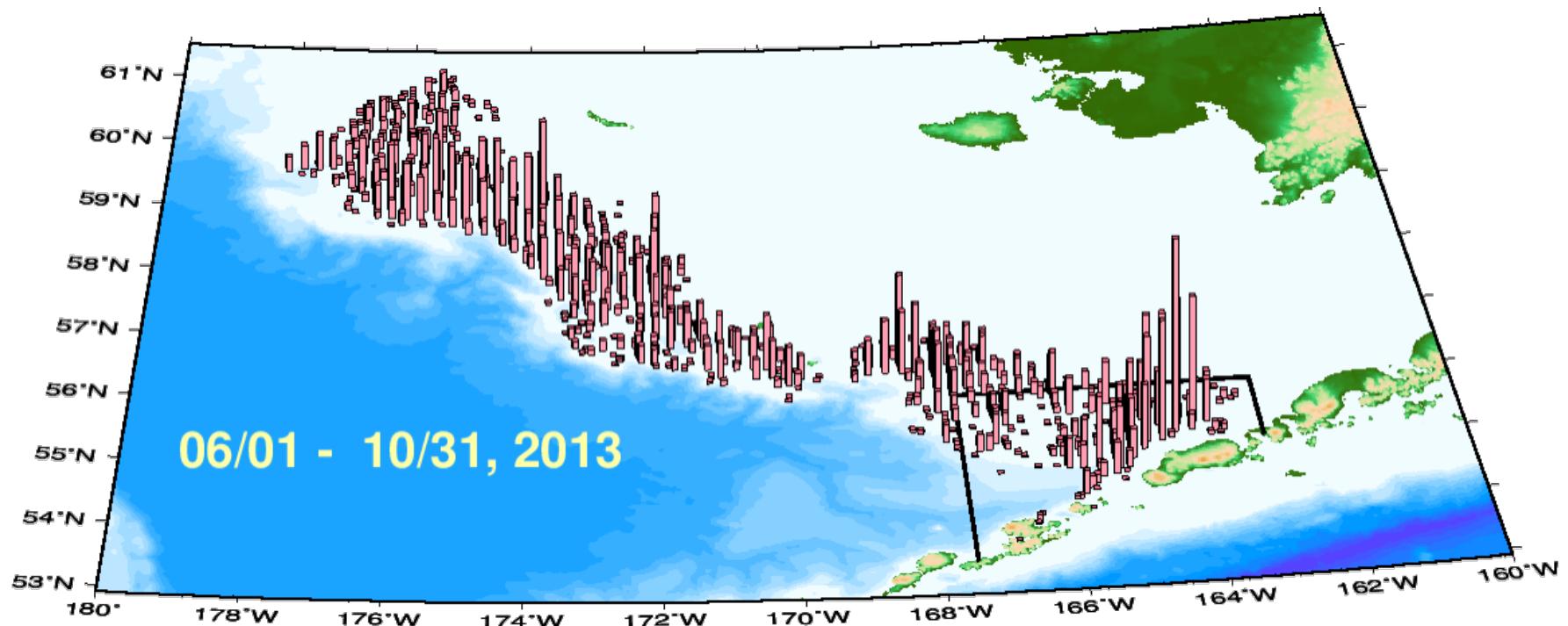
Winter 2015 fishery Eastern Bering Sea (EBS)



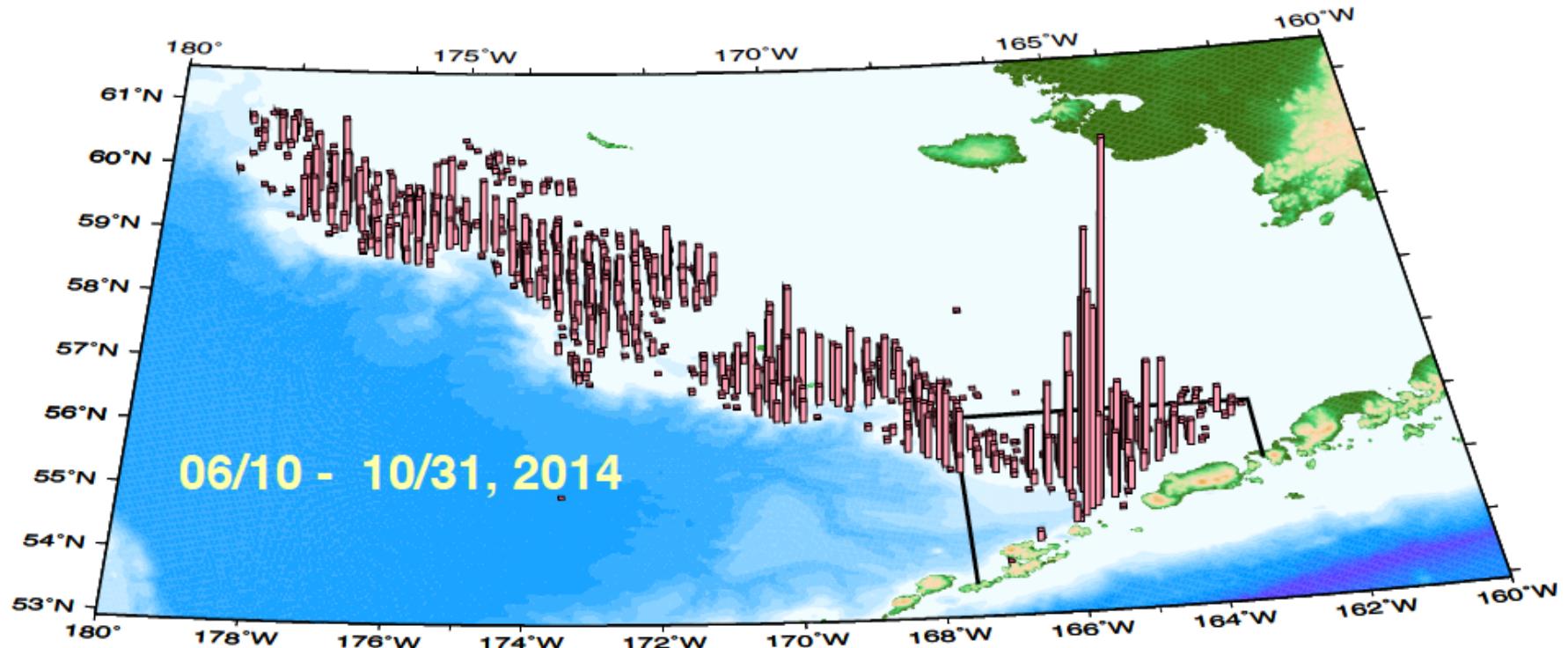
Eastern Bering Sea pollock fishery

Recent summer patterns...

Summer 2013 fishery Eastern Bering Sea (EBS)



Summer 2014 fishery Eastern Bering Sea (EBS)



Summer 2015 fishery Eastern Bering Sea (EBS)

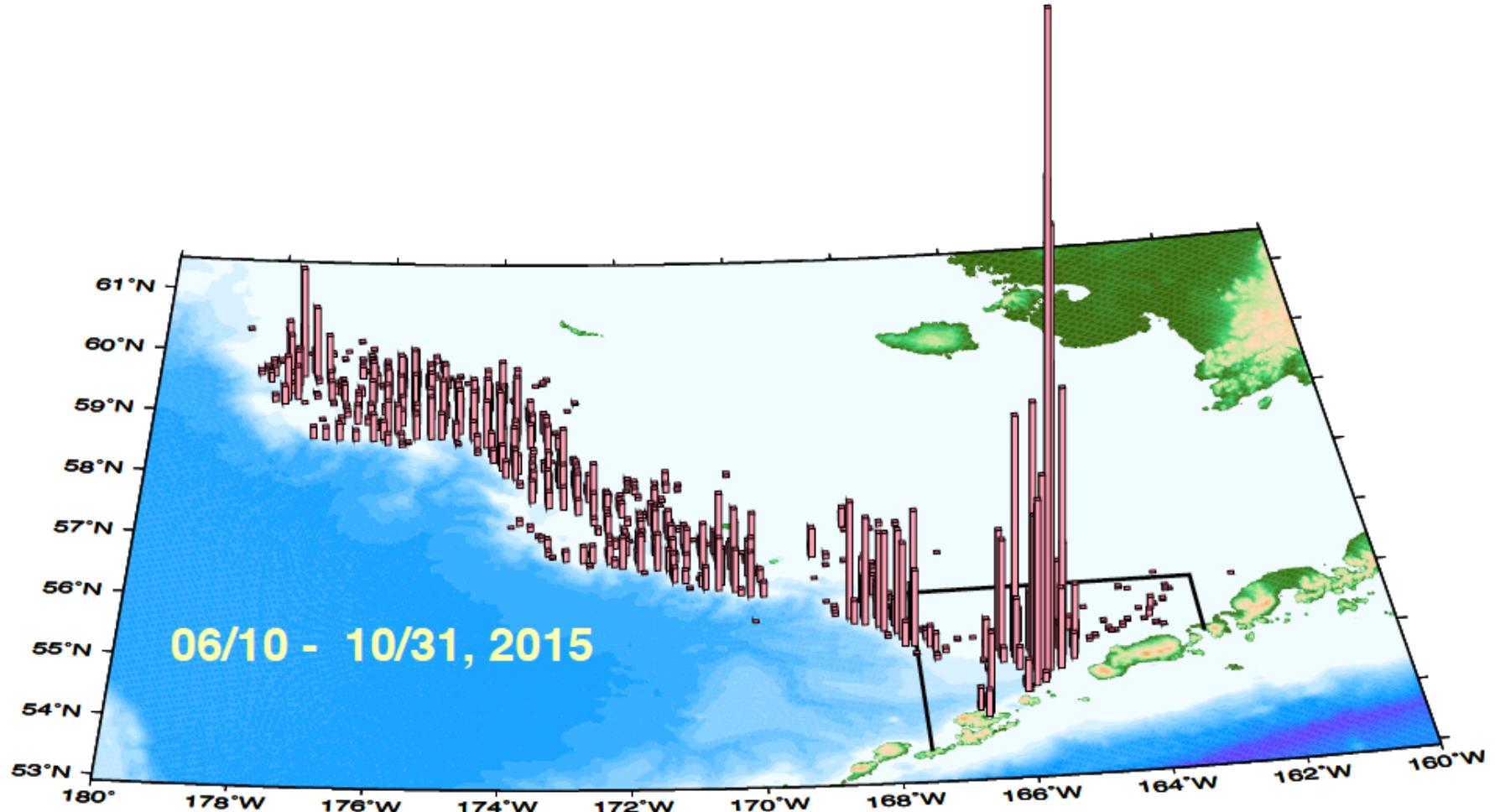
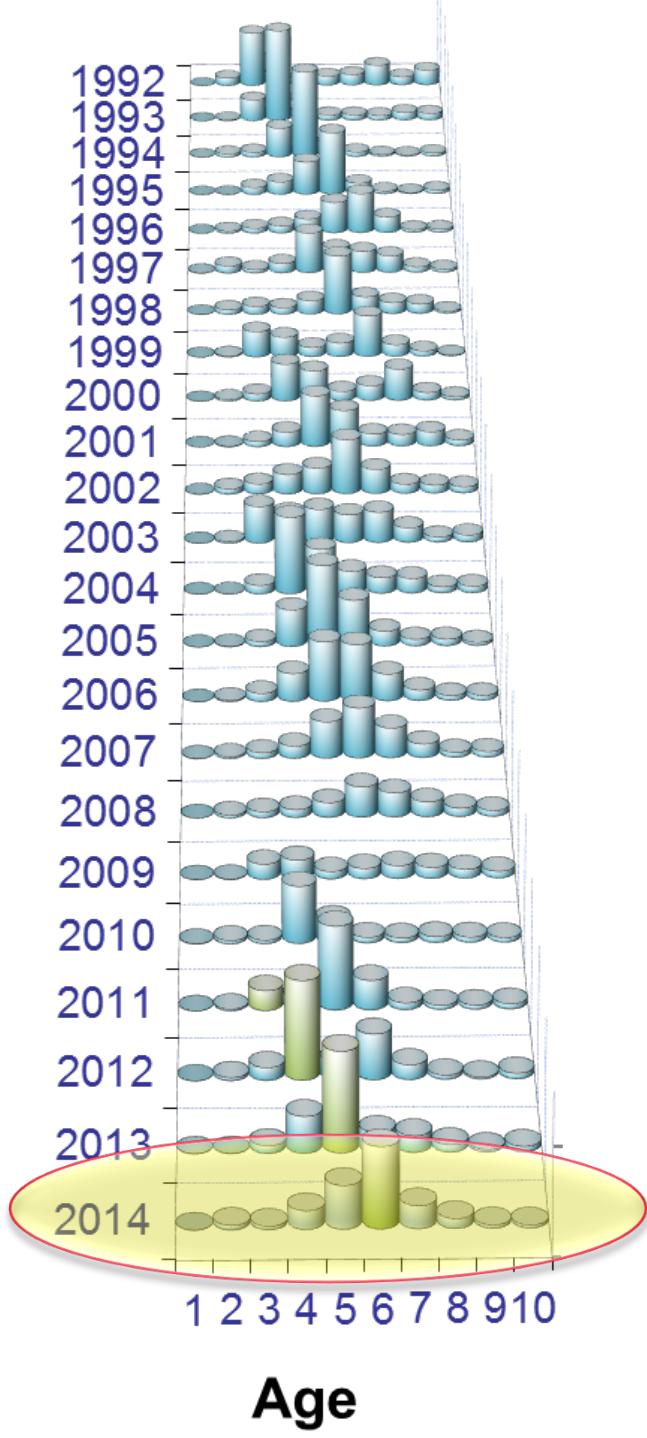


Table 1.7. Numbers of pollock fishery samples measured for lengths and for length-weight by sex and strata, 1977-2014, as sampled by the NMFS observer program.

Length Frequency samples							
Year	A Season		B Season SE		B Season NW		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	
1977	26,411	25,923	4,301	4,511	29,075	31,219	121,440
1978	25,110	31,653	9,829	9,524	46,349	46,072	168,537
1979	59,782	62,512	3,461	3,113	62,298	61,402	252,568
1980	42,726	42,577	3,380	3,464	47,030	49,037	188,214
1981	64,718	57,936	2,401	2,147	53,161	53,570	233,933
1982	74,172	70,073	16,265	14,885	181,606	163,272	520,273
1983	94,118	90,778	16,604	16,826	193,031	174,589	585,946
1984	158,329	161,876	106,654	105,234	243,877	217,362	993,332
1985	119,384	109,230	96,684	97,841	284,850	256,091	964,080
1986	186,505	189,497	135,444	123,413	164,546	131,322	930,727
1987	373,163	399,072	14,170	21,162	24,038	22,117	853,722
1991	160,491	148,236	166,117	150,261	141,085	139,852	906,042
1992	158,405	153,866	163,045	164,227	101,036	102,667	843,244
1993	143,296	133,711	148,299	140,402	27,262	28,522	621,490
1994	139,332	147,204	159,341	153,526	28,015	27,953	655,370
1995	131,287	128,389	179,312	154,520	16,170	16,356	626,032
1996	149,111	140,981	200,482	156,804	18,165	18,348	683,890
1997	124,953	104,115	116,448	107,630	60,192	53,191	566,527
1998	136,605	110,620	208,659	178,012	32,819	40,307	707,019
1999	36,258	32,630	38,840	35,695	16,282	18,339	178,044
2000	64,575	58,162	63,832	41,120	40,868	39,134	307,689
2001	79,333	75,633	54,119	51,268	44,295	45,836	350,483
2002	71,776	69,743	65,432	64,373	37,701	39,322	348,347
2003	74,995	77,612	49,469	53,053	51,799	53,463	360,390
2004	75,426	76,018	63,204	62,005	47,289	44,246	368,188
2005	76,627	69,543	43,205	33,886	68,878	63,088	355,225
2006	72,353	63,108	28,799	22,363	75,180	65,209	327,010
2007	62,827	60,522	32,945	25,518	75,128	69,116	326,054
2008	46,125	51,027	20,493	23,503	61,149	64,598	266,894
2009	46,051	44,080	19,877	18,579	50,451	53,344	232,379
2010	39,495	41,054	19,194	20,591	40,449	41,323	202,106
2011	58,822	62,617	60,254	65,057	51,137	48,084	345,971
2012	53,641	57,966	45,044	46,940	50,167	53,224	306,982
2013	52,303	62,336	37,434	44,709	49,484	49,903	296,168
2014	55,954	58,097	46,568	51,950	46,643	46,202	305,414

Eastern Bering Sea Pollock

Fishery age composition



Estimating fishery wt-at-age variability

Observed Data

	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1991	0.28	0.48	0.61	0.73	0.85	0.89	1.01	1.14	1.13	1.25	1.23	1.30	1.24
1992	0.40	0.47	0.65	0.71	0.81	0.98	1.03	1.20	1.24	1.28	1.21	1.37	1.45
1993	0.49	0.61	0.66	0.77	0.93	1.05	1.20	1.23	1.41	1.54	1.65	1.67	1.56
1994	0.40	0.65	0.73	0.75	0.73	1.05	1.38	1.32	1.32	1.39	1.39	1.30	1.35
1995	0.38	0.50	0.73	0.84	0.85	0.98	1.23	1.31	1.41	1.46	1.40	1.12	1.34
1996	0.33	0.44	0.68	0.79	0.95	0.95	1.02	1.10	1.40	1.49	1.51	1.73	1.52
1997	0.33	0.46	0.55	0.74	0.89	1.08	1.10	1.24	1.35	1.47	1.63	1.40	1.35
1998	0.36	0.58	0.63	0.62	0.78	1.03	1.17	1.25	1.32	1.42	1.44	1.54	1.55
1999	0.40	0.50	0.64	0.70	0.73	0.89	1.03	1.26	1.26	1.40	1.01	0.56	1.24
2000	0.35	0.53	0.63	0.73	0.78	0.81	0.97	1.01	1.25	1.29	1.11	1.21	1.46
2001	0.33	0.50	0.66	0.79	0.96	0.99	1.06	1.14	1.32	1.45	1.56	1.48	1.46
2002	0.38	0.51	0.67	0.80	0.91	1.03	1.11	1.10	1.28	1.45	1.59	1.33	1.63
2003	0.49	0.55	0.65	0.77	0.86	0.95	1.08	1.21	1.21	1.20	1.38	1.27	1.70
2004	0.40	0.58	0.64	0.76	0.89	0.93	1.03	1.18	1.13	1.17	1.33	1.28	1.22
2005	0.35	0.51	0.64	0.74	0.88	0.95	1.07	1.09	1.23	1.28	1.26	1.07	1.40
2006	0.31	0.45	0.60	0.75	0.86	0.96	1.06	1.12	1.22	1.24	1.30	1.39	1.42
2007	0.34	0.51	0.64	0.78	0.96	1.10	1.19	1.27	1.31	1.47	1.44	1.73	1.51
2008	0.33	0.52	0.65	0.77	0.90	1.04	1.11	1.22	1.30	1.41	1.49	1.50	1.50
2009	0.35	0.55	0.69	0.89	1.02	1.15	1.41	1.49	1.63	1.64	1.82	2.18	2.30
2010	0.38	0.49	0.67	0.92	1.11	1.26	1.34	1.60	1.61	1.85	1.94	2.06	2.21
2011	0.29	0.51	0.66	0.81	0.97	1.22	1.34	1.50	1.57	1.62	2.12	1.74	2.26
2012	0.27	0.41	0.64	0.82	0.97	1.18	1.31	1.53	1.61	1.65	1.73	2.03	2.12
2013	0.29	0.44	0.57	0.78	1.12	1.28	1.43	1.70	1.85	1.82	1.94	2.12	2.09
2014	0.32	0.46	0.62	0.75	0.89	1.15	1.32	1.38	1.68	1.80	1.75	1.68	2.21
2015	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
2016	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
2017	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

Model Estimates

	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1991	0.35	0.46	0.60	0.72	0.84	0.89	1.02	1.12	1.13	1.17	1.25	1.35	1.26
1992	0.40	0.48	0.59	0.73	0.85	0.97	1.03	1.15	1.22	1.23	1.25	1.35	1.41
1993	0.46	0.61	0.68	0.81	0.95	1.09	1.25	1.29	1.39	1.48	1.47	1.51	1.58
1994	0.40	0.59	0.73	0.78	0.88	1.03	1.18	1.33	1.32	1.43	1.49	1.50	1.49
1995	0.35	0.51	0.72	0.85	0.86	0.97	1.13	1.26	1.37	1.36	1.45	1.53	1.49
1996	0.38	0.46	0.62	0.82	0.94	0.94	1.06	1.20	1.30	1.41	1.38	1.49	1.52
1997	0.40	0.49	0.55	0.72	0.92	1.03	1.03	1.14	1.25	1.36	1.44	1.43	1.49
1998	0.38	0.51	0.59	0.64	0.80	1.01	1.13	1.11	1.17	1.29	1.37	1.48	1.42
1999	0.39	0.51	0.64	0.71	0.73	0.90	1.13	1.25	1.17	1.25	1.35	1.45	1.52
2000	0.38	0.51	0.62	0.75	0.79	0.81	1.00	1.23	1.30	1.23	1.29	1.41	1.47
2001	0.40	0.53	0.67	0.79	0.91	0.95	0.97	1.17	1.39	1.48	1.36	1.44	1.53
2002	0.42	0.53	0.66	0.80	0.89	1.02	1.06	1.06	1.23	1.47	1.53	1.44	1.47
2003	0.44	0.55	0.66	0.79	0.91	1.01	1.15	1.17	1.13	1.32	1.53	1.62	1.47
2004	0.40	0.56	0.66	0.76	0.86	0.98	1.09	1.21	1.19	1.16	1.32	1.56	1.59
2005	0.36	0.49	0.66	0.73	0.81	0.91	1.04	1.12	1.20	1.19	1.13	1.31	1.49
2006	0.35	0.47	0.60	0.77	0.82	0.89	1.00	1.12	1.16	1.26	1.22	1.17	1.31
2007	0.37	0.52	0.64	0.79	0.96	1.02	1.11	1.22	1.31	1.37	1.45	1.42	1.32
2008	0.34	0.49	0.64	0.77	0.90	1.09	1.15	1.22	1.30	1.40	1.44	1.54	1.46
2009	0.38	0.53	0.70	0.89	1.01	1.18	1.43	1.47	1.51	1.61	1.70	1.76	1.83
2010	0.33	0.50	0.66	0.84	1.01	1.14	1.33	1.57	1.56	1.67	1.79	1.80	1.93
2011	0.30	0.47	0.65	0.82	1.00	1.20	1.35	1.54	1.75	1.75	1.76	1.86	1.93
2012	0.30	0.41	0.59	0.80	0.96	1.16	1.39	1.52	1.67	1.91	1.87	1.91	1.95
2013	0.31	0.44	0.57	0.78	1.00	1.19	1.44	1.68	1.78	1.97	2.20	2.18	2.16
2014	0.33	0.45	0.60	0.74	0.97	1.23	1.47	1.73	1.94	2.07	2.23	2.53	2.43
2015	0.36	0.35	0.44	0.57	0.67	0.87	1.11	1.28	1.46	1.65	1.72	1.88	2.06
2016	0.36	0.49	0.44	0.53	0.66	0.76	0.99	1.23	1.37	1.57	1.73	1.83	1.94
2017	0.36	0.49	0.61	0.53	0.61	0.74	0.86	1.10	1.31	1.47	1.65	1.85	1.89

CVs of Observed Data

	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1991	2%	2%	2%	2%	1%	4%	2%	7%	3%	7%	4%	7%	5%
1992	1%	2%	3%	2%	2%	4%	3%	4%	5%	14%	8%	9%	9%
1993	1%	0%	2%	3%	3%	4%	3%	5%	6%	10%	11%	16%	12%
1994	3%	1%	1%	2%	5%	13%	7%	7%	6%	7%	8%	15%	8%
1995	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	4%	7%	8%	7%	14%	8%	53%	9%
1996	2%	4%	2%	1%	1%	2%	4%	6%	18%	11%	9%	12%	13%
1997	3%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	4%	8%	14%	14%	23%	9%	9%
1998	2%	3%	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%	6%	11%	13%	18%	24%	22%
1999	0%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	5%	15%	27%	43%	57%	27%
2000	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%	1%	3%	6%	6%	13%	52%	76%	70%
2001	2%	1%	1%	1%	3%	3%	5%	7%	9%	13%	14%	47%	47%
2002	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	3%	6%	7%	11%	34%	35%	35%
2003	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	4%	6%	5%	7%	14%	36%	22%
2004	2%	1%	1%	2%	2%	3%	8%	6%	6%	14%	18%	11%	11%
2005	2%	0%	1%	2%	3%	3%	5%	8%	8%	25%	37%	28%	28%
2006	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	4%	4%	9%	14%	12%	19%	11%
2007	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	4%	5%	7%	13%	14%	12%	10%
2008	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	6%	7%	7%	8%	22%	8%
2009	1%	1%	3%	2%	2%	3%	4%	6%	10%	12%	9%	30%	16%
2010	2%	0%	1%	3%	3%	4%	4%	5%	7%	10%	15%	13%	11%
2011	1%	1%	0%	1%	3%	4%	5%	6%	9%	29%	16%	21%	21%
2012	1%	0%	1%	1%	2%	5%	8%	11%	9%	10%	13%	21%	45%
2013	1%	0%	0%	2%	3%	4%	8%	9%	10%	12%	13%	18%	16%
2014	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	3%	6%	14%	16%	19%	16%	22%	17%
2015	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
2016	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
2017	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

Residuals & CVs of projected estimates

	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1991	-3.2	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.5	0.0	-0.7	0.2	0.0	1.1	-0.3	-0.7	-0.4
1992	-1.1	-0.1	1.7	-0.6	-1.4	0.5	0.1	1.5	0.5	0.9	-0.3	0.2	0.4
1993	3.4	0.0	-1.1	-1.0	-0.5	-1.0	-1.8	-1.3	0.3	0.6	1.6	1.0	-0.2
1994	0.0	4.7	-0.7	-1.4	-2.9	0.2	2.7	-0.1	0.1	-0.7	-1.3	-1.3	-1.7
1995	1.1	-0.8	1.1	-0.5	-0.3	0.2	1.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	-0.6	-0.8	-1.7
1996	-2.1	-0.4	2.6	-2.4	0.9	0.5	-0.8	-1.7	0.6	0.7	1.4	2.0	0.0
1997	-2.4	-2.2	-0.2	1.4	-1.8	2.1	1.7	1.4	0.8	0.8	0.8	-0.3	-1.5
1998	-0.9	2.4	1.7	-2.7	-1.1	0.9	1.5	2.6	1.3	1.0	0.4	0.2	0.6
1999													

E. Bering Sea Pollock

Survey data



Types:

1. Bottom trawl
2. ~~Acoustic + mid-water trawl~~ To come in 2016

3. Opportunistic acoustic data collection

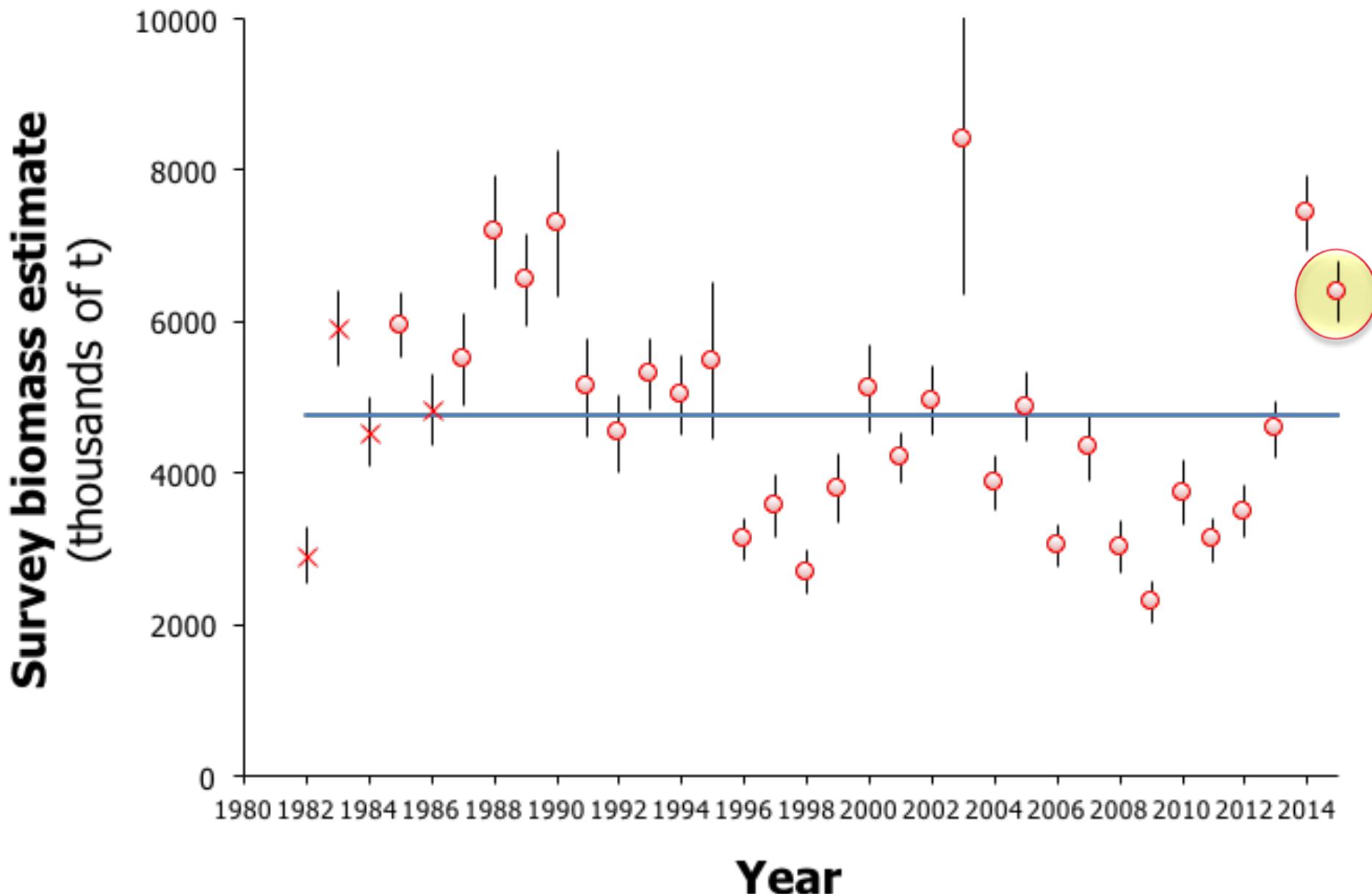
Collected onboard chartered bottom-trawl survey



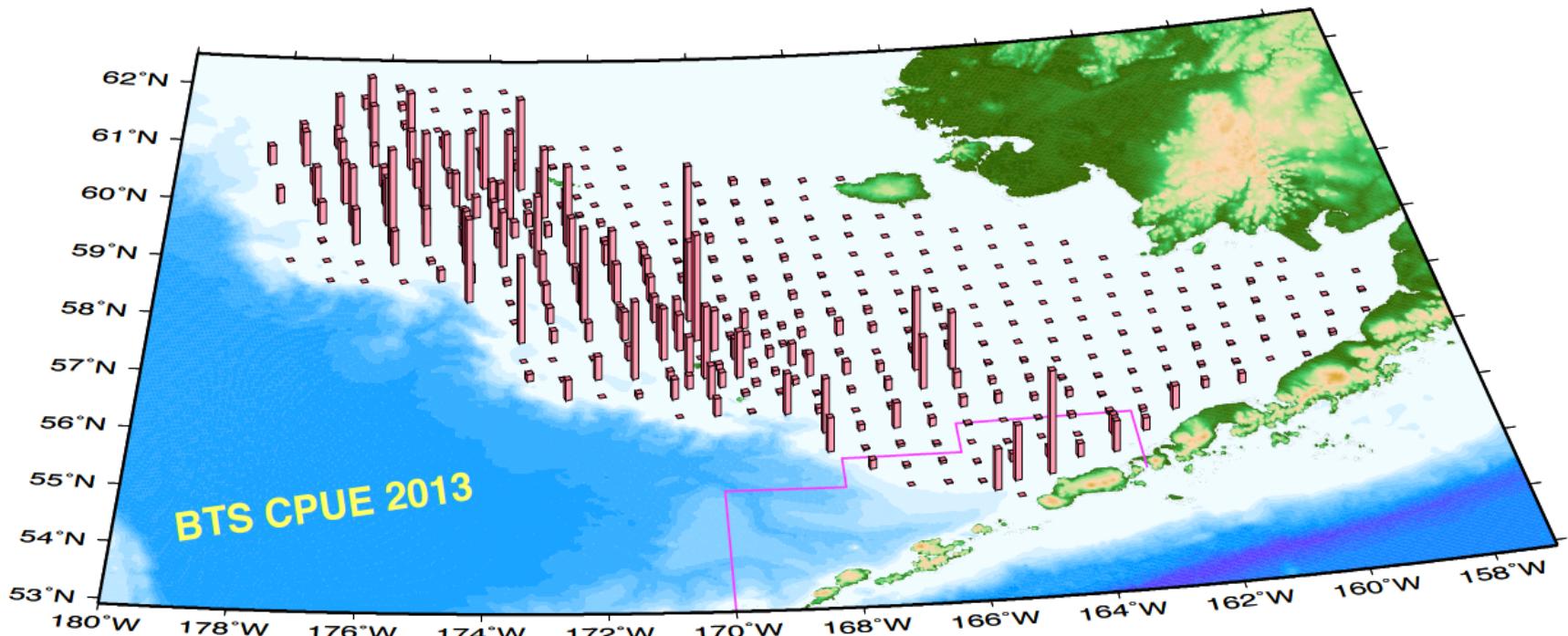
Bottom-trawl survey



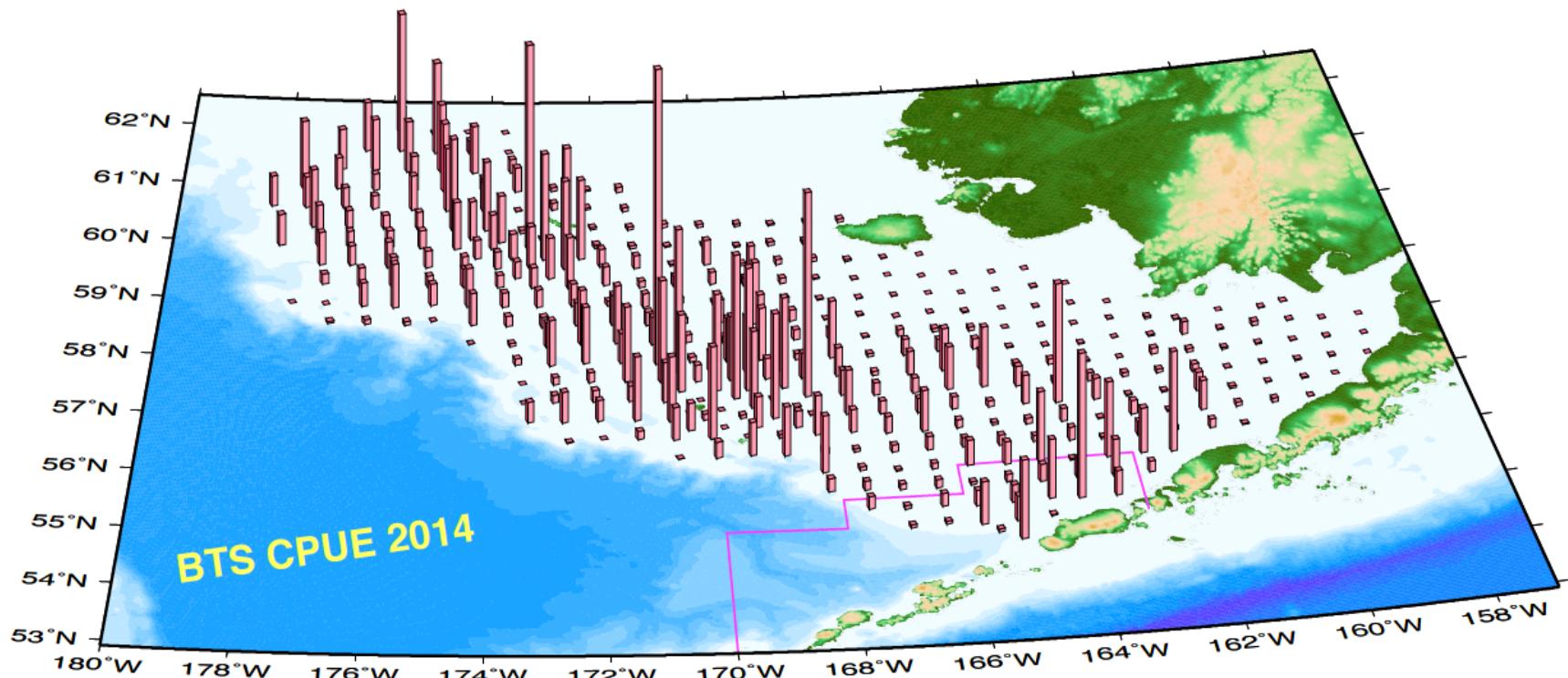
Pollock survey biomass trend



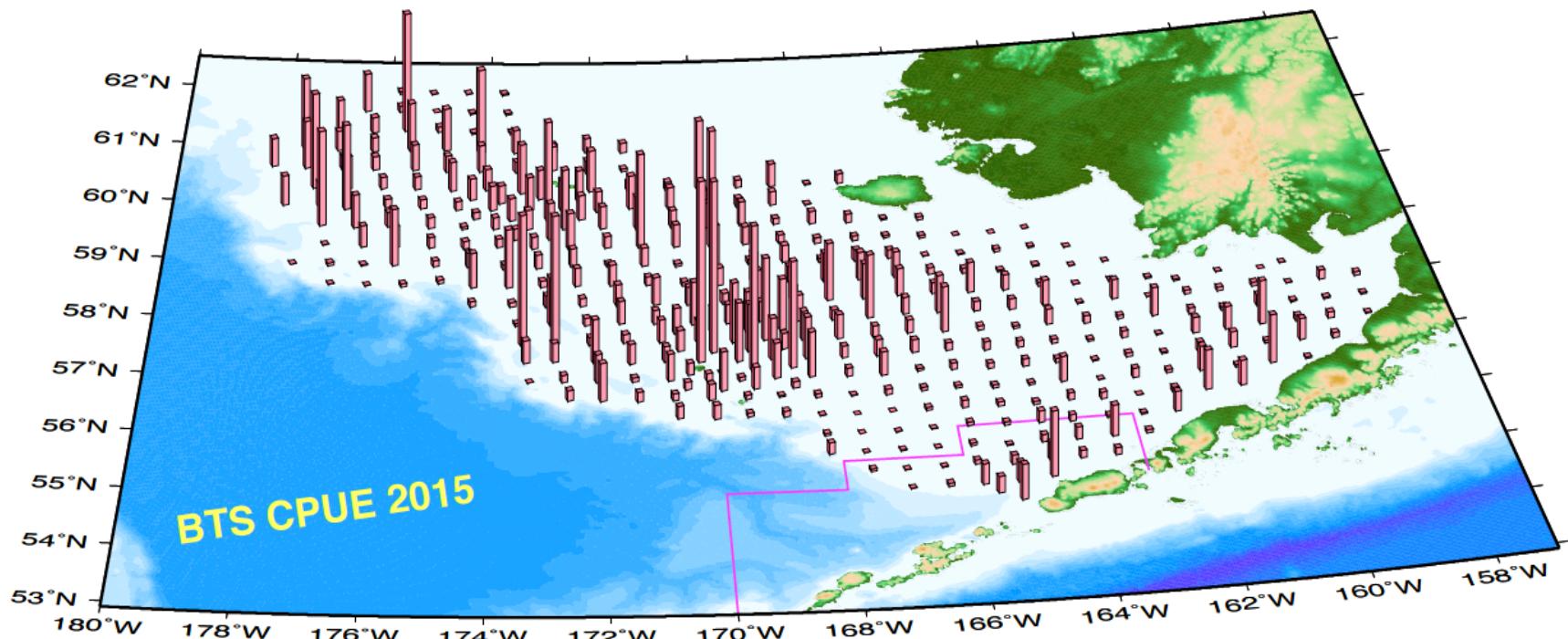
2013 pollock survey—4.6 million t



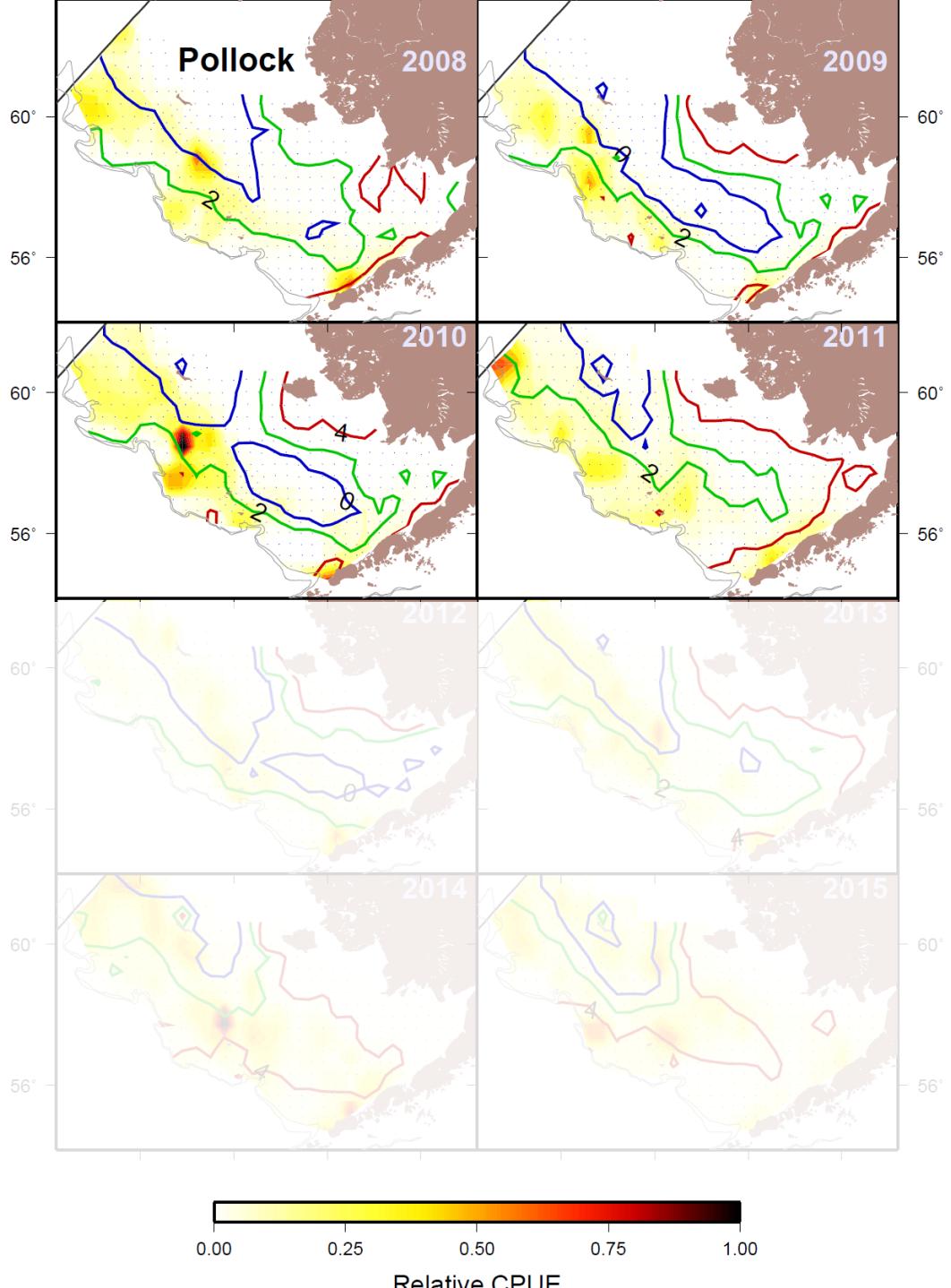
2014 pollock survey—7.4 million t



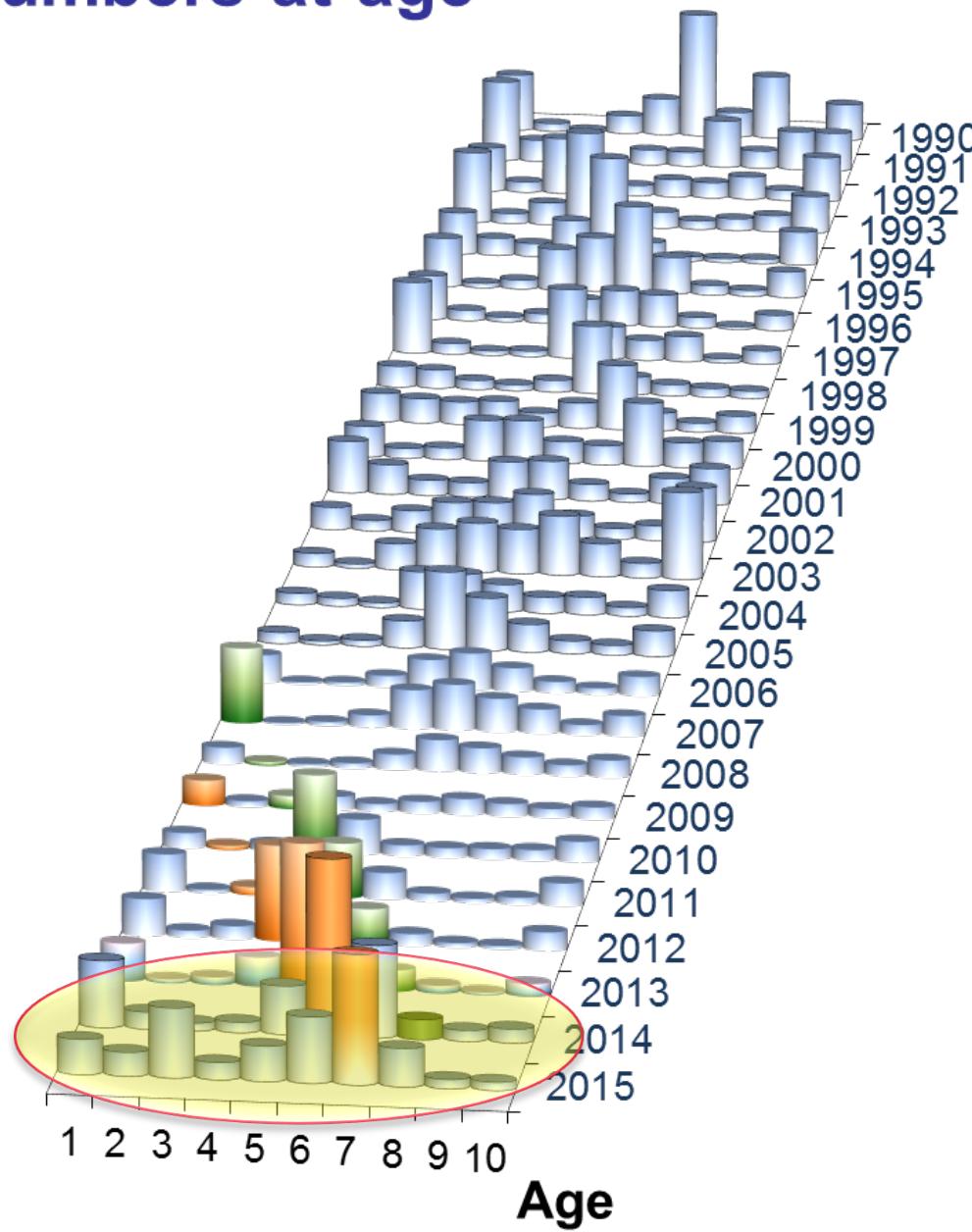
2015 pollock survey—6.4 million t



Pollock density and bottom temperatures



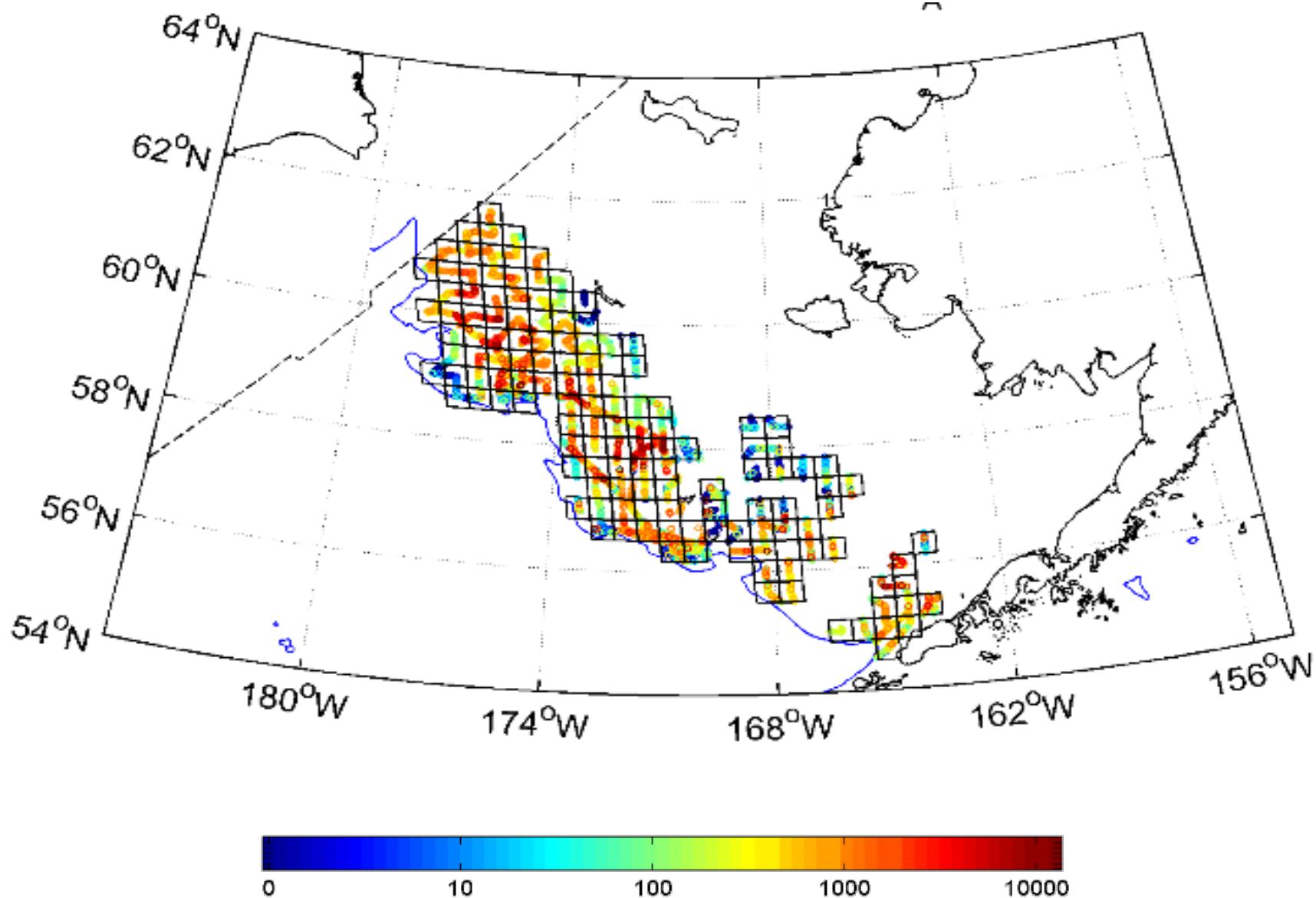
Bottom trawl survey numbers-at-age



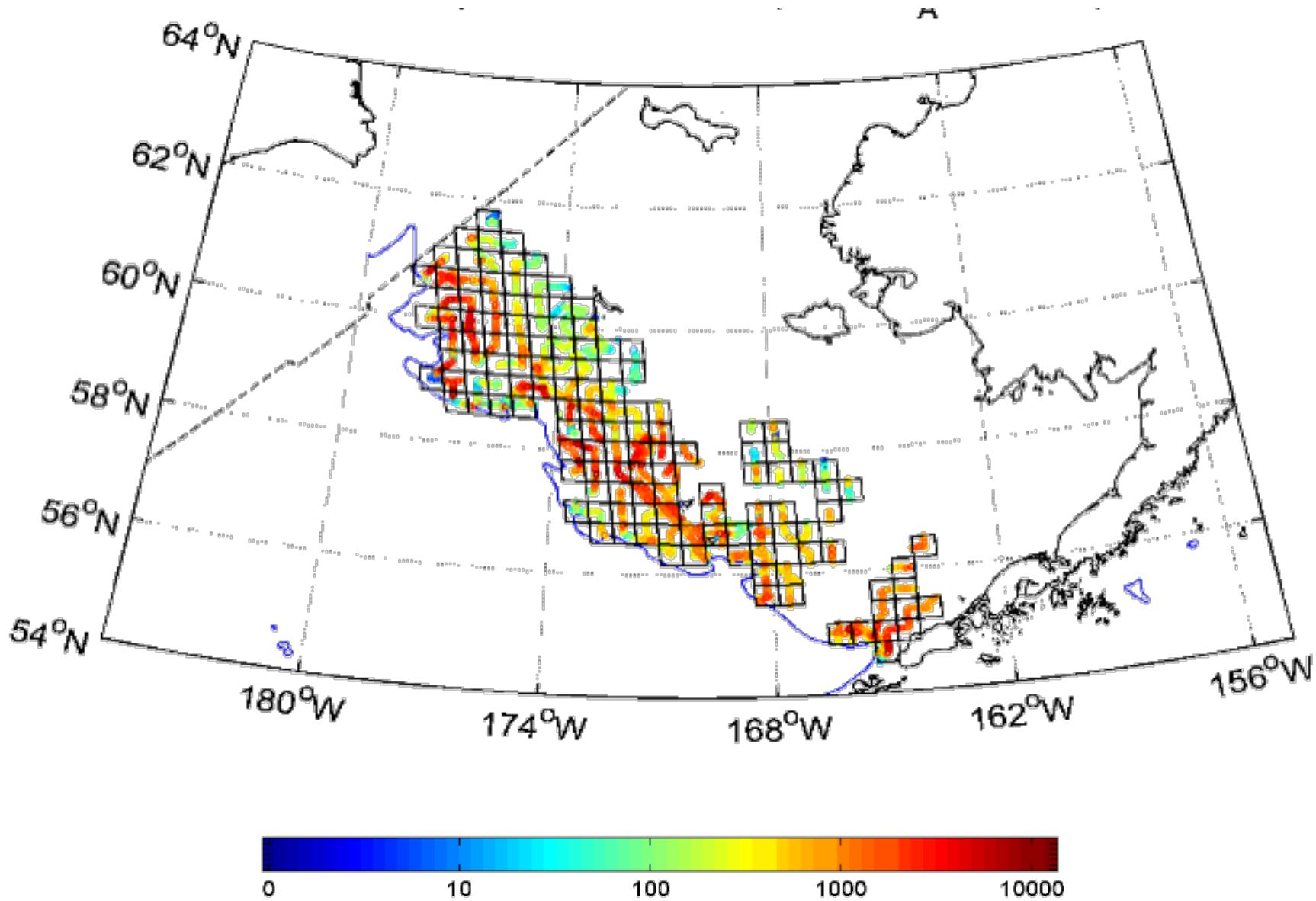
Bottom-trawl survey + Acoustic index



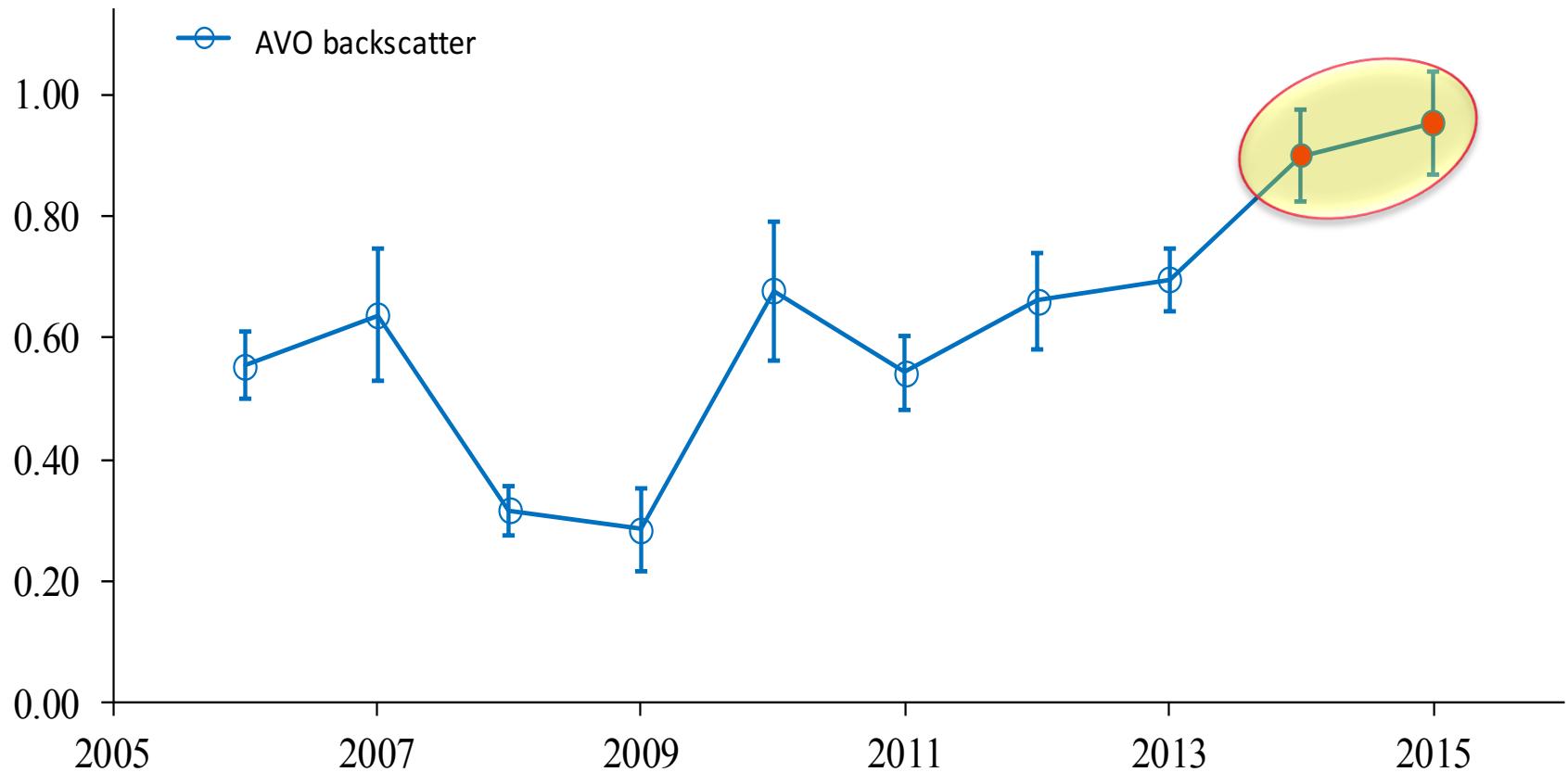
2014 Acoustic sign



2015 Acoustic sign



Opportunistic Acoustic survey index

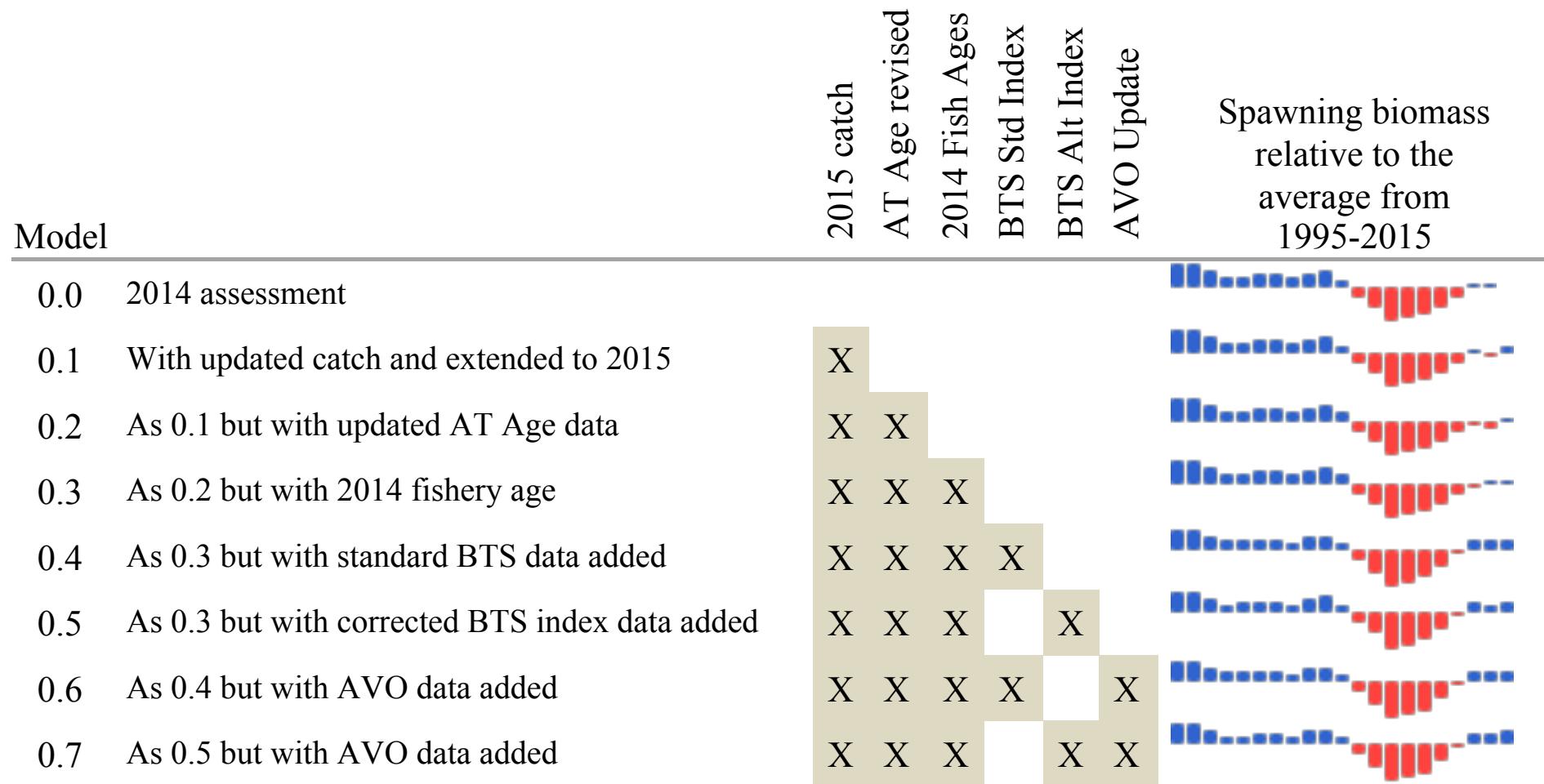


Model results

Sequential add of new data

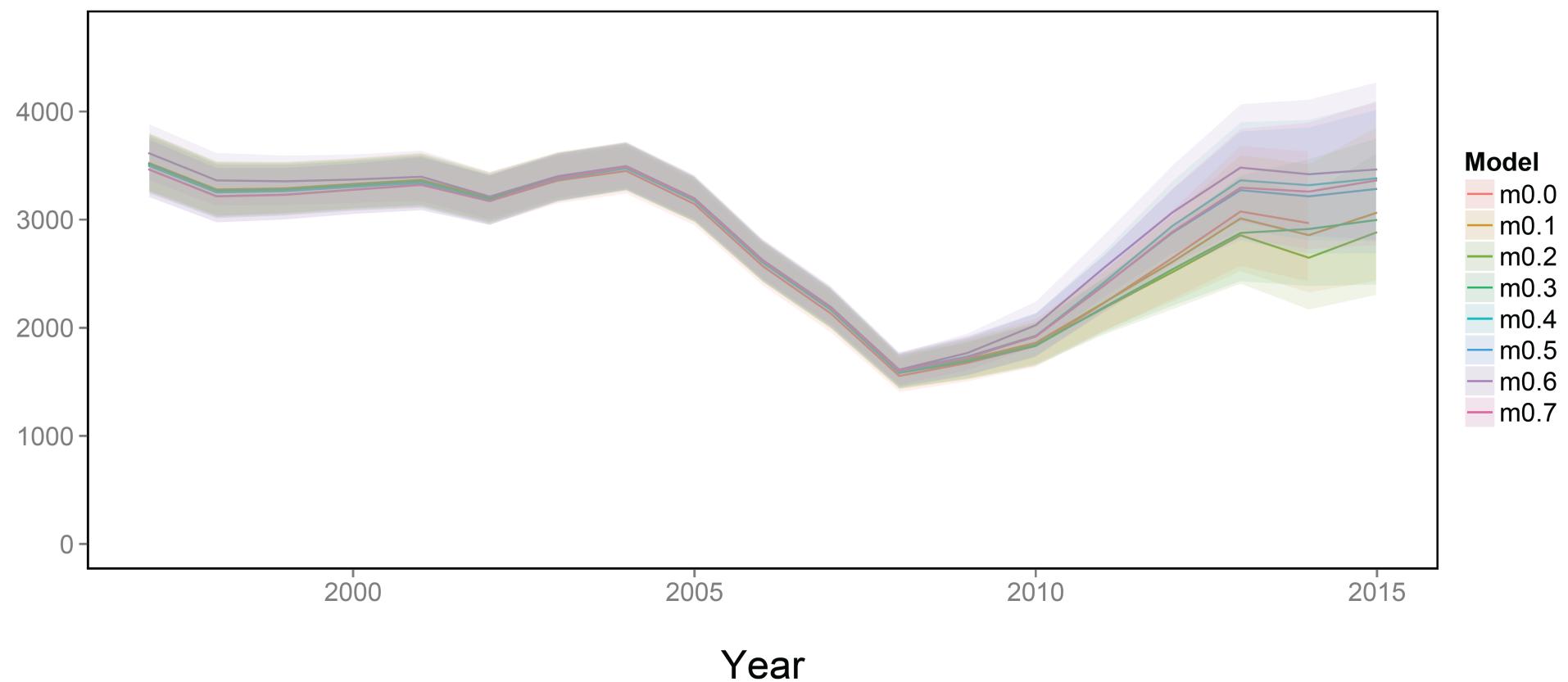
Model evaluation

A sequence of models were developed that evaluated sensitivities to new data which included updating the catch biomass for 2014 and estimated levels for 2015 along with the 2014 fishery mean weights-at-age. As in past years, a set of models showing the impact of new data was constructed, this year with a summary of the impact of these changes on the relative spawning biomass (last column):



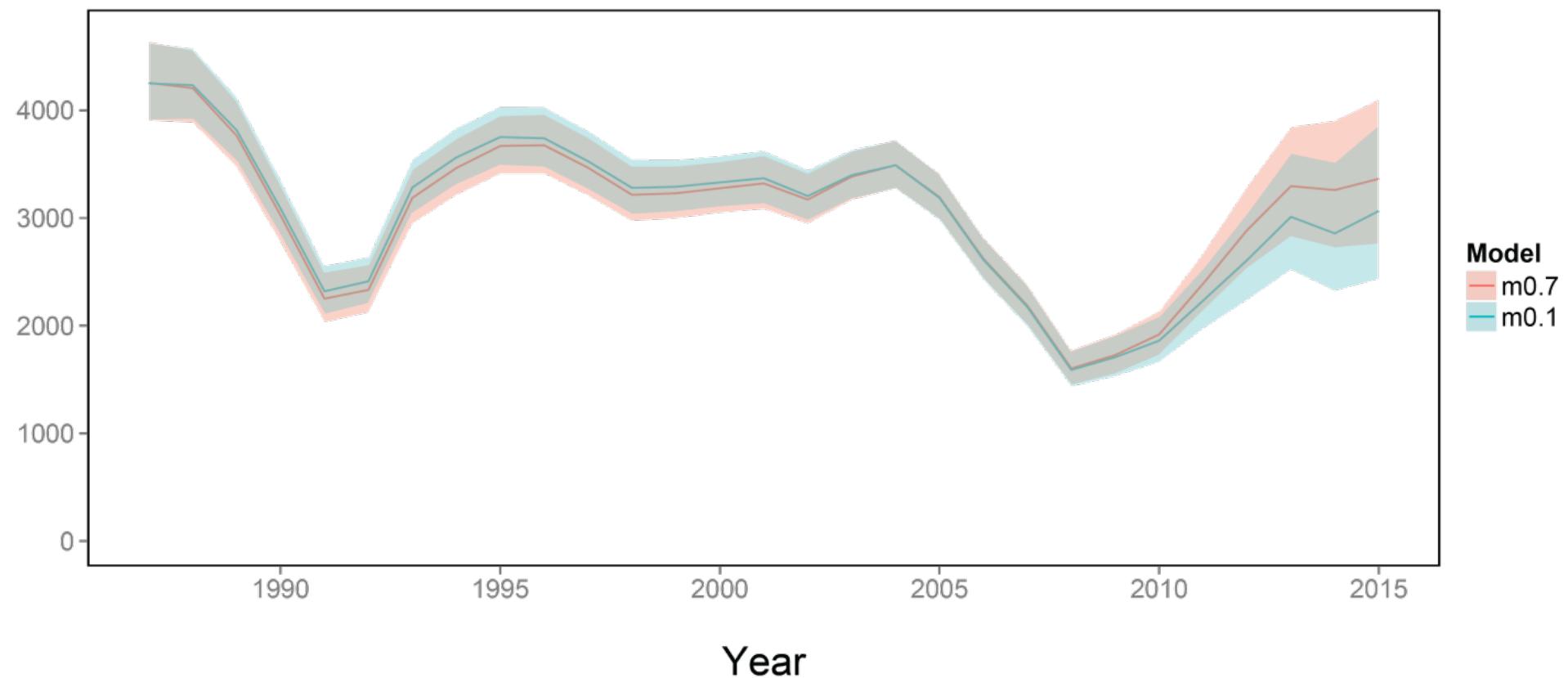
Spawning biomass in thousands of tons

Effect of new data for 2015

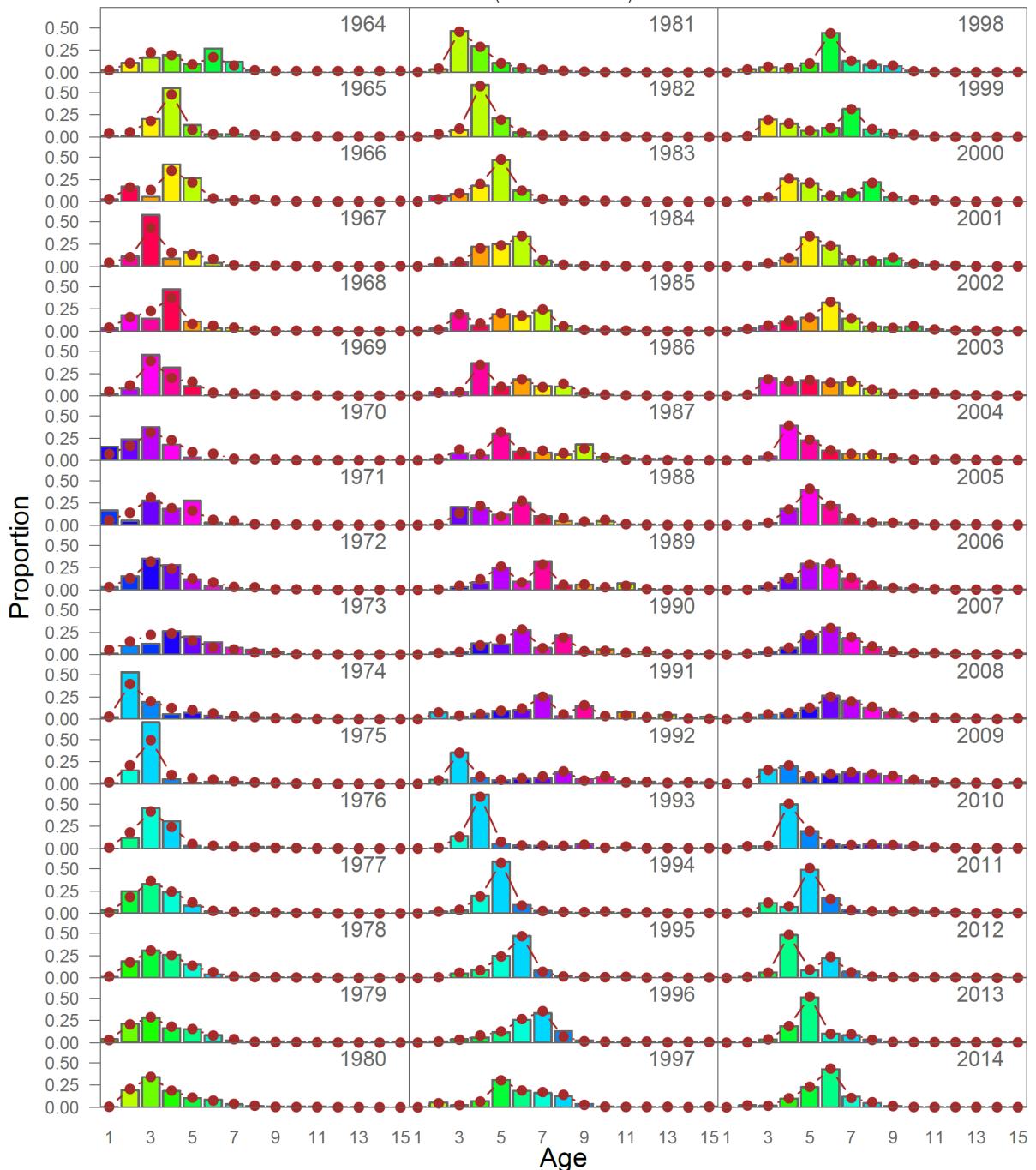


Spawning biomass in thousands of tons

Effect of new data for 2015

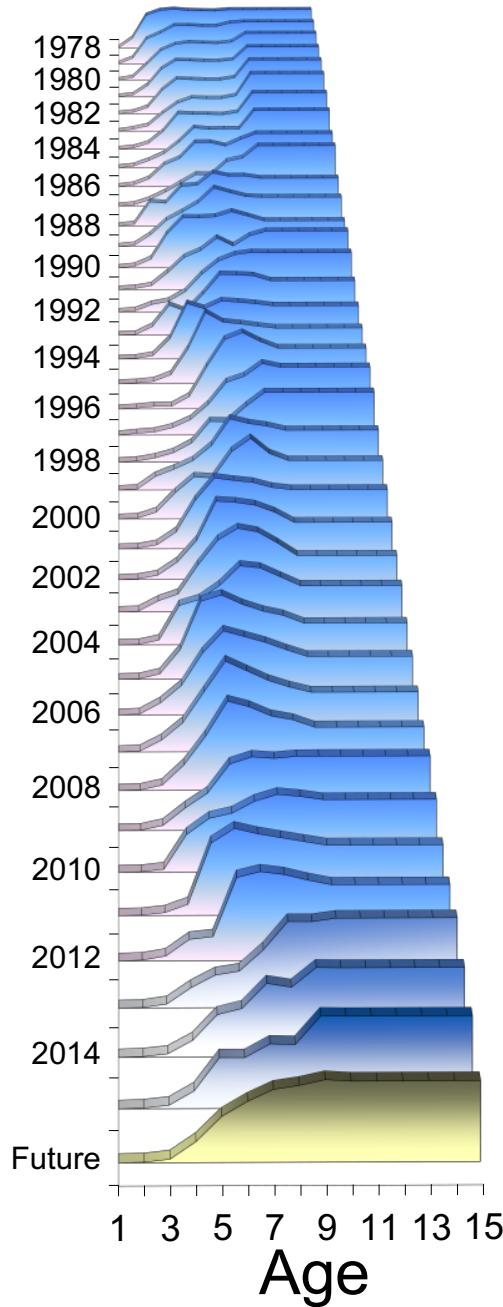


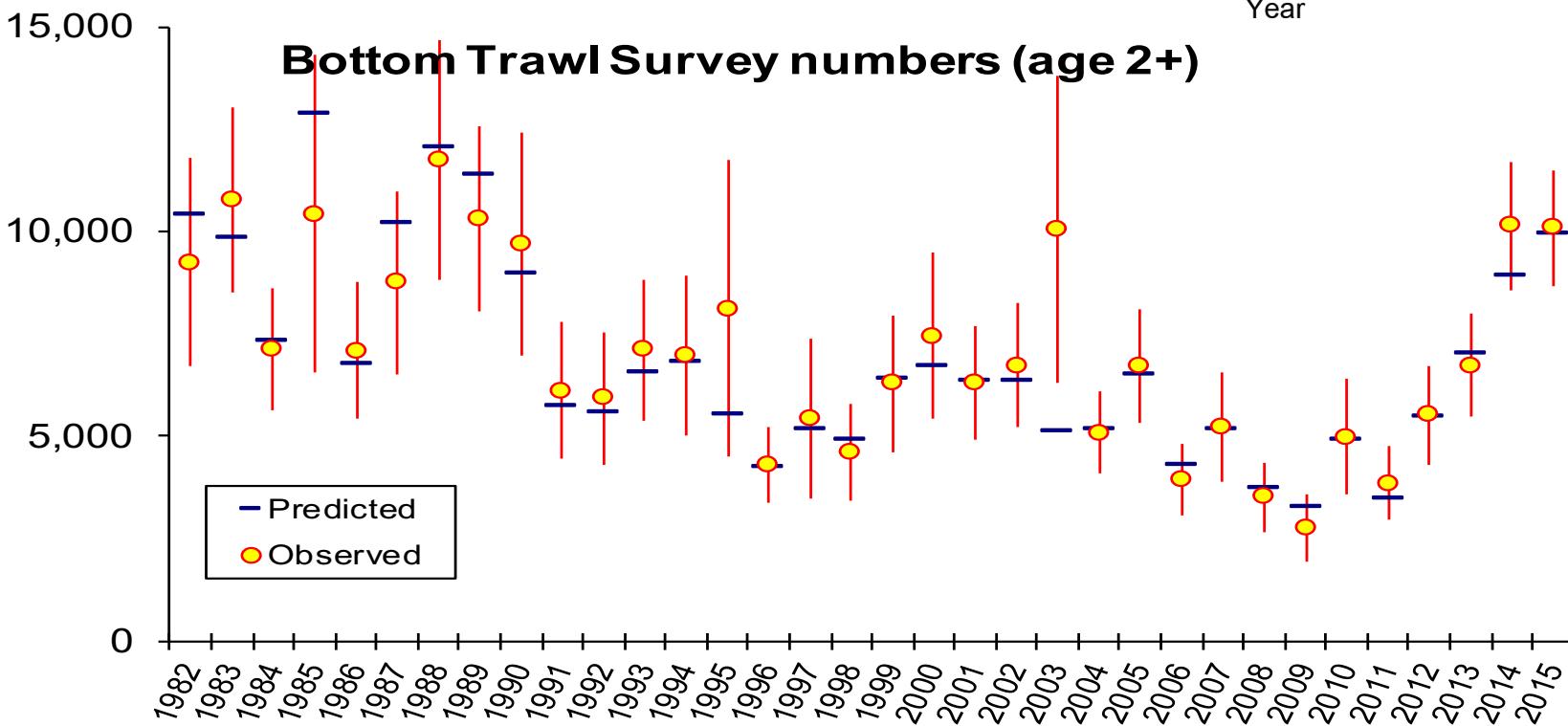
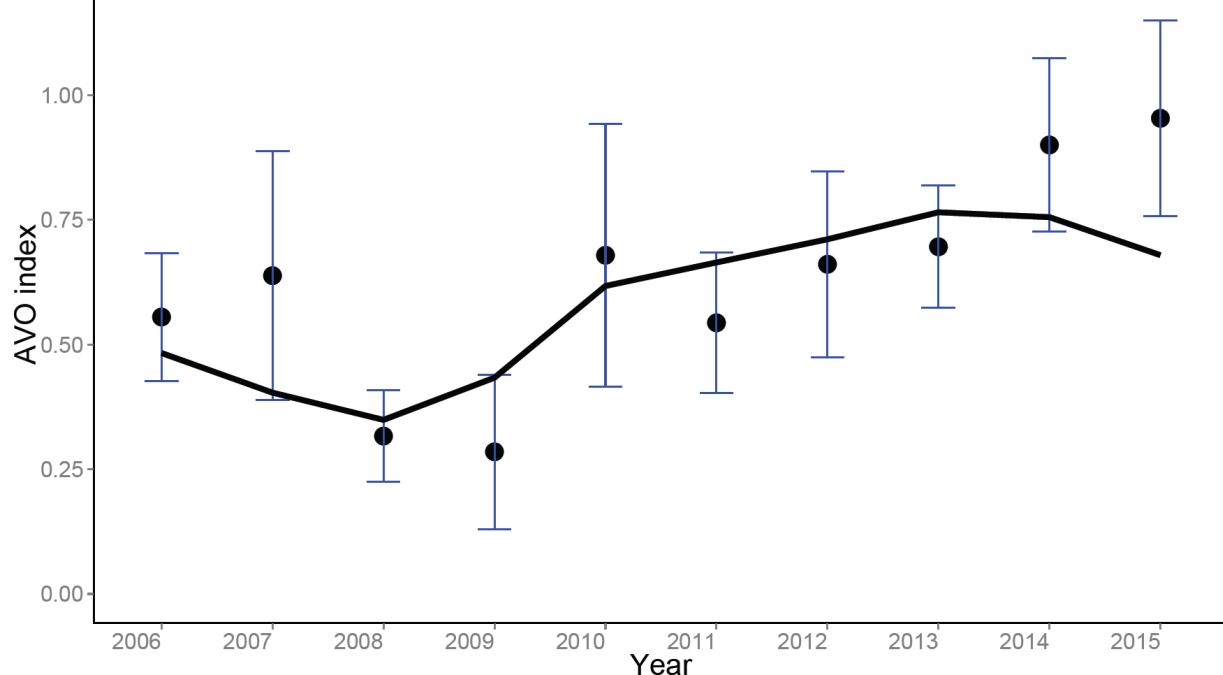
EBS pollock fishery age composition data (2015 Assessment)



Fishery

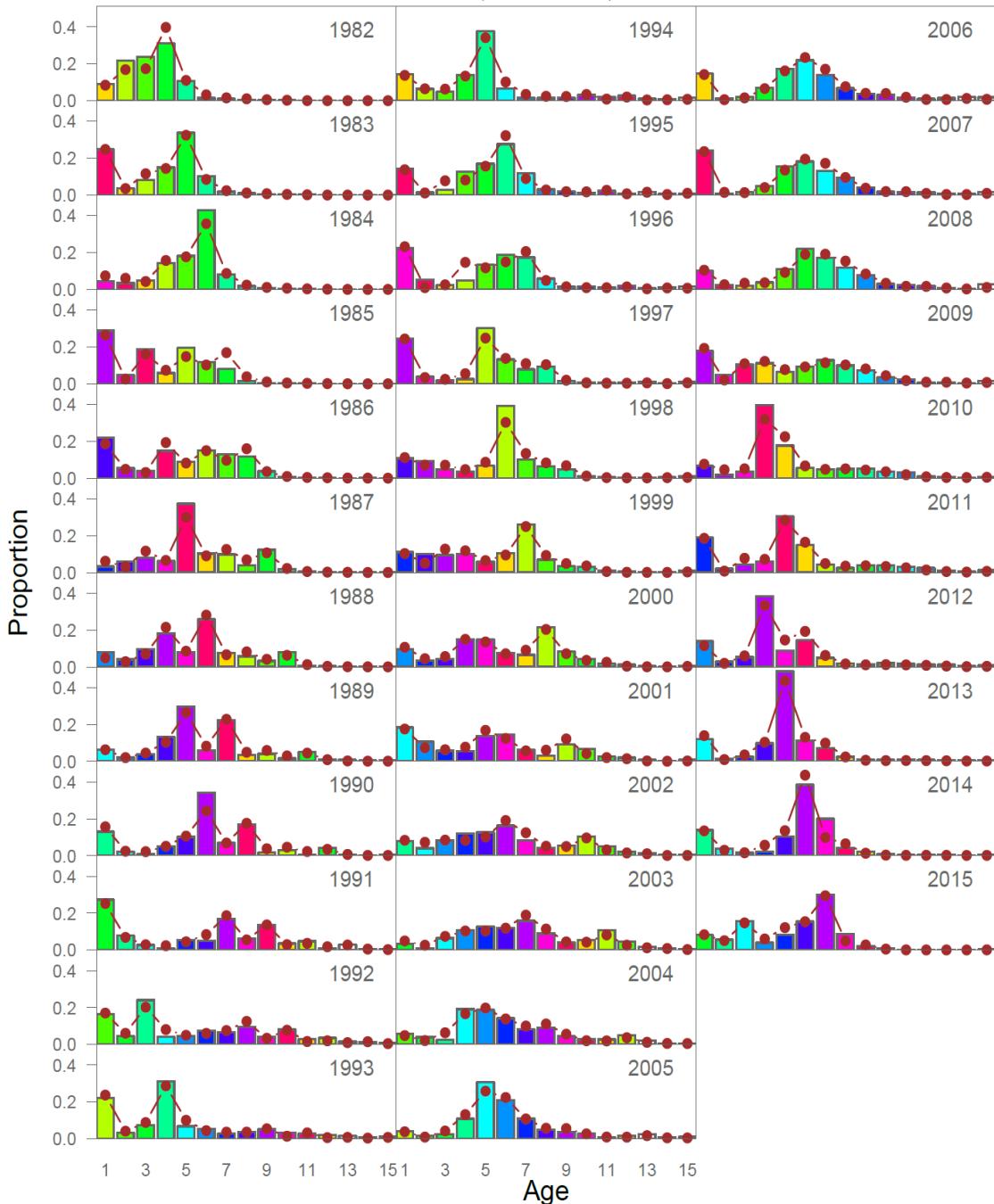
Selectivity



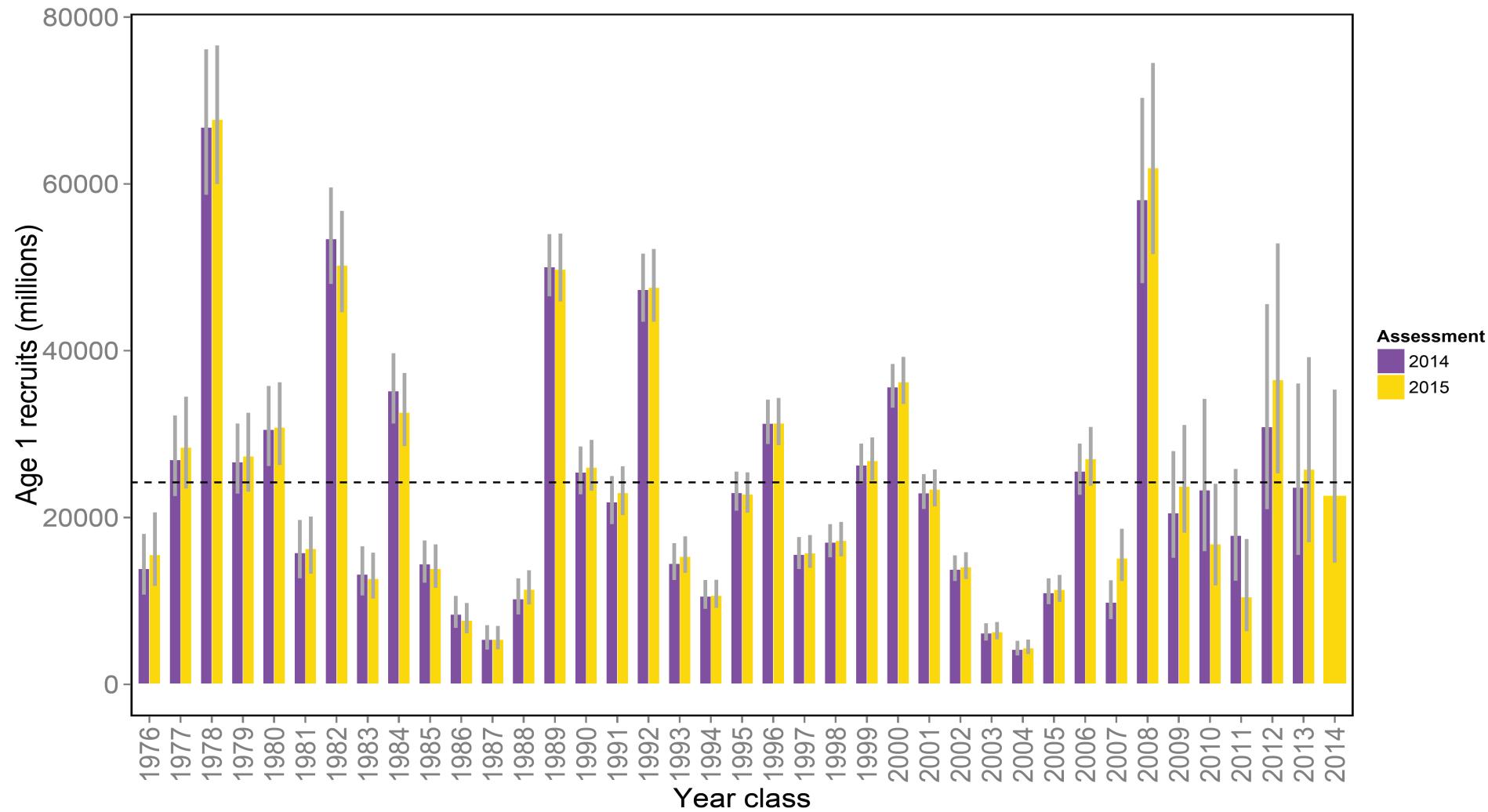


EBS pollock survey age composition data
(2015 Assessment)

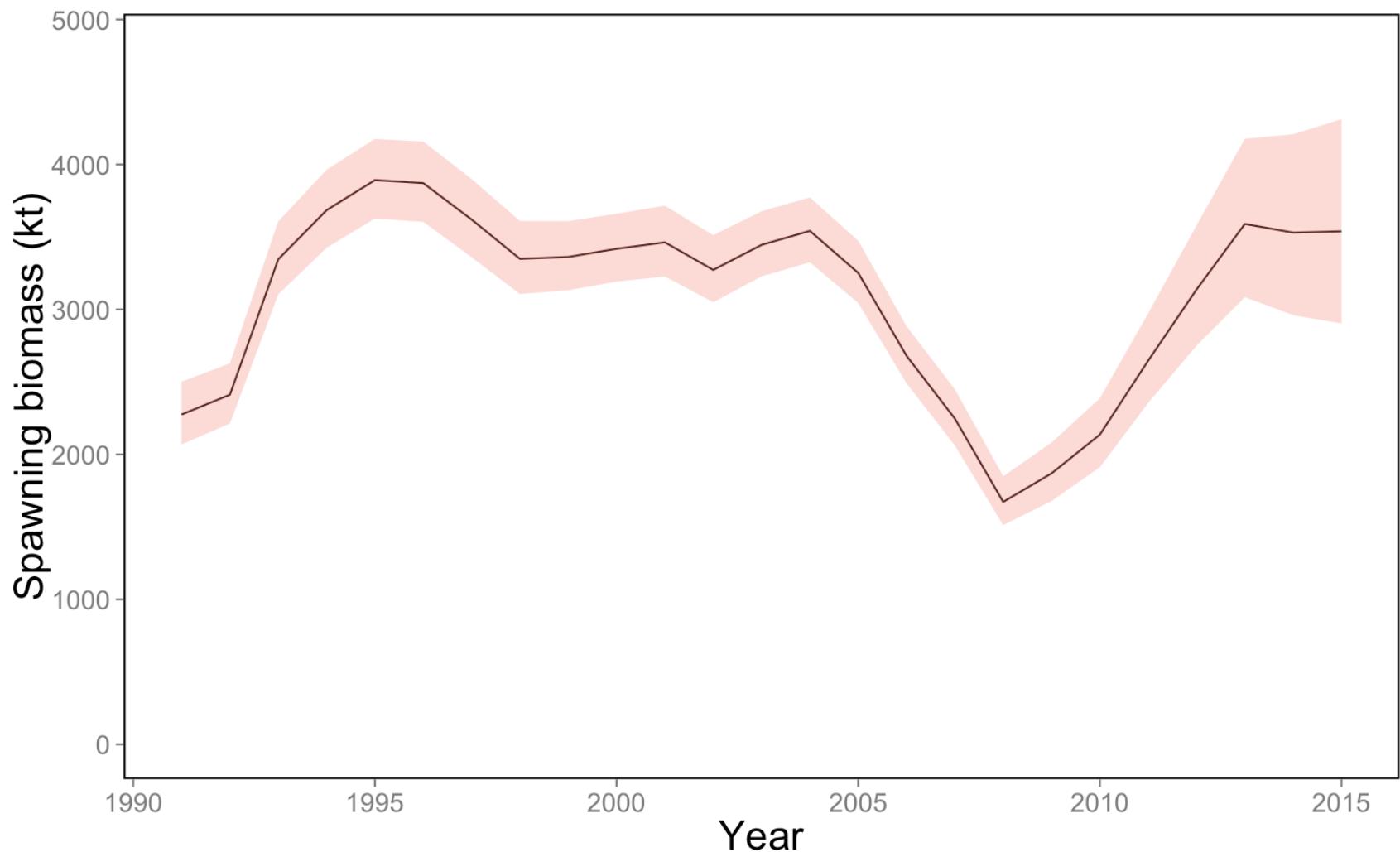
Survey age composition fits



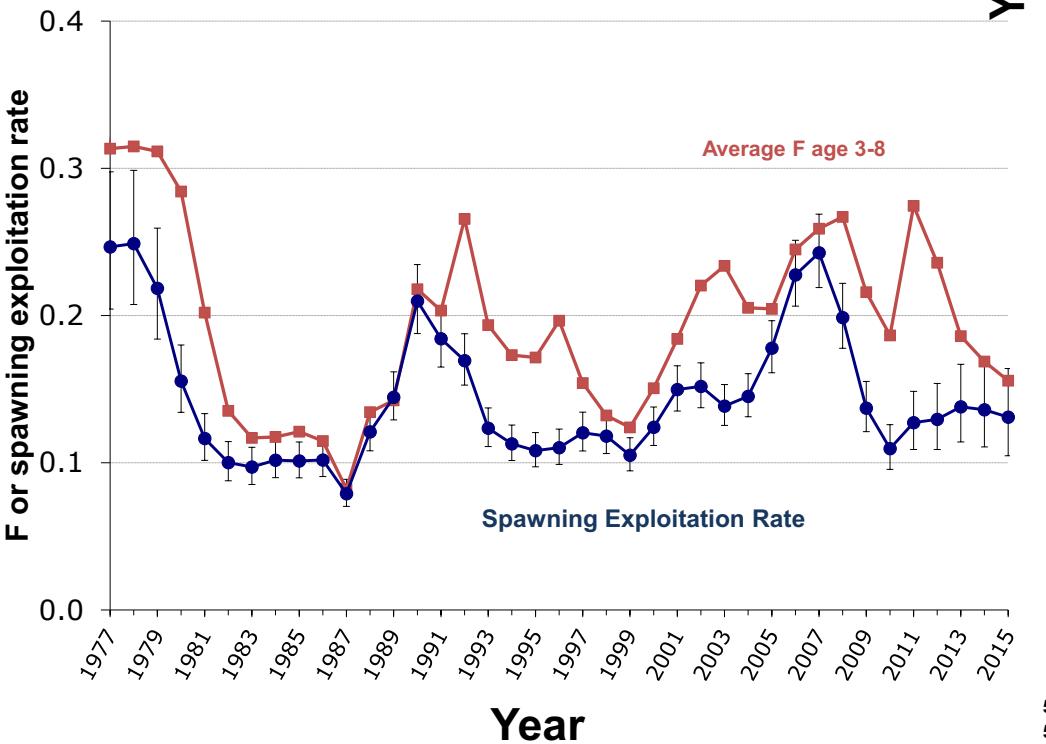
Year class estimates



E. Bering Sea pollock spawning biomass

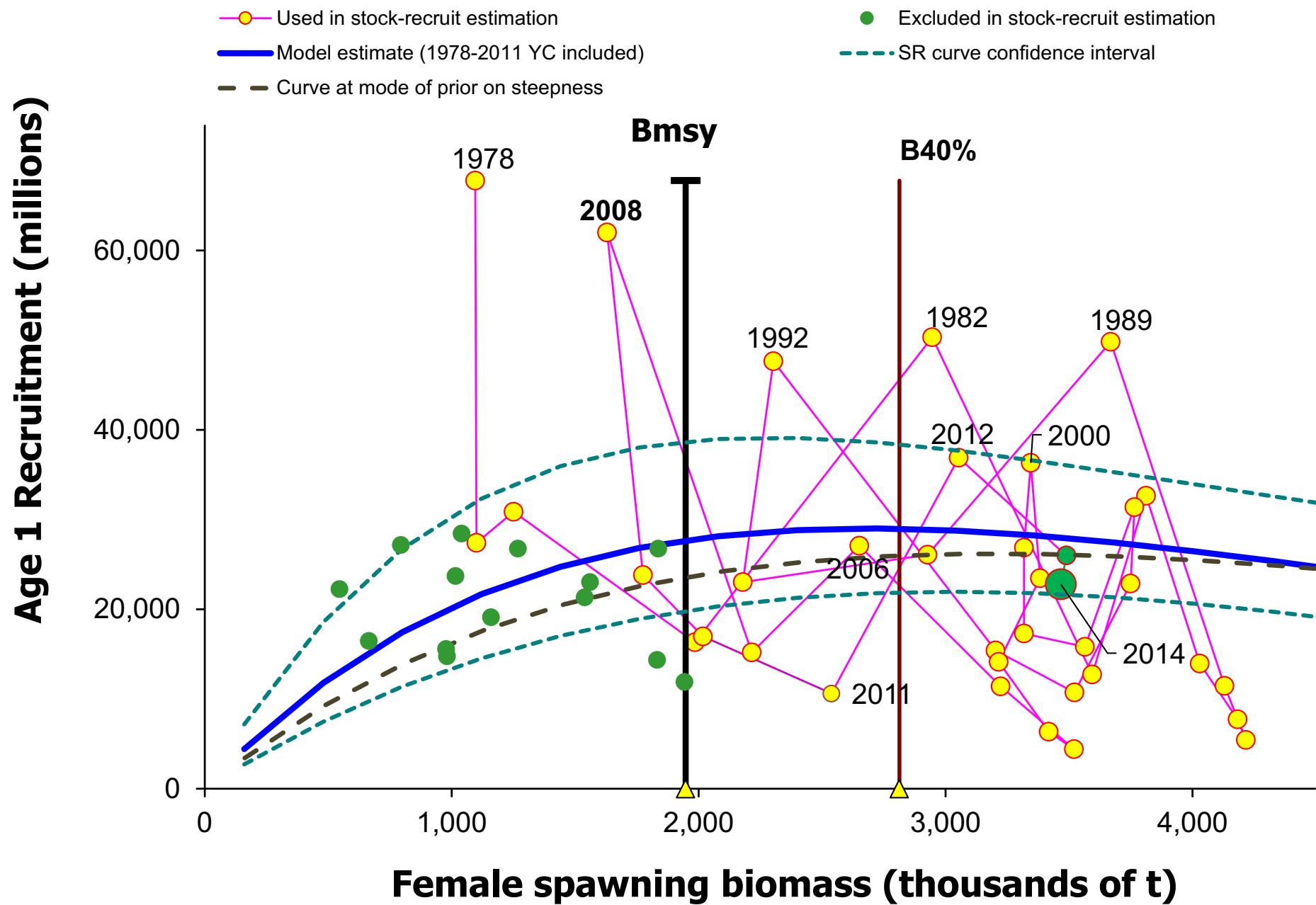


Fishing mortality

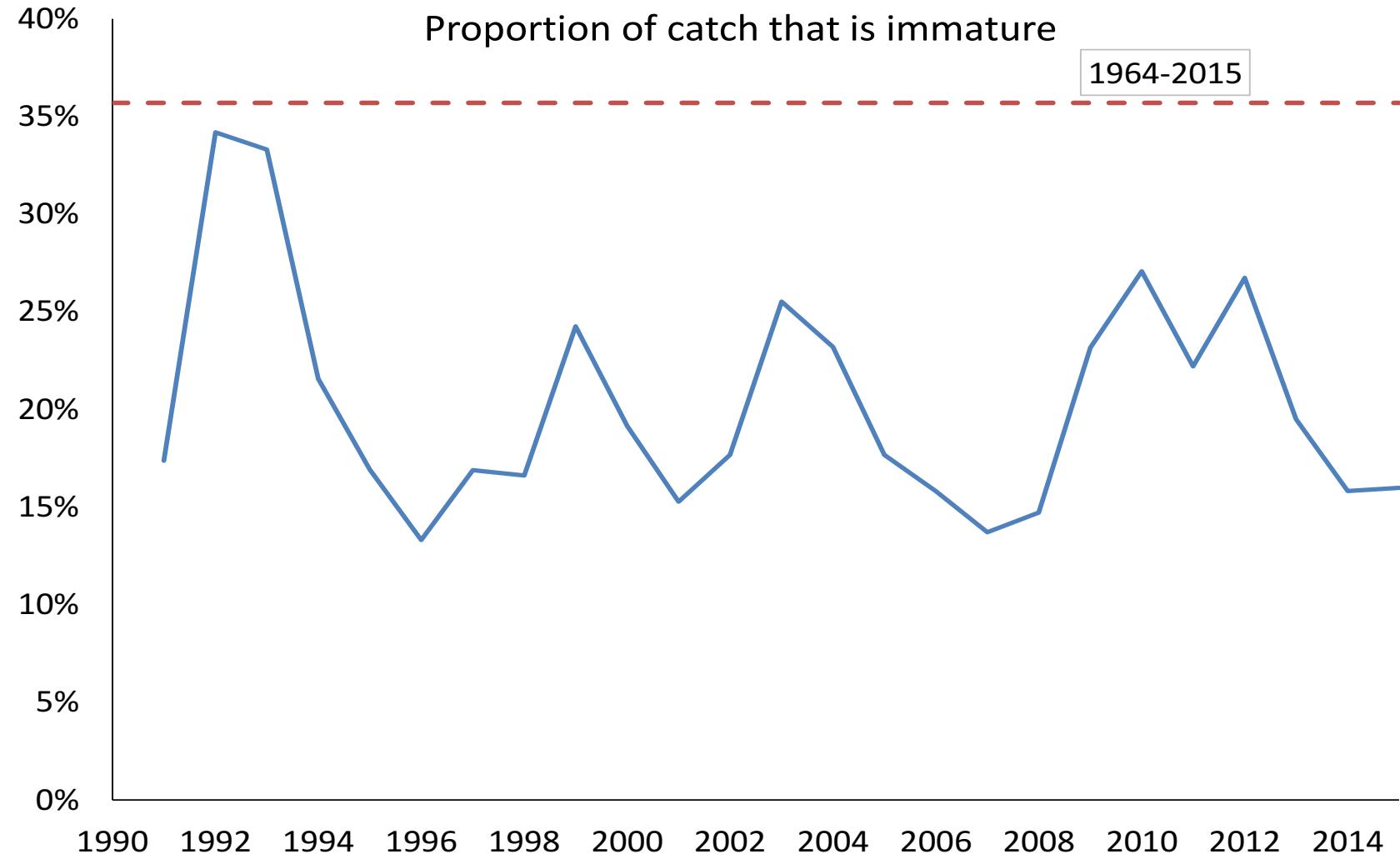


Year	Age									
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
1964	0.01	0.03	0.16	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.15
1965	0.01	0.04	0.17	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.13	0.13	0.13
1966	0.01	0.05	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12
1967	0.03	0.13	0.20	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20
1968	0.03	0.11	0.22	0.21	0.21	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.19
1969	0.03	0.16	0.20	0.20	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.19
1970	0.06	0.22	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.26	0.28	0.29	0.36	
1971	0.08	0.26	0.30	0.36	0.35	0.35	0.39	0.40	0.56	
1972	0.13	0.34	0.39	0.39	0.38	0.38	0.42	0.44	0.55	
1973	0.16	0.37	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.51	0.51	0.59	
1974	0.22	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.52	0.53	0.53	
1975	0.12	0.47	0.45	0.43	0.42	0.41	0.42	0.44	0.48	
1976	0.09	0.36	0.42	0.40	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.38	0.40	
1977	0.10	0.26	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.32	
1978	0.09	0.28	0.32	0.33	0.32	0.32	0.32	0.33	0.33	
1979	0.05	0.23	0.28	0.35	0.34	0.34	0.34	0.37	0.38	
1980	0.02	0.14	0.26	0.32	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.34	0.41	
1981	0.01	0.07	0.18	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.25	0.33	
1982	0.01	0.03	0.11	0.17	0.17	0.16	0.16	0.18	0.26	
1983	0.01	0.03	0.08	0.13	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.17	0.27	
1984	0.01	0.02	0.08	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.16	0.24	
1985	0.01	0.03	0.06	0.11	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.25	
1986	0.01	0.03	0.08	0.10	0.16	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.20	
1987	0.00	0.02	0.05	0.07	0.10	0.10	0.15	0.16	0.20	
1988	0.01	0.08	0.08	0.14	0.14	0.19	0.17	0.18	0.17	
1989	0.01	0.04	0.10	0.13	0.16	0.22	0.20	0.19	0.18	
1990	0.01	0.04	0.18	0.26	0.26	0.27	0.29	0.27	0.24	
1991	0.01	0.02	0.11	0.21	0.25	0.34	0.28	0.35	0.38	
1992	0.01	0.06	0.09	0.18	0.33	0.44	0.50	0.52	0.51	
1993	0.00	0.04	0.16	0.12	0.21	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.28	
1994	0.00	0.01	0.09	0.24	0.21	0.25	0.24	0.23	0.23	
1995	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.15	0.31	0.27	0.26	0.25	0.24	
1996	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.07	0.24	0.40	0.44	0.39	0.35	
1997	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.08	0.17	0.29	0.32	0.39	0.37	
1998	0.00	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.19	0.19	0.26	0.32	0.32	
1999	0.00	0.04	0.06	0.09	0.13	0.22	0.20	0.18	0.18	
2000	0.00	0.02	0.09	0.14	0.14	0.23	0.28	0.22	0.20	
2001	0.00	0.02	0.07	0.19	0.28	0.27	0.27	0.25	0.24	
2002	0.00	0.02	0.08	0.18	0.36	0.35	0.34	0.31	0.26	
2003	0.00	0.05	0.08	0.21	0.32	0.38	0.36	0.31	0.25	
2004	0.00	0.02	0.16	0.18	0.24	0.32	0.31	0.27	0.24	
2005	0.00	0.02	0.11	0.28	0.30	0.27	0.25	0.23	0.20	
2006	0.00	0.05	0.13	0.27	0.37	0.34	0.31	0.28	0.25	
2007	0.00	0.05	0.13	0.27	0.41	0.37	0.32	0.29	0.27	
2008	0.00	0.03	0.12	0.26	0.43	0.40	0.36	0.34	0.30	
2009	0.00	0.02	0.11	0.17	0.31	0.34	0.34	0.35	0.35	
2010	0.00	0.01	0.14	0.20	0.22	0.26	0.29	0.28	0.27	
2011	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.36	0.43	0.40	0.38	0.36	0.35	
2012	0.00	0.02	0.10	0.11	0.38	0.41	0.39	0.37	0.35	
2013	0.00	0.02	0.09	0.15	0.17	0.27	0.40	0.40	0.42	
2014	0.00	0.01	0.07	0.17	0.19	0.29	0.28	0.35	0.35	
2015	0.00	0.01	0.07	0.19	0.19	0.24	0.34	0.34	0.34	

5-yr Avg 0.00 0.02 0.08 0.20 0.27 0.32 0.34 0.37 0.36
 5-yr Max 0.00 0.02 0.10 0.36 0.43 0.41 0.40 0.40 0.42
 5-yr Min 0.00 0.01 0.06 0.11 0.17 0.24 0.24 0.34 0.34



What fraction of the catch was immature?



Quantity	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
	2015	2016	2016	2017
M (natural mortality rate, ages 3+)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Tier	1a	1a	1a	1a
Projected total (age 3+) biomass (t)	9,203,000 t	11,000,000 t	11,300,000 t	11,000,000 t
Projected female spawning biomass (t)	2,850,000 t	2,950,000 t	3,540,000 t	3,500,000 t
B_0	5,162,000 t	5,162,000 t	5,676,000 t	5,676,000 t
B_{MSY}	1,948,000 t	1,948,000 t	1,984,000 t	1,984,000 t
F_{OFL}	0.587	0.587	0.514	0.514
$\max F_{ABC}$	0.512	0.512	0.401	0.401
F_{ABC}	0.24	0.25	0.27	0.26
OFL (t)	3,330,000 t	3,490,000 t	3,910,000 t	3,540,000 t
$\max ABC$ (t)	2,900,000 t	3,040,000 t	3,050,000 t	2,760,000 t
ABC (t)	1,637,000 t	1,554,000 t	2,090,000 t	2,019,000 t
Status			As determined this year for:	
	2013	2014	2014	2015
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No