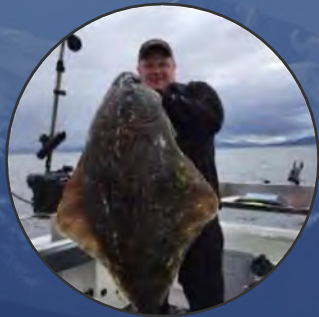


C4 Gulf of Alaska Groundfish November 2023 Plan Team Report

Sara Cleaver, Jim Ianelli, and Chris Lunsford



**NOAA
FISHERIES**



December 2023, Presentation to the NPFMC

GF Plan Team Meetings, November 13-17th, 2023



NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Angel Drobnica, Chair | David Witherell, Executive Director
1007 W. 3rd Avenue, Suite 400, Anchorage AK 99501
Phone 907-271-2808 | www.npfmc.org

Report on the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Plan Team Meeting

November 14-17, 2023

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

This information is distributed solely for the purpose of pre-dissemination peer review under applicable information quality guidelines. It has not been formally disseminated by the National Marine Fisheries Service and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.

GOA Assessment Overview

Bottom-trawl survey year for GOA



Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluate (SAFE) for the NPFMC SSC/Council review

Note, links will become live as documents are completed, please "refresh" browsers, also some assessments are in an "off" year.

Ecosystem status reports:

- [EBS ESR](#)
- [Aleutian Islands ESR](#)
- [GOA ESR](#)

Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI)	Gulf of Alaska (GOA)
BSAI Introduction (with links to each chapter)	GOA Introduction (with links to each chapter)
BSAI Entire SAFE (zip file, 120mb)	GOA Entire SAFE (zip file, 131mb)
Eastern Bering Sea Pollock Muti-species model supplement Aleutian Is. Pollock Bogoslof Pollock	GOA Pollock
Eastern Bering Sea Pacific cod Aleutian Is Pacific cod.	GOA Pacific cod
AK Sablefish	AK Sablefish
BSAI Yellowfin Sole	GOA Shallow-water Flatfish

Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation Report for the Groundfish Resources of the Gulf of Alaska

GOA Introduction Contents

- Summary 3
- Overview of Stock Assessments 9
- Economic Summary of the GOA commercial groundfish fisheries in 2020-2021 11
- Ecosystem Considerations summary 15
- Stock summaries 18
- 1. Walleye pollock 18
- 2. Pacific cod 19
- 3. Sablefish 20
- 4. Shallow water flatfish (partial) 22
- 5. Deepwater flatfish complex (partial) 23
- 6. Rex sole (partial) 24
- 7. Arrowtooth flounder (partial) 25
- 8. Flathead sole 26
- 9. Pacific ocean perch (partial) 27
- 10. Northern rockfish 28
- 11. Shortraker rockfish (no assessment) 29
- 12. Dusky rockfish 29
- 13. Rougheye and blackspotted rockfish (partial) 31
- 14. Demersal shelf rockfish 32
- 15. Thornyheads 33
- 16. Other rockfish (no assessment) 34
- 17. Atka mackerel (no assessment) 35
- 18. Skates (no assessment) 35
- 19. Sharks 37
- 20. Octopus (no assessment) 38
- Appendix 1. Forage species 38
- Tables 39

Home TOOLS Gulf of Alaska Pla... x

Bookmarks

- Summary
- Stock summaries
 - 1. Walleye pollock
 - 2. Pacific cod
 - 3. Sablefish
 - 4. Shallow water flatfish
 - 5. Deepwater flatfish complex (partial)
 - 6. Rex sole
 - 7. Arrowtooth flounder
 - 8. Flathead sole (partial)
 - 9. Pacific ocean perch
 - 10. Northern rockfish (partial)
 - 11. Shortraker rockfish

Year	610 Western	620 Central	630 Central	640 WYAK	650 SEO	PWS GHIL	Tot
2022	23,720	69,259	30,053	6,722	11,363	3,327	144,44
2023	23,511	68,651	29,789	6,663	11,363	3,298	143,27

2. Pacific cod

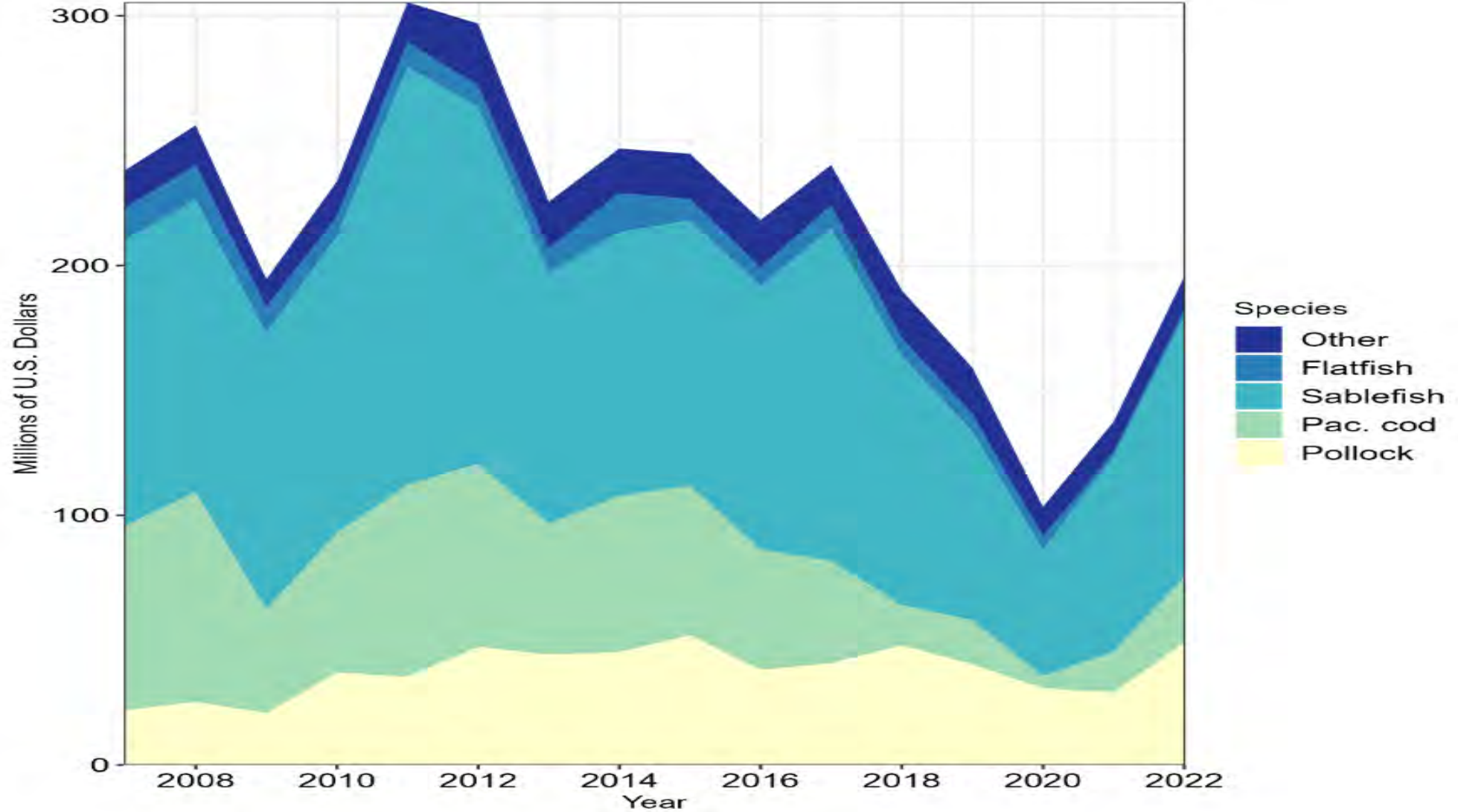
Status and catch specifications (t) of Pacific cod in recent years. Biomass for each year corresponds to the projection given in the SAFE report issued in the preceding year. The OFL and ABC for 2022 and 2023 are those recommended by the Plan Team. Catch data are current through November 6th, 2021.

Year	Age 0+ biomass	OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch
2020	203,373	17,794	14,621	6,431	3,94
2021	265,661	28,977	23,627	17,321	12,27
2022	159,837	29,131	24,043		
2023		27,715	22,882		

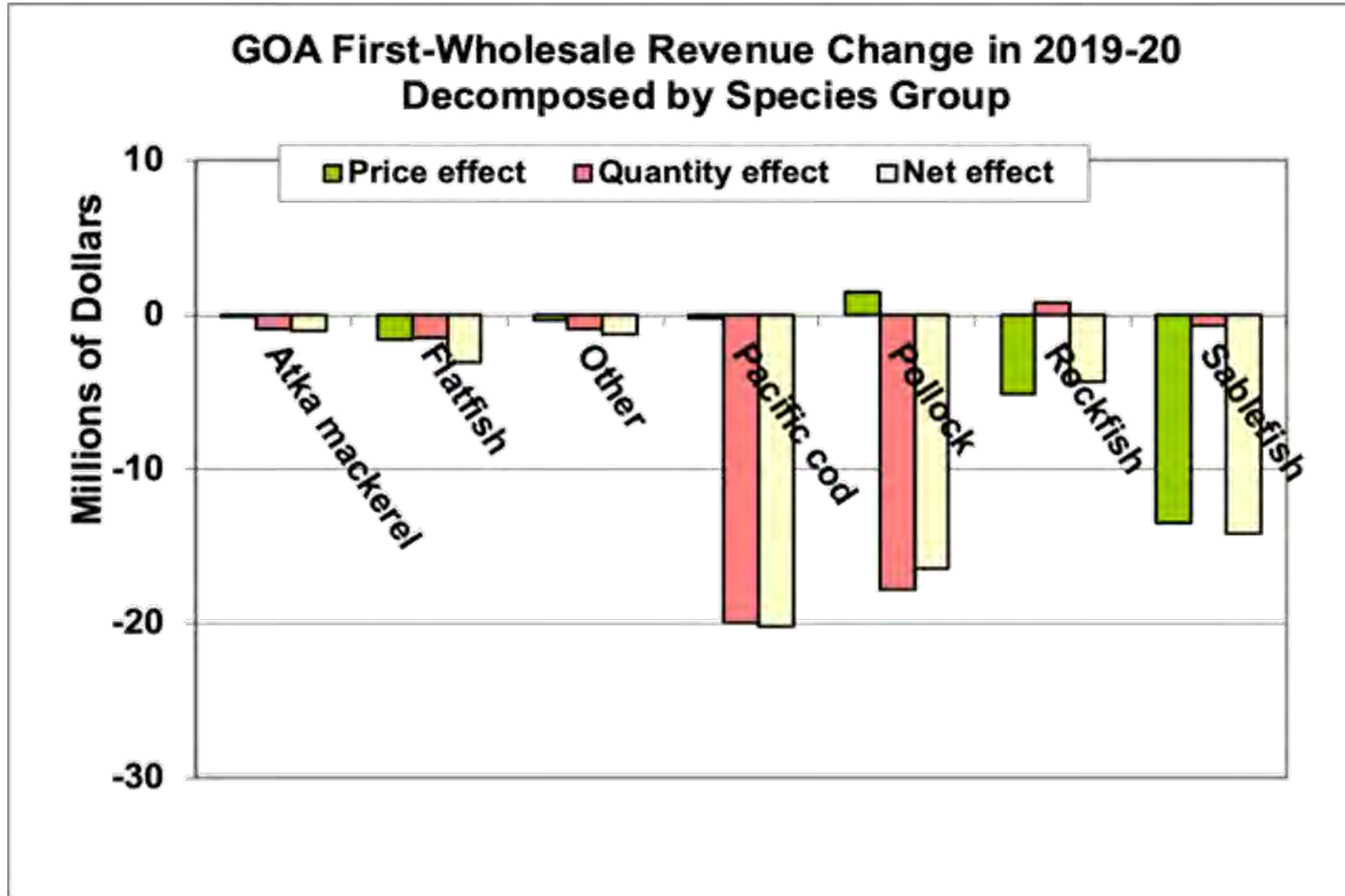
Changes from the previous assessment

Data updated from the 2021 assessment included federal and state fishery catch for 2020 and 2021 (preliminary catch projected through the end of 2021), federal and state fishery size composition for 2020 and preliminary size compositions for 2021, 2021 AFSC longline survey abundance index (Relative

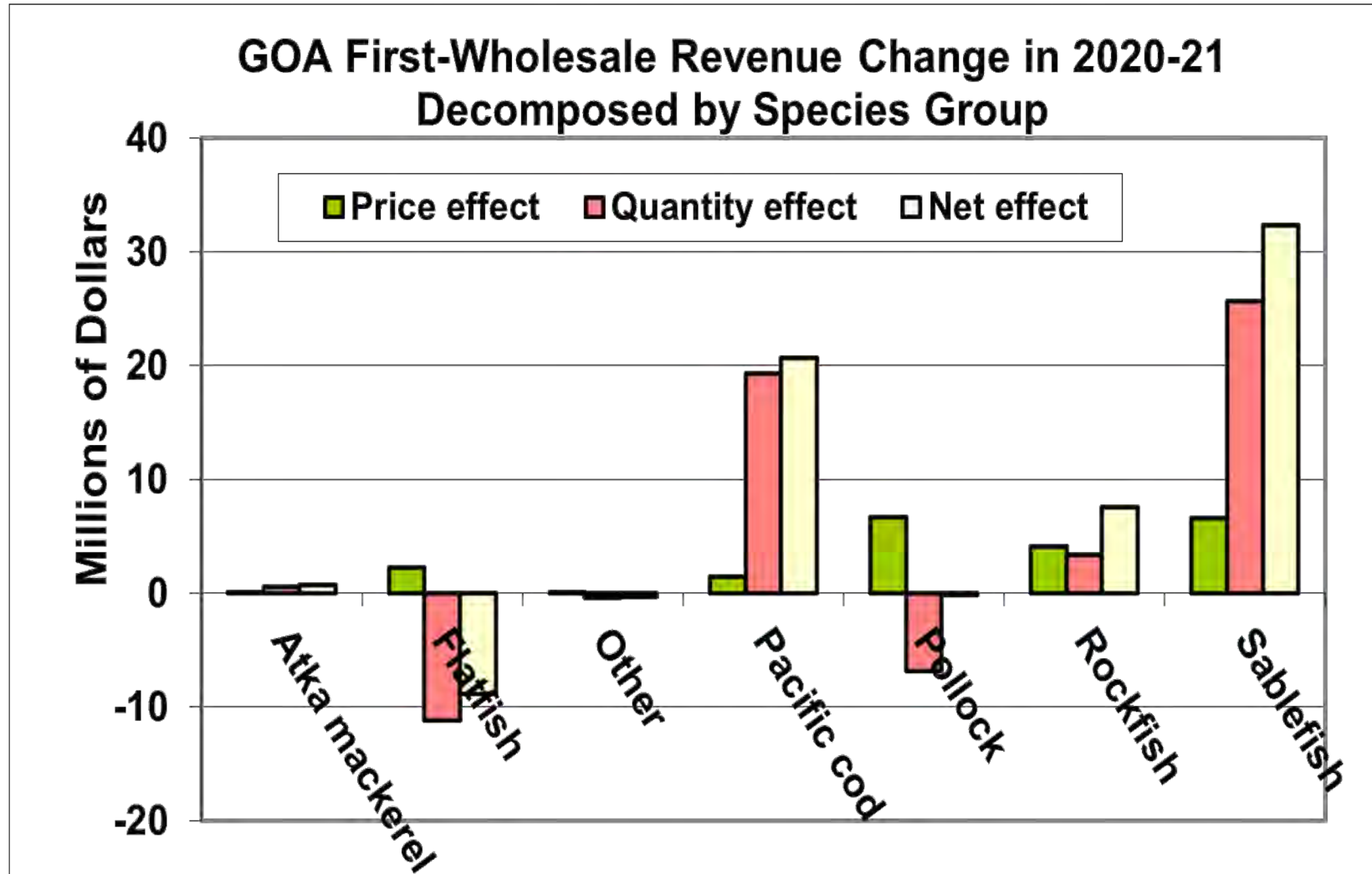
GOA Economic synopsis



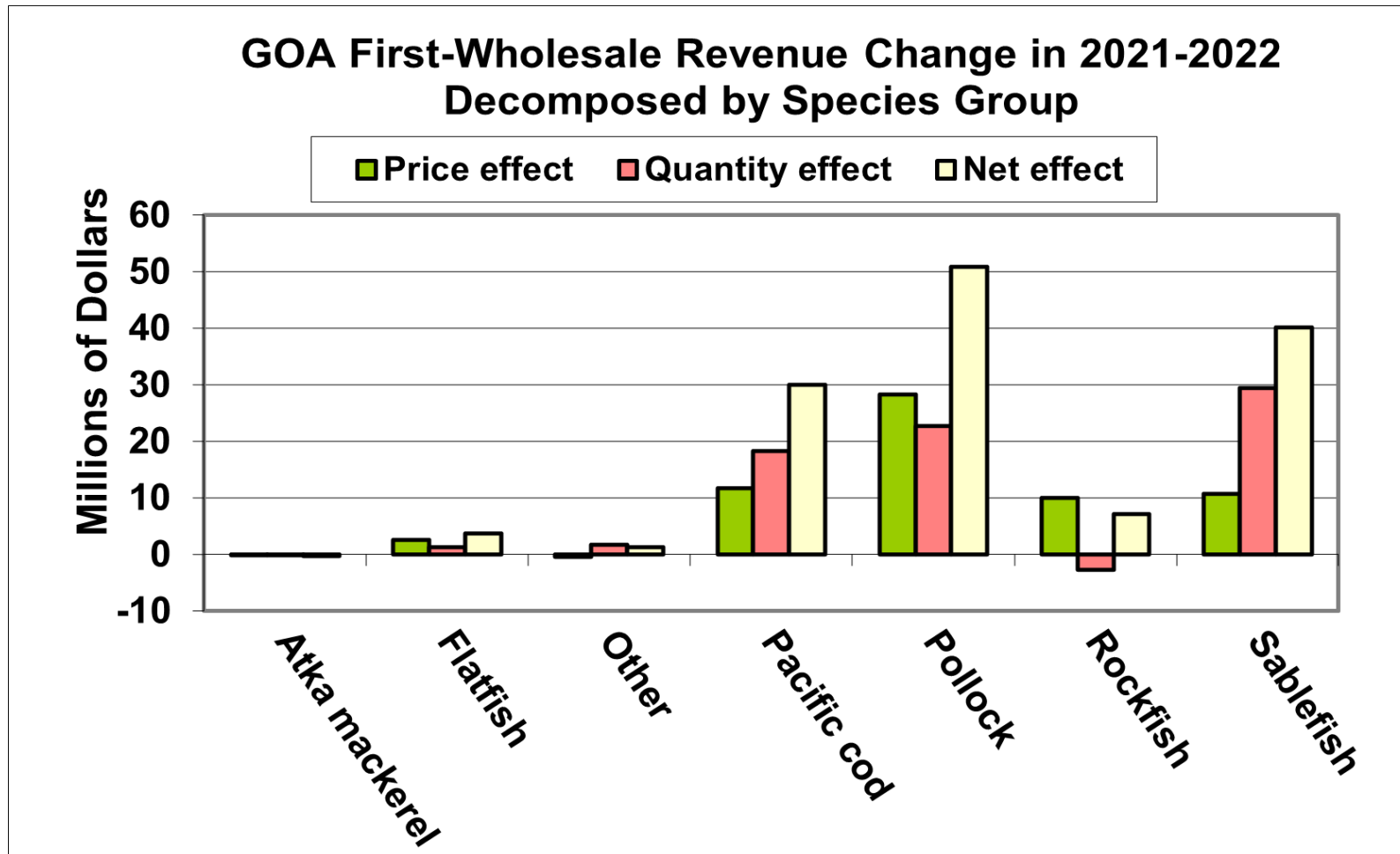
Revenue changes (and source) 2019-2020



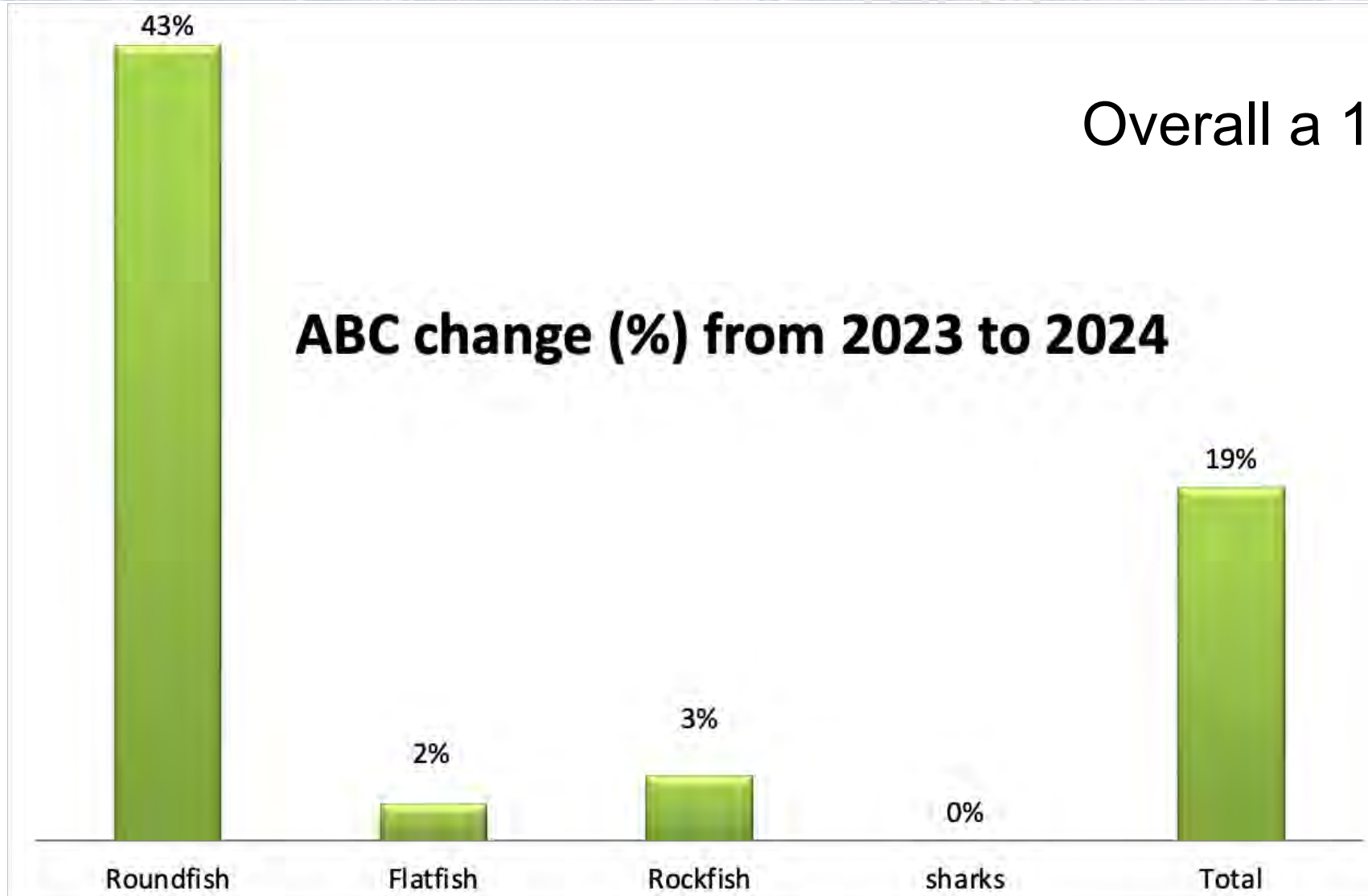
Revenue changes (and source) 2020-2021



Revenue changes (and source): 2021-2022

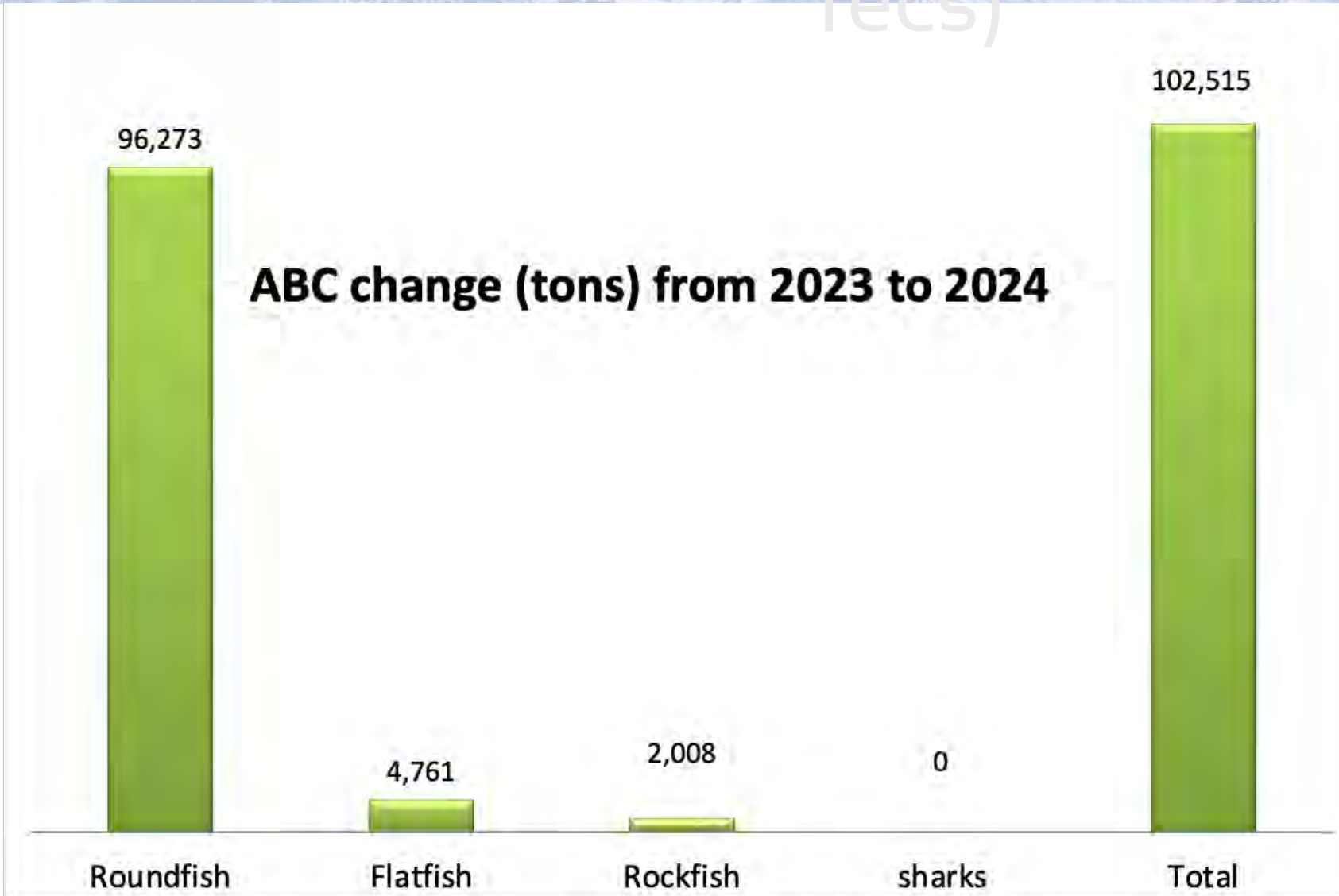


2023-2024 ABC change (based on Plan Team ross)

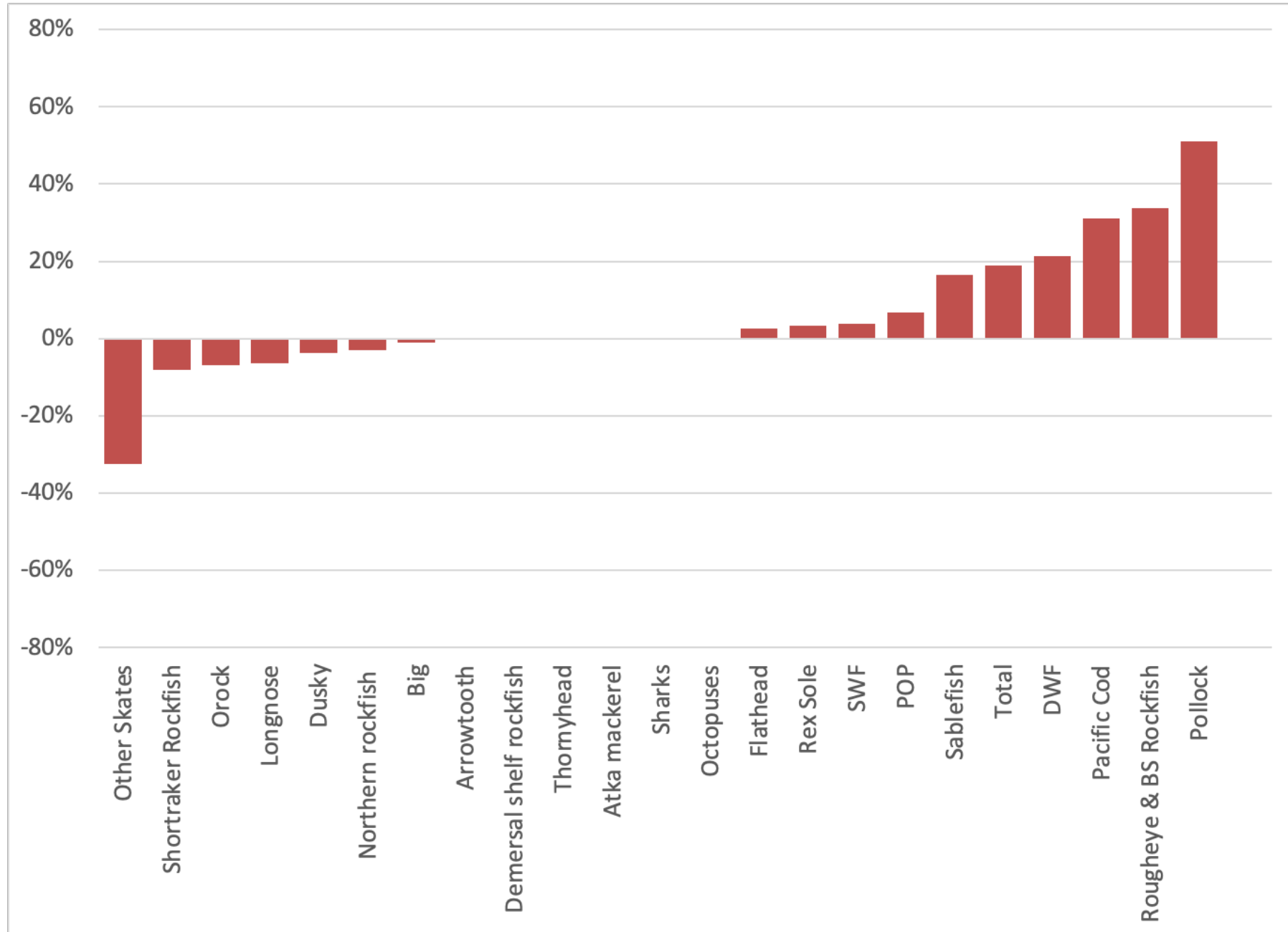


Overall a 19% increase

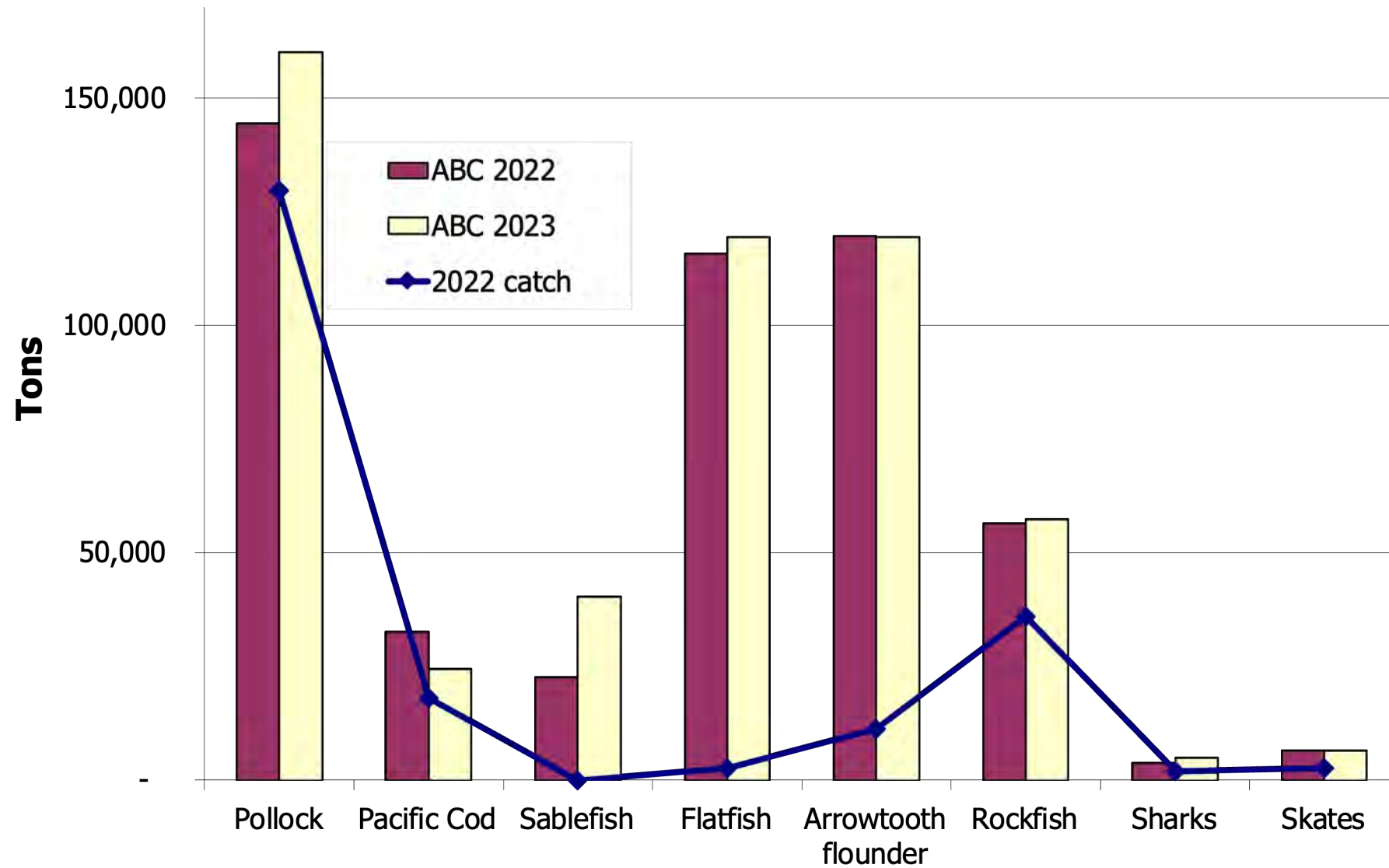
2023-2024 ABC change (based on Plan Team recs)



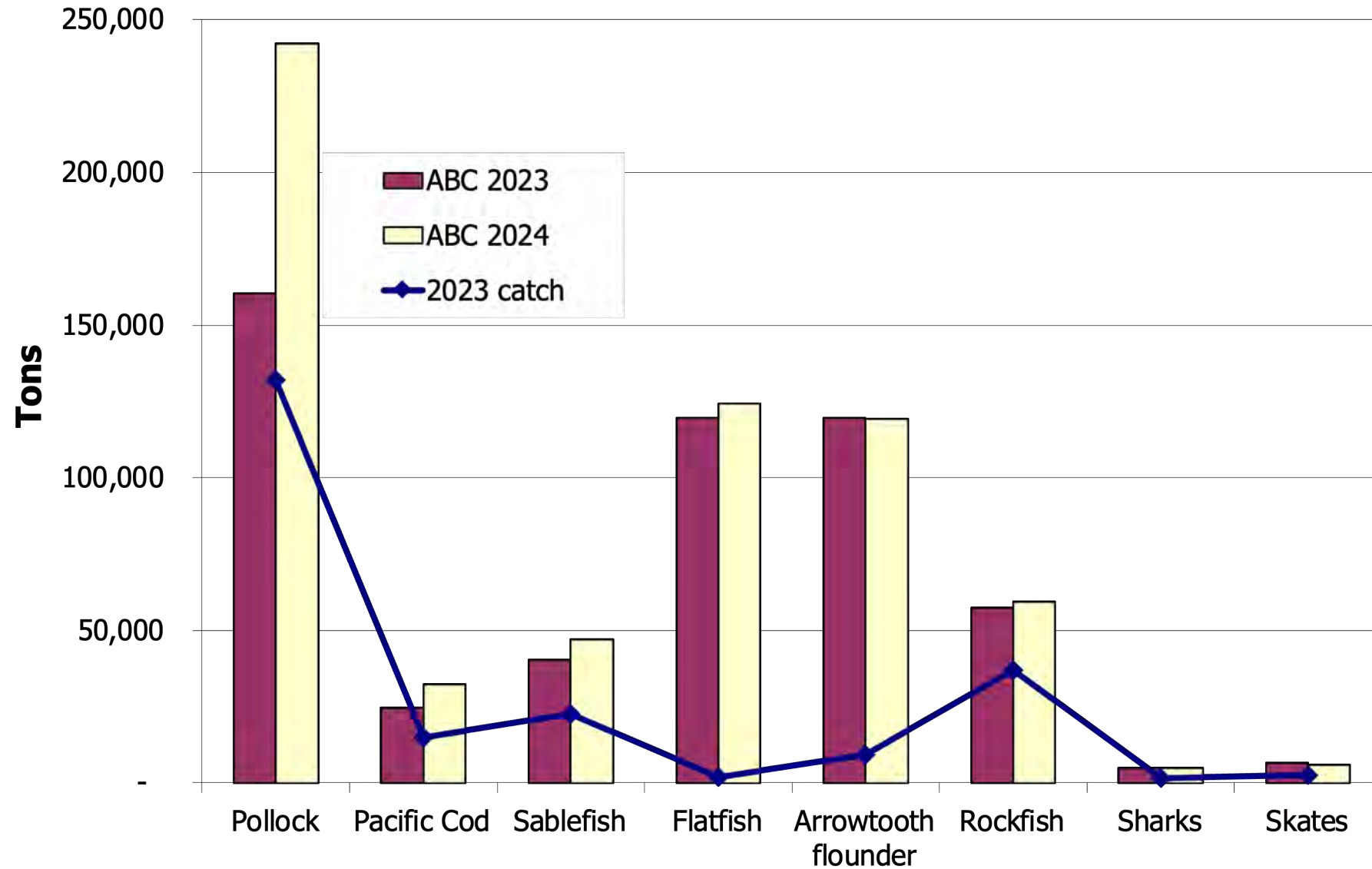
Percentage change in ABC, 2023-2024 (based on Plan Team recs)



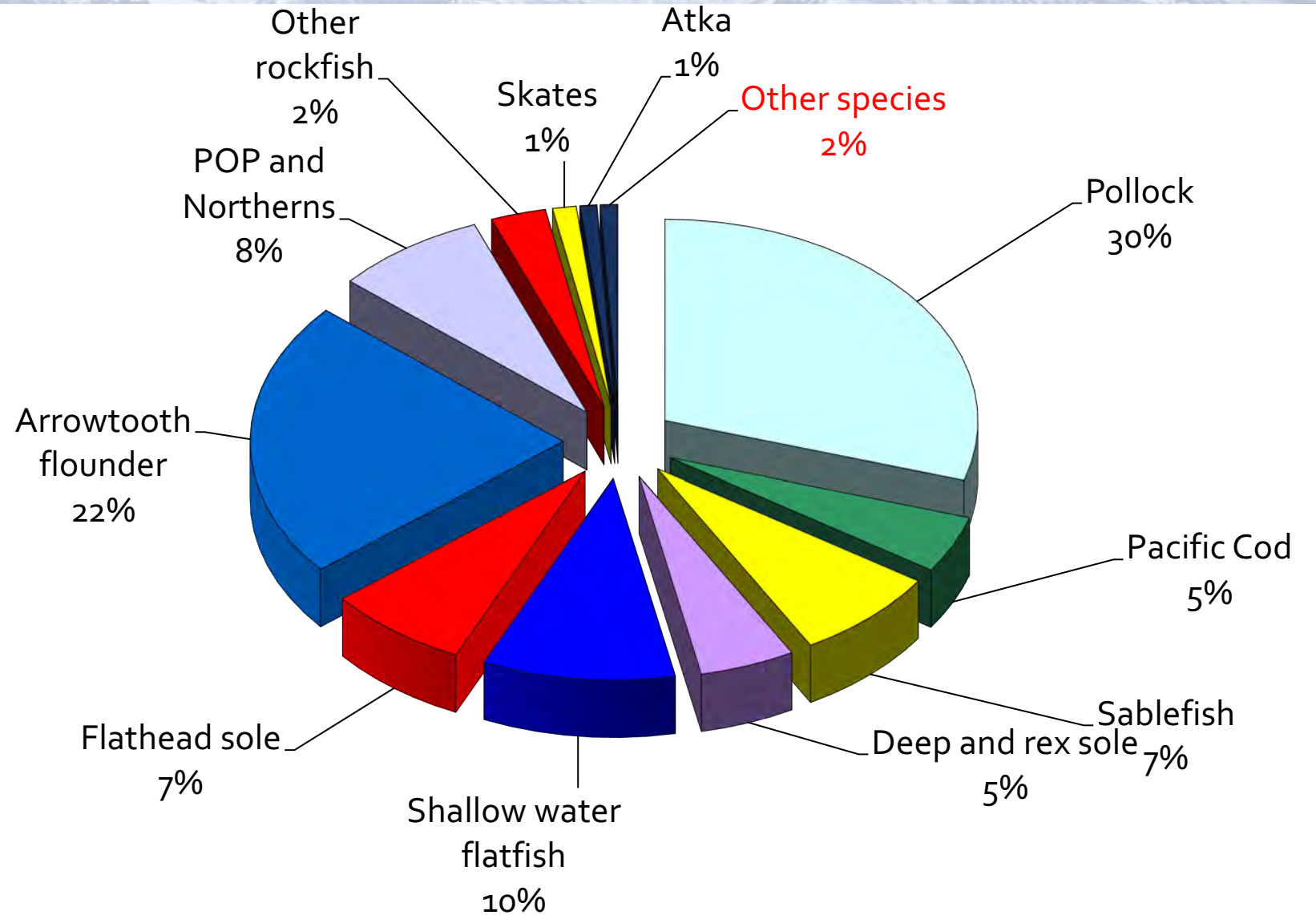
GOA Catch and ABC levels



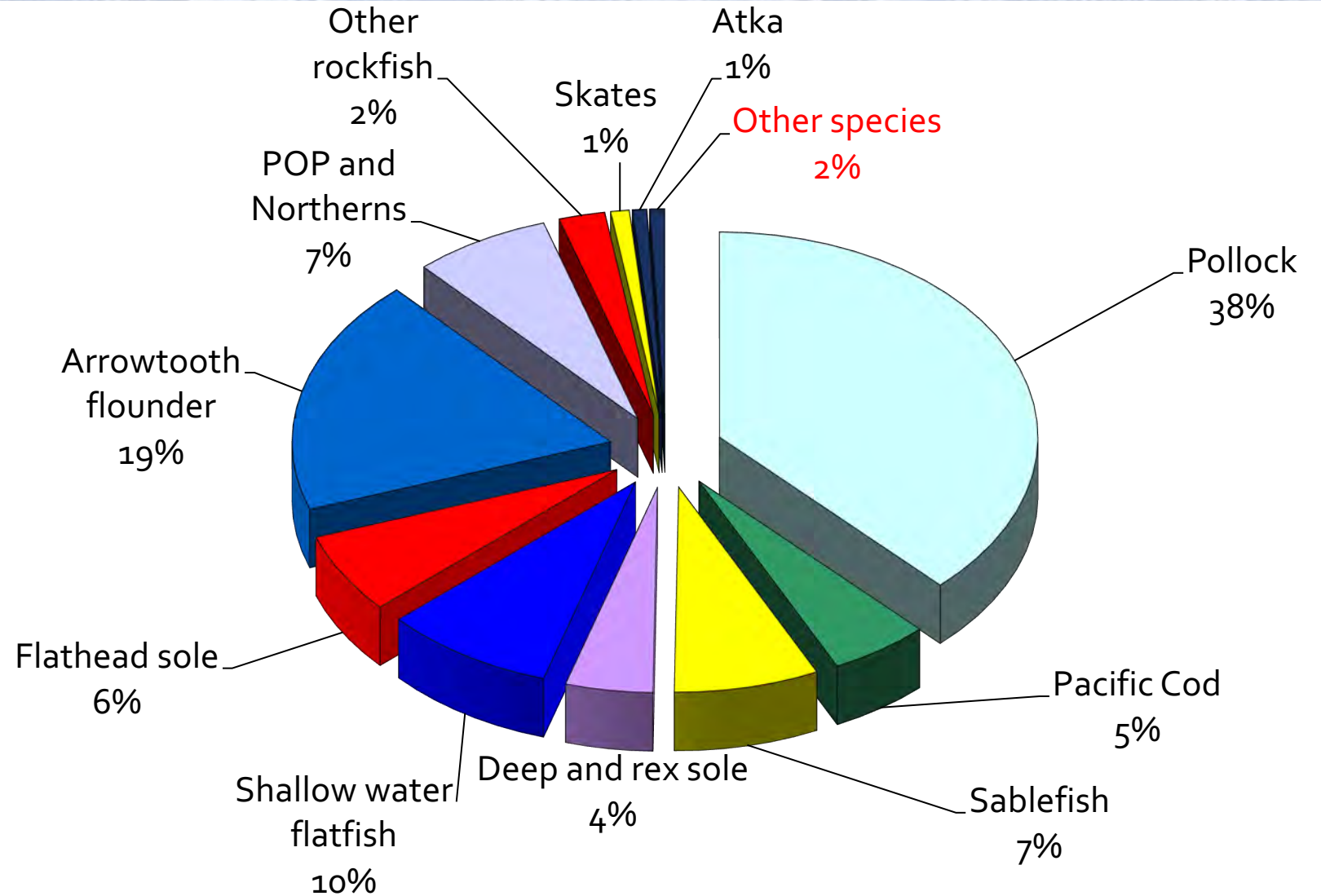
GOA Catch and ABC levels



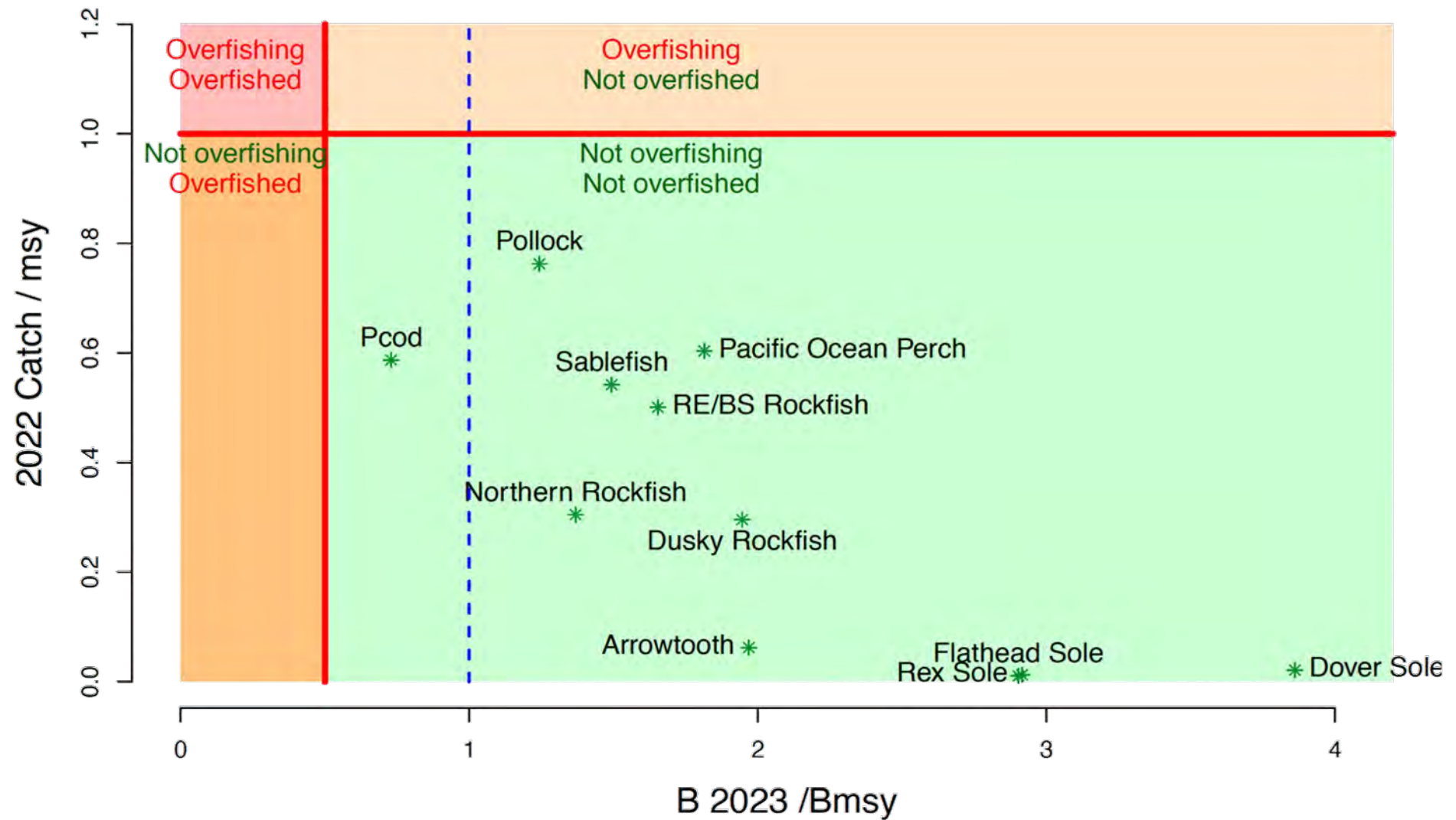
GOA 2023 ABC's: 539,072 t



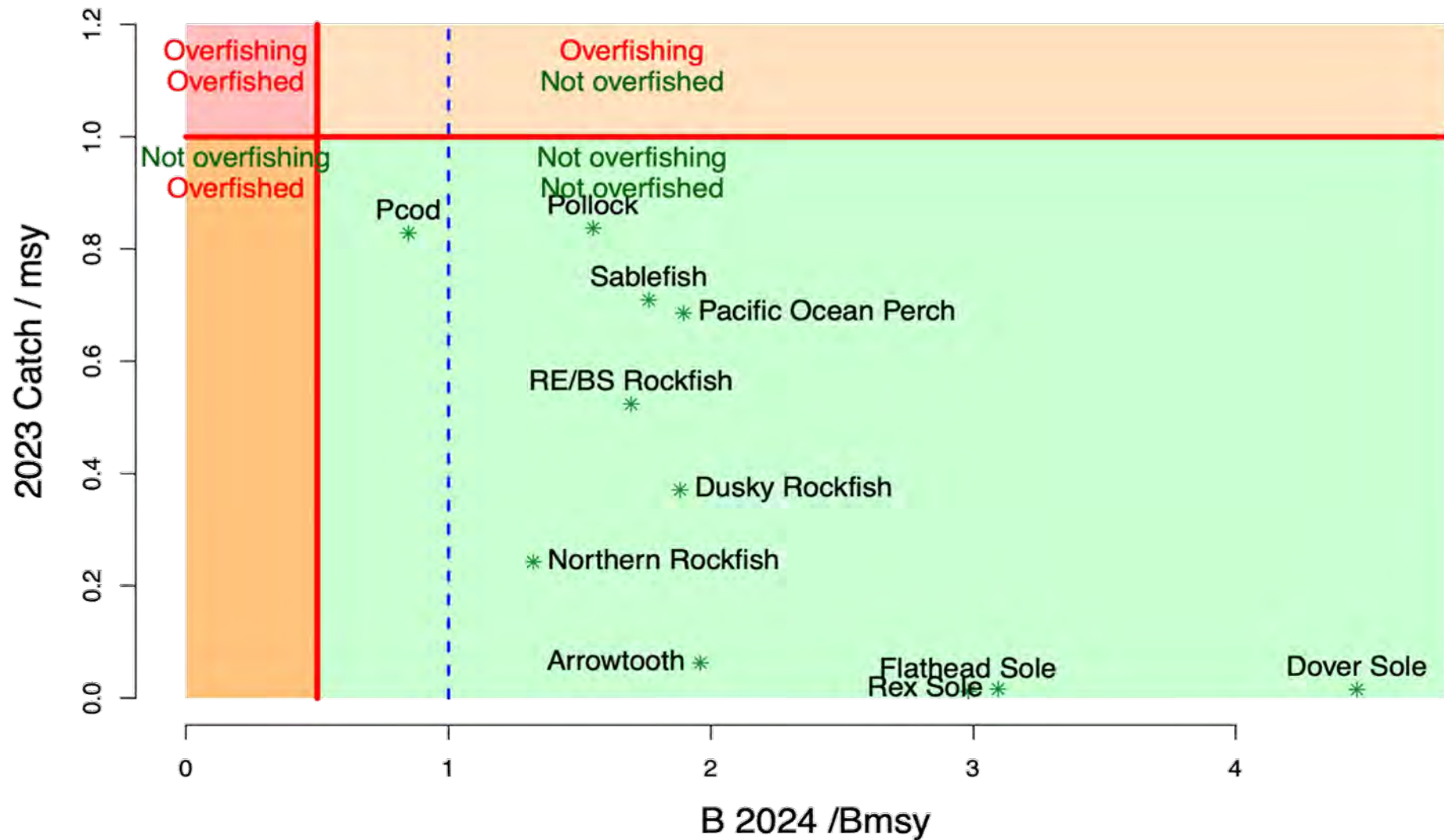
GOA 2024 ABC's: 641,587 t



Stock status summary **last** year



Stock status summary **this** year



Species overviews

1. 2023 ABC/Catch and recommended changes
2. Highlights
 - New data
 - Analytic approach (changes)
3. Stock status and trend
4. ABC/OFL
 - Tier history and recommendations
 - 2024, 2025 maxABC; recommended ABC

GOA stock assessments 2023

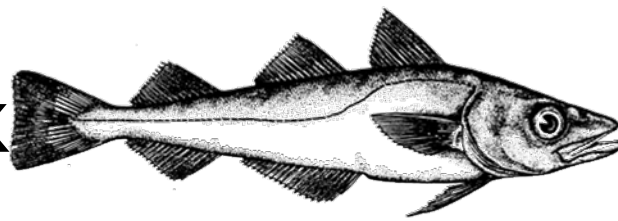
Assessment Type	GOA Stocks for 2023	Description
Operational Full (full)	<p>Pollock</p> <p>Pacific cod Other rockfish Rougheye/Blackspotted rockfish Shortraker rockfish</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considers all data, new model configurations, new modeling platform • More in-depth review
Operational Update (full)	<p>Sablefish Deepwater flatfish Pacific ocean perch Skates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintains model structure of previous full assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New data • Minimal changes • Reduced review • Meant to improve efficiency and streamline process
Harvest Projection (partial)	<p>Arrowtooth flounder Dusky rockfish Flathead sole Northern/Southern rock sole Northern rockfish Rex sole Shallow water flatfish</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive summary • Runs projection model, reports new catches, catch/biomass or REMA model
Catch Report (n/a)	<p>Atka mackerel Demersal shelf rockfish Octopus Thornyheads Sharks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Off-year assessment. Still monitored via recent catch, ABC, OFL

GOA Pollock

NOTE:
SSC had a change
(stair step the increase)

Species	2023 catch	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
Pollock	131,892	160,301	242,292	up 81,991 (51%)
Pacific Cod	14,883	24,634	32,272	up 7,638 (31%)
Sablefish	22,746	40,502	47,146	up 6,644 (16%)
Flatfish	2,017	119,497	124,494	up 4,997 (4%)
Arrowtooth flounder	9,248	119,485	119,249	down 236 (0%)
Rockfish	36,943	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)
Atka mackerel	462	4,700	4,700	same (0%)
Skates	2,741	6,563	6,036	down 527 (8%)
Sharks	1,777	4,891	4,891	same (0%)
Octopus	154	980	980	same (0%)
Total	222,863	539,072	641,587	up 102,515 (19%)

GOA Pollock



Author's 2023 ABC = 232,543 t

- Increase of 56% from 2023
- 2025 ABC decreases to 157,687 t
- No reduction from max ABC

Changes to model:

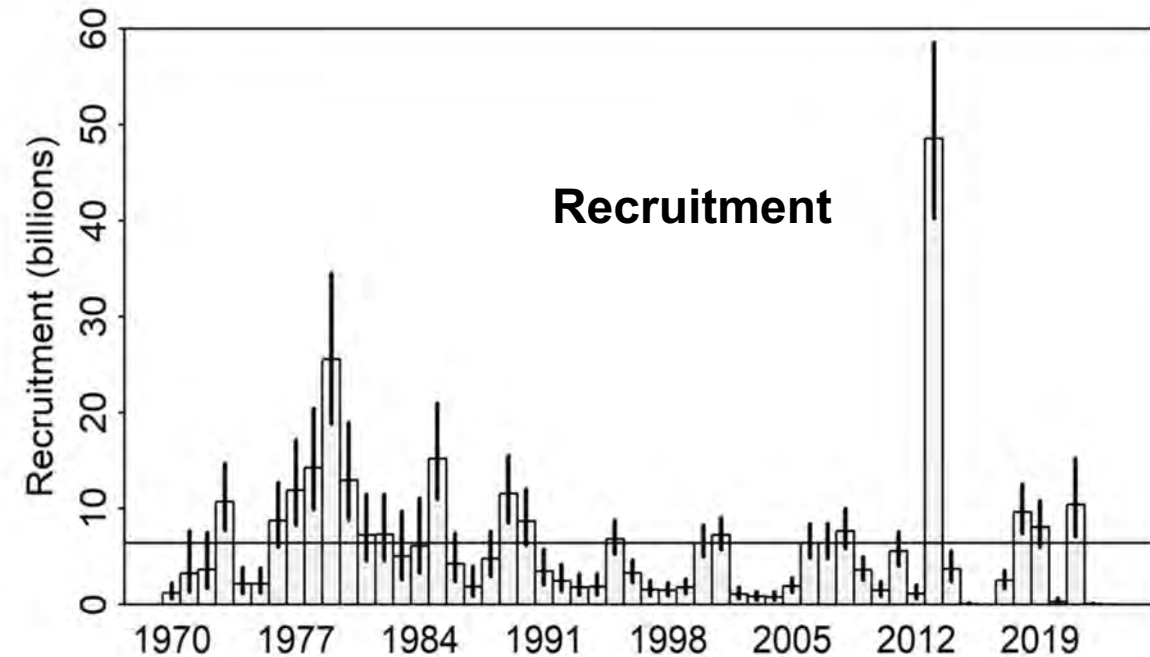
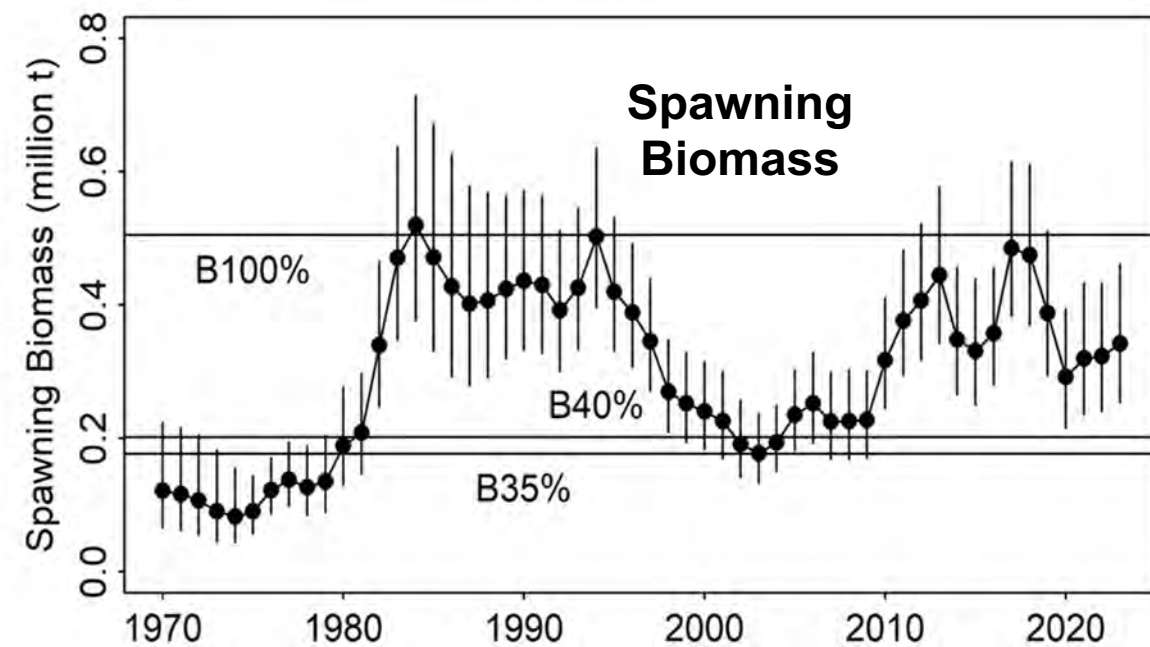
- No structural changes
- Converted to TB (23.0)

Concerns:

- Extremely small recent cohorts
- Poor fit to NMFS bottom trawl index

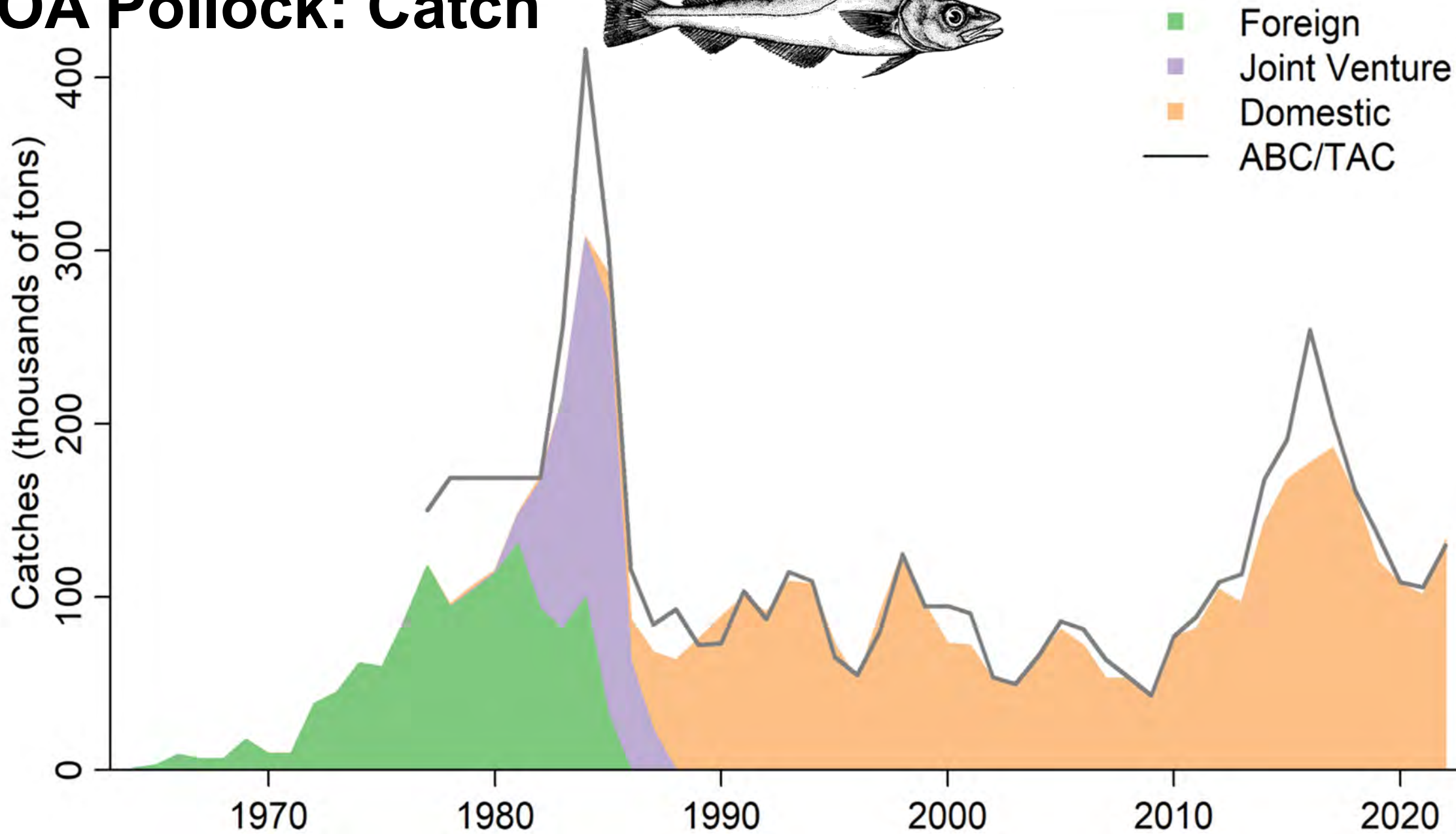
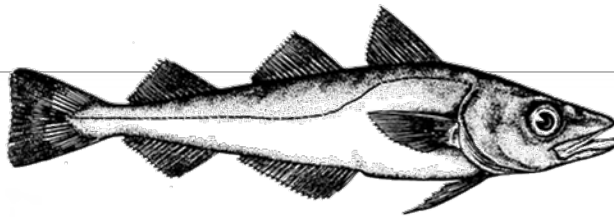
Positives:

- 2017, 2018, 2020 cohorts above average
- 2012 estimate up to ~50 billion
- Good environmental conditions

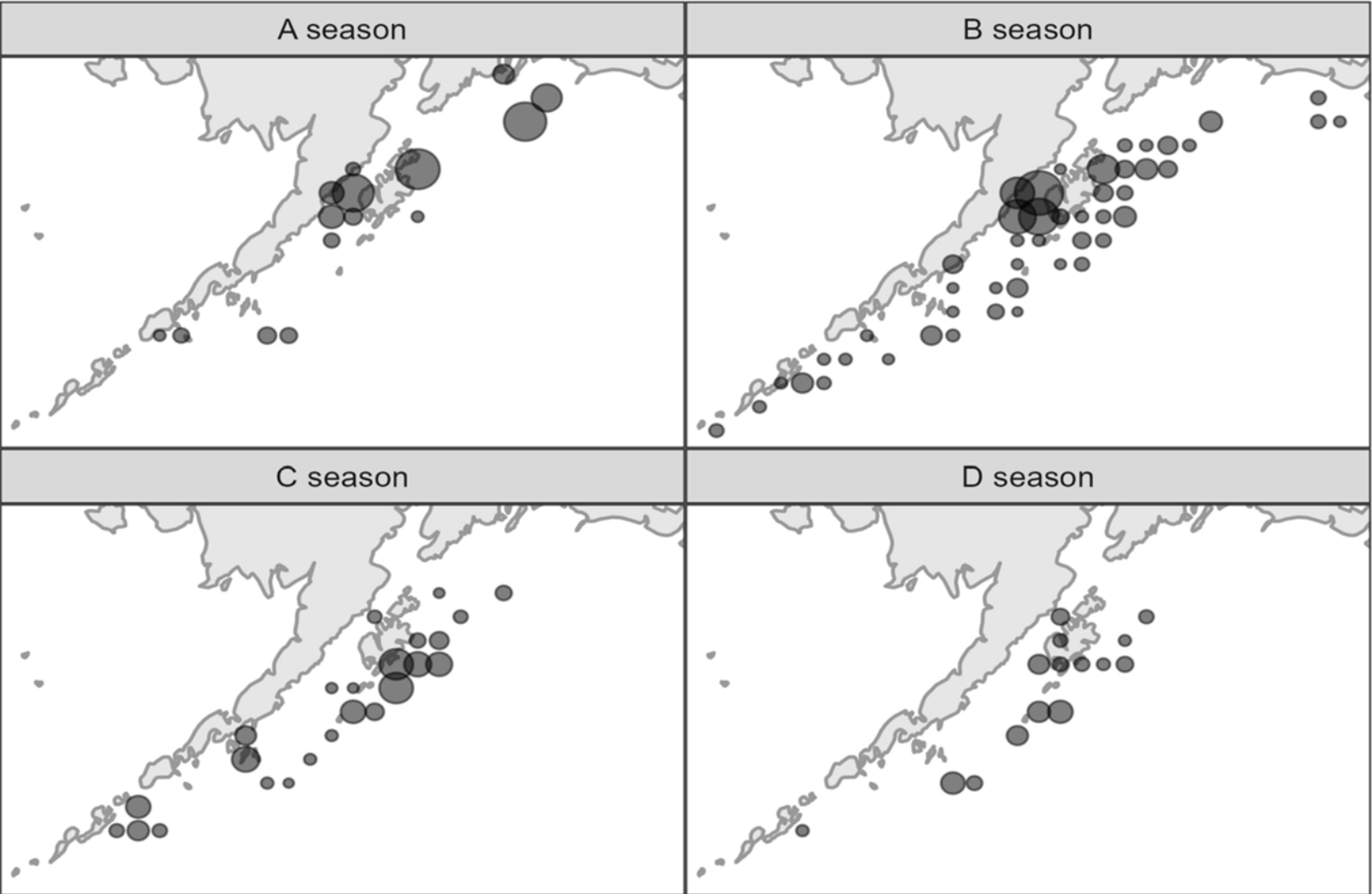
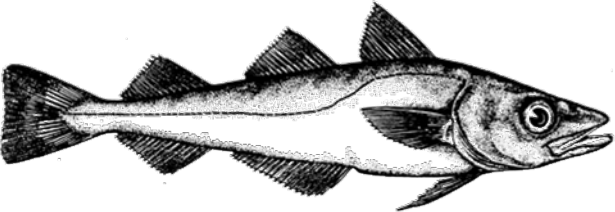


Thanks to Cole Monnahan

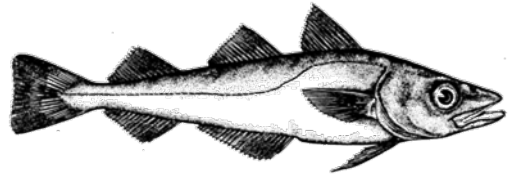
GOA Pollock: Catch



GOA Pollock: 2022 fishery catch distribution

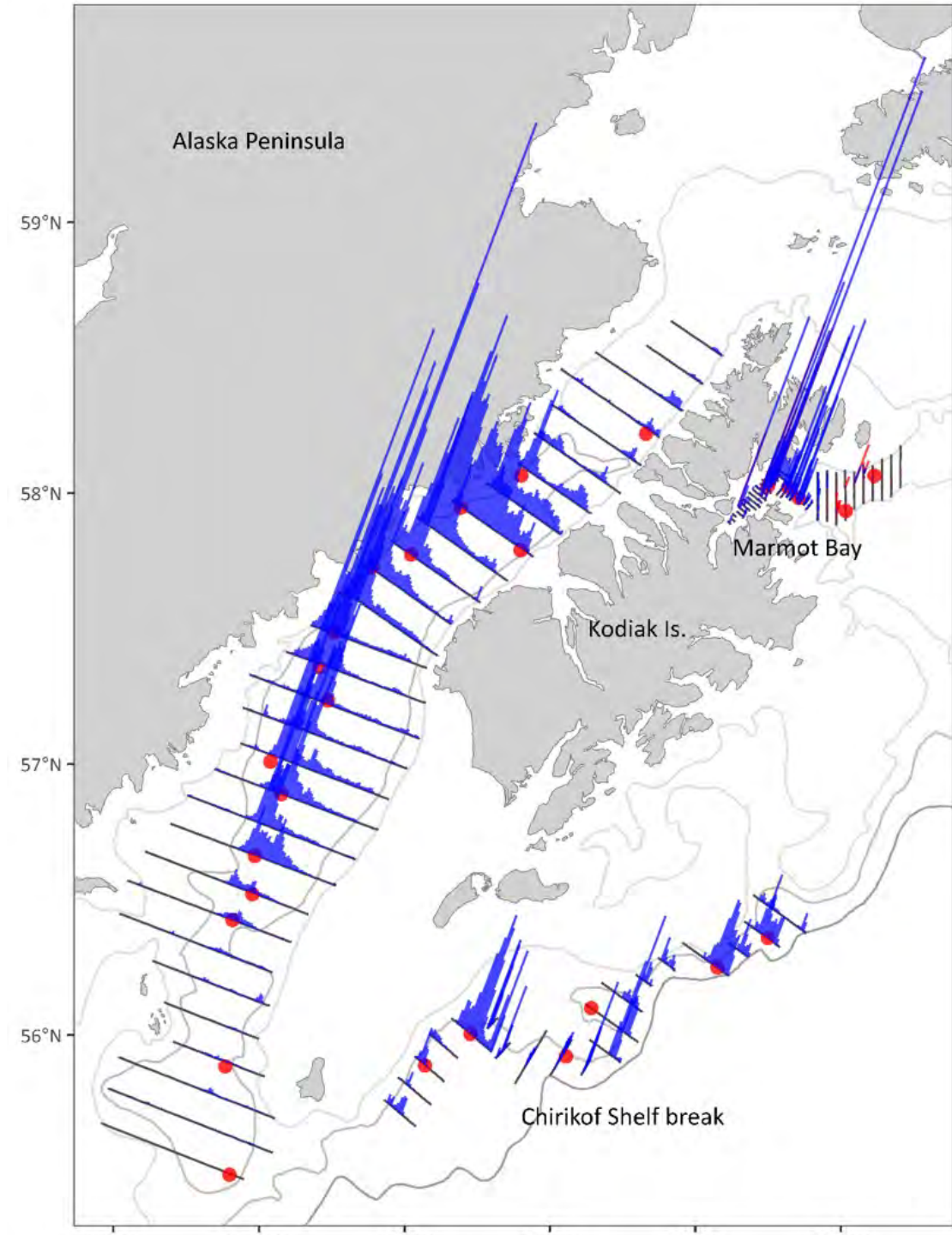


GOA Pollock: 2023 Shelikof Strait pollock AT survey

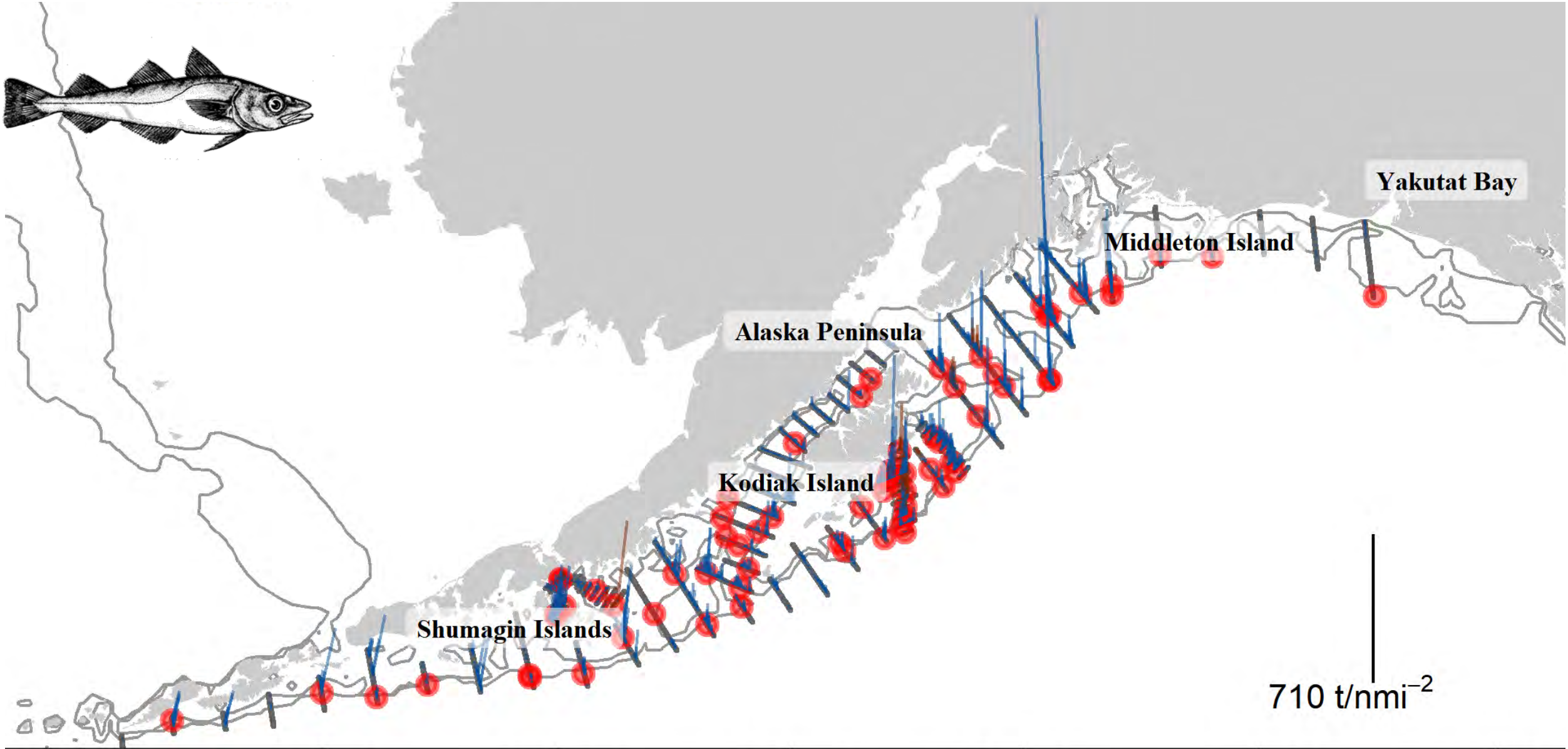


Shelikof down and few small fish

Chirikof and Marmot Bay are both up, but within historical norm

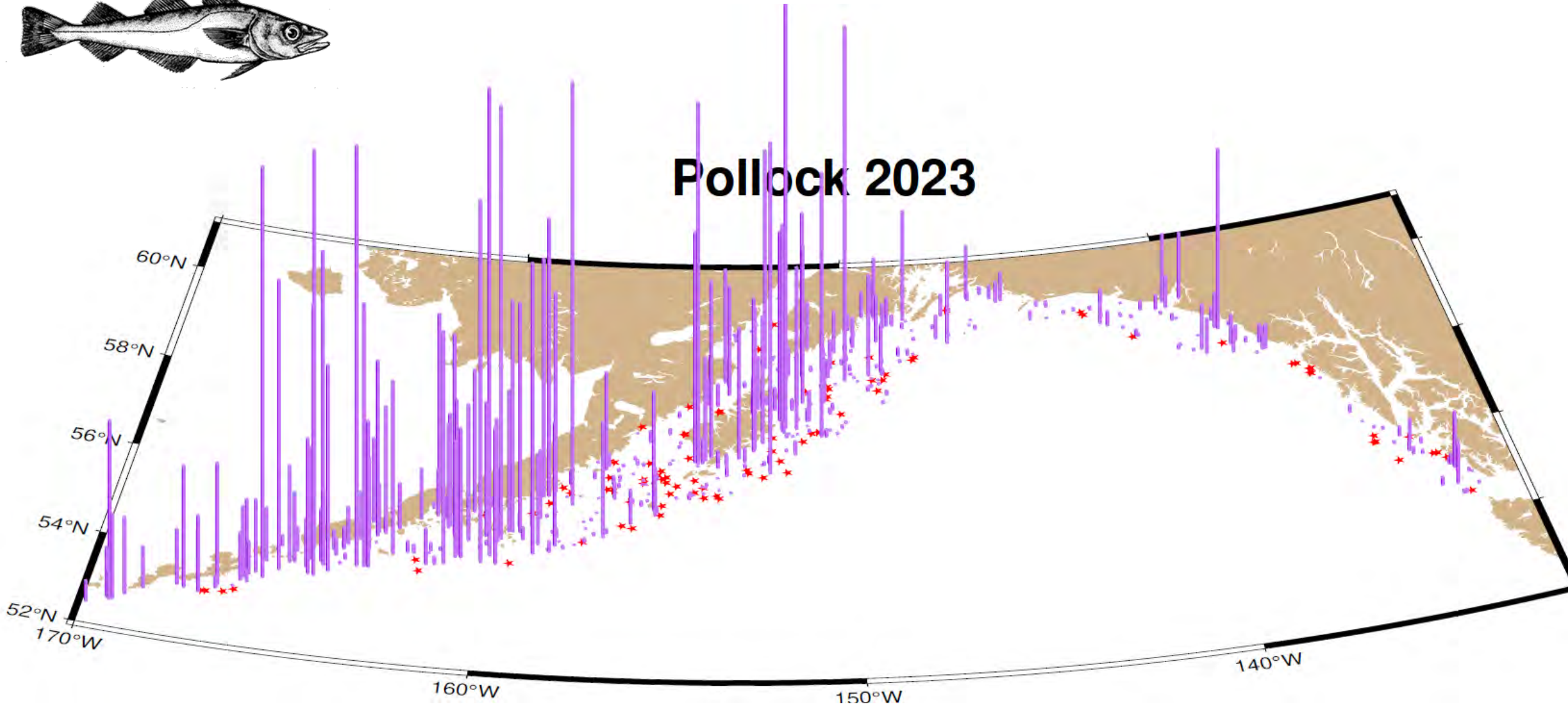
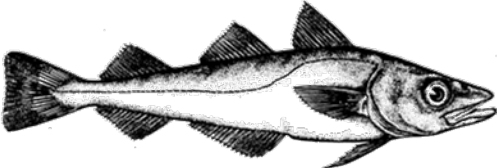


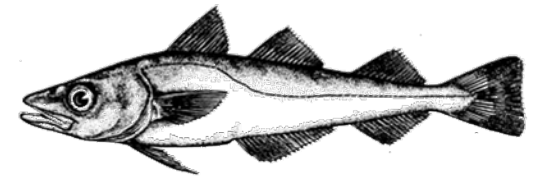
GOA Pollock: 2023 Summer pollock AT survey



Thanks to D. McGowan

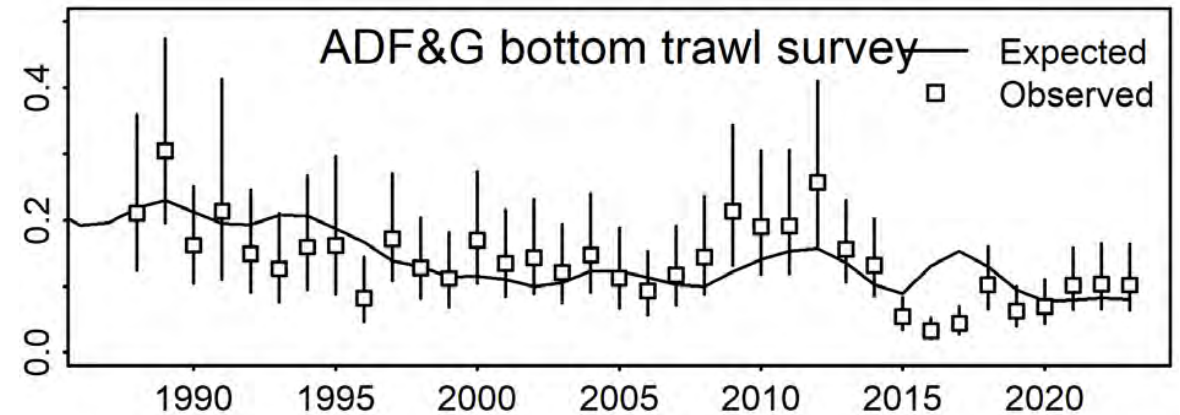
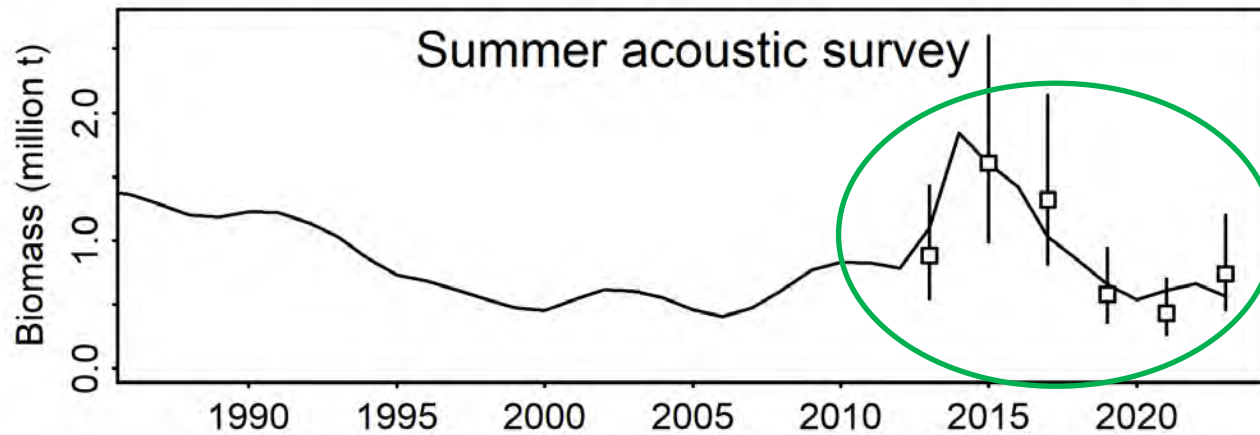
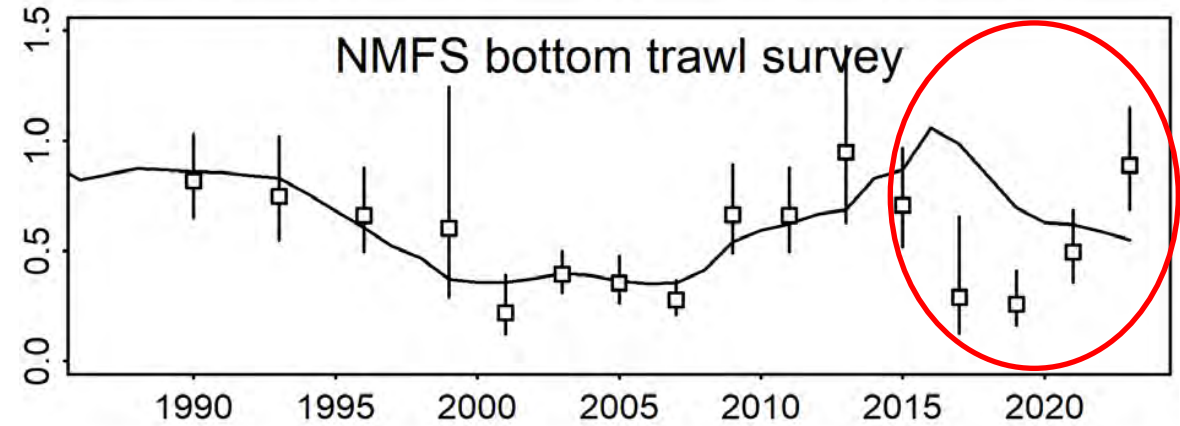
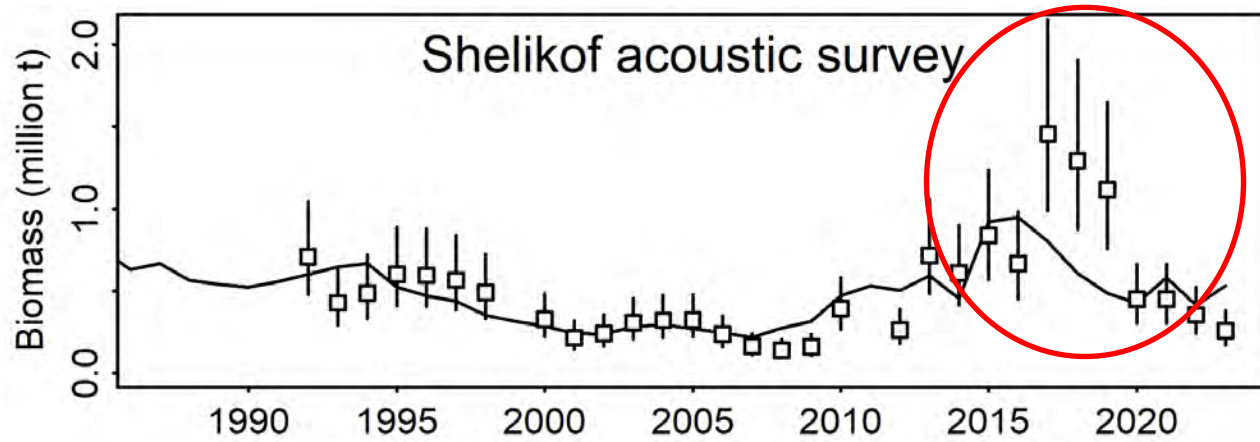
GOA Pollock: 2023 Summer NMFS bottom trawl survey results





GOA Pollock: fit to indices

- Poor fits, wrong trends for key surveys

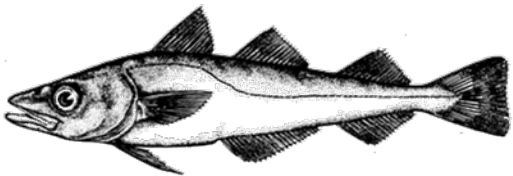


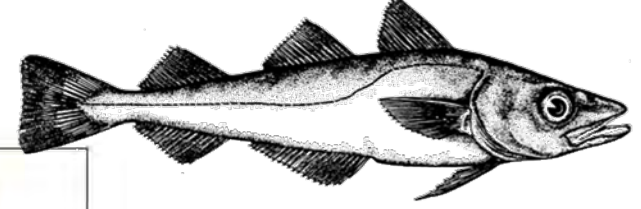
GOA Pollock: Risk table

Summary and ABC recommendation

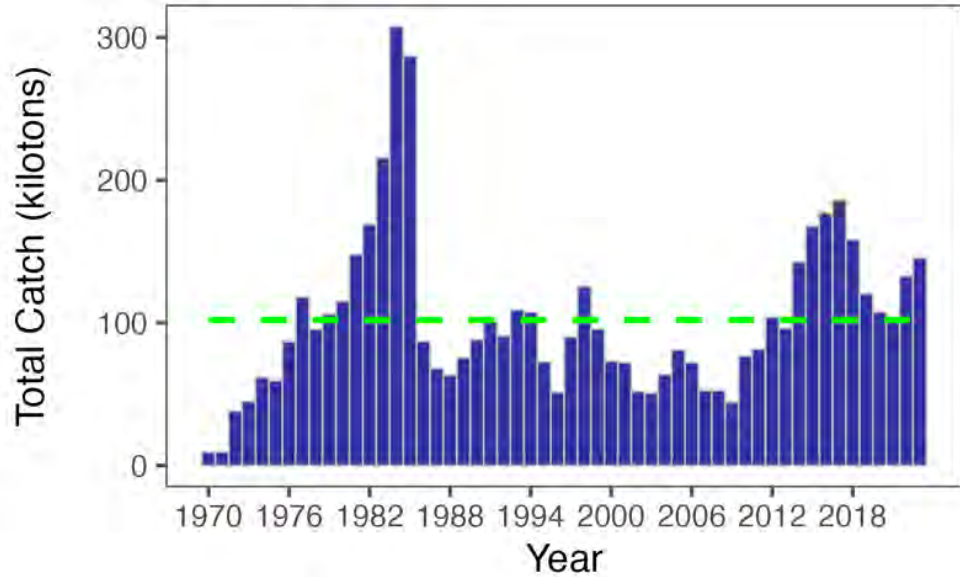
<i>Assessment-related considerations</i>	<i>Population dynamics considerations</i>	<i>Environmental/ecosystem considerations</i>	<i>Fishery Performance</i>
Level 2: Major concern	Level 1: No concern	Level 1: No concern	Level 1: No concern

- Assessment concerns: poor fit to NMFS BT index, retrospective
- Population concerns: extreme low cohorts

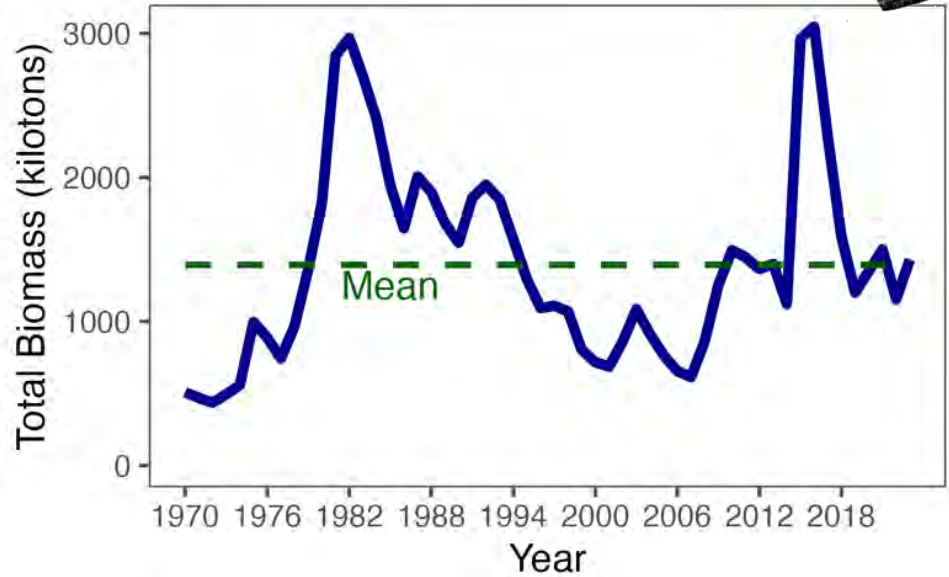




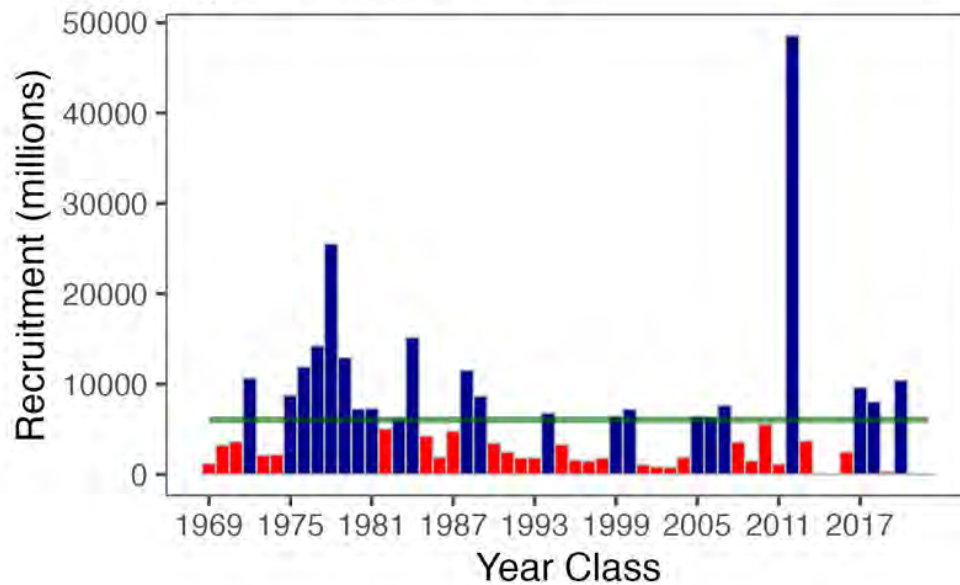
Total Catch



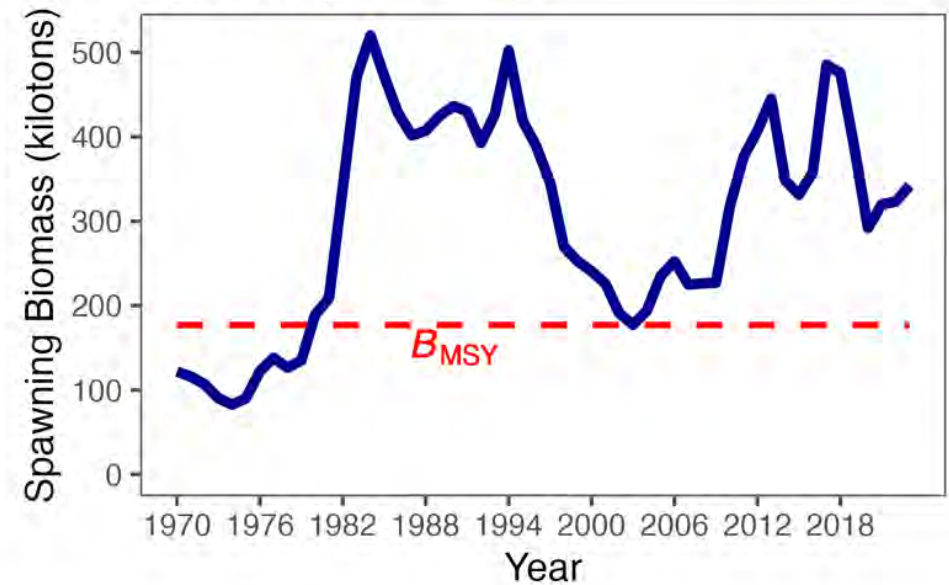
Total Biomass



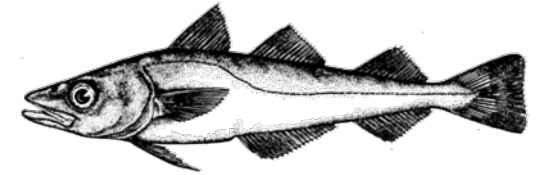
Age 1 Recruitment



Spawning Biomass

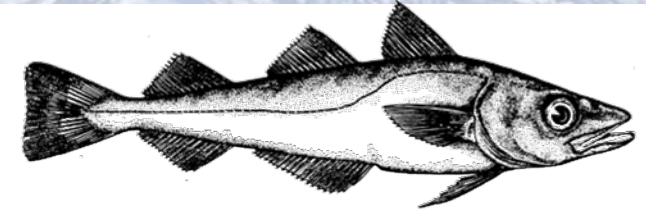


GOA Pollock SE Tier 5



	As estimated or <i>specified last year</i> for:		As estimated or <i>recommended this year</i> for:	
Quantity/Status	2023	2024	2024	2025
Biomass (t)	50,505	50,505	43,328	43,328
F _{OFL}	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
<i>max</i> F _{ABC}	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23
F _{ABC}	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23
OFL (t)	15,150	15,150	12,998	12,998
<i>max</i> ABC (t)	11,363	11,363	9,749	9,749
ABC (t)	11,363	11,363	9,749	9,749
	As determined <i>last year</i> for:		As determined <i>this year</i> for:	
Status	2022	2023	2023	2024
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a

GOA Pollock: Team Discussion



- Appreciated the detailed work by Dr. Monnahan and his coauthors
- Noted that GOA pollock is scheduled for a CIE review in spring 2024
 - A focus of review on data weighting and compositional input sample sizes
- Market conditions for GOA pollock poor
- ABC accepted as determined by model 23.0.
- **The Team agreed with the author's recommended model, ABC, OFL, and apportionment**

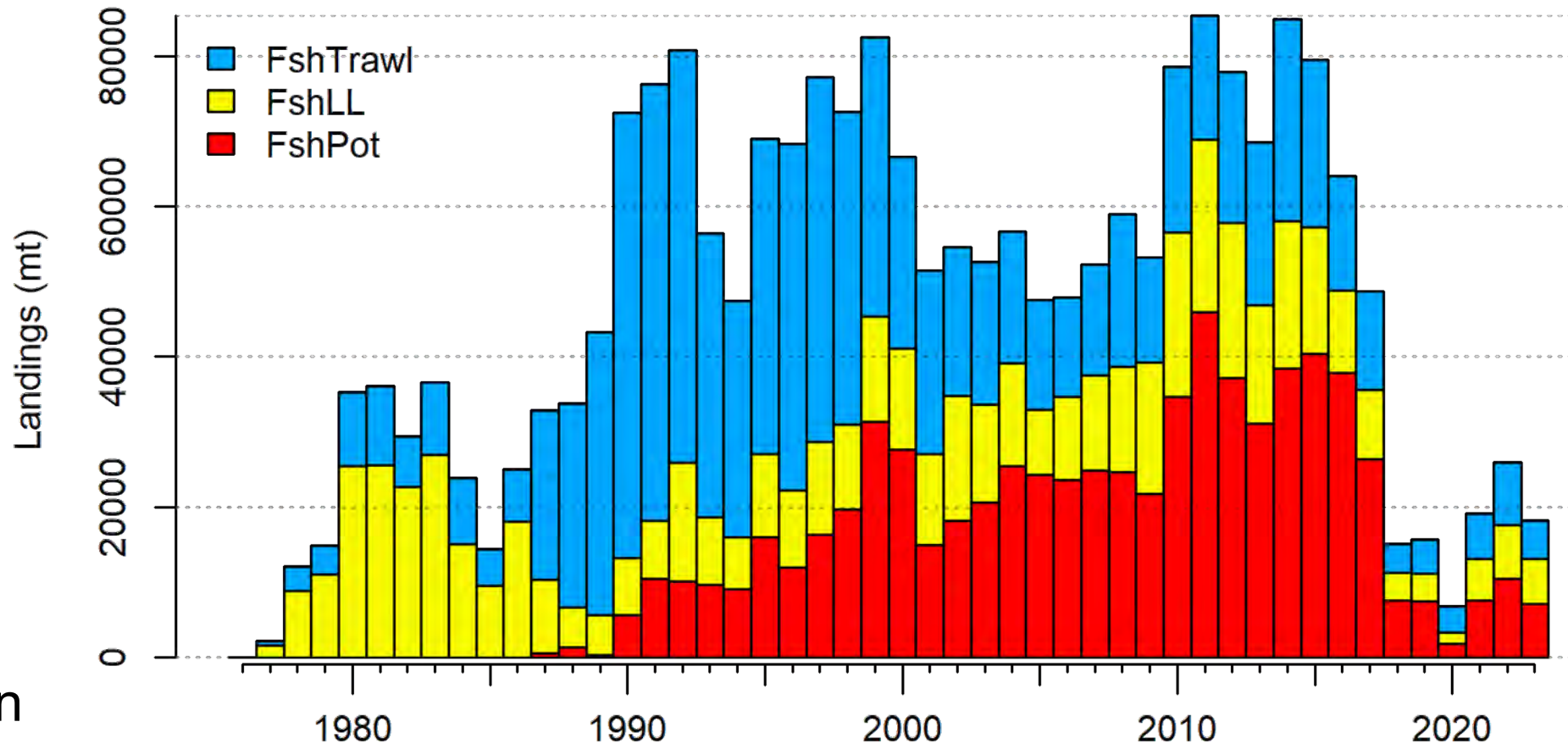
GOA Pacific cod

Species	2023 catch	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
Pollock	131,892	160,301	242,292	up 81,991 (51%)
Pacific Cod	14,883	24,634	32,272	up 7,638 (31%)
Sablefish	22,746	40,502	47,146	up 6,644 (16%)
Flatfish	2,017	119,497	124,494	up 4,997 (4%)
Arrowtooth flounder	9,248	119,485	119,249	down 236 (0%)
Rockfish	36,943	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)
Atka mackerel	462	4,700	4,700	same (0%)
Skates	2,741	6,563	6,036	down 527 (8%)
Sharks	1,777	4,891	4,891	same (0%)
Octopus	154	980	980	same (0%)
Total	222,863	539,072	641,587	up 102,515 (19%)

GOA Pacific cod data

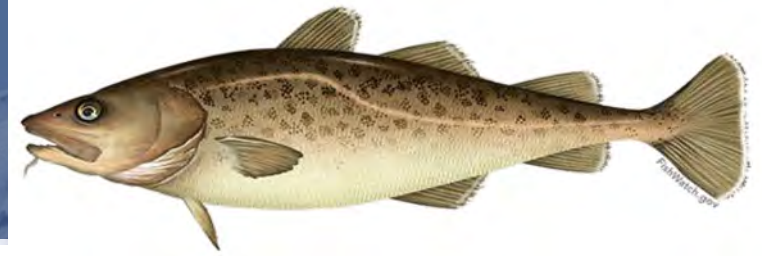


- Decreased since 2022
- Pot majority > LL > Trawl
- Large jig increase

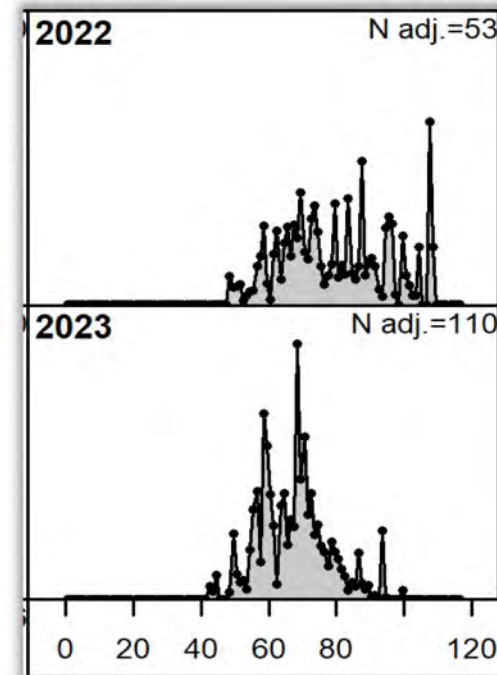
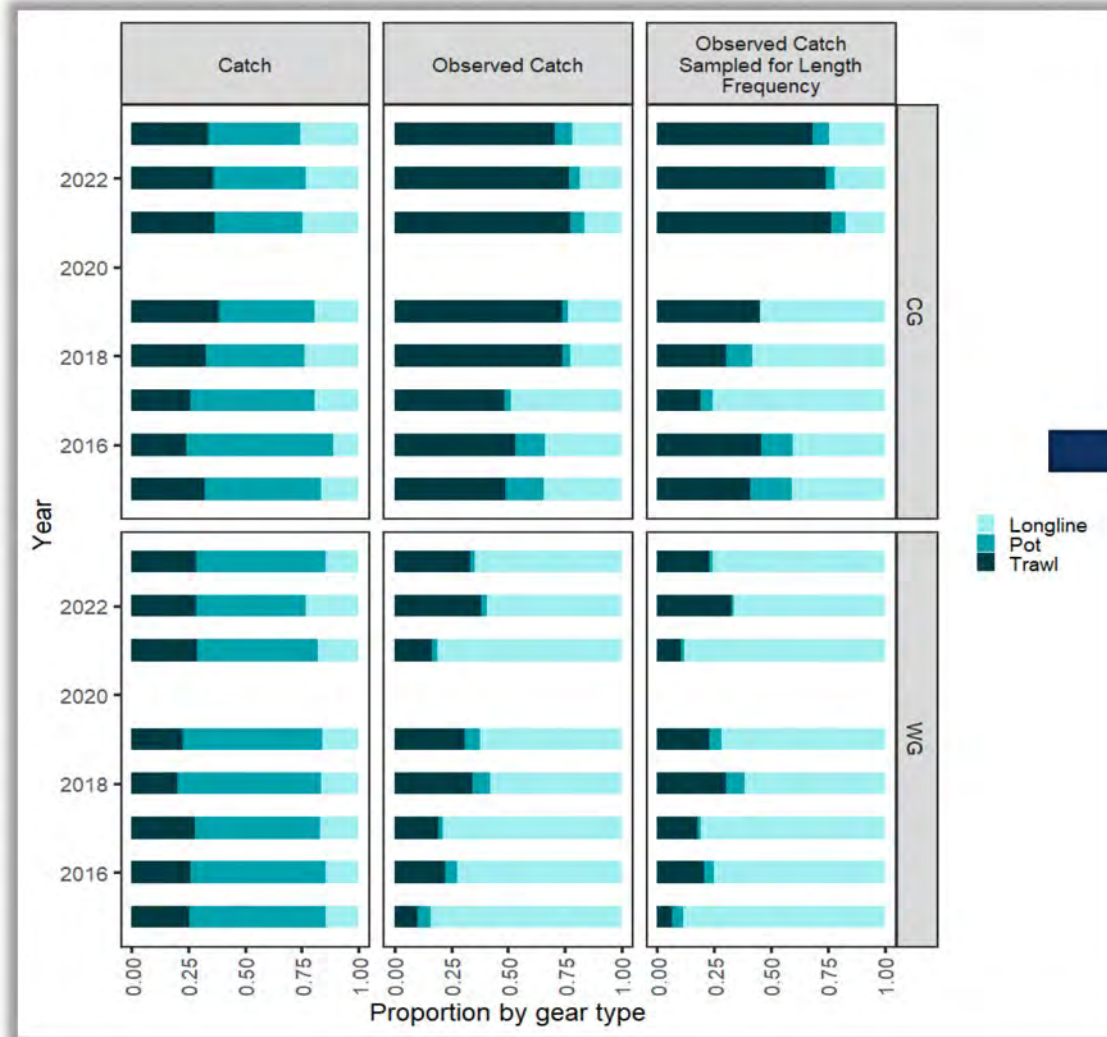


Thanks to Pete Hulson

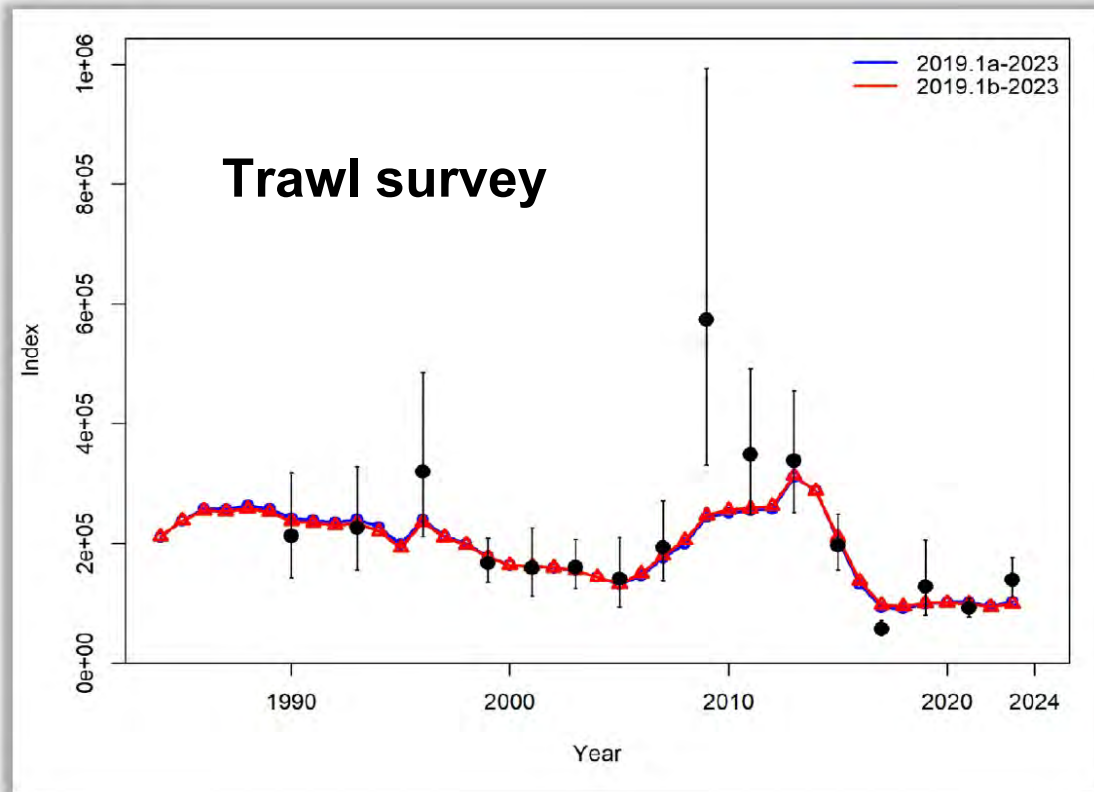
GOA Pacific cod data issues



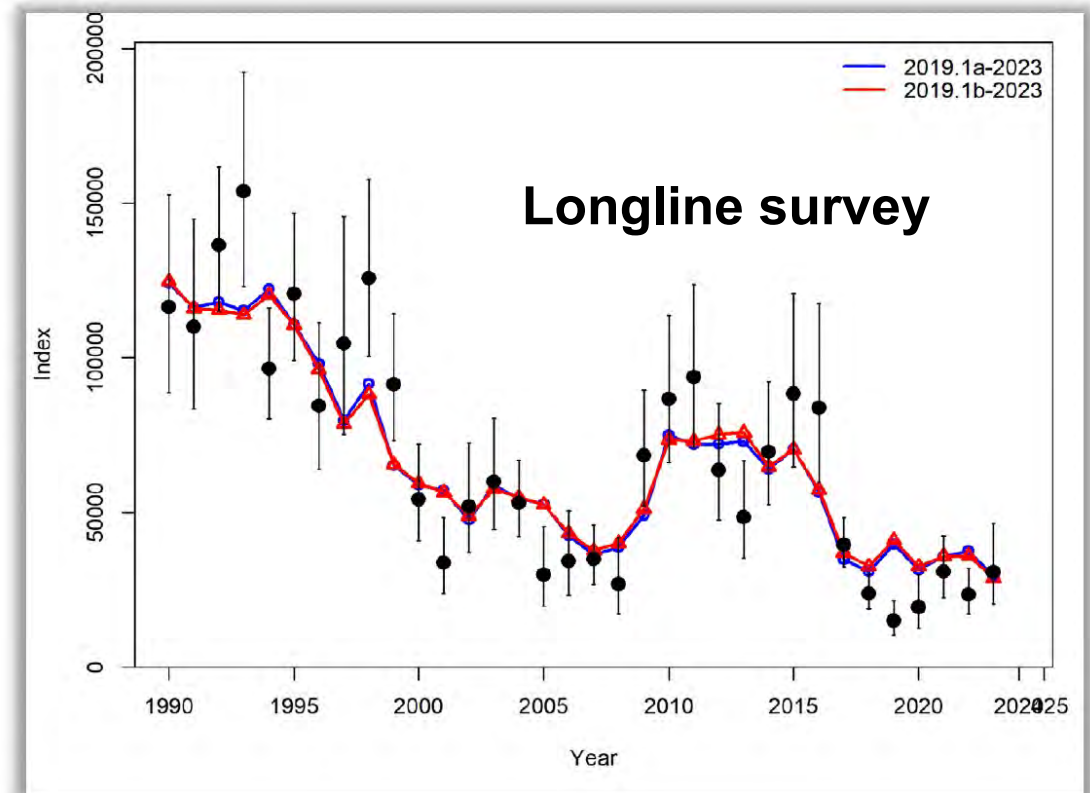
- Pot fleet underrepresented in both observed catch and length frequency



GOA Pacific cod: changes relative to 2022 configuration

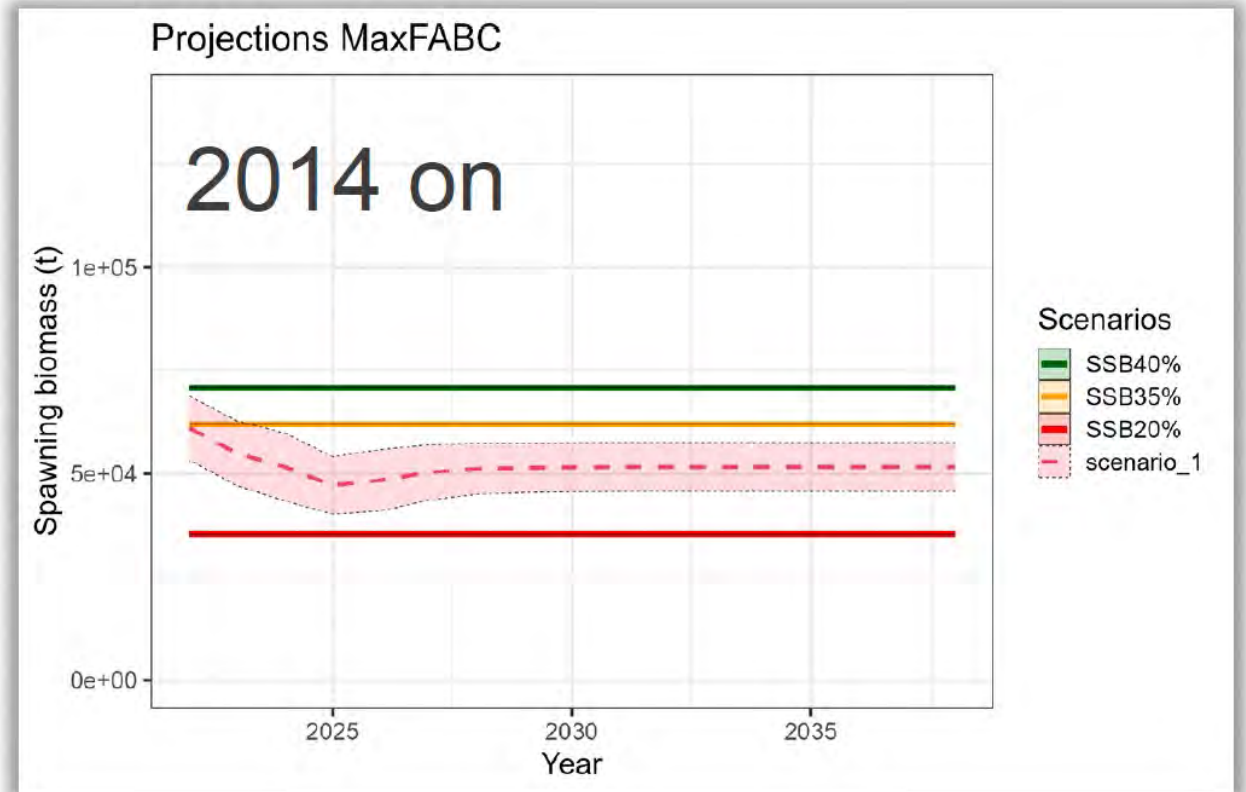
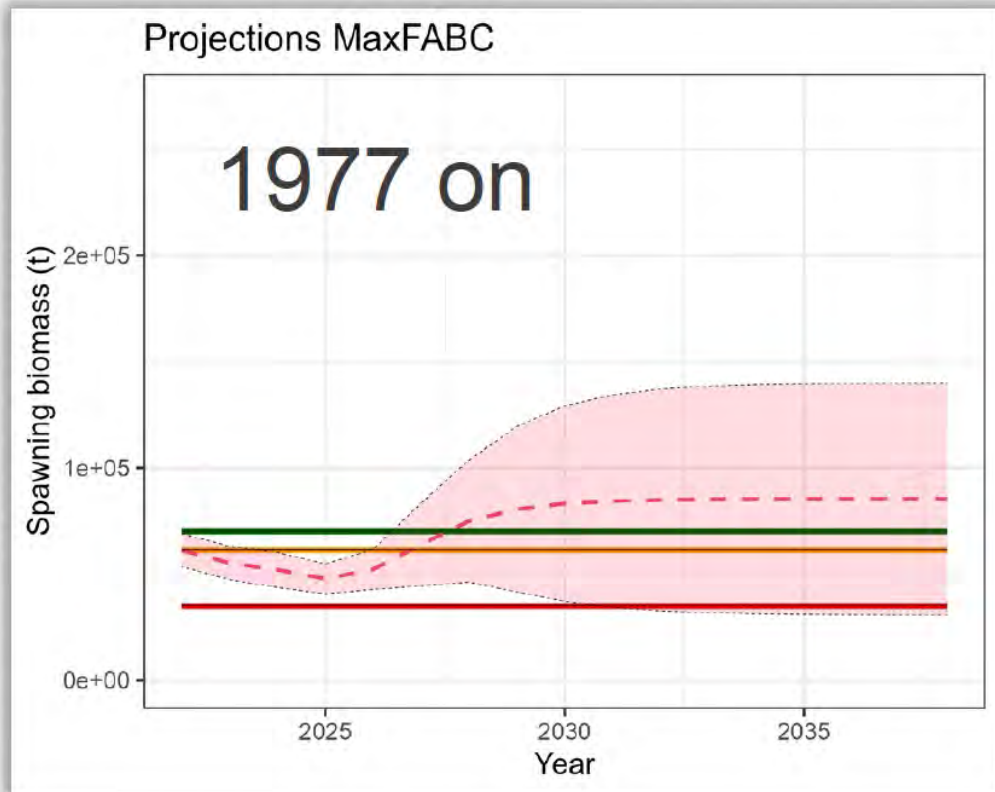


Fit to data



GOA Pacific cod projection considerations

- Use mean recruitment from 2014 on in projections
 - Stock can not attain current reference point



GOA Pacific cod summary



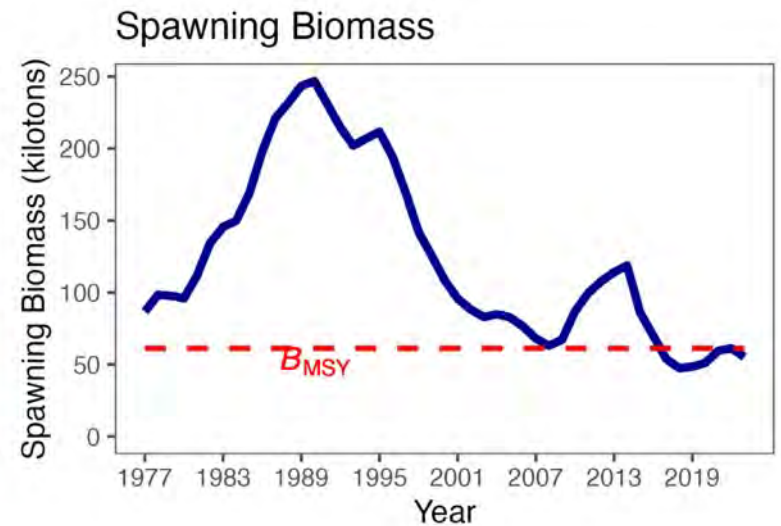
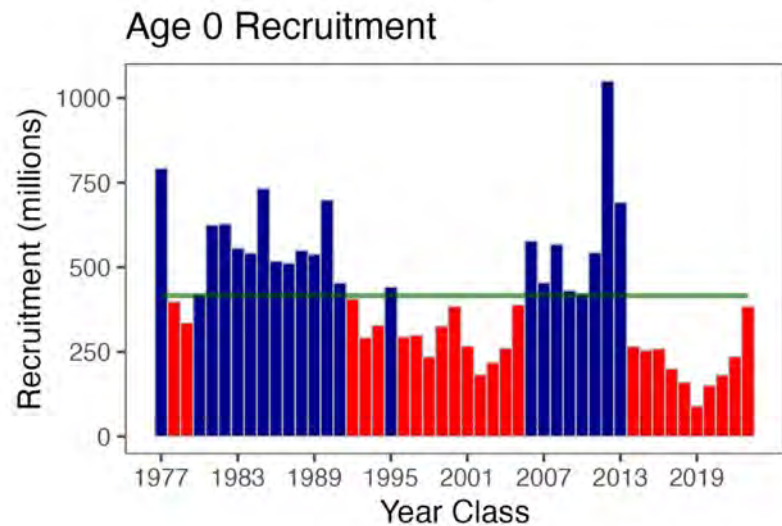
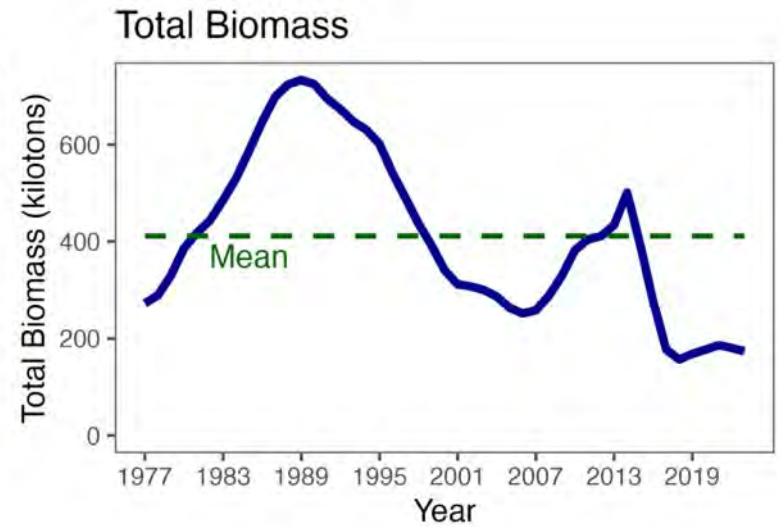
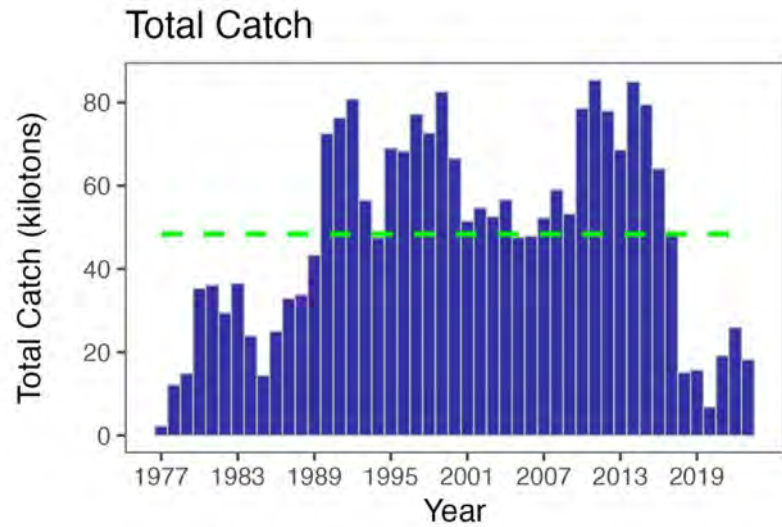
- 2024 SSB 51,959 t
 - 15% below B_{MSY} proxy 61,315 t
 - On the “ramp” of FMP control rule: ~42% of F_{MSY} proxy
 - Uncertainty in projections adequately covered by FMP control rule
- Declines expected to continue in near term

GOA Pacific cod: Team Discussion

- Maturity samples remain unprocessed
 - The Team recommended that sufficient samples be processed and analyzed so that the resulting data can be used in the assessment.
- The Team noted the work devoted to developing posterior distribution
- The Team agreed with the authors' recommended model, 19.1b, and the authors' recommended OFL and ABCs, with no reduction from the maximum permissible ABC.



GOA Pacific cod



GOA Sablefish

Species	2023 catch	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
Pollock	131,892	160,301	242,292	up 81,991 (51%)
Pacific Cod	14,883	24,634	32,272	up 7,638 (31%)
Sablefish	22,746	40,502	47,146	up 6,644 (16%)
Flatfish	2,017	119,497	124,494	up 4,997 (4%)
Arrowtooth flounder	9,248	119,485	119,249	down 236 (0%)
Rockfish	36,943	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)
Atka mackerel	462	4,700	4,700	same (0%)
Skates	2,741	6,563	6,036	down 527 (8%)
Sharks	1,777	4,891	4,891	same (0%)
Octopus	154	980	980	same (0%)
Total	222,863	539,072	641,587	up 102,515 (19%)

GOA flatfish

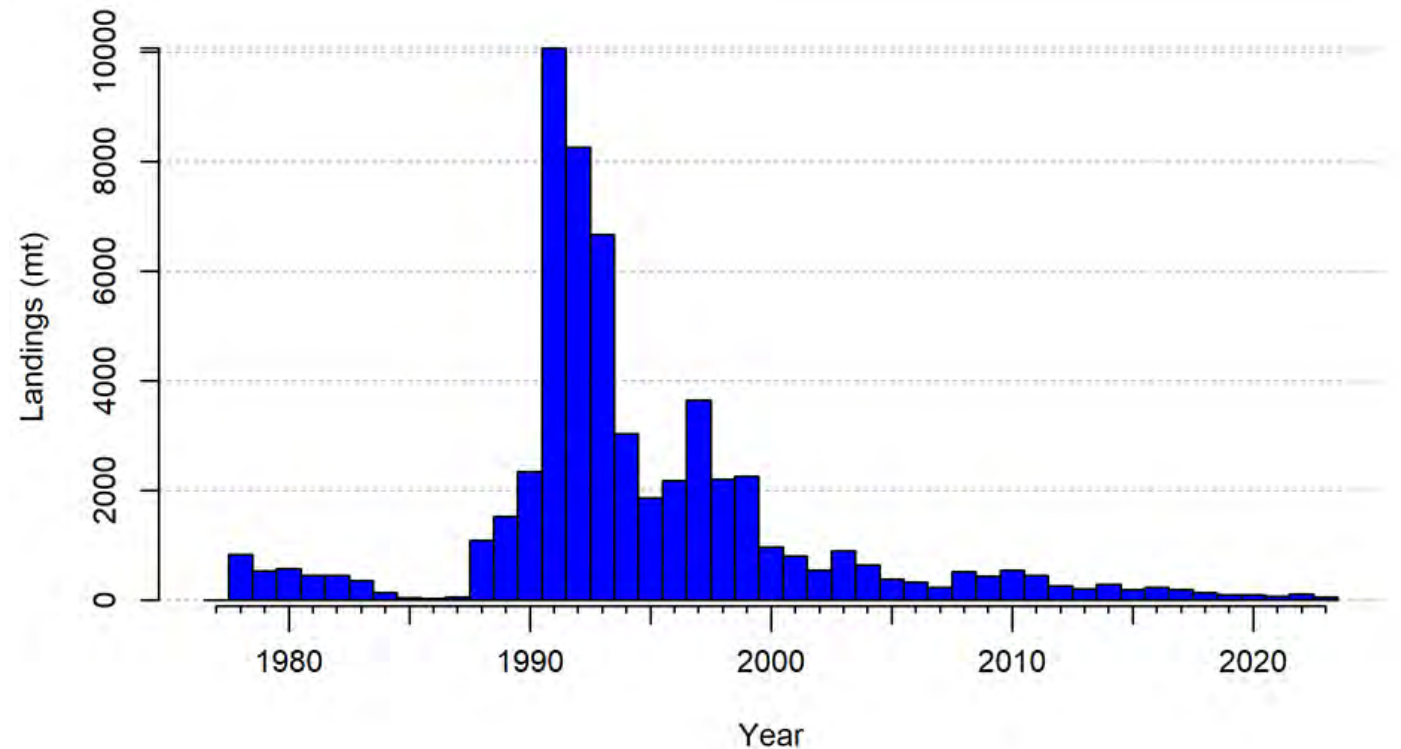
Species	2023 catch	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
Pollock	131,892	160,301	242,292	up 81,991 (51%)
Pacific Cod	14,883	24,634	32,272	up 7,638 (31%)
Sablefish	22,746	40,502	47,146	up 6,644 (16%)
Flatfish	2,017	119,497	124,494	up 4,997 (4%)
Arrowtooth flounder	9,248	119,485	119,249	down 236 (0%)
Rockfish	36,943	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)
Atka mackerel	462	4,700	4,700	same (0%)
Skates	2,741	6,563	6,036	down 527 (8%)
Sharks	1,777	4,891	4,891	same (0%)
Octopus	154	980	980	same (0%)
Total	222,863	539,072	641,587	up 102,515 (19%)

GOA flatfish

Species	2023 ABC	2024 ABC	Change
Shallow water flatfish	53,537	55,565	up 2,028 (4%)
Rex sole	20,664	21,364	up 700 (3%)
Deep water flatfish*	5,816	7,062	up 1,246 (21%)
Flathead sole	39,480	40,503	up 1,023 (3%)
Arrowtooth flounder	119,485	119,249	down 236 (0%)
Subtotal	238,982	243,743	up 4,761 (2%)
Subtotal (without ATF)	119,497	124,494	up 4,997 (4%)

GOA Deepwater flats: Dover sole catch trends

- Dover sole catches low (1-3% of ABC in recent years)
- Big catch in 1991 (10,196 t)
- Catches below 1,000 t since 2000
- Catches primarily in Central GOA
- Increasing proportion in discards:
 - 10% in 1998
 - ~90% in past 3 years

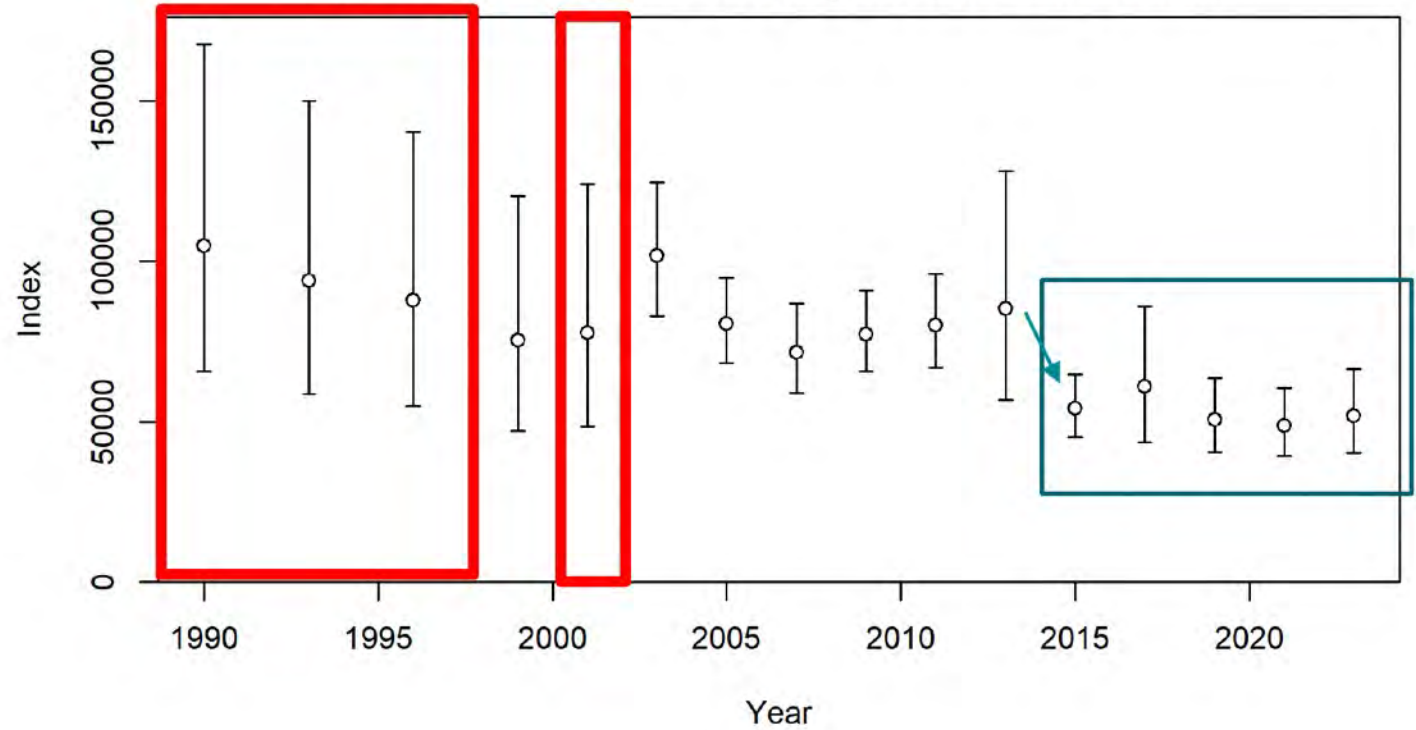


Thanks to Carey McGilliard

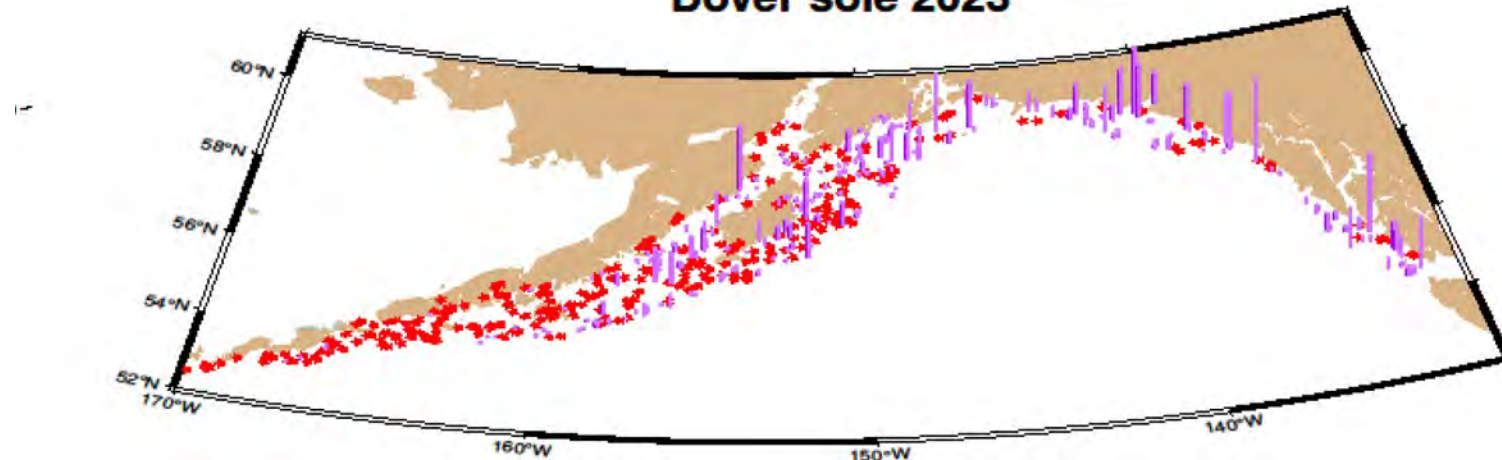
GOA Deepwater flats: Dover sole survey trends

- A shift to lower survey biomass 2015-2023
- REMA used to fill in gaps in missing survey depth/area strata
- Highest CPUE in Central GOA (similar to other years)

“Full coverage” survey biomass index

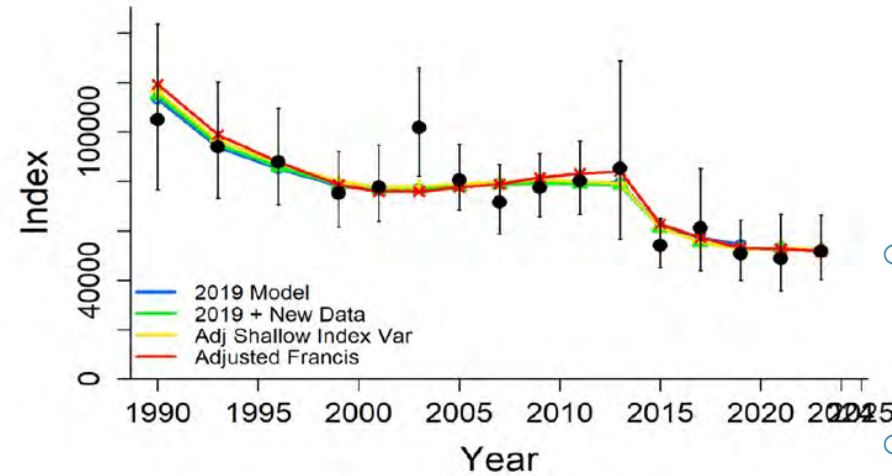
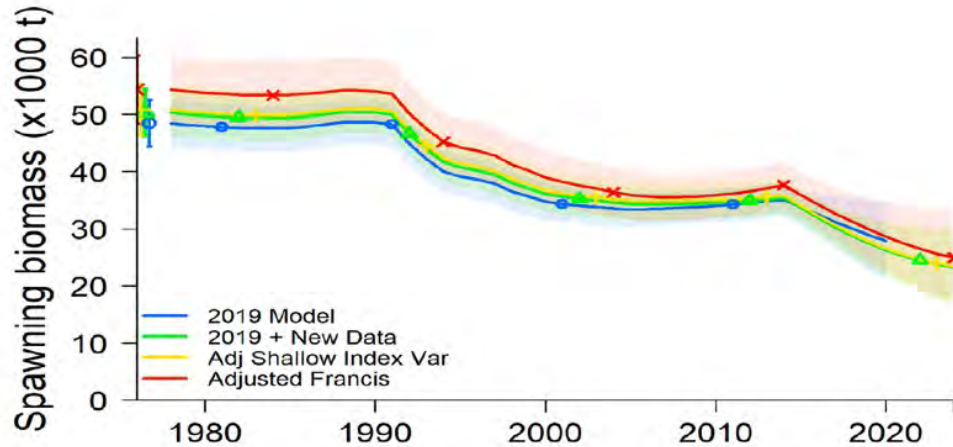


Dover sole 2023



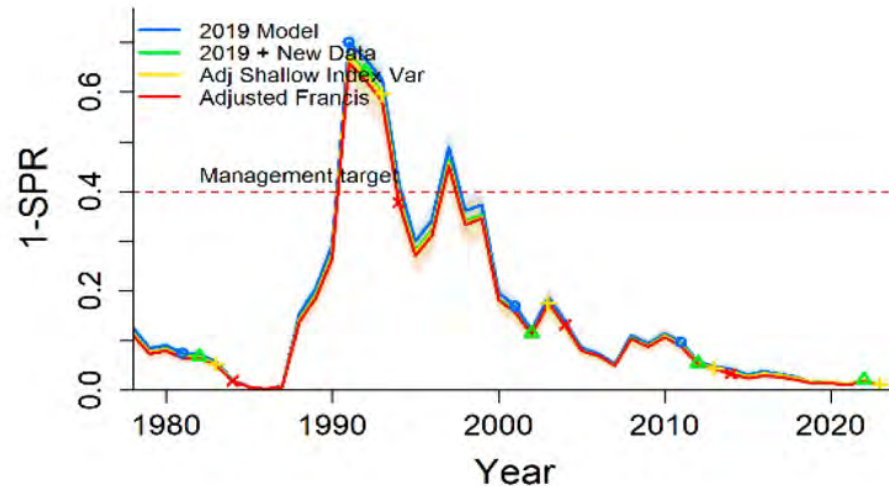
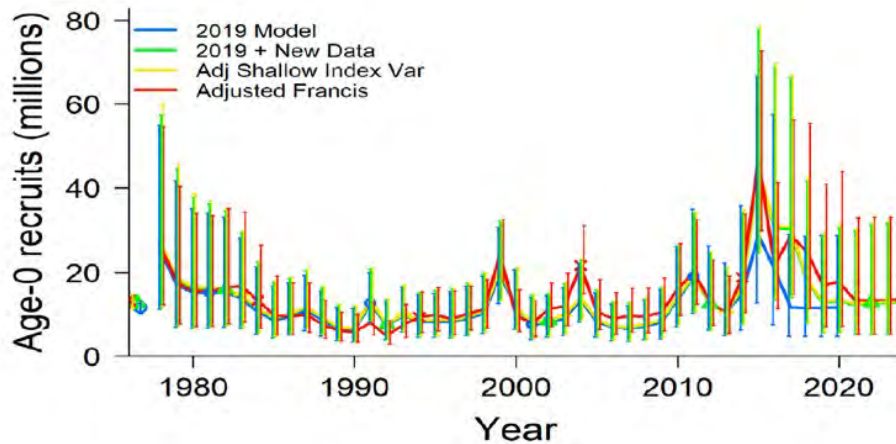
Thanks to Carey McGilliard

GOA Deepwater flats: Dover sole model bridging



Model 19.3.1:

- Uses new survey biomass variance estimates
- Francis re-weighting, adjusted so that shallow-coverage comp weights = full-coverage comp weights



GOA Deepwater flats

- Greenland turbot historical catches updated due to Catch Accounting System changes
- Kamchatka flounder:
OFL = max(catches 2011-present)
- Projection model for Dover sole using output from age-structured model using age 3 recruits
- 5-yr average catch of 103 t used in place of ABC for 2023-2025

Species	Quantity	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
		2023	2024	2024*	2025
Dover sole	<i>M</i> (natural mortality rate)	0.119(f), 0.113(m)	0.119(f), 0.113(m)	0.129(f), 0.128(m)	0.129(f), 0.128(m)
	Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
	Projected total (3+) biomass (t)	81,328	79,578	86,182	84,080
	Projected Female spawning biomass (t)	25,717	25,215	24,938	24,375
	<i>B</i> _{100%}	19,032	19,032	15,968	15,968
	<i>B</i> _{40%}	7,613	7,613	6,387	6,387
	<i>B</i> _{35%}	6,661	6,661	5,589	5,589
	<i>F</i> _{OFL}	0.11	0.11	0.15	0.15
	<i>maxF</i> _{ABC}	0.09	0.09	0.12	0.12
	<i>F</i> _{ABC}	0.09	0.09	0.12	0.12
	OFL (t)	6,605	6,489	8,263	8,133
maxABC (t)	5,581	5,484	6,969	6,860	
ABC (t)	5,581	5,484	6,969	6,860	
Greenland turbot	Tier	6	6	6	6
	OFL (t)	238	238	49*	49*
	maxABC (t)	179	179	37	37
	ABC (t)	179	179	37	37
Kamchatka flounder	Tier	6	6	6	6
	OFL (t)	69	69	69	69
	maxABC (t)	51.75	51.75	52	52
	ABC (t)	51.75	51.75	52	52
Deepsea sole	Tier	6	6	6	6
	OFL (t)	6	6	6	6
	maxABC (t)	4	4	4	4
	ABC (t)	4	4	4	4
Deepwater Flatfish Complex	OFL (t)	6,918	6,802	8,387	8,257
	maxABC (t)	5,816	5,719	7,062	6,953
	ABC (t)	5,816	5,719	7,062	6,953
	Status	As determined last year for: 2021 2022		As determined this year for: 2022 2023	

GOA Deepwater flats: Apportionment

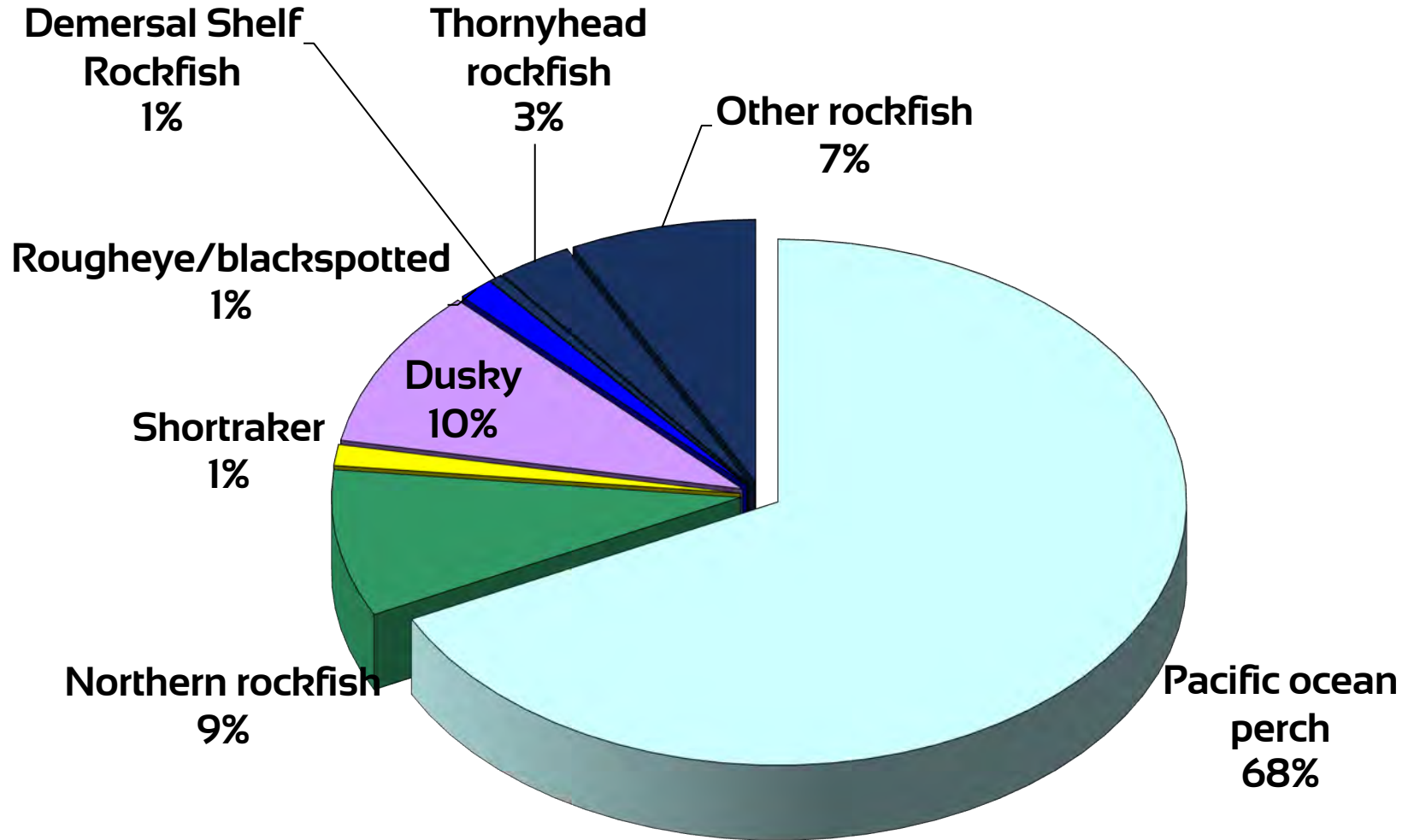
Species	Year	West				Total
		Western	Central	Yakutat	Southeast	
Dover Sole		2.6%	37.5%	26.6%	33.2%	100.0%
	2024	183	2,617	1,856	2,313	6,969
	2025	180	2,576	1,827	2,277	6,860
Greenland Turbot		100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	2024	37	0	0	0	37
	2025	37	0	0	0	37
Kamchatka Flounder		32.1%	67.9%			100.0%
	2024	17	35	0	0	52
	2025	17	35	0	0	52
Deepsea Sole		0.0%	74.9%	11.2%	13.9%	100.0%
	2024	0	3	0	1	4
	2025	0	3	0	1	4
Deepwater Flatfish	2024	237	2,655	1,856	2,314	7,062
	2025	234	2,614	1,827	2,278	6,953

GOA rockfish

Species	2023 catch	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
Pollock	131,892	160,301	242,292	up 81,991 (51%)
Pacific Cod	14,883	24,634	32,272	up 7,638 (31%)
Sablefish	22,746	40,502	47,146	up 6,644 (16%)
Flatfish	2,017	119,497	124,494	up 4,997 (4%)
Arrowtooth flounder	9,248	119,485	119,249	down 236 (0%)
Rockfish	36,943	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)
Atka mackerel	462	4,700	4,700	same (0%)
Skates	2,741	6,563	6,036	down 527 (8%)
Sharks	1,777	4,891	4,891	same (0%)
Octopus	154	980	980	same (0%)
Total	222,863	539,072	641,587	up 102,515 (19%)

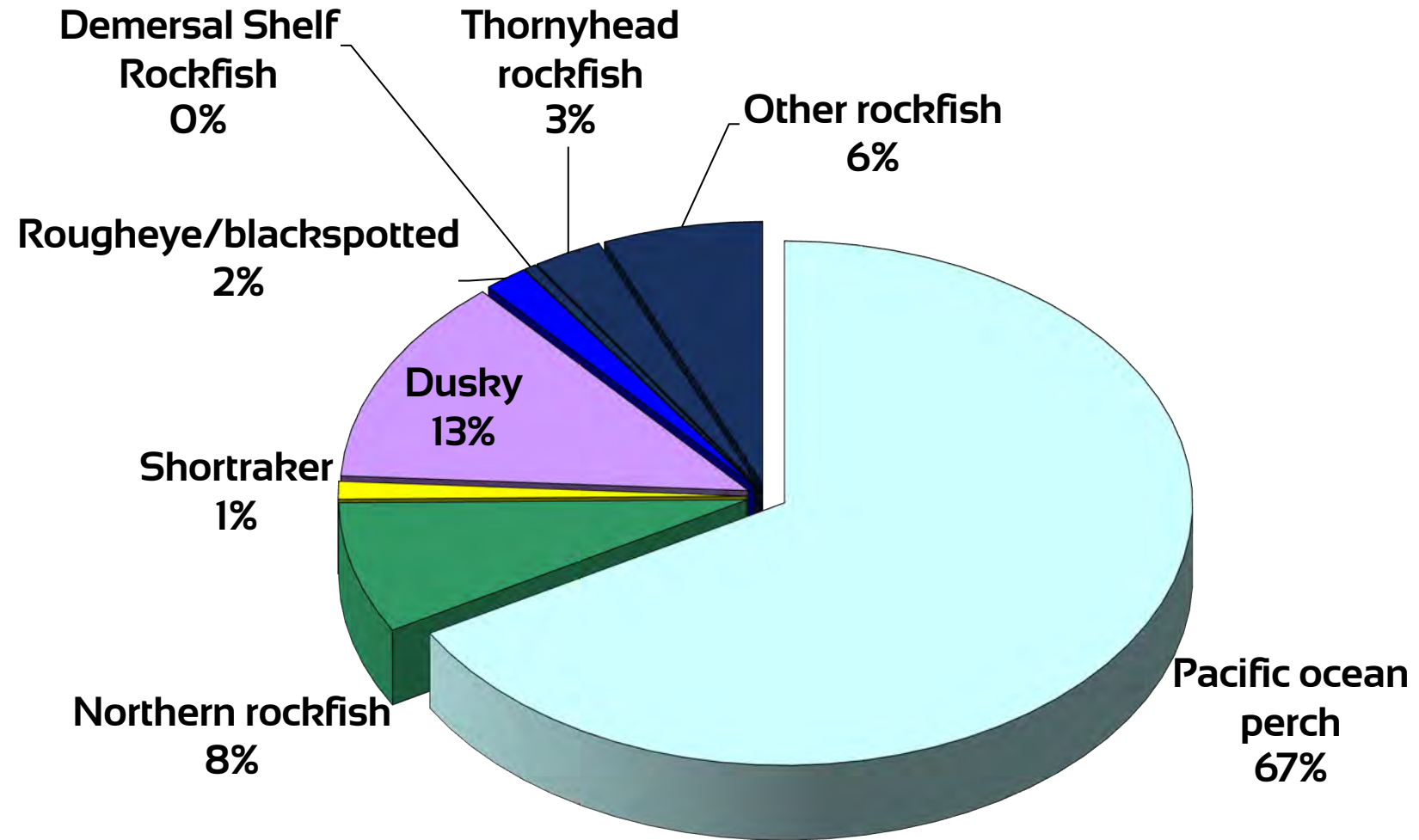
Rockfish 2023 ABC's

57,519 t total



Rockfish 2024 ABC's

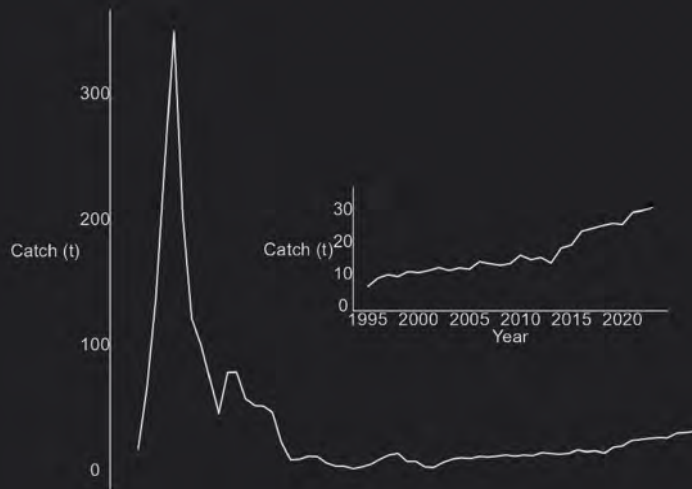
59,527 t total



Pacific ocean perch

Species	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
POP*	37,193	39,719	up 2,526 (7%)
northern rockfish	4,964	4,815	down 149 (3%)
Shortraker Rockfish*	705	647	down 58 (8%)
Dusky	7,917	7,624	down 293 (4%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish*	775	1,037	up 262 (34%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	283	283	same (0%)
Thornyhead	1,628	1,628	same (0%)
Other rock*	4,054	3,774	down 280 (7%)
Sub Total	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)

GOA Pacific Ocean Perch: Data



Catches Rising

Far below historical max.



Survey up & uncertain

Patchy hauls in EGOA

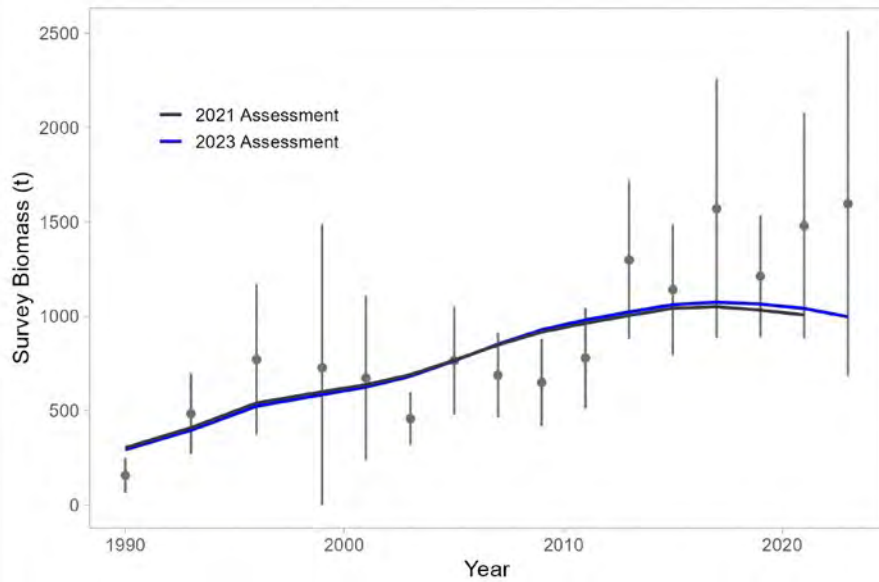


Ecosystem Moderate

Increasing with warmth
2023 average conditions for adults

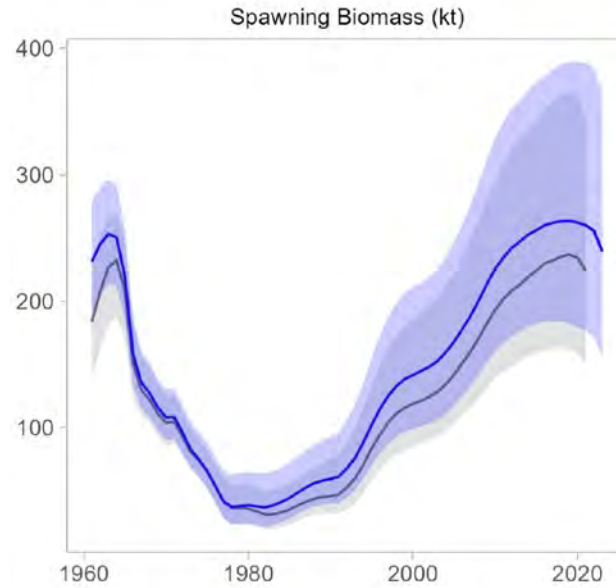
Thanks to Maia Kapur

GOA Pacific Ocean Perch: Model



No Changes to Model

Still underfitting to survey but improving
New model in 2025



Spawning Biomass

Up & increasing



ABC

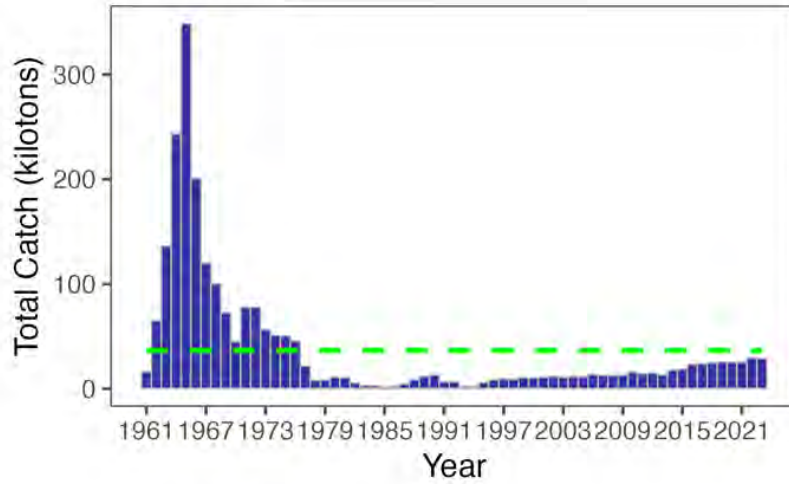
in 2024 is 39,719 t, ~1% difference from last year
Model is structurally stable and robust to new data

GOA POP Plan Team discussions

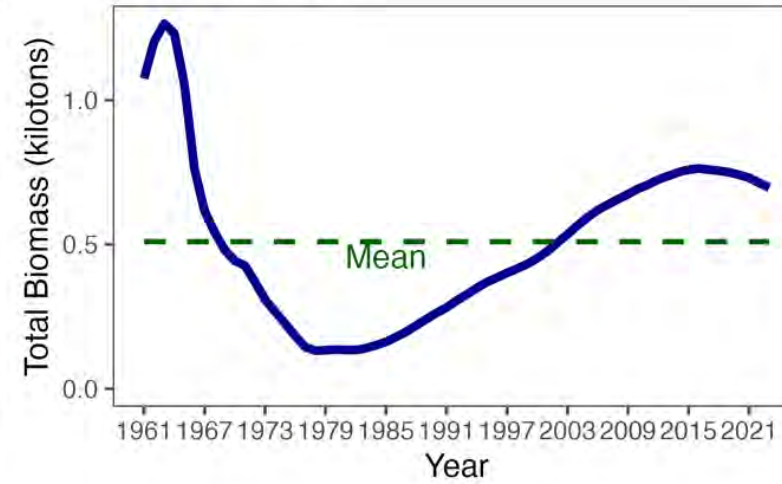
- The Team agreed with all author-recommended assessment updates
- **The Team recommended specifying OFL at the Gulf-wide level**
 - To be consistent with stock status determination criteria
 - Rationale included lack of a biological basis for partitioning OFL

GOA POP summary

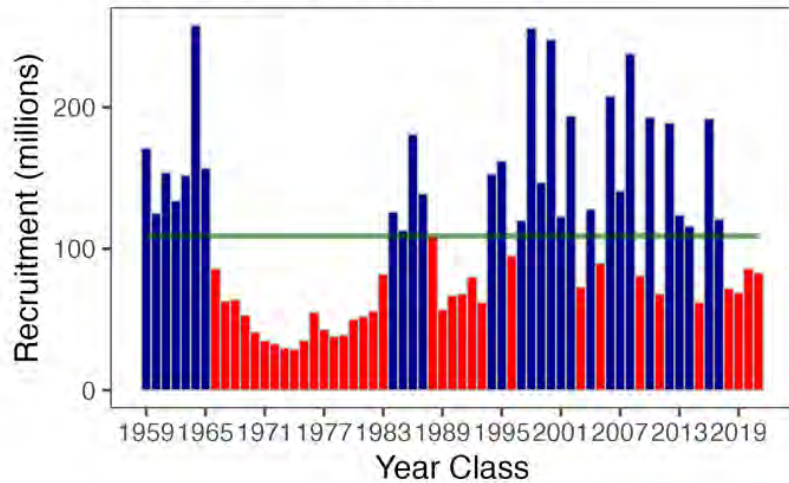
Total Catch



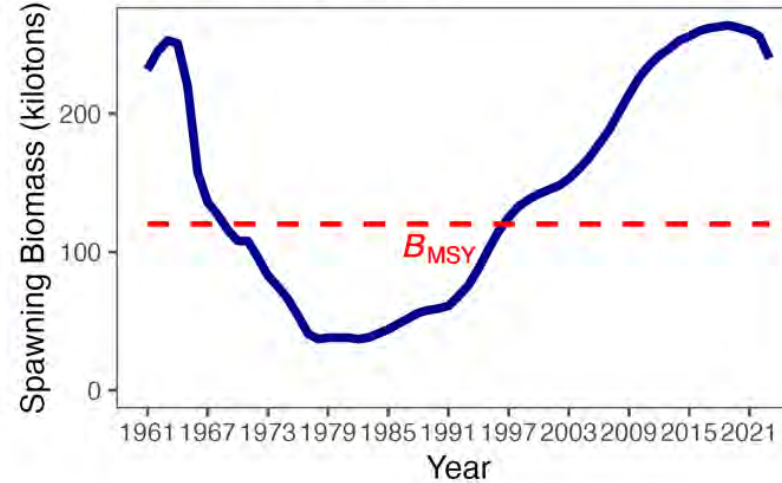
Total Biomass



Age 2 Recruitment



Spawning biomass

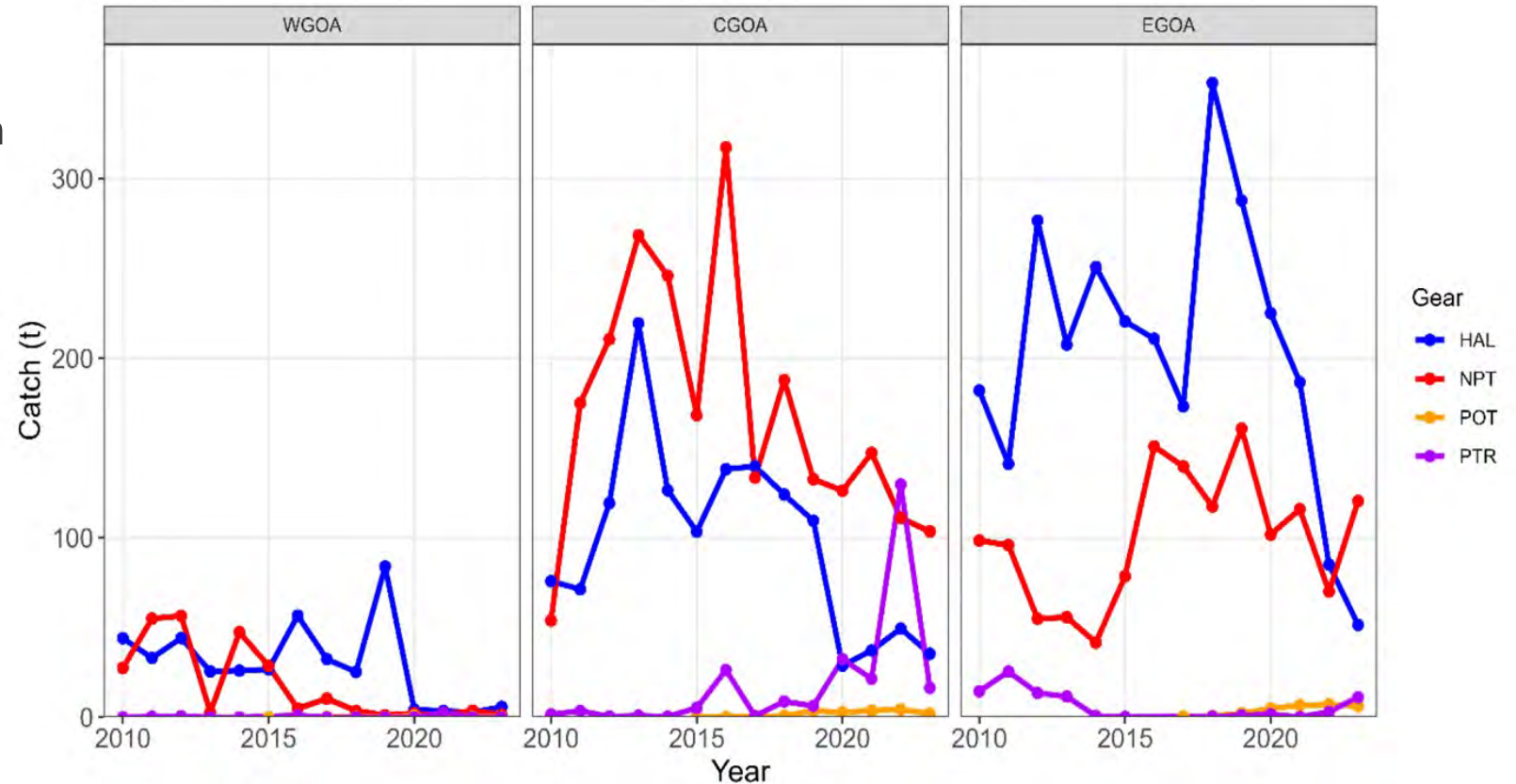


Shortraker rockfish

Species	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
POP*	37,193	39,719	up 2,526 (7%)
northern rockfish	4,964	4,815	down 149 (3%)
Shortraker Rockfish*	705	647	down 58 (8%)
Dusky	7,917	7,624	down 293 (4%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish*	775	1,037	up 262 (34%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	283	283	same (0%)
Thornyhead	1,628	1,628	same (0%)
Other rock*	4,054	3,774	down 280 (7%)
Sub Total	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)

GOA Shortraker rockfish: Catch

- Overall catch decreasing
 - Increased use of pot gear in the sablefish fishery
- Most catch now from trawl gear (primarily in rockfish fisheries)
- Discards 25-50%



Thanks to Katy Echave, Kevin Siwicke

GOA Shortraker rockfish

Area	2023 ABC	2023 TAC	2023 OFL	2023 Catch
Western	51	51		7
Central	280	280		157
Eastern	374	374		189
TOTAL	705	705	940	354*

*Catch as of Oct 3, 2023

- 2023 catch is down ~24% from 2022
- This is ~50% of gulfwide ABC

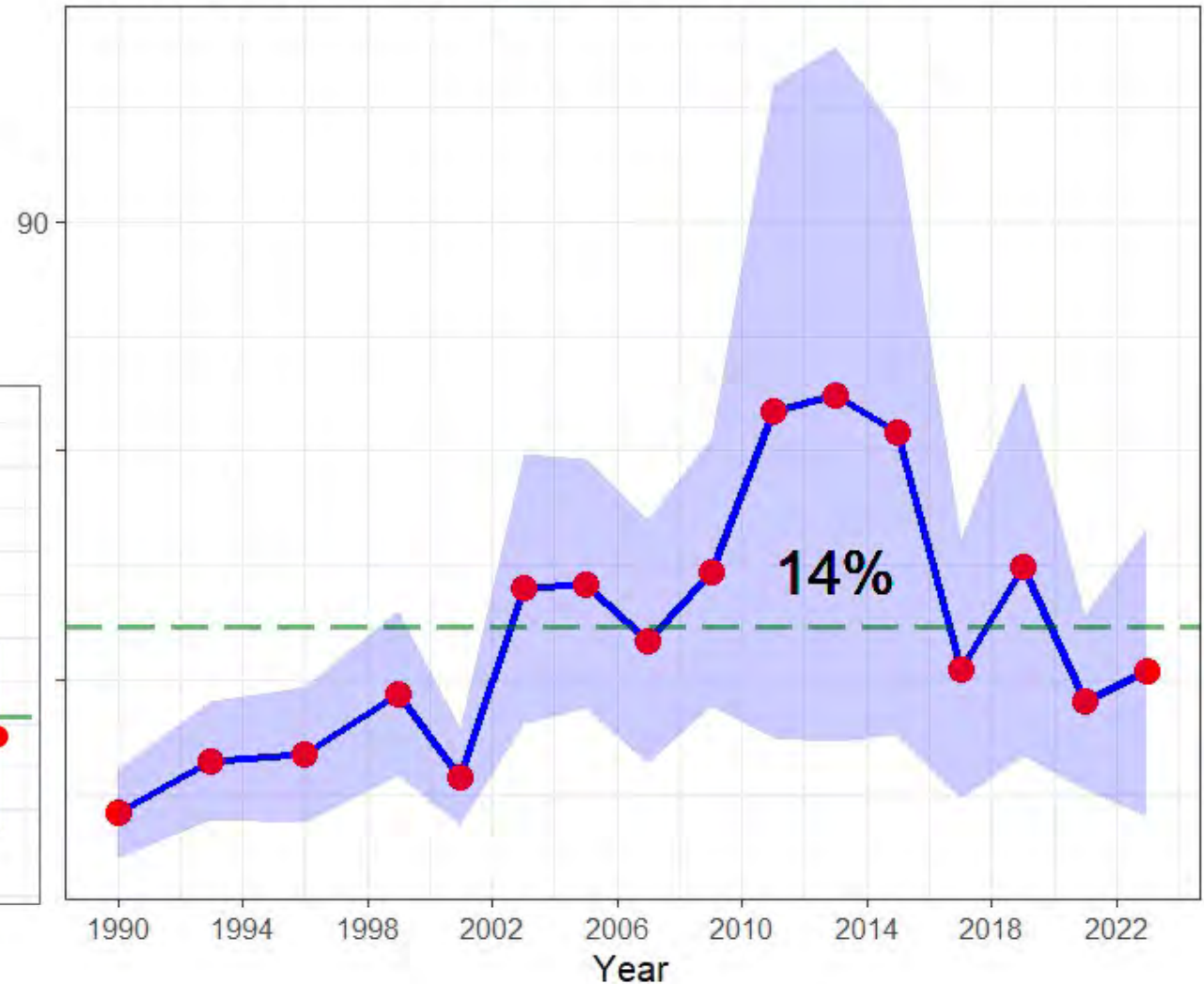
GOA Shortraker rockfish

- Tier 5 species –2 index multi area random effects model (REMA)
- Changes in the input data
 - Catch updated through 2 October 2023
 - Length compositions updated: longline and trawl fisheries, GOA bottom trawl and longline surveys
 - Longline survey RPWs (2022/2023) and trawl survey biomass values (2023)
 - 1984 and 1987 GOA trawl surveys removed
- Changes in assessment methodology
 - REMA model implemented (Sullivan et al. 2022)
 - Model 23.3 equal weights of 1.0 for each survey
 - Also an additional observation error term for the AFSC longline survey (Siwicke al. 2023)
- Changes in apportionment methodology
 - Recommend apportionment based on Model 23.3 (Siwicke al. 2023)

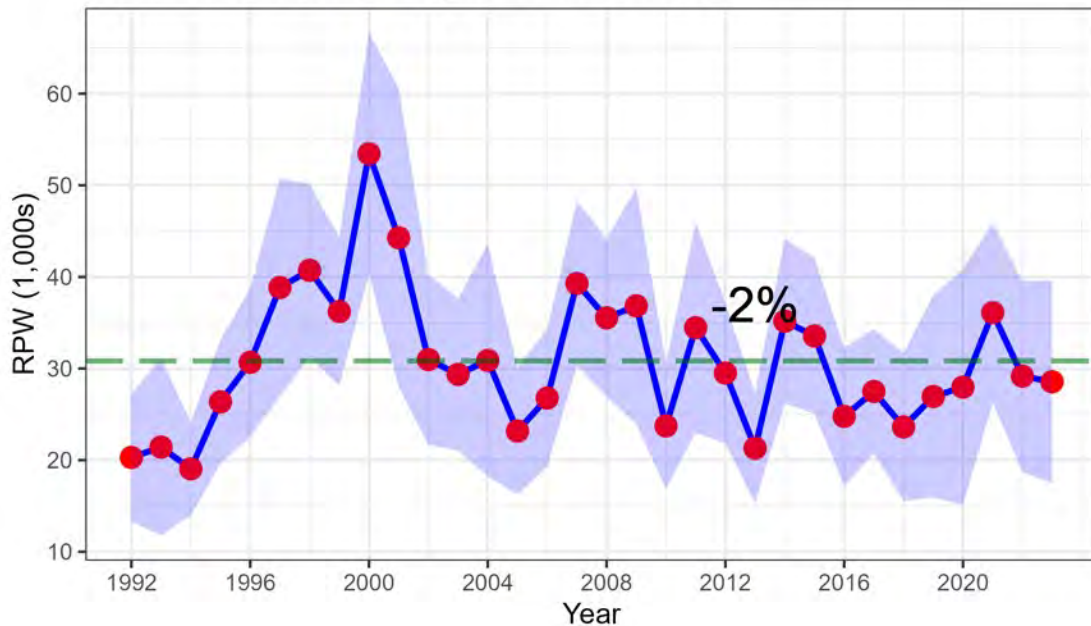
GOA Shortraker rockfish: survey data

- Biomass increased in 2023, still below time series mean
 - 1984 and 1987 data removed

GOA Shortraker survey biomass w/ 95% CIs



GOA Shortraker survey RPW w/ 95% CIs

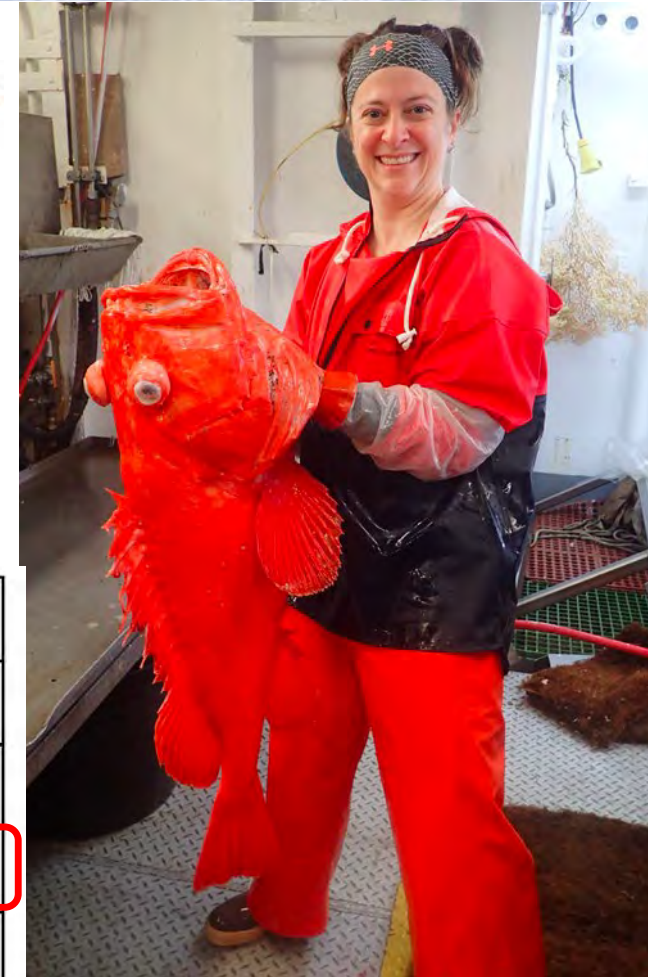


GOA Shortraker rockfish

“The SSC looks forward to continued exploration of alternative apportionment methods and believes this should remain a high priority.” (SSC, December 2019)

- Two apportionment methods examined:
 - “Biomass” = standard method based on proportion of predicted biomass by area
 - “Biomass + RPW” = our proposed method based on the mean proportions of predicted biomass and predicted RPW by area

REMA model names	Apportionment Method	WGOA	CGOA	EGOA
M19*	Biomass	5.3%	29.5%	65.2%
M19*	Biomass + RPW	8.4%	20.7%	70.9%
M23.3	Biomass	5.2%	29.3%	65.5%
M23.3	Biomass + RPW	8.3%	20.7%	71%



NOTE: SSC elected status quo for apportionment

GOA Shortraker rockfish Plan Team discussion

- The Team encouraged the author to evaluate area-specific exploitation rates and update the stock structure template.
 - The Team also noted that the genetic stock structure results cited in SAFE presentations this week pertain to evolutionary time scales and should be interpreted with caution with respect to their application to stock structure assumptions within assessments and risk tables.
- The Team agreed with the authors' recommendations for the new model "23.3" and with the authors' recommended ABC being set to the maximum permissible ABC under the FMP

GOA Shortraker rockfish Plan Team discussion (cntd)

- For apportionment, the Team deviated from the assessment and recommended averaging between the two apportionment methods (Biomass and Biomass + RPW)
 - An incremental approach for changing to a new method
 - Caused a large decrease in the ABC apportioned to the central Gulf
 - There is a lack of concern regarding local depletion and stock structure

NOTE: SSC elected status quo for apportionment
- The Team noted that there are considerations outside of the purview of the Team that should be taken into account when considering the shortraker apportionment framework:
 - Interaction with Central GOA Rockfish Program
 - Fishing distribution in some areas straddles the Central area and that of West Yakutat.
- The Team encourages the Council to engage in the Spatial Management Policy for this stock to fully consider the economic and management-related impacts of alternative spatial allocations of ABC, as well the risks of localized depletion.

Rougheye & blackspotted rockfish

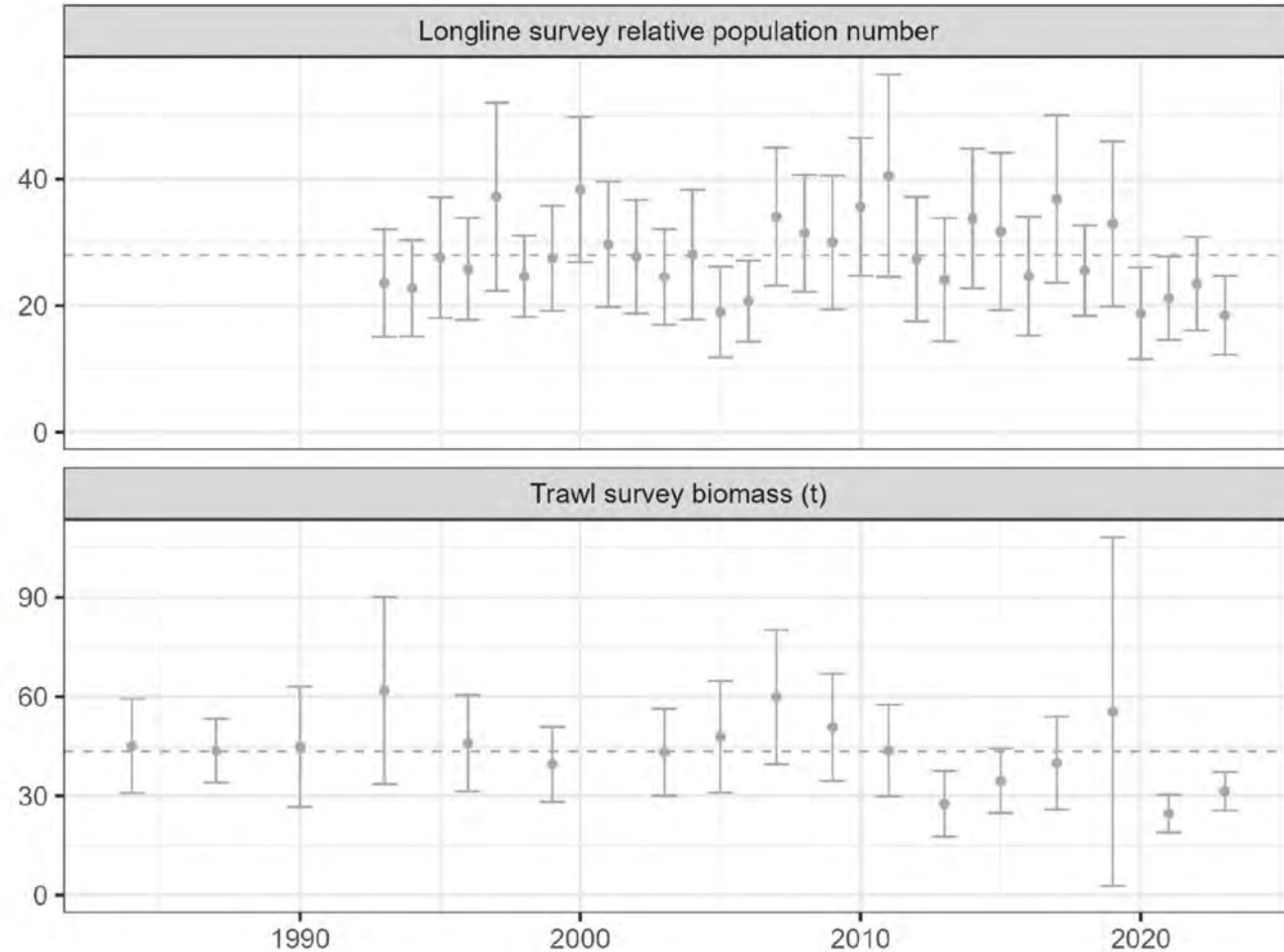
Species	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
POP*	37,193	39,719	up 2,526 (7%)
northern rockfish	4,964	4,815	down 149 (3%)
Shortraker Rockfish*	705	647	down 58 (8%)
Dusky	7,917	7,624	down 293 (4%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish*	775	1,037	up 262 (34%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	283	283	same (0%)
Thornyhead	1,628	1,628	same (0%)
Other rock*	4,054	3,774	down 280 (7%)
Sub Total	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)

GOA Rougheyeye-blackspotted rockfish : **Indices**



LLS: 2023 lowest on record, 34% below mean

BTS: increase from 2021, which was the lowest on record, and 28% below mean



Thanks to Jane Sullivan

GOA Rougheyeye-blackspotted rockfish

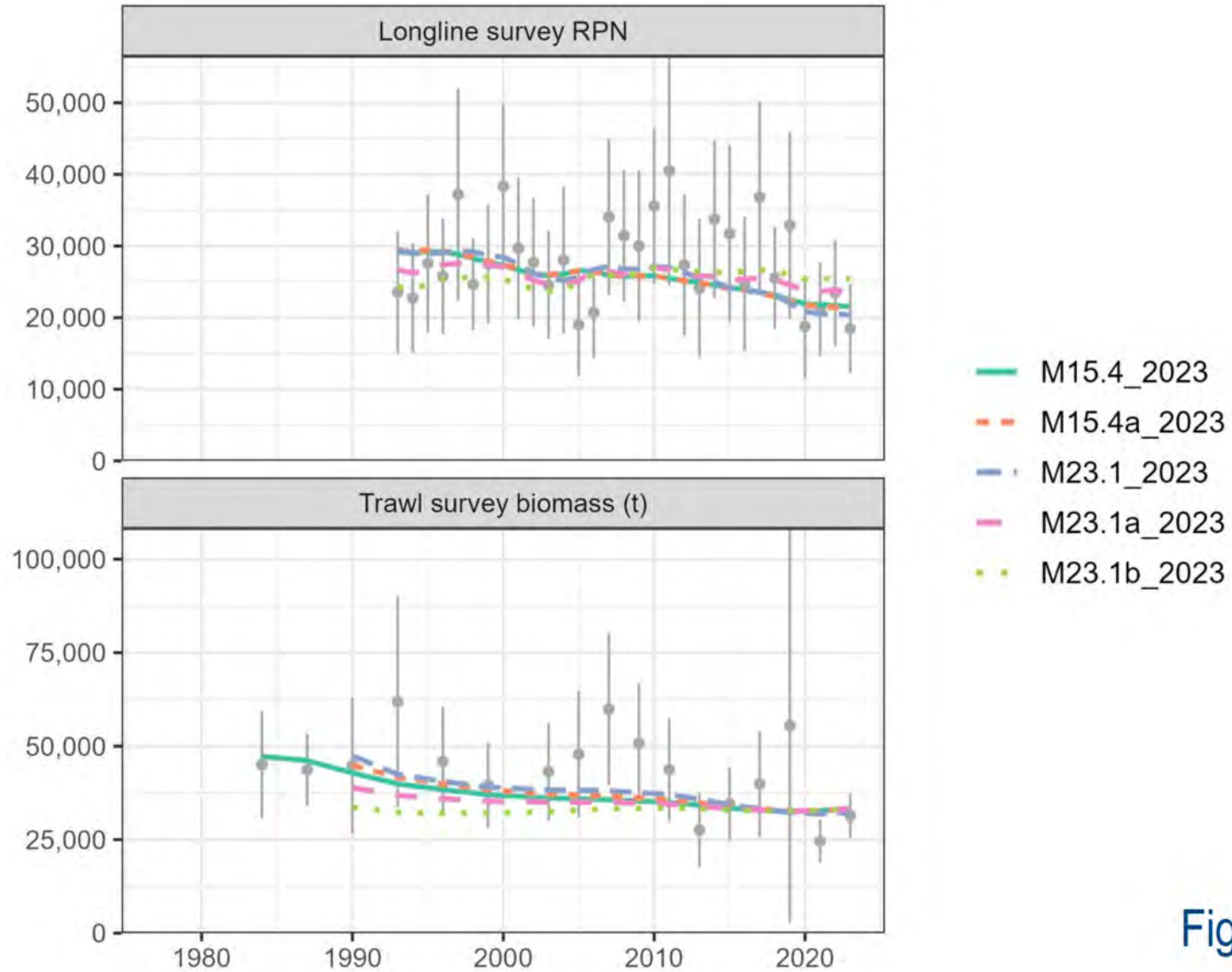


Figure 13-1

GOA Roughey-blackspotted rockfish

- Plan Team rec was to split difference

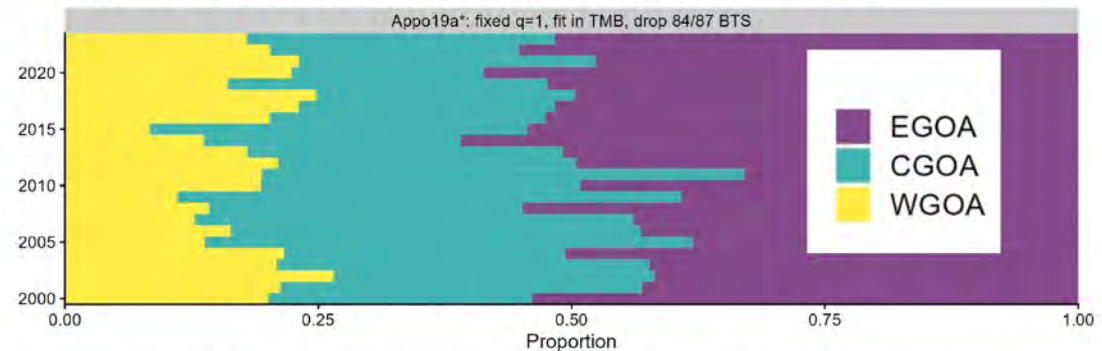
Quantity	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
	2023	2024	2024	2025
<i>M</i> (natural mortality rate)	0.034	0.034	0.042	0.042
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (ages 3+) biomass (t)	25,837	25,755	46,029	46,109
Projected female spawning biomass (t)	8,554	8,514	12,986	13,005
<i>B</i> _{100%}	14,776	14,776	21,878	21,878
<i>B</i> _{40%}	5,911	5,911	8,751	8,751
<i>B</i> _{35%}	5,172	5,172	7,657	7,657
<i>F</i> _{OFL}	0.046	0.046	0.045	0.045
<u><i>maxF</i>_{ABC}</u>	0.038	0.038	0.038	0.038
<i>F</i> _{ABC}	0.038	0.038	0.030	0.030
OFL (t)	930	927	1,555	1,566
<u>maxABC</u> (t)	775	772	1,302	1,310
ABC (t)	775	772	1,037	1,041
Status	As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
	2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No

GOA Roughey-blackspotted rockfish apportionment

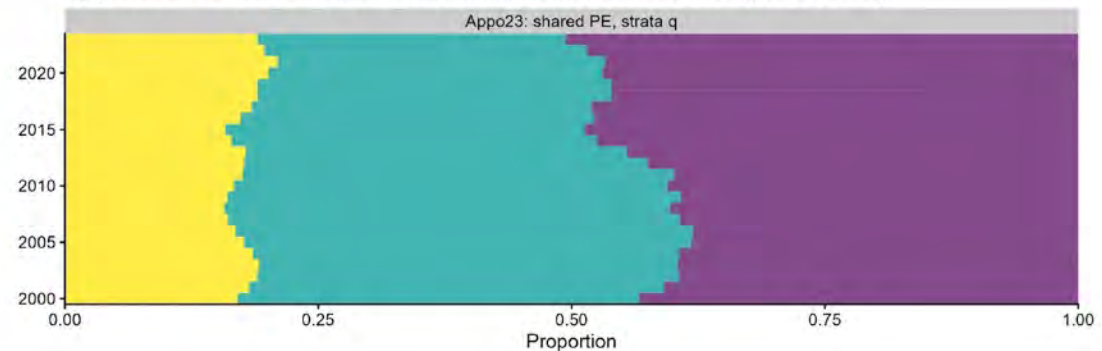
- Two-survey random effects (REMA) model first accepted in 2019
- LLS scaling parameters fixed at 1.0 to balance LLS/BTS data conflict
- Recommend estimating area-specific scaling parameters, greatly improves model performance
- Recommend using the average area-specific proportions of REMA-predicted biomass and REMA-predicted relative population weights from the LLS in order to more appropriately balance BTS/LLS data

Stock/ Assemblage	Area	2023				2024	
		OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch ²	OFL	ABC
RE/BS complex	W		180	180	101		197
	C		232	232	135		315
	E		363	363	149		525
	Total	930	775	775	385	1,555	1,037

Apportionment based on fixed q and predicted biomass by area (CURRENT)



Apportionment based on predicted biomass and RPWs by area (PROPOSED)



GOA Roughey-blackspotted rockfish risk table

Recommend reduction from max ABC

Author-recommended model was not reviewed in September

Assessment	Population Dynamics	Ecosystem	Fishery
2 - Major Concern	2 - Major Concern	1 - None	1 - None
<p>(Base model)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe one-way positive retrospective bias High uncertainty in stock scale <p>(Recommended model)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved stability, but poor fit and unable to account for recent declines in survey indices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declines in LLS and BTS indices in recent years 2023 LLS abundance lowest on record 2021 BTS lowest on record 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average environmental conditions Some evidence of long-term declines in structural epifauna 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incidental catch only Catch << ABC Not currently constraining target fisheries

LLS = longline survey
BTS = bottom trawl survey

GOA Rougheyeye-blackspotted rockfish Plan Team discussions

- The Team discussed a number of issues...
- The Team agreed with the authors' recommended model (23.I b), resulting OFLs, and the author's recommended reduction from maxABC.

NOTE: SSC elected set 2025 ABC to same as 2024

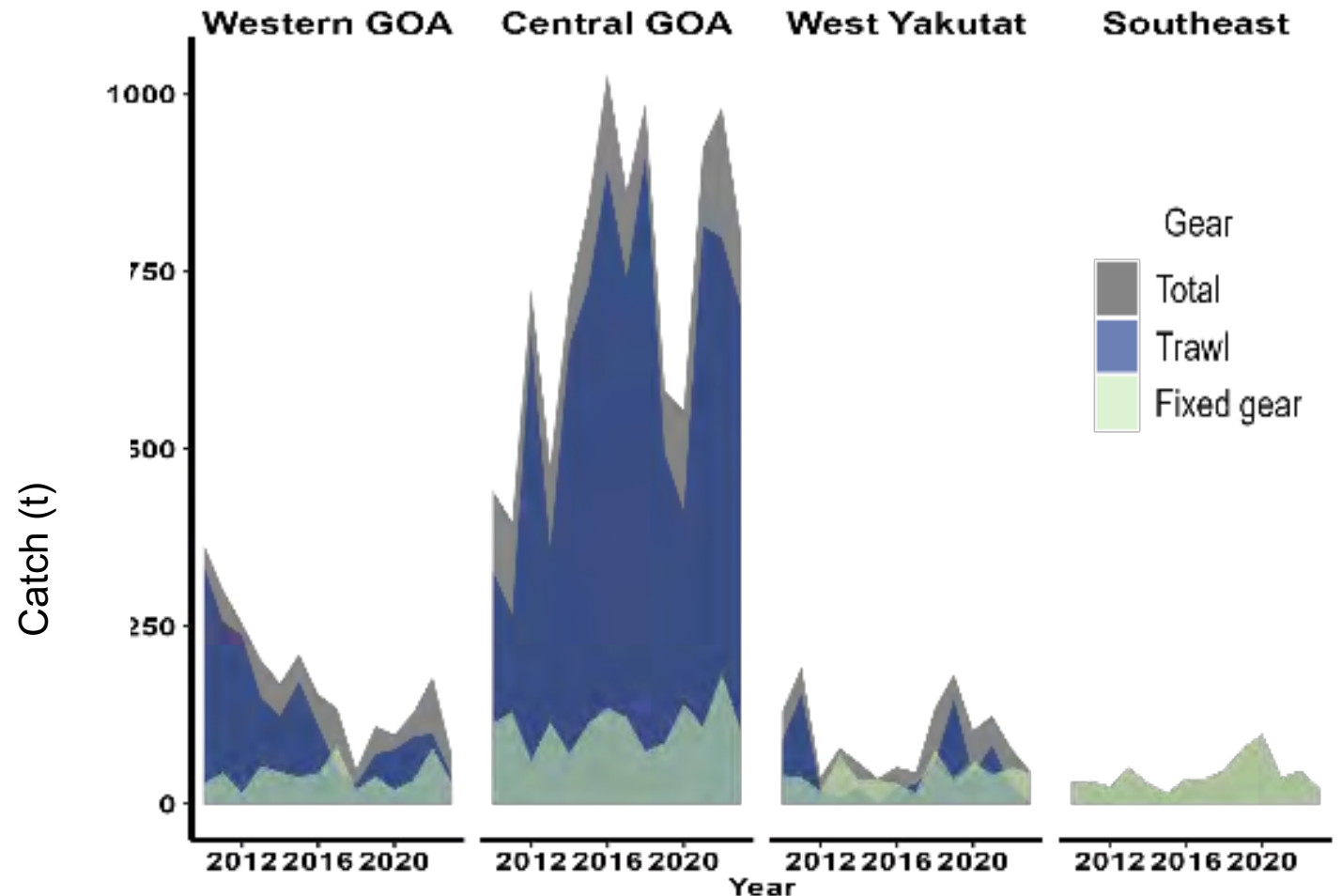
Other Rockfish

Species	ABC 2023	ABC 2024	Change
POP*	37,193	39,719	up 2,526 (7%)
northern rockfish	4,964	4,815	down 149 (3%)
Shortraker Rockfish*	705	647	down 58 (8%)
Dusky	7,917	7,624	down 293 (4%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish*	775	1,037	up 262 (34%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	283	283	same (0%)
Thornyhead	1,628	1,628	same (0%)
Other rock*	4,054	3,774	down 280 (7%)
Sub Total	57,519	59,527	up 2,008 (3%)

GOA Other Rockfish stock complex

Current Status

- Total GOA catch is ~ 25% of OFL
- Catch is passing TAC/ ABC in Western/Central GOA
- 2023 catch is down ~ 25% from 2022 (1,287 t)



GOA Other Rockfish stock complex

Changes (approved by PT and SSC 2021)

- Tier 4 Model 15.2 change to REMA model framework
- Tier 5 Model 23.1 includes:
 - Change to REMA model framework
 - Alternative average weighted $M ((Wt M) \bar{M})$ as a proxy for FOFL.
 - Four Tier 5 species (reduced from 17 species) due to unreliable survey biomass.
 - Tier 6 Model 23.1 includes:
 - Extension of maximum catch time series to 2013-2022
 - Twenty-one Tier 6 species (addition of 12 species) due to unreliable survey biomass.

2023 recommendations

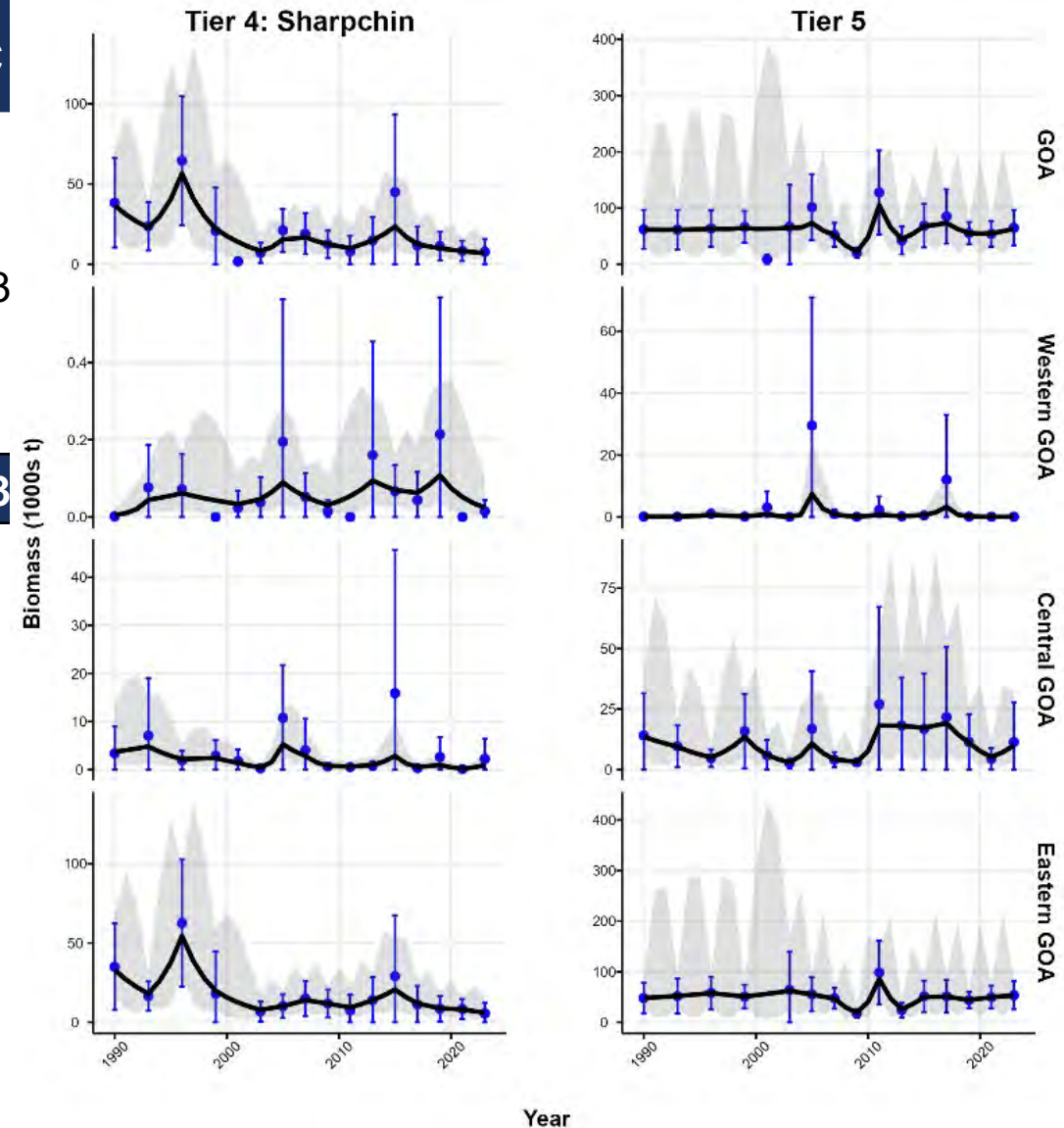
ABC	OFL
3,773 t	4,977 t
-7% from 2023	-6% from 2023

GOA Other Rockfish stock complex

Tier (# spp.)	Biomass (2023)	F_{OFL}	OFL	F_{ABC}	ABC
Tier 4 (1 spp.)	7,008 t	$F_{35\%} = 0.079$	554	$F_{40\%} = 0.065$	456
Tier 5 (4 species)	63,291 t	$\overline{Wt_M} = 0.062$	3,924	$0.75 * F_{OFL}$	2,943
Tier 6 (21 species)			499		374
All Tiers			4,977		3,773

Results overview

- High CVs
- 2023 Tier4 (Sharpchin): -7%
- 2023 Tier5 (4 species): slight increase



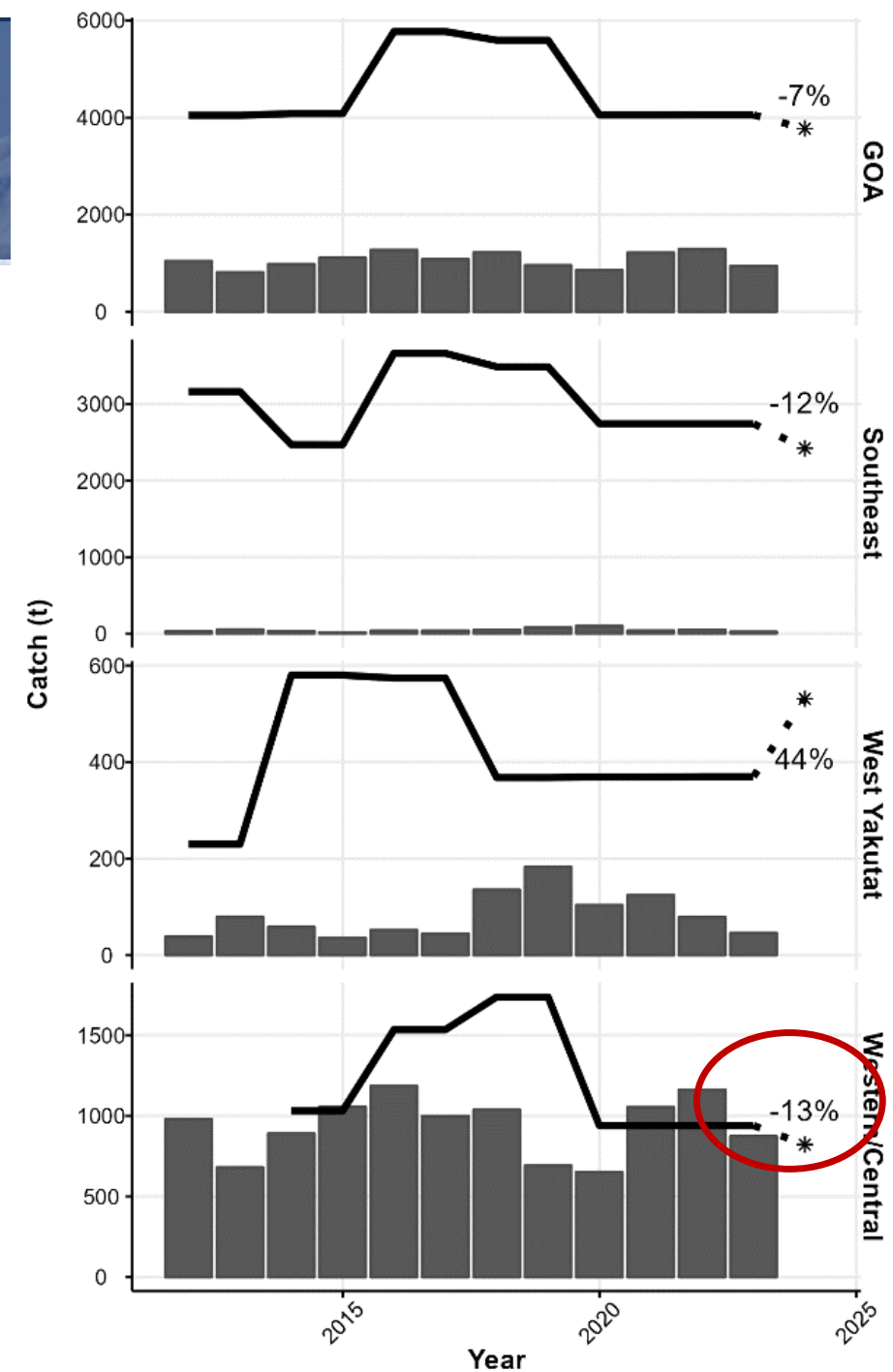
GOA Other Rockfish stock complex

Area Apportionment

Area	2023 ABC	2024 ABC	2023 Catch*
Western/ Central	940	820	873
Eastern	West Yakutat	532	46
	East Yakutat/ Southeast	2,421	22
Total	4,054**	3,773	941

**Includes added Northern ABC for EGOA

*Catch as of Oct. 10, 2023



GOA Other Rockfish stock complex

- Issues:
 - Regional ABC overages continue to occur.
 - Mismatch between survey catch & fishery catch (“trawlable” & “untrawlable habitat”) → underestimating biomass based on survey (e.g., harlequin)
 - Patchy distributions → variable survey catches → subarea ABC fluctuations
- No apparent conservation concerns
 - Non-target species that are poorly sampled by trawl survey
 - No major changes in fishing behavior, but good species-specific catch data
 - Majority of biomass in SE, but no trawling allowed in SE
 - No to little genetic structure (general prelim results) & no local depletion observed

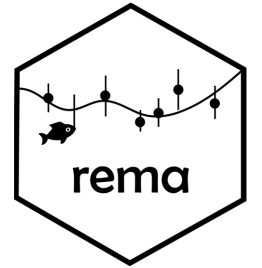
GOA Other Rockfish stock complex Plan Team discussions

- For 2024, the Team agreed with the author and recommended that the sub-area ABCs remain.
 - However, the Team recommended that in 2025, the W/C/WYAK sub-area ABCs be combined, which would be consistent with the recent changes to DSR.
 - The Team recommended that the Council engage in the Spatial Management Policy for this stock. The Team noted the next assessment is scheduled for 2025.

NOTE: SSC elected to combine ABCs for W/C/WYAK for 2024

GOA skate complex: update assessment

- Random Effects (RE) model
- $M = 0.1$
- Updated Data
 - Catch (2022-2023 as of October 16th)
Survey Biomass Estimate from AFSC bottom trawl survey.



Big Skate



Longnose Skate



Other Skates



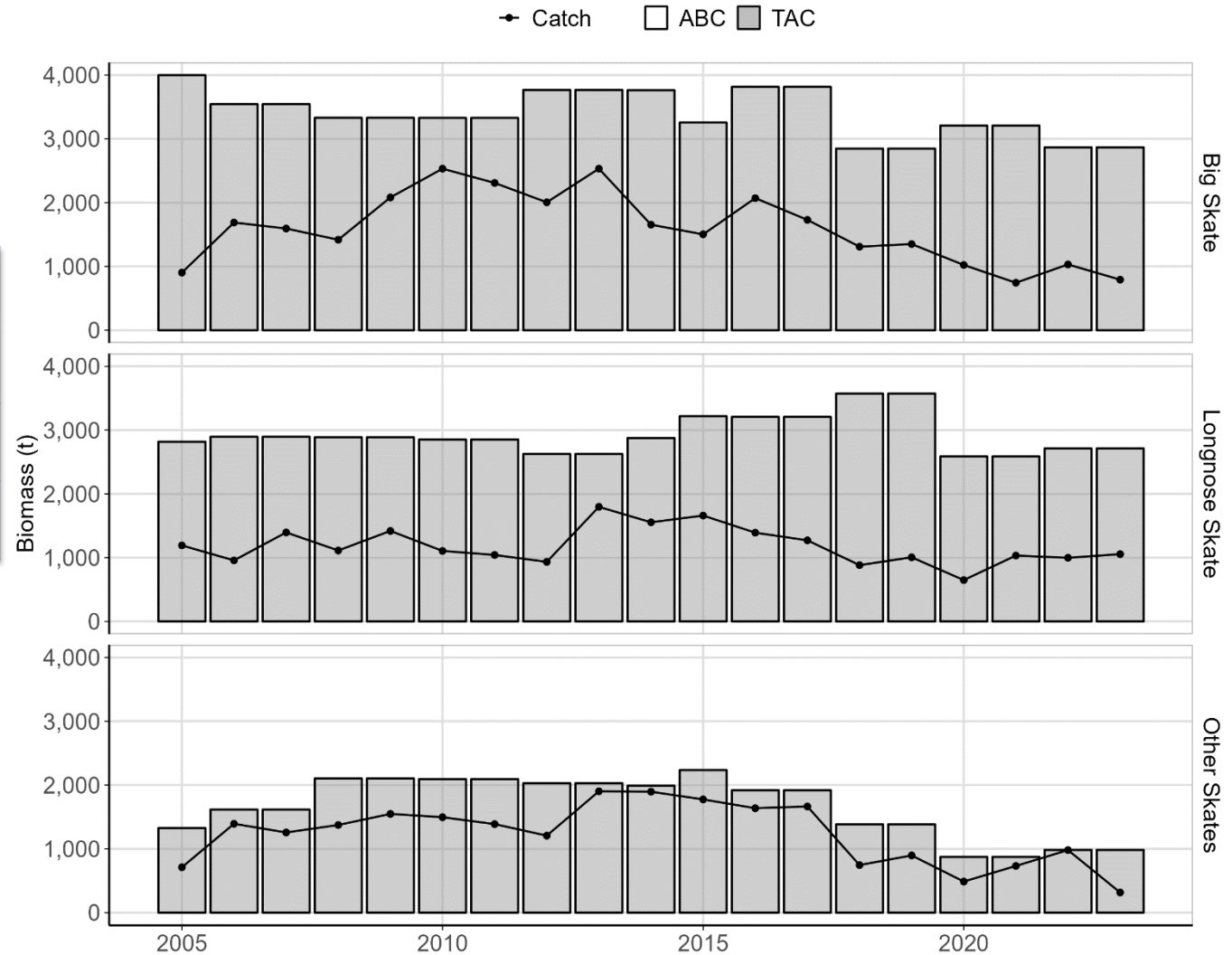
Thanks to Lee Cronin-Fine!

Stock Complex Overview

• Tier 5

Group	OFL (t)	ABC (t)	Catch (t)*
Big	3,822	2,867	792
Longnose	3,616	2,712	1,055
Other	1,311	984	316

*As of October 16th, 2023

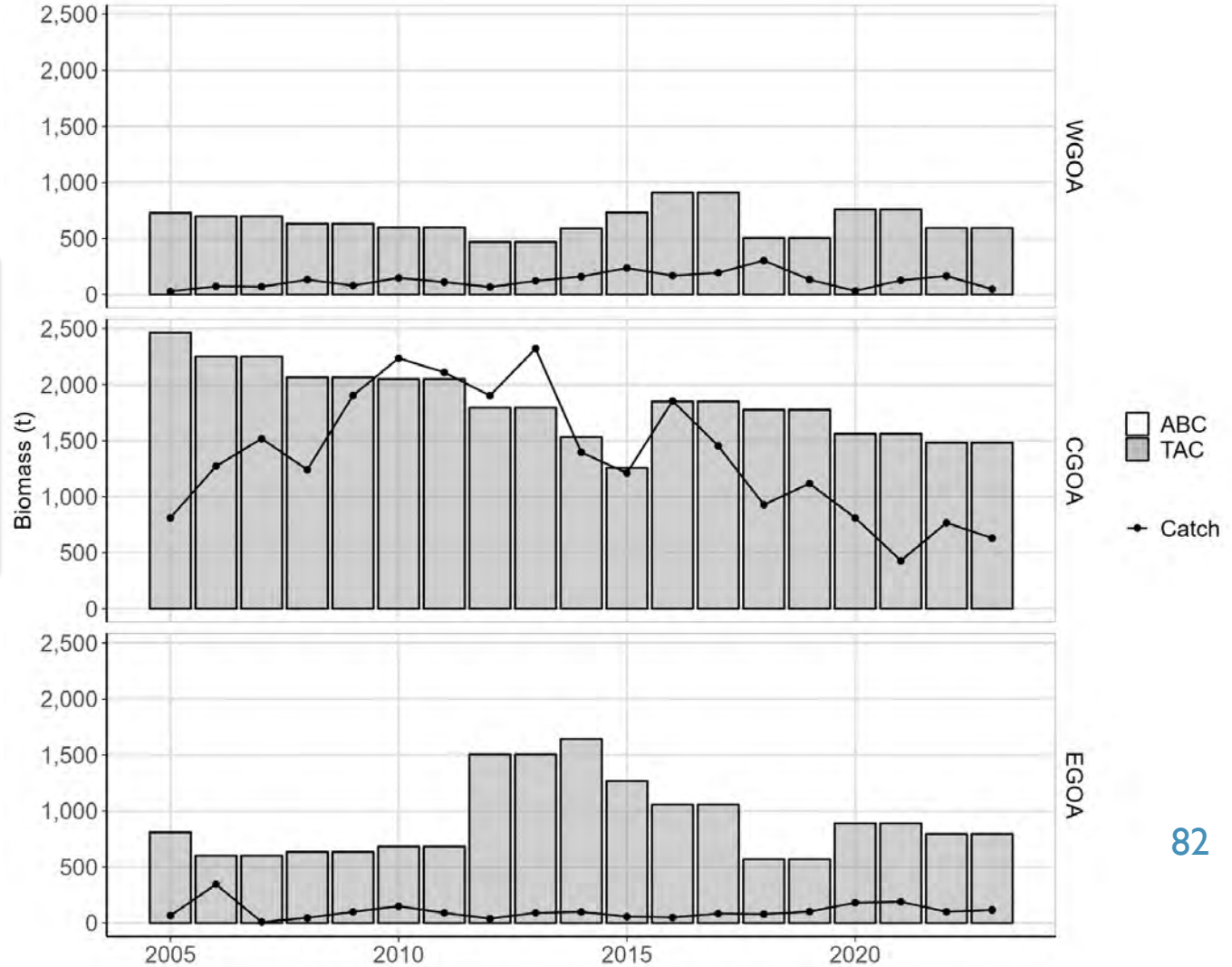


Big Skate Area Overview

•Tier 5

Area	ABC (t)	TAC (t)	Catch (t)*
WGOA	591	591	47
CGOAA	1,482	1,482	629
EGOA	794	794	116

*As of October 16th, 2023

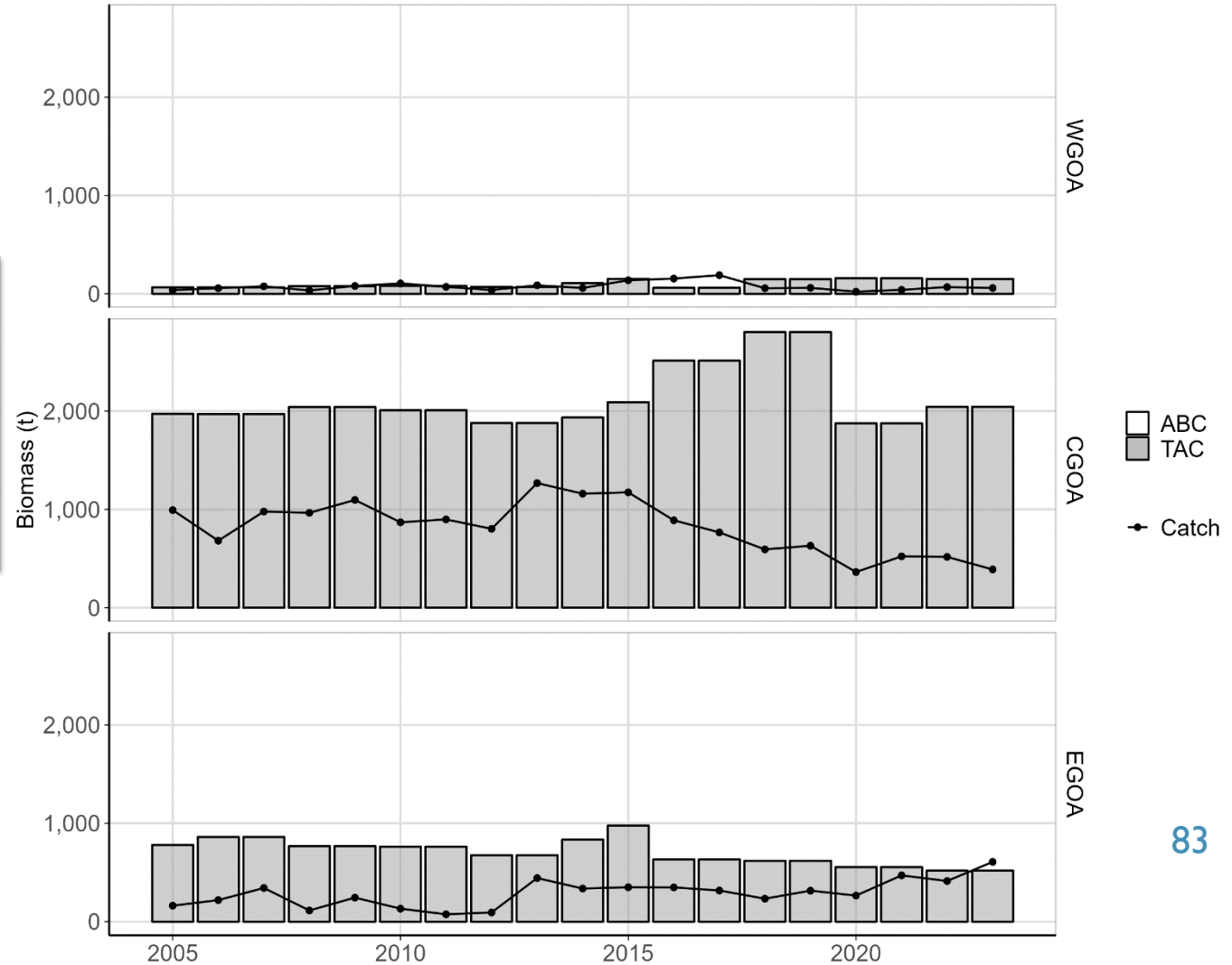


Longnose Skate Area Overview

• Tier 5

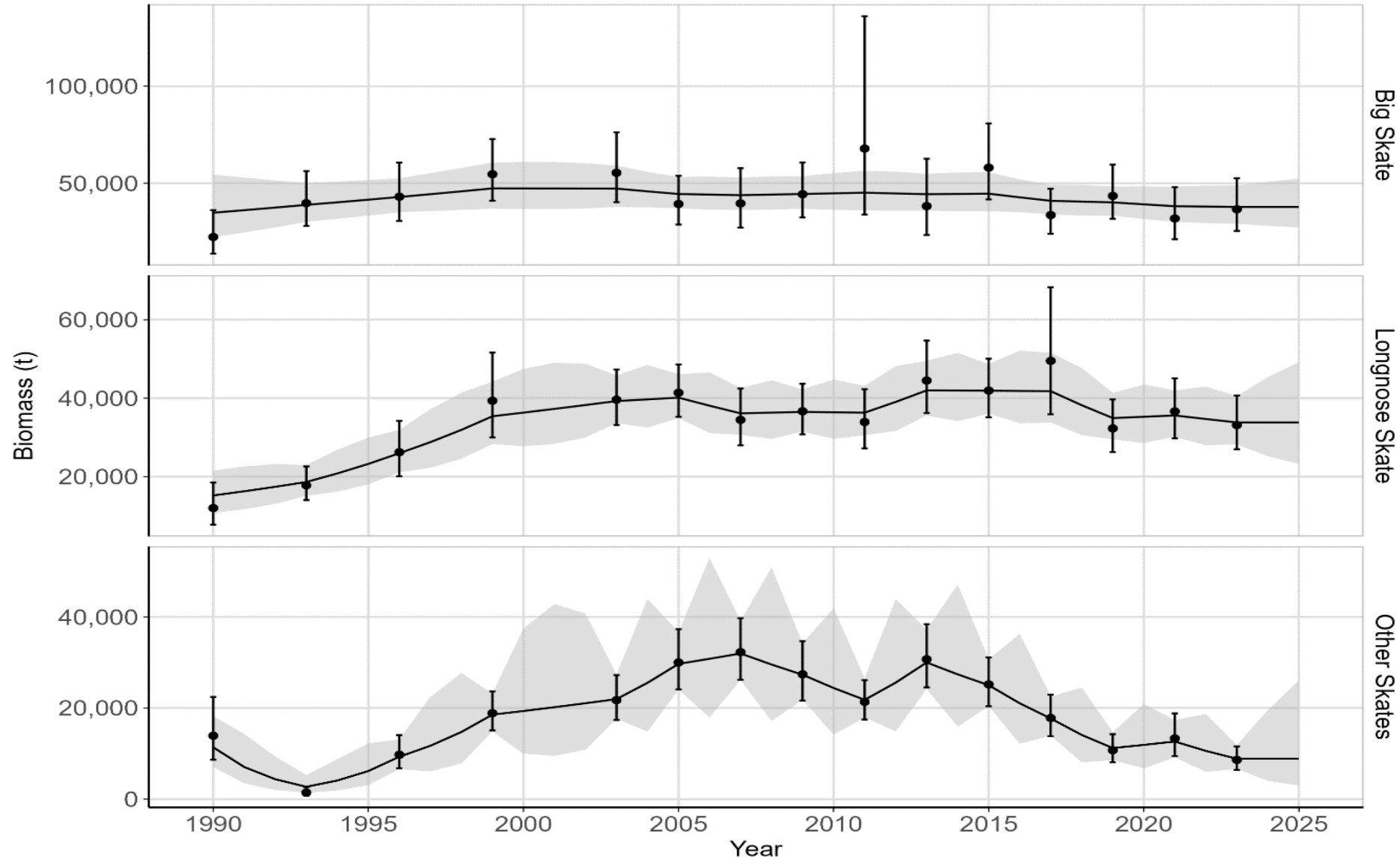
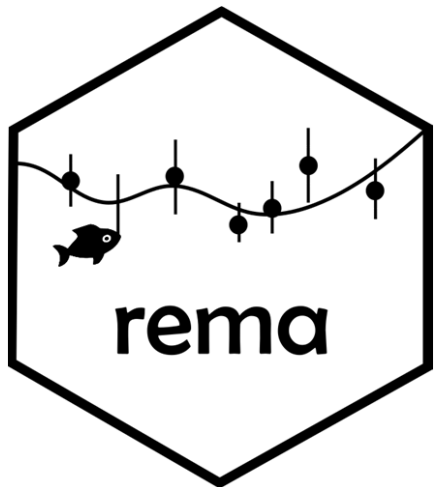
Area	ABC (t)	TAC (t)	Catch (t)*
WGOA	151	151	59
CGOAA	2,044	2,044	389
EGOA	517	517	607

*As of October 16th, 2023



GOA Skates survey trends

- By species species/groups



Big skate ABC/OFLs

- Tier 5
- $M = 0.1$
- $F_{OFL} = M = 0.1$
- $maxF_{ABC} = 0.75 * M = 0.075$
- $F_{ABC} = 0.75 * M = 0.075$

Big skate (<i>Beringraja binoculata</i>)					
Quantity		As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
		2023	2024	2024	2025
Biomass (t)	W	7,882	7,882	9,934	9,934
	C	19,756	19,756	23,326	23,326
	E	10,581	10,581	4,545	4,545
	GOA Wide	38,220	38,220	37,804	37,804
OFL (t)	GOA Wide	3,822	3,822	3,780	3,780
<u>maxABC</u> (t)	W	591	591	745	745
	C	1,482	1,482	1,749	1,749
	E	794	794	341	341
ABC (t)	W	591	591	745	745
	C	1,482	1,482	1,749	1,749
	E	794	794	341	341
Status		As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
		2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing?		No	n/a	No	n/a

Longnose skate ABC/OFLs

- Tier 5
- $M = 0.1$
- $F_{OFL} = M = 0.1$
- $maxF_{ABC} = 0.75 * M = 0.075$
- $F_{ABC} = 0.75 * M = 0.075$

Longnose skate (<i>Raja rhina</i>)					
Quantity		As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
		2023	2024	2024	2025
Biomass (t)	W	2,013	2,013	1,384	1,384
	C	27,258	27,258	25,249	25,249
	E	6,890	6,890	7,172	7,172
	GOA Wide	36,162	36,162	33,804	33,804
OFL (t)	GOA Wide	3,616	3,616	3,380	3,380
<u>maxABC</u> (t)	W	151	151	104	104
	C	2,044	2,044	1,894	1,894
	E	517	517	538	538
ABC (t)	W	151	151	104	104
	C	2,044	2,044	1,894	1,894
	E	517	517	538	538
Status		As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
		2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing?		No	n/a	No	n/a

Bathyraja skate ABC/OFLs

- Tier 5
- $M = 0.1$
- $F_{OFL} = M = 0.1$
- $maxF_{ABC} = 0.75 * M = 0.075$
- $F_{ABC} = 0.75 * M = 0.075$

Other skates (<i>Bathyraja</i>)				
Quantity	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
	2023	2024	2024	2025
Biomass (t)	13,114	13,114	8,869	8,869
OFL (t)	1,311	1,311	887	887
<u>maxABC</u> (t)	984	984	665	665
ABC (t)	984	984	665	665
Status	As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
	2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing?	No	n/a	No	n/a

GOA skate complex Plan Team discussions

- The Team supported the authors' recommendations for OFLs and ABCs.
 - The Team recommended that the author look at the bycatch rates of skates in the fisheries in which they are caught (e.g., what is the ton of skates caught per ton of target species across different fisheries) and present this data in the next assessment.

Partial assessments in 2023 (renamed “Harvest projections”)

Stocks

- GOA arrowtooth flounder
- GOA rex sole
- GOA shallow water flatfish (+N & S rock sole)
- GOA flathead sole
- GOA Dusky rockfish
- GOA Northern rockfish

Slide(s) on

Fishery trends

Survey trends

Updated catch

Notes

GOA Arrowtooth Flounder (Tier 3a)

Not overfishing, overfished nor approaching overfished



Fishery trends Catch remains low (as in 2022) majority in ATF fishery, ~8-9% in rockfish and pollock fishery

Survey trends 5% increase in 2023 bottom trawl survey, VAST estimates similar

Updated catch 2023: 9,029 t
2024: 17,576 t

Notes Catch/Biomass decreasing since 2021, now lowest in time series

Quantity/Status	As estimated or <i>specified</i>		As estimated or	
	2023	2024	2024*	2025*
M (natural mortality)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (age 1+) biomass (t)	1,265,950	1,269,510	1,295,410	1,311,810
Projected female spawning biomass	702,074	690,799	698,842	695,299
B _{100%}	1,018,700	1,018,700	1,018,700	1,018,700
B _{40%}	407,478	407,478	407,478	407,478
B _{35%}	356,544	356,544	356,544	356,544
F _{OFL}	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225
maxF _{ABC}	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185
F _{ABC}	0.185	0.185	0.185	0.185
OFL (t)	142,749	141,008	142,485	142,074
maxABC (t)	119,485	118,014	119,249	118,912
ABC (t)	119,485	118,014	119,249	118,912
Status	As determined <i>last</i> year for:		As determined <i>this</i> year for:	
	2022	2023	2023	2024
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No

Thanks to Kalei Shotwell

GOA Rex sole (Tier 3a) Not overfishing, overfished, nor approaching overfished

Fishery trends Lower than average catches for 2021-2023

Survey trends 2023 biomass lower than 2021

Update Most recent: 2021
Next: 2025

Notes Catch/ABC low

Quantity	As estimated or specified this year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
	2023	2024	2024	2025
M (natural mortality rate)	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (3+) biomass (t)	127,297	128,207	129,611	129,296
Female spawning biomass (t)	56,965	59,734	60,486	61,413
$B_{100\%}$	See area-specific tables below		See area-specific tables below	
$B_{40\%}$				
$B_{35\%}$				
F_{OFL}	See area-specific tables below		See area-specific tables below	
$maxF_{ABC}$				
F_{ABC}				
OFL (t)	25,135	25,652	25,978	25,900
$maxABC$ (t)	20,664	21,097	21,364	21,303
ABC (t)	20,664	21,097	21,364	21,303
Status	As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
	2021	2022	2022	2023
Overfishing	no	n/a	no	n/a
Overfished	n/a	no	n/a	no
Approaching overfished	n/a	no	n/a	no

Thanks to Carey McGilliard

GOA Shallow water flatfish: Central-Eastern N/S rock sole

Fishery trends

Catch trend has been declining in central-eastern GOA (main catch), stable and low in western GOA

Survey trends

Central-eastern:
NRS declining, SRS slight decline in 2023
Western:
NRS declining, SRS stable

Update

Most recent: 2021
Next: 2025

Notes

Catch/ABC low

Thanks to Meaghan Bryan

GOA flathead sole

Fishery trends

approaching bycatch (<5% of TAC)

Survey trends

2023: 27% lower than the 10-year average

Update

Most recent: 2022
Next: Update in 2025

Notes

2024 spawning biomass 96,604, trend stable

Quantity/Status	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
	2023	2024	2024*	2025*
Projected total (3+) biomass (t)	294,188	293,277	294,616	292,639
Projected Female spawning biomass (t)	94,059	95,932	96,604	98,468
B _{100%}	92,582	92,582	92,582	92,582
B _{40%}	37,033	37,033	37,033	37,033
B _{35%}	32,404	32,404	32,404	32,404
F _{OFL}	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.36
maxF _{ABC}	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29
F _{ABC}	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29
OFL (t)	48,161	49,073	49,414	50,322
maxABC (t)	39,480	40,222	40,503	41,258
ABC (t)	39,480	40,222	40,503	41,258
Status	As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
	2022	2023	2023	2024
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No

Thanks to Maia Kapur

Dusky rockfish

Fishery trends

Stable
Catch < 50% of TAC

Survey trends

overall increase, but minor decline in past few years

Update

Most recent: 2022
Next: 2024

Notes

2024 spawning biomass 43,197
trend decreasing

Thanks to Kristen Omori

Quantity	As estimated or specified <i>last</i> year for:		As estimated or recommended <i>this</i> year for:	
	2023	2024	2024*	2025*
M (natural mortality)	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (age 4+) biomass (t)	107,160	104,627	103,997	100,827
Projected female spawning biomass (t)	44,651	44,651	43,197	41,200
$B_{100\%}$	65,565	65,565	65,565	65,565
$B_{40\%}$	26,226	26,226	26,226	26,226
$B_{35\%}$	22,948	22,948	22,948	22,948
F_{OFL}	0.11	0.11	0.112	0.112
$\underline{maxF_{ABC}}$	0.09	0.09	0.091	0.091
F_{ABC}	0.09	0.09	0.091	0.091
OFL (t)	9,638	9,154	9,281	8,796
\underline{maxABC} (t)	7,917	7,520	7,624	7,225
ABC (t)	7,917	7,520	7,624	7,225
Status	As determined <i>last</i> year for:		As determined <i>this</i> year for:	
	2022	2023	2023	2024
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No

Northern rockfish

Fishery trends

Stable
Catch < 50% of TAC

Survey trends

Decrease in past few years

Update

Most recent: 2022
Next: 2024

Notes

2024 spawning biomass
38,118; trend decreasing

Quantity/Status	As estimated or specified last year for:		As estimated or recommended this year for:	
	2023	2024	2024*	2025*
M (natural mortality)	0.059	0.059	0.059	0.059
Tier	3a	3a	3a	3a
Projected total (age 2+) biomass (t)	95,452	93,022	94,319	93,088
Projected female spawning biomass (t)	39,445	37,470	38,118	36,510
B _{100%}	82,350	82,350	82,350	82,350
B _{40%}	32,940	32,940	32,940	32,940
B _{35%}	28,822	28,822	28,822	28,822
F _{OFL}	0.074	0.074	0.074	0.074
m_{co} F _{ABC}	0.061	0.061	0.061	0.061
F _{ABC}	0.061	0.061	0.061	0.061
OFL (t)	5,927	5,661	5,750	5,548
m_{co} ABC (t)	4,965	4,742	4,816	4,647
ABC (t)	4,965	4,742	4,816	4,647
	As determined last year for:		As determined this year for:	
Status	2022	2023	2023	2024
Overfishing	No	n/a	No	n/a
Overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No
Approaching overfished	n/a	No	n/a	No

Thanks to Ben Williams



Catch reports

- Atka mackerel
- SEO DSR
- Sharks
- Octopus
- Thornyheads

Catch reports

	Year	OFL	ABC	TAC	Catch
Atka mackerel	2022	6,200	4,700	3,000	880
	2023	6,200	4,700	3,000	462
SEO DSR	2022	579	365	365	163
	2023	376	283	283	188
Sharks	2022	5,006	3,755	3,755	2,160
	2023	6,521	4,891	4,891	1,777
Octopus	2022	1,307	980	980	155
	2023	1,307	980	980	154
Thornyheads	2022	2,604	1,953	1,953	359
	2023	2,170	1,628	1,628	201

C4 AP/Council Actions for GOA Groundfish Final Harvest Specifications

Sara Cleaver, December 2023



Action items for GOA Groundfish Final Harvest Specifications:

- Receive GOA ESR, GOA PT report
- Approve SAFE report
- Recommend final harvest specifications:
 - OFL and ABC for all stocks (SSC recommendations)
 - TAC for all stocks, taking into account the State waters Pacific cod and pollock fisheries.
 - Pacific halibut PSC limits and seasonal apportionments.
 - Pacific halibut discard mortality rates (DMRs)



Species	Area	2024 SSC Recommendations		2025 SSC Recommendations	
		OFL	ABC	OFL	ABC
Pollock	State GHL	n/a	4,769	n/a	3,942
	W (610)	n/a	38,882	n/a	32,144
	C (620)	n/a	90,937	n/a	75,179
	C (630)	n/a	50,587	n/a	41,821
	WYAK	n/a	5,565	n/a	4,601
	Subtotal	269,916	190,740	182,891	157,687
	EYAK/SEO	12,998	9,749	12,998	9,749
Total	282,914	200,489	195,889	167,436	
Pacific Cod	W	n/a	8,745	n/a	7,638
	C	n/a	20,590	n/a	17,981
	E	n/a	2,937	n/a	2,565
	Total	38,712	32,272	33,970	28,184
Sablefish	W	n/a	4,699	n/a	4,719
	C	n/a	9,651	n/a	9,693
	WYAK	n/a	2,926	n/a	2,940
	SEO	n/a	5,320	n/a	5,343
	GOA Total	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Alaska-wide OFL and ABC	AK Total	55,084	47,146	55,317	47,350
Shallow-Water Flatfish	W	n/a	23,337	n/a	23,782
	C	n/a	27,783	n/a	28,311
	WYAK	n/a	2,778	n/a	2,831
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	1,667	n/a	1,699
	Total	68,121	55,565	69,354	56,623
Deep-Water Flatfish	W	n/a	237	n/a	234
	C	n/a	2,655	n/a	2,614
	WYAK	n/a	1,856	n/a	1,827
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	2,314	n/a	2,278
	Total	8,387	7,062	8,257	6,953
Rex Sole	W	n/a	3,367	n/a	3,363
	C	n/a	13,639	n/a	13,624
	WYAK	n/a	1,453	n/a	1,439
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	2,905	n/a	2,877
	Total	25,978	21,364	25,900	21,303
Arrowtooth Flounder	W	n/a	30,409	n/a	30,323
	C	n/a	64,871	n/a	64,688
	WYAK	n/a	7,870	n/a	7,848
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	16,099	n/a	16,053
	Total	142,485	119,249	142,074	118,912
Flathead Sole	W	n/a	13,273	n/a	13,521
	C	n/a	21,307	n/a	21,702
	WYAK	n/a	3,876	n/a	3,949
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	2,047	n/a	2,086
	Total	49,414	40,503	50,322	41,258

SSC CHANGES FROM
PLAN TEAM
RECOMMENDED OFL
AND ABCS IN RED

TABLE I.

Species	Area	2024 SSC Recommendations		2025 SSC Recommendations	
		OFL	ABC	OFL	ABC
Pacific ocean perch	W	n/a	1,787	n/a	1,726
	C	n/a	28,757	n/a	27,768
	WYAK	n/a	2,110	n/a	2,038
	W/C/WYAK	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	SEO	n/a	7,065	n/a	6,822
	Total	47,466	39,719	45,835	38,354
Northern Rockfish	W	n/a	2,535	n/a	2,446
	C	n/a	2,280	n/a	2,200
	E	n/a	0	n/a	0
	Total	5,750	4,815	5,548	4,646
Shortraker Rockfish	W	n/a	34	n/a	34
	C	n/a	189	n/a	189
	E	n/a	424	n/a	424
	Total	863	647	863	647
Dusky Rockfish	W	n/a	145	n/a	137
	C	n/a	7,365	n/a	6,979
	WYAK	n/a	84	n/a	81
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	30	n/a	28
	Total	9,281	7,624	8,796	7,225
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	W	n/a	197	n/a	197
	C	n/a	315	n/a	315
	E	n/a	525	n/a	525
	Total	1,555	1,037	1,566	1,037
Demersal shelf rockfish	Total	376	283	376	283
Thornyhead Rockfish	W	n/a	314	n/a	314
	C	n/a	693	n/a	693
	E	n/a	621	n/a	621
	Total	2,170	1,628	2,170	1,628
Other Rockfish	W/C (and WYAK for 2024)	n/a	1,353	n/a	1,353
	WYAK (for 2023 only)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	EYAK/SEO	n/a	2,421	n/a	2,421
	Total	4,977	3,774	4,977	3,774
Atka mackerel	Total	6,200	4,700	6,200	4,700
Big Skate	W	n/a	745	n/a	745
	C	n/a	1,749	n/a	1,749
	E	n/a	341	n/a	341
	Total	3,780	2,835	3,780	2,835
Longnose Skate	W	n/a	104	n/a	104
	C	n/a	1,894	n/a	1,894
	E	n/a	538	n/a	538
	Total	3,380	2,536	3,380	2,536
Other Skates	GOA-wide	887	665	887	665
Sharks	GOA-wide	6,521	4,891	6,521	4,891
Octopuses	GOA-wide	1,307	980	1,307	980
TOTAL		765,608	599,784	673,289	562,220

SSC CHANGES FROM PLAN TEAM RECOMMENDED OFL AND ABCS IN RED

TABLE I.

Set Pacific cod & Pollock TACs to consider State Waters fisheries

Pollock (Table 1)

Species	Area	2024 SSC Recommendations		TAC	2025 SSC Recommendations		TAC
		OFL	ABC		OFL	ABC	
Pollock	State GHL	n/a	4,769		n/a	3,942	
	W (610)	n/a	38,882		n/a	32,144	
	C (620)	n/a	90,937		n/a	75,179	
	C (630)	n/a	50,587		n/a	41,821	
	WYAK	n/a	5,565		n/a	4,601	
	Subtotal	269,916	190,740	-	182,891	157,687	-
	EYAK/SEO	12,998	9,749		12,998	9,749	
	Total	282,914	200,489	-	195,889	167,436	-

Pacific cod (Table 2)

Final 2024 GOA Pacific cod ABCs, TACs, and State GHLs (mt)

Specifications	Western	Central	Eastern	Total
ABC	8,745	20,590	2,937	32,272
State GHL	2,624	5,148	734	8,506
(%)	30%	25%	25%	
Federal TAC	6,121	15,442	2,203	23,766

Note: The Federal TAC is designated for Federal fisheries only and does not include the State GHL.



Halibut Prohibited Species Catch (PSC) limits and seasonal apportionments

Tables 3-5

Table 3 -- Final 2024 and 2025 Pacific Halibut PSC Limits, Allowances, and Apportionments
[Values are in metric tons]

Trawl gear			Hook-and-line gear ¹				
			Other than DSR			DSR	
Season	Percent	Amount ²	Season	Percent	Amount	Season	Amount
January 20 - April 1	30.5%	520	January 1 - June 10	86%	220	January 1 - December 31	9
April 1 - July 1	20%	341	June 10 - September 1	2%	5		
July 1 - August 1	27%	460	September 1 - December 31	12%	31		
August 1 - October 1	7.5%	128					
October 1 - December 31	15%	256					
Total		1,705					

Table 4 -- Final 2024 and 2025 Apportionment of the Pacific Halibut PSC Limits Apportioned Between the Trawl Gear Shallow-Water and Deep-Water Species Fisheries
[Values are in metric tons]

Season	Shallow-water	Deep-water ¹	Total ³
January 20 - April 1	384	135	520
April 1 - July 1	85	256	341
July 1 - August 1	121	341	460
August 1 - October 1	53	75	128
Subtotal January 20 - October 1	643	807	1,449
	n/a	n/a	256
	n/a	n/a	1,705

Table 5 -- Final 2024 and 2025 Apportionments of the "Other Hook and Line Fisheries" Halibut PSC Allowance Between the Hook-and-Line Gear Catcher Vessel and Catcher/Processor Sectors
[Values are in metric tons]

Hook-and-Line gear (Other than DSR) Annual PSC Amount	Hook-and-line Sector	Annual Amount	Season	Seasonal Percentage	Seasonal Amount
256	CV	149	A	86%	128
			B	2%	3
			C	12%	18
	CP	107	A	86%	92
			B	2%	2
			C	12%	13



Table 6 -- Final 2024 and 2025 Discard Mortality Rates for Vessels Fishing in the Gulf of Alaska [Values are percent of halibut assumed to be dead]

Gear	Sector	Groundfish fishery	Halibut discard mortality rate (percent)
Pelagic trawl	Catcher vessel	All	100
	Catcher/processor	All	100
Non-pelagic trawl	Catcher vessel	Rockfish Program	56
	Catcher vessel	All others	69
	Mothership and catcher/processor	All	83
Hook-and-line	Catcher/processor	All	11
	Catcher vessel	All	10
Pot	Catcher vessel and catcher/processor	All	26

Halibut Discard Mortality Rates (DMRs)- Table 6