Gulf of Alaska SAFE report

Report of the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Plan Team meeting Nov 17th-21st, 2014

GOA Plan Team Members

James Ianelli (chair)	AFSC/REFM
James Armstrong	NPFMC
Kristen Green	ADFG
Mark Stichert	ADFG
Jan Rumble	ADFG
Ian Stewart	IPHC

slie Slater USFWS (joint)

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Mike Dalton	AFSC/REFM
Chris Lunsford	AFSC/ABL
Jon Heifetz	AFSC/ABL
Sandra Lowe	AFSC/REFM
Paul Spencer	AFSC/REFM
Craig Faunce	AFSC/FMA
Obren Davis	AKRO

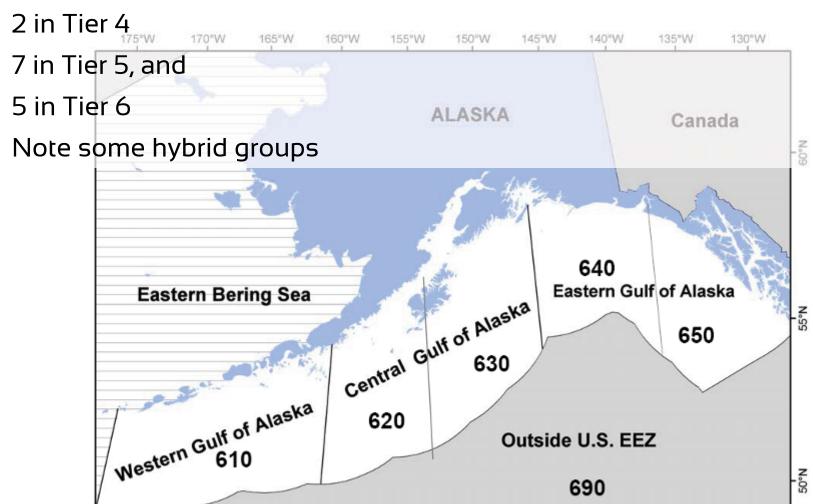
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Overview

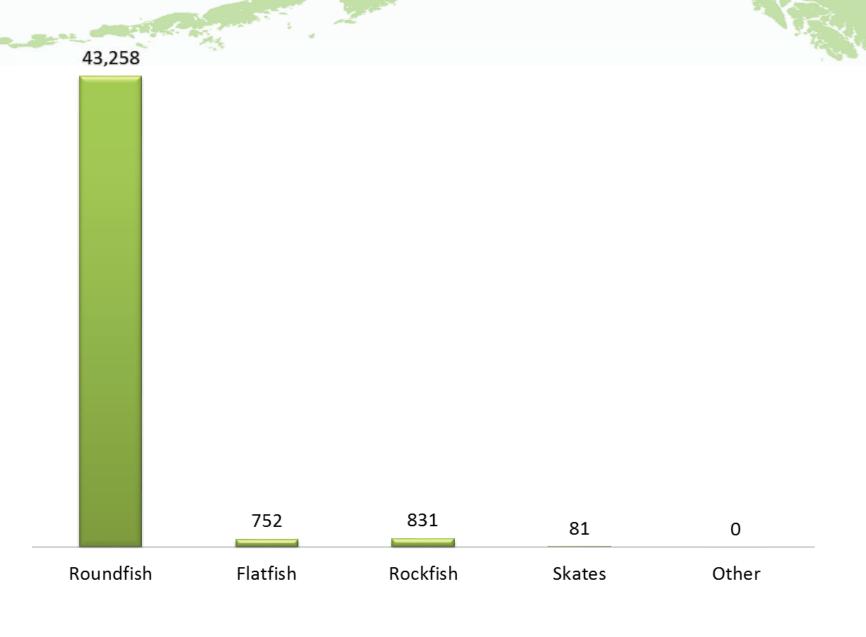
Biennial cycle—modified "off" year for GOA

12 stocks in Tier 3

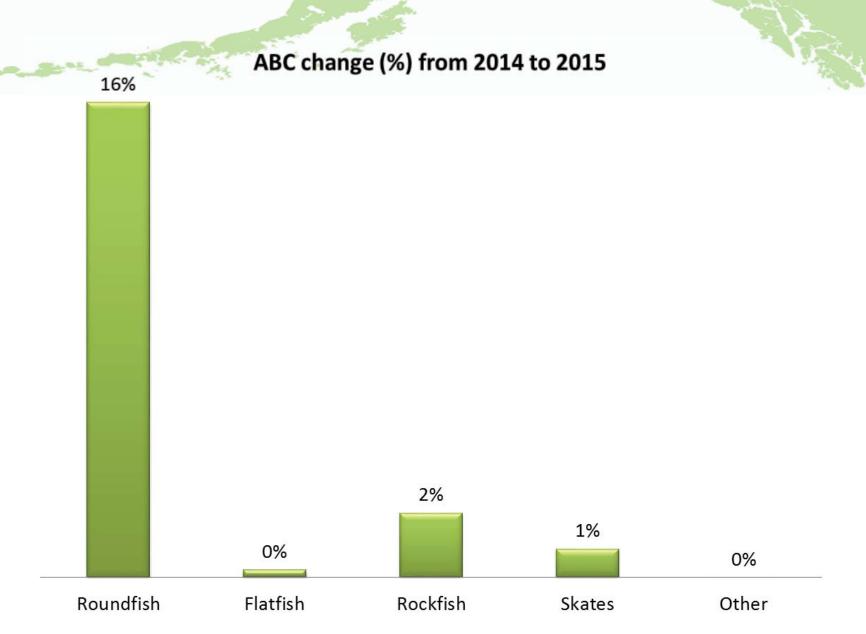
(mostly above $B_{40\%}$)



GULF OF ALASKA GROUNDFISH ASSESSMENTS

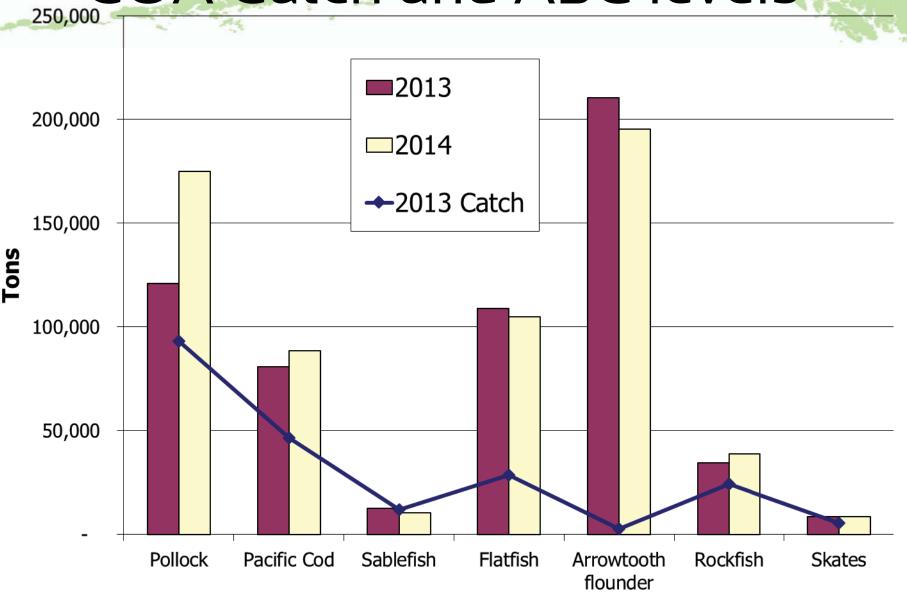


GULF OF ALASKA GROUNDFISH ASSESSMENTS

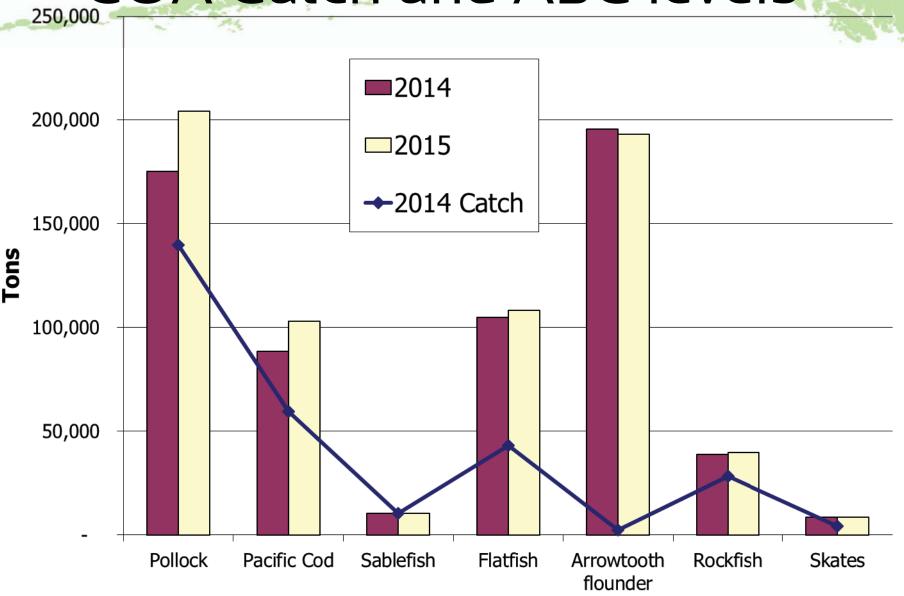


Percentage change in ABC, 2014-2015 20% 15% 10% 5% 0% -5% -10% -15% -20% Sharks Squids DSR Orock Sculpins POP DWF SWF Rougheye and Dusky **Big skate** Longnose Pollock Rex Sole Arrowtooth Sablefish Shortraker Rockfish **Thornyhead** Octopuses Flathead Other Skates Pacific Cod Atka mackerel Northern rockfish

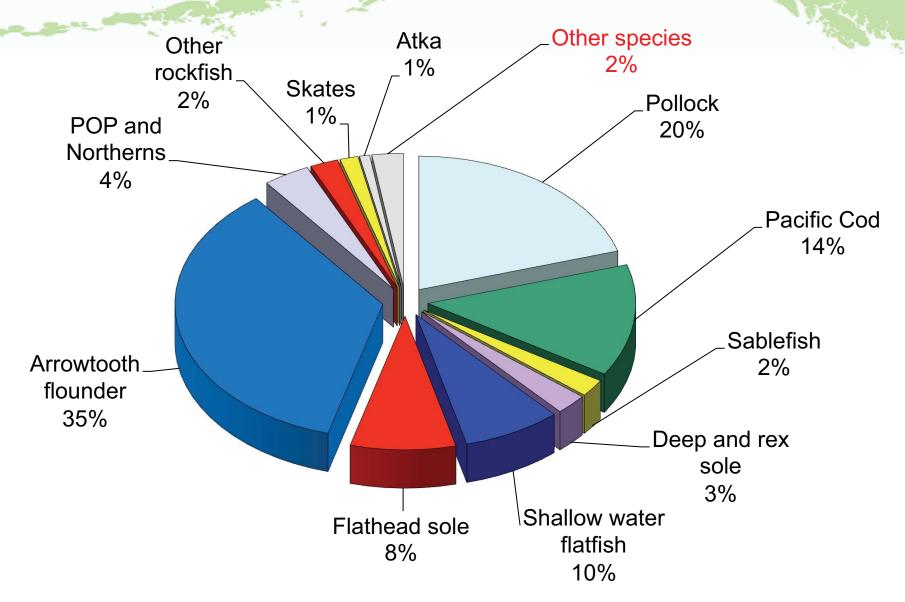
GOA Catch and ABC levels



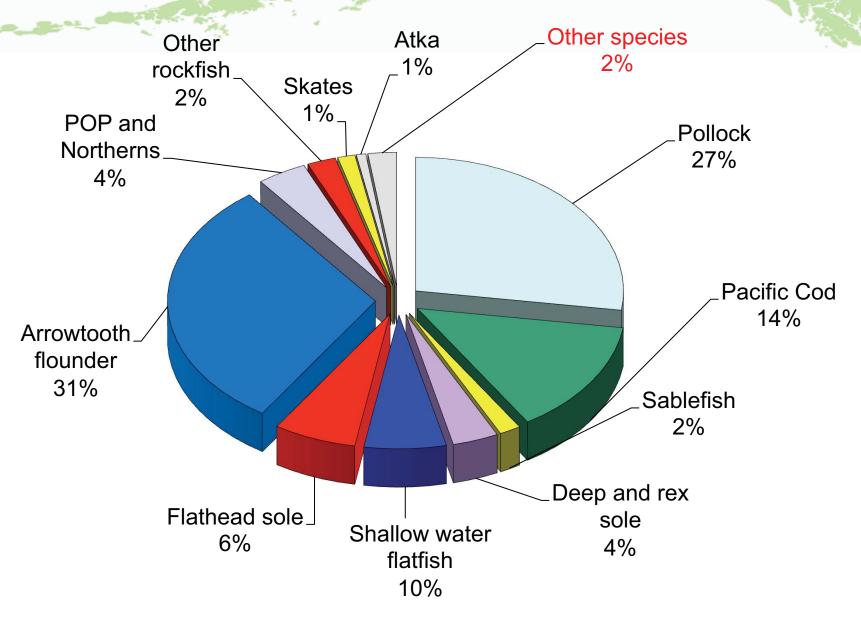
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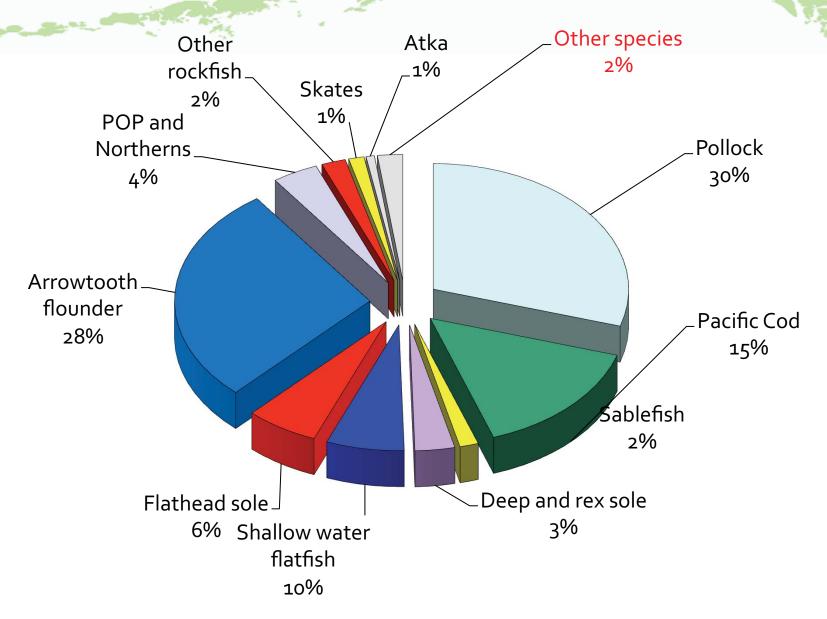
GOA 2013 ABC's: 595,920 t



GOA 2014 ABC's: 640,675 t



GOA 2015 ABC's: 685,597 t



ABC / TAC

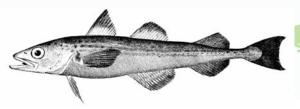
Team recommendations where ABC <maximum permissible:

	% of Max Permissible
Pollock	86%
Pacific cod	88%
Demersal shelf rockfish	77%

Species overviews

- 2014 ABC/Catch and recommended changes
- 2. Highlights
 - New data
 - Analytic approach (changes)
- Stock status and trend
- 4. ABC/OFL
 - Tier history and recommendations
 - 2014, 2015 maxABC; recommended ABC

GULF OF ALASKA GROUNDFISH ASSESSMENTS



ABC

	2014	AB	C		A COL
Species	Catch	2014	2015	Change	
Pollock	139,753	174,976	203,934	up 28,958	(17%)
Pacific Cod	59,633	88,500	102,850	up 14,350	(16%)
Sablefish	10,375	10,572	10,522	down 50	(0%)
Flatfish	43,270	104,849	108,038	up 3,189	(3%)
Arrowtooth flounder	2,497	195,358	192,921	down 2,437	(1%)
Rockfish	28,267	38,880	39,711	up 831	(2%)
Atka mackerel	981	4,700	4,700	same	(0%)
Skates	4,356	8,627	8,708	up 81	(1%)
Other Species	3,412	14,213	14,213	same	(0%)
Total	292,544	640,675	685,597	up 44,922	(7%)

New Data-GOA pollock

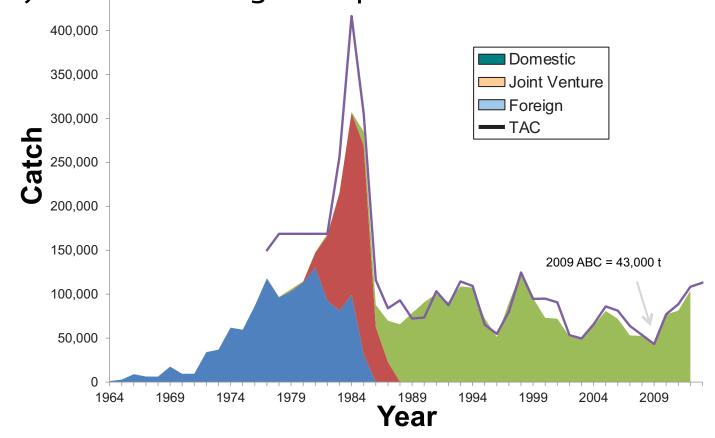
Fishery:

Shelikof EIT survey:

NMFS Summer trawl:

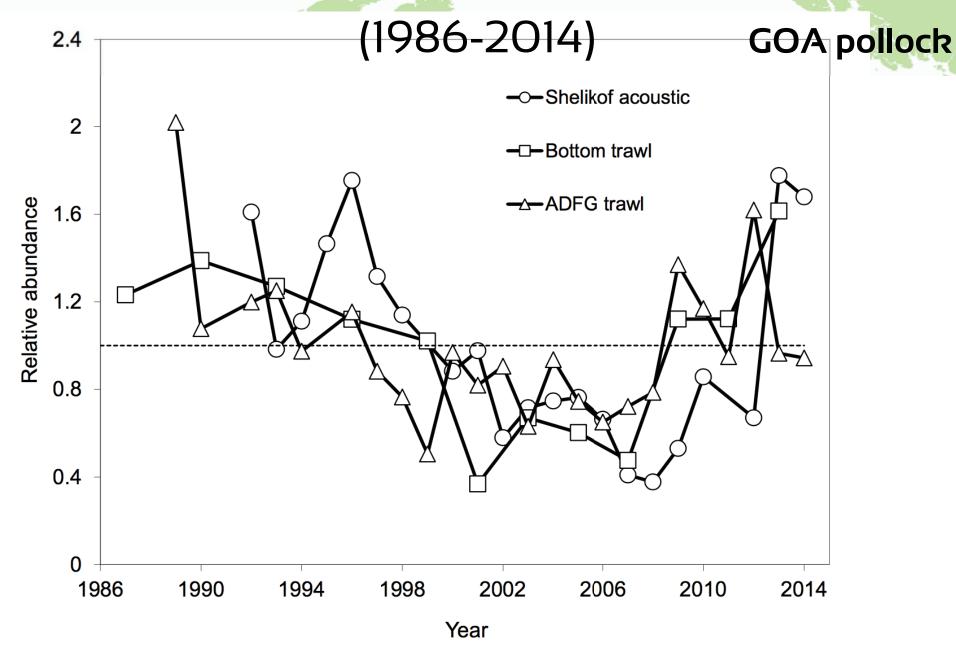
ADFG trawl survey: 450,000

2013 total catch and catch at age 2014 winter biomass and age comp 2014 biomass & length comps 2013 age comp & 2013 biomass

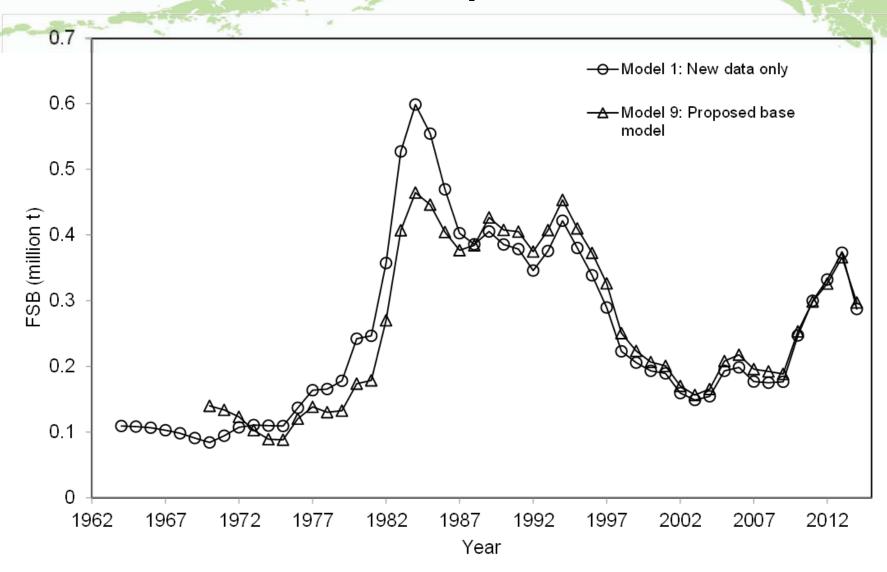




Relative trends in abundance indices

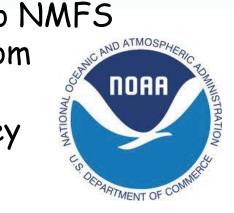


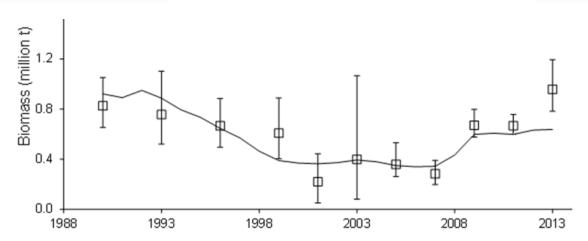
Alternative GOA pollock models



GOA pollock

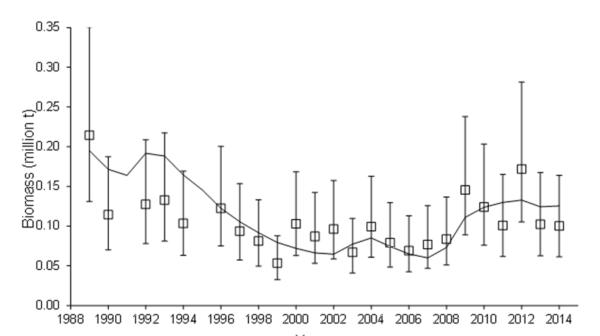
Fit to NMFS bottom trawl survey



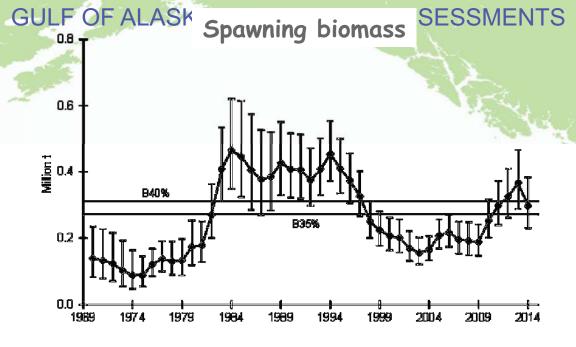


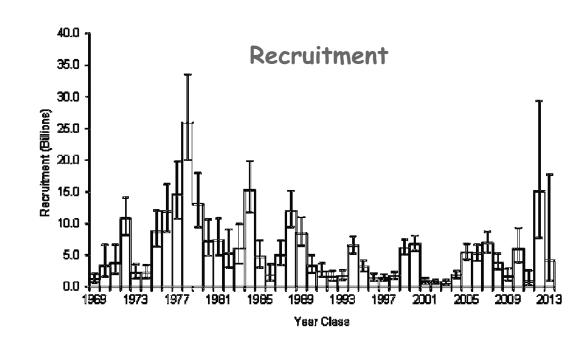
Fit to ADFG survey





GOA pollock model results





State GHL considerations

NEW this year (presentation only):

Prince William Sound GHL subtracted from W/C GOA **after** ABC presented (similar to Pacific cod);

Still set to 2.5% of W/C ABC:

 $GHL = 0.025 \times 191,309 = 4,783 t$

GOA pollock ABC considerations

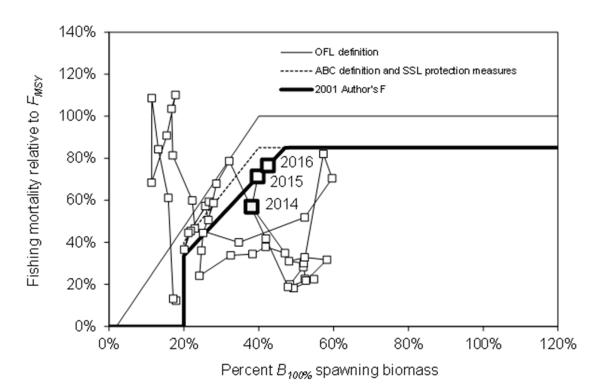
 Harvest rate below maximum permissible
 F_{ABC}

Tier 3b 2015 SSB 39.7% of B_{100%}

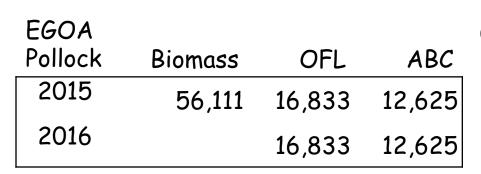
Pollock	Biomass*	OFL**	ABC**
2015	1,884,000	273,378	203,934
2016		337,900	263,449

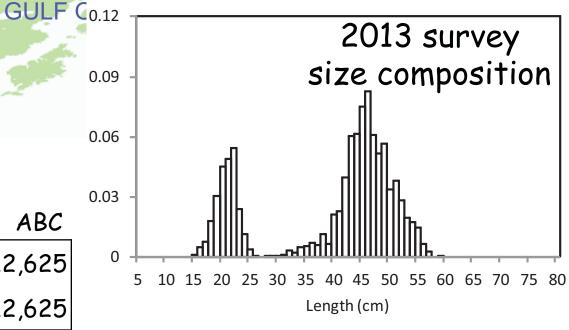
^{*}Model estimated W/C/WYAK agre 3+ biomass

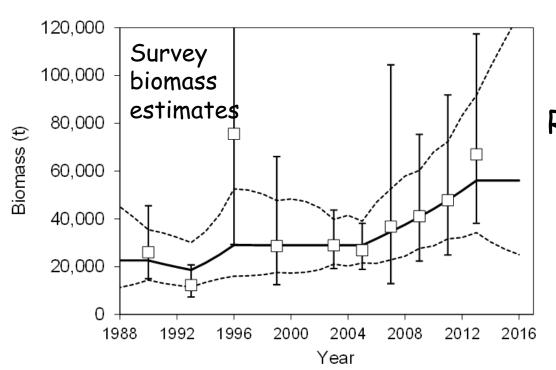
^{**}Gulfwide



EGOA pollock (Tier 5)







Random effects model used

ABC Summary

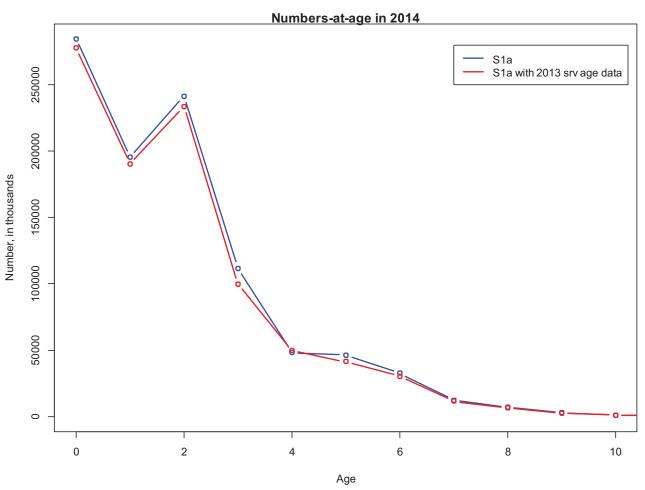
Pacific cod

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Species	Catch	2014	2015	Change	
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Other Species	3,412	14,213	14,213	same	(0%)
Total	292,544	640,675	685,597	up 44,922	(7%)

GOA Pacific cod

Team discussion

- Influence of recent survey data addition
- Large increase in ABC
- Chose to allow gradual increase

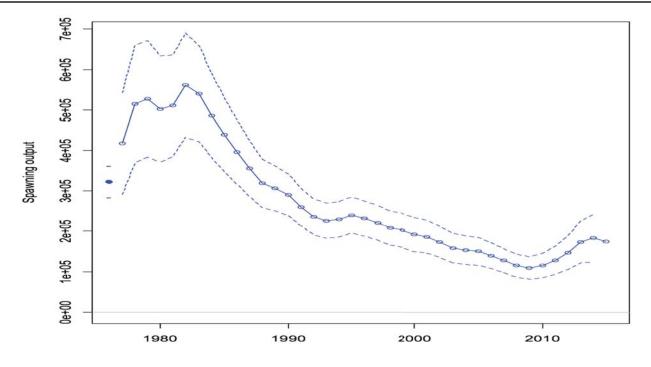


GOA Pacific cod

Tier 3a

• SSB for 2015 at 49% of $B_{100\%}$

Pacific cod	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	583,800	140,300	102,850
2016		133,100	102,850



ABC SUMMARY ASSESSMENTS

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GULF OF ALASKA GROUNDFISH ASSESSMENTS

2014 sablefish assessment overview

Model

No change

Data updates

Catch:

updated 2006-2013, and new catch for 2014

Abundance:

2014 Longline survey

2013 Longline and trawl fisheries

Ages:

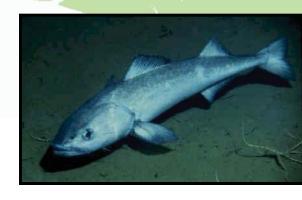
2013 Longline survey

2013 Longline fishery

Lengths:

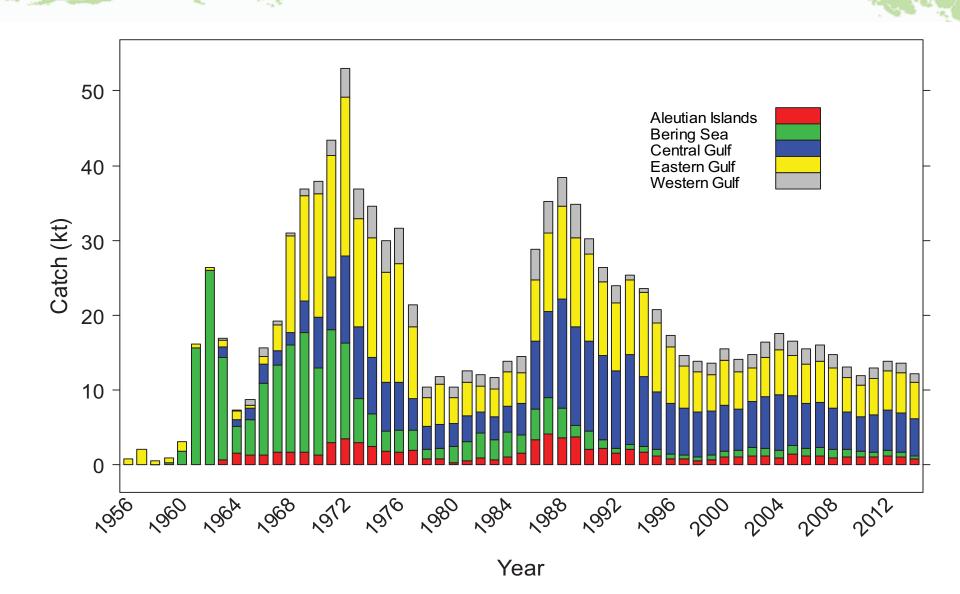
2014 Longline survey

2013 Longline and trawl fisheries

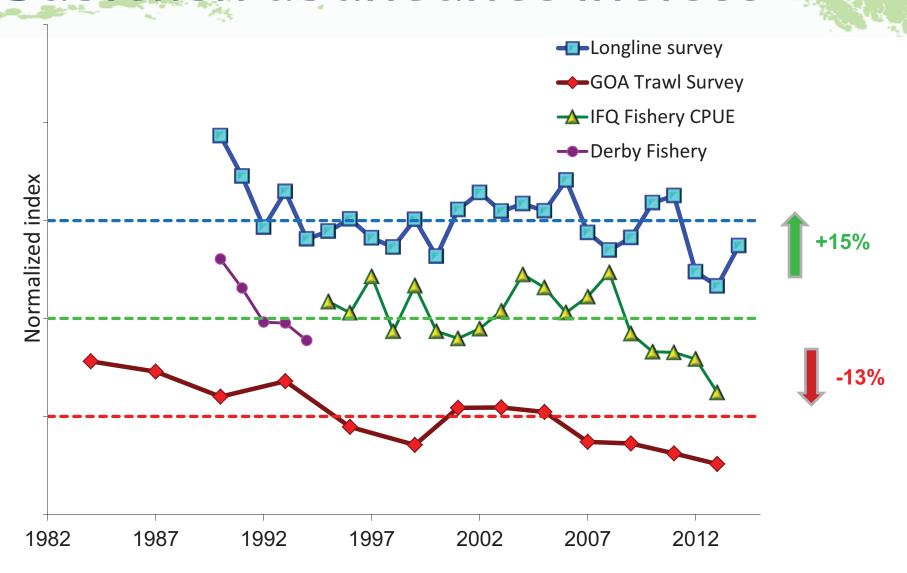


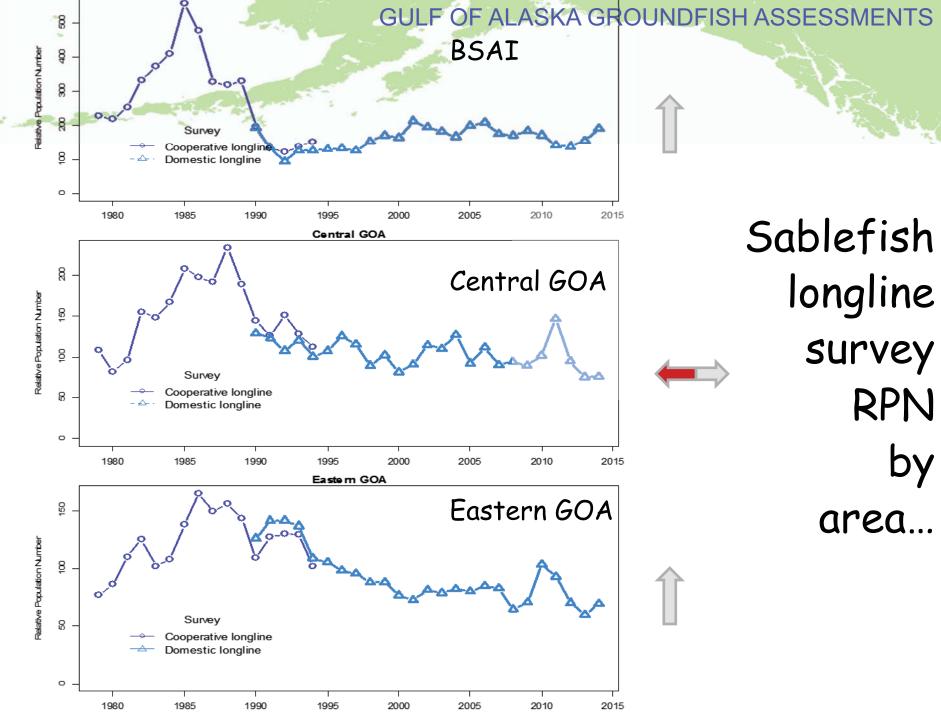
GULF OF ALASKA GROUNDFISH ASSESSMENTS

Sablefish Catch by Area

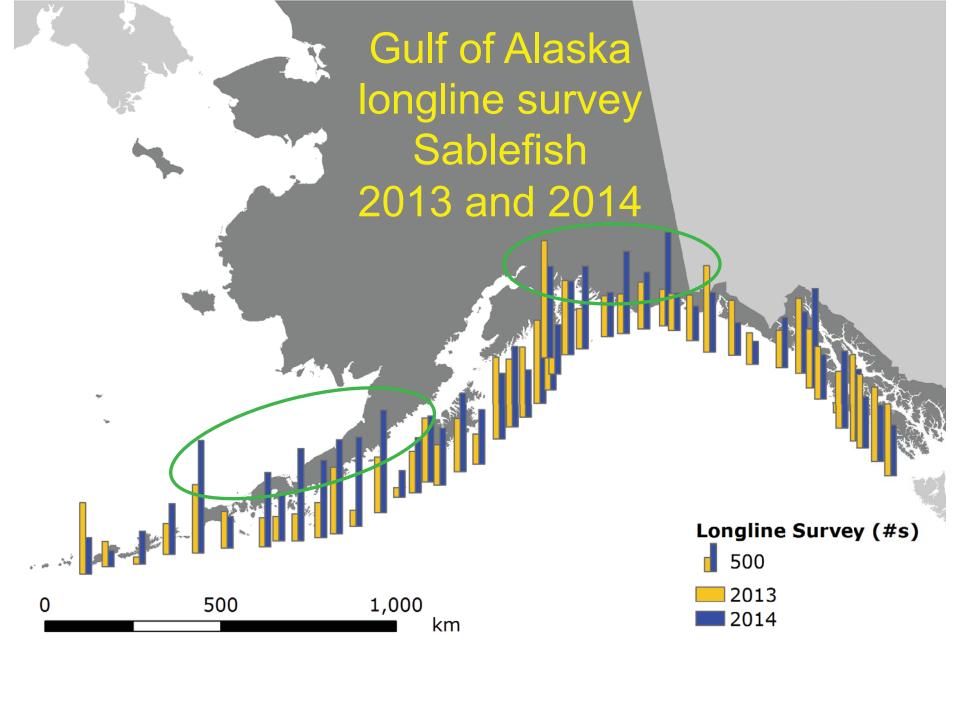


Sablefish abundance indices

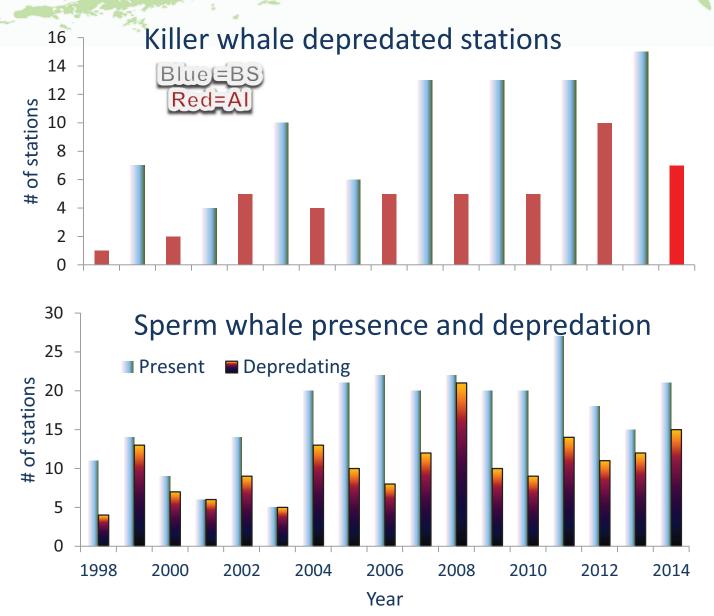


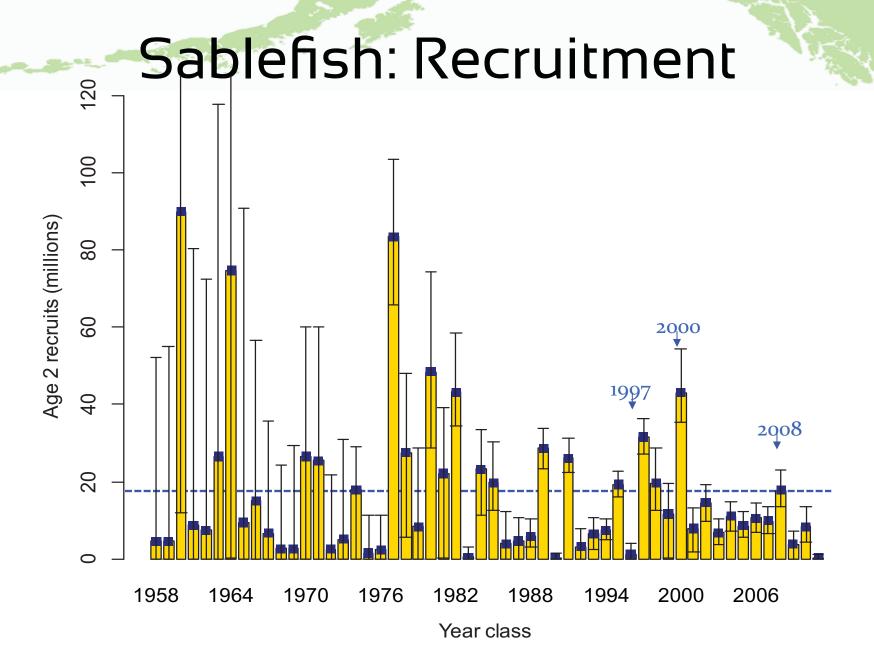


RPN

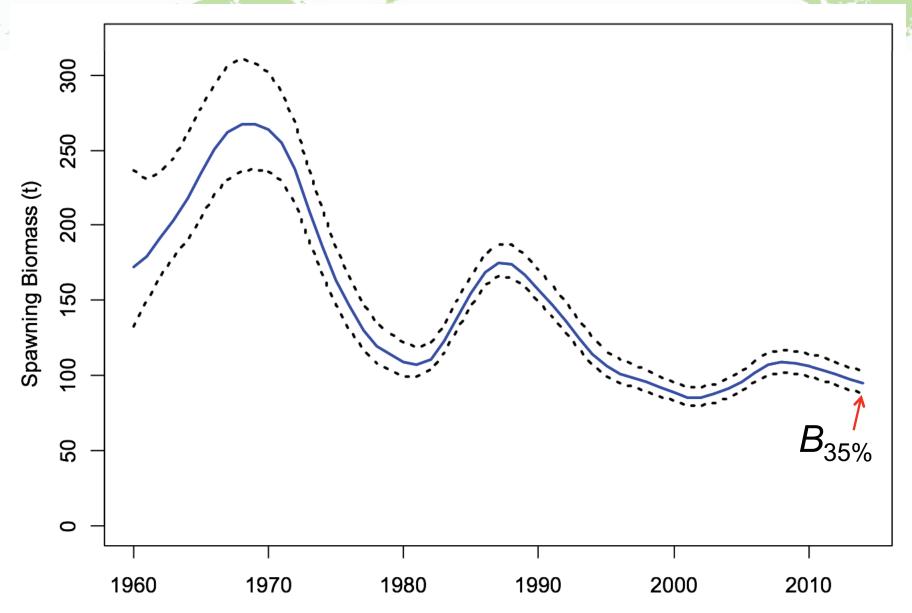


Longline survey whale depredation





Sablefish



Sablefish ABC/OFL

2015 spawning biomass (a) 35% of $B_{100\%}$

Gulf-wide ABC 2015: 13,657 t

(vs. 12,400 t projected)

GOA specific:

Sablefish	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	130,000	12,425	10,522
2016		11,293	9,558

GULF OF ALASKA GROUNDFISH ASSESSMENTS

Sablefish Apportionment 2013 recap

- Goal 1: Take in to account actual changes in the distribution of the population
 - Solution 1: Use most recent survey and fishery CPUE distribution
- Goal 2: Reduce interannual variability in area ABCs
 - Solution 2: Use 5 year exponential average

Sablefish apportionment

 Two options presented last year, Team went with Author's recommendation (greater stability)

Area	2014 ABC	Standard apportionment for 2015 ABC	Recommended fixed apportionment for 2015 ABC*	Difference from 2014
Total	13,722	13,657	13,657	-0.5%
Bering Sea	1,339	2,210	1,333	-0.5%
Aleutians	1,811	1,840	1,802	-0.5%
Gulf of Alaska (subtotal)	10,572	9,607	10,522	-0.5%
Western	1,480	1,445	1,473	-0.5%
Central	4,681	3,975	4,658	-0.5%
W. Yakutat ^{**}	1,574	1,428	1,567	-0.5%
E. Yak. / Southeast**	2,837	2,759	2,823	-0.5%

Sablefish apportionment recommendation

- Interim measure to smooth out ABC variability
- Apportionment for sablefish less biological
- PhD project with UAF on spatial model to evaluate apportionment strategies to:
 - Maximize spawning biomass
 - Minimize volatility
 - Consider economic yield
- Guidance on apportionment research in September 2016

Flatfish ABC Summary

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A STATE OF THE STA	2014	AB	C		
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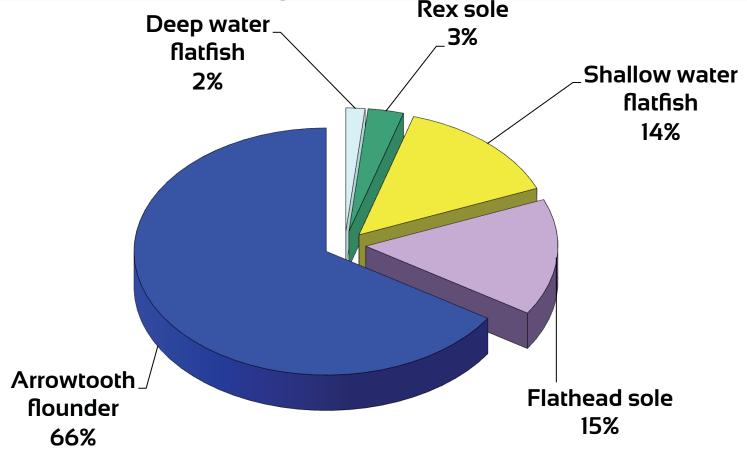
Flatfish ABC's

Stock	2014	2015	Change	
Shallow water	40,805	44,205	up 3,400(8%)	
Rex sole	9,341	9,150	down 191(2%)	
Deep water	13,472	13,334	down 138(1%)	
Flathead sole	41,231	41,349	up 118(0%)	
Arrowtooth	195,358	192,921	down 2,437(1%)	
Subtotal	300,207	300,959	up 752(0%)	

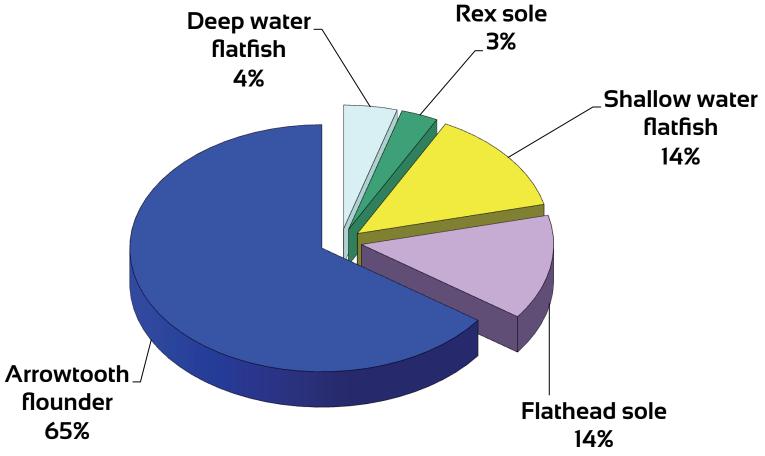
Deep-water ABC from Dover assessment Tier 3 + others Tier 6 Shallow water flats: N and S rock sole Tier 3, others Tier 5

Flatfish 2013 ABC's

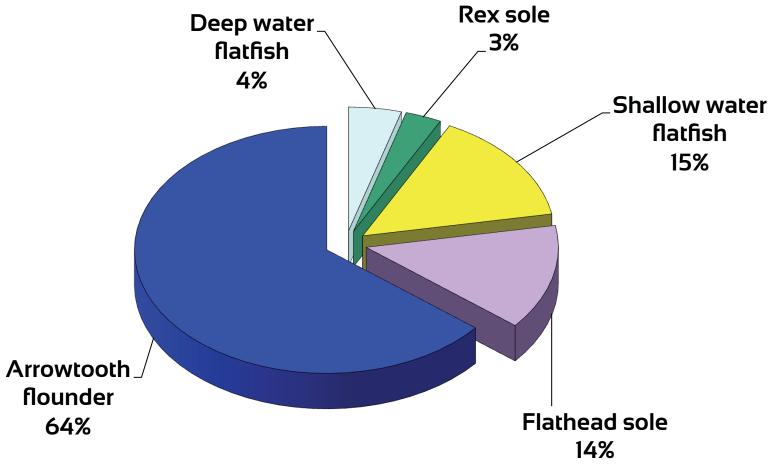
319,359 t combined



Flatfish 2014 ABC's 300,207 t combined



Flatfish 2015 ABC's 300,959 t combined



General comments on flatfish assessments

- Lightly exploited
- Model developments:
 - N & S rock sole model
 Continued development
 - Dover and flathead sole models done in full in 2013:
 Stock Synthesis modeling platform (SS3) application
 Several changes in data inputs and model configuration
 - Rex sole assessment
 Same Tier 5 approach using model estimated adult biomass

Flatfish ABC's

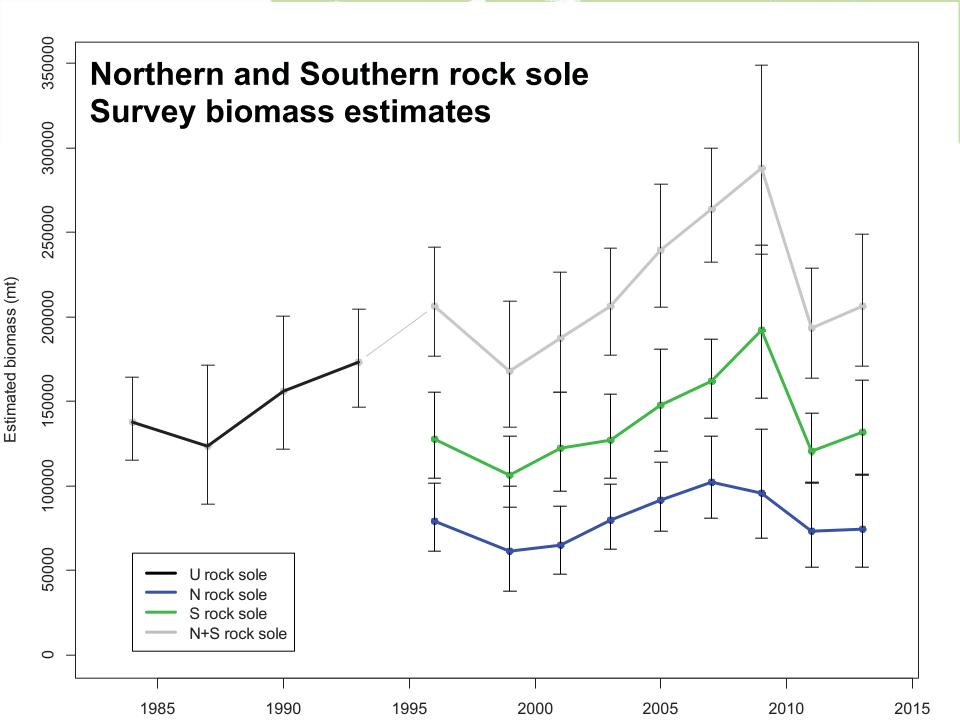
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Shallow water flats: N and S rock sole Tier 3, others Tier 5

4. Shallow water flatfish

Rock sole species increased, others mainly decreased relative to 2011 survey estimates:

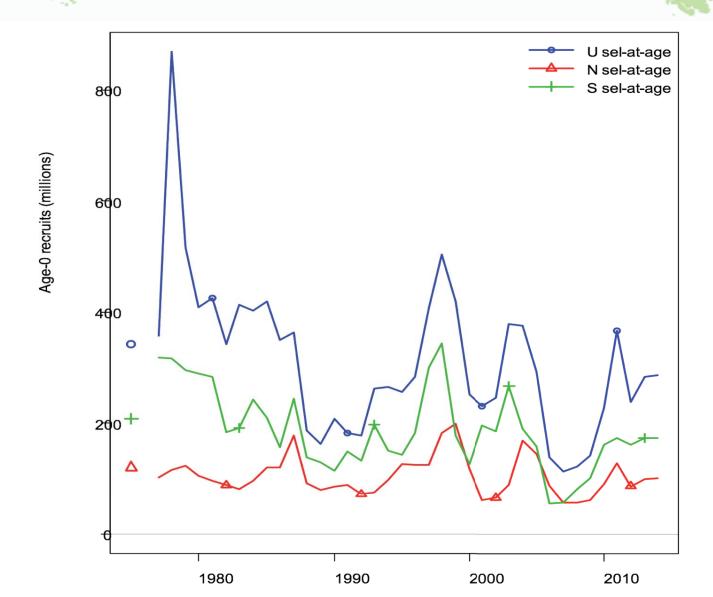
2011	2013
72,875	74,586
120,573	131,441
46,576	23,016
19,695	8,122
39,757	30,028
16,720	18,121
755	703
12,266	8,044
329,217	294,061
	72,875 120,573 46,576 19,695 39,757 16,720 755 12,266



GOA N and S rock sole Model

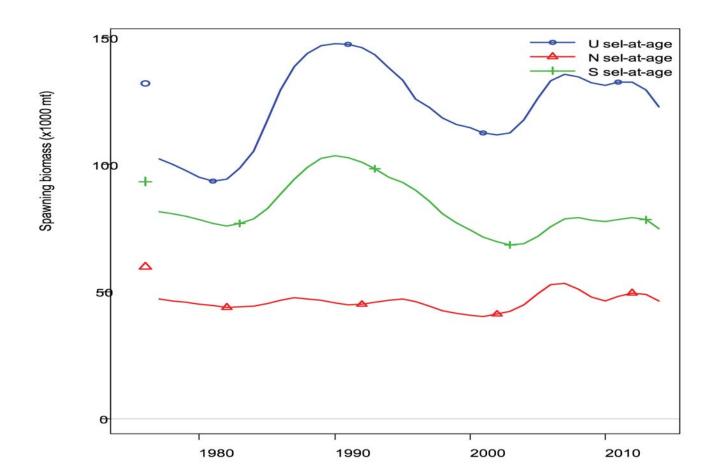
- 2012 model was used for 2013
 - 2013 executive summary with updated projection
 - Two species two sex mixed fishery statistical catch-atage model
- Stock synthesis version presented last year and in September 2014
 - Used this year

GOA Rock sole recruitment



4. Shallow water flatfish summary

	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	287,534	54,207	44,205
2016		48,407	39,205



Flatfish ABC's

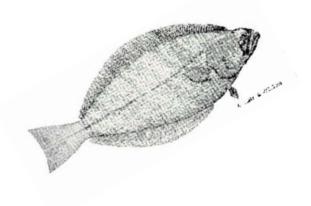
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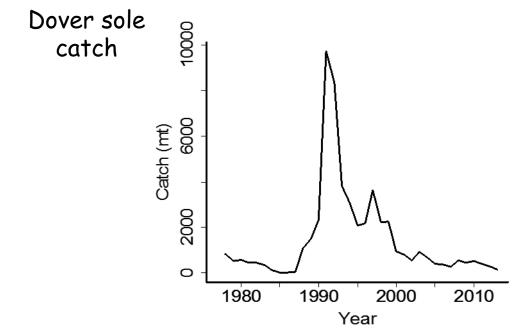
Deep-water ABC from Dover assessment Tier 3 + others Tier 6

Deepwater flatfish

Dover sole
Deepsea sole
Greenland turbot

Deepwater			6
flatfish	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	182,160	15,993	13,334
2016		15,803	13,177





Flatfish ABC's

<u>Stock</u>	2014	2015	Change
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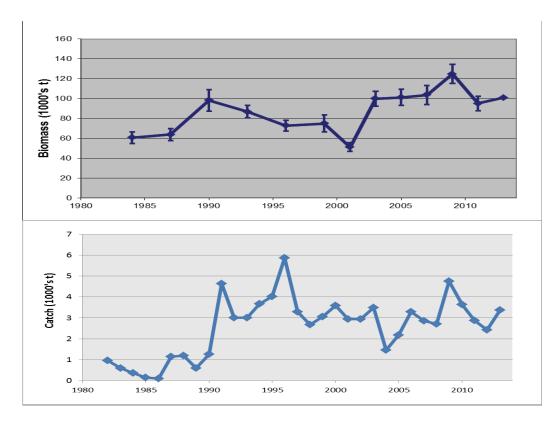
6. GOA Rex Sole

Age-structured model (since 2004), *M=0.17* In 2005 adopted Tier 5 approach with model est. adult biomass

Maturity much younger than selectivity – unreliable $F_{40\%}$, $F_{50\%}$

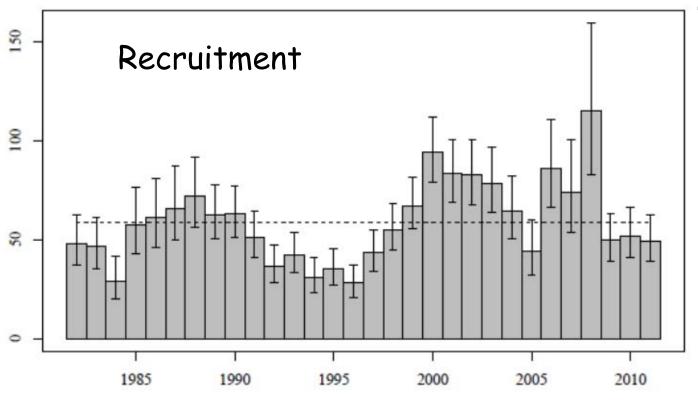


2014 an executive summary



6. Rex sole ABC/OFL

Rex sole	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	82,972	11,957	9,150
2016		11,733	8,979



Tier 5 (model based) Key issue:

Selectivity estimate unreliable, hence $F_{40\%}$ also unreliable

Flatfish ABC's

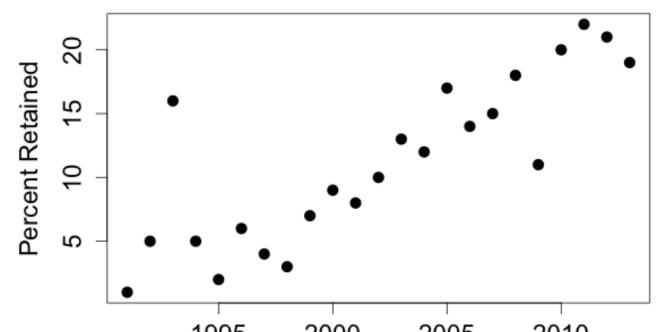
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7. GOA Arrowtooth flounder

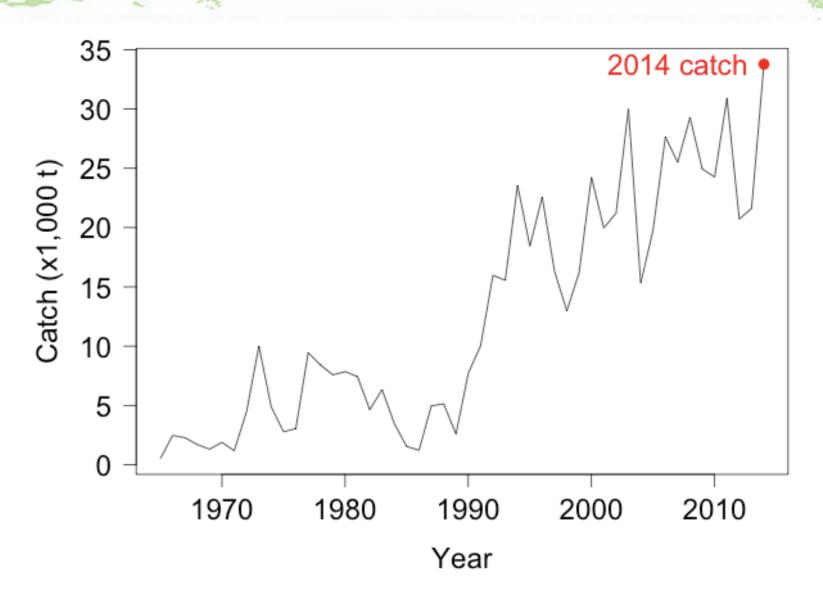
Based on age/sex structured model Executive summary

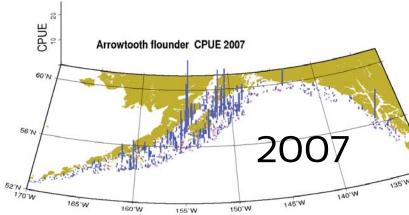
Updated catch an projections



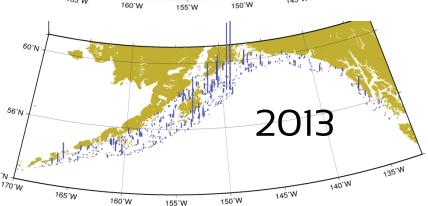


GOA Arrowtooth catch





56'N 155'W 160'W 155'W 150'W 145'W 145'W 145'W 160'W 155'W 150'W 145'W 140'W 160'W 155'W 150'W 145'W 140'W 140'W 145'W 140'W 1

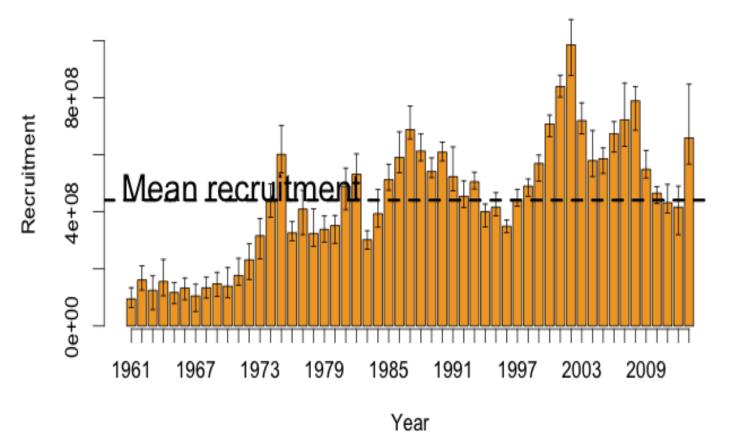


GOA Arrowtooth flounder survey CPUE

GOA Arrowtooth flounder ABC/OFL

Tier 3a 2015 ABC down slightly

Year	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	1,957,970	226,390	192,921
2016		217,522	185,352



Flatfish ABC's

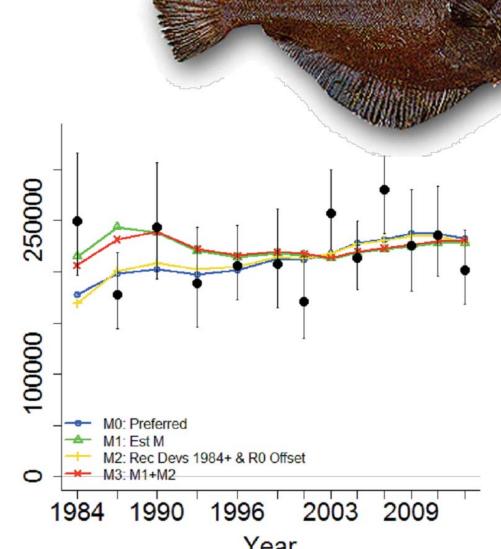
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8. GOA Flathead Sole

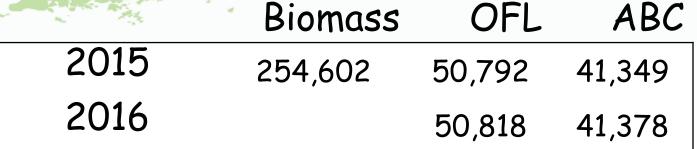
Age-structured model

2013 development of stock synthesis Application

Executive summary

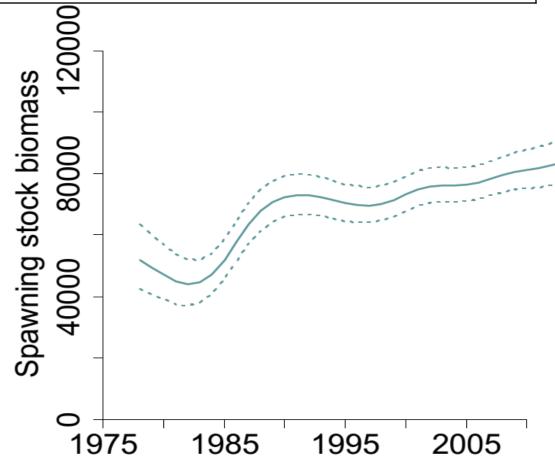


GOA Flathead sole ABC/OFL



Tier 3a

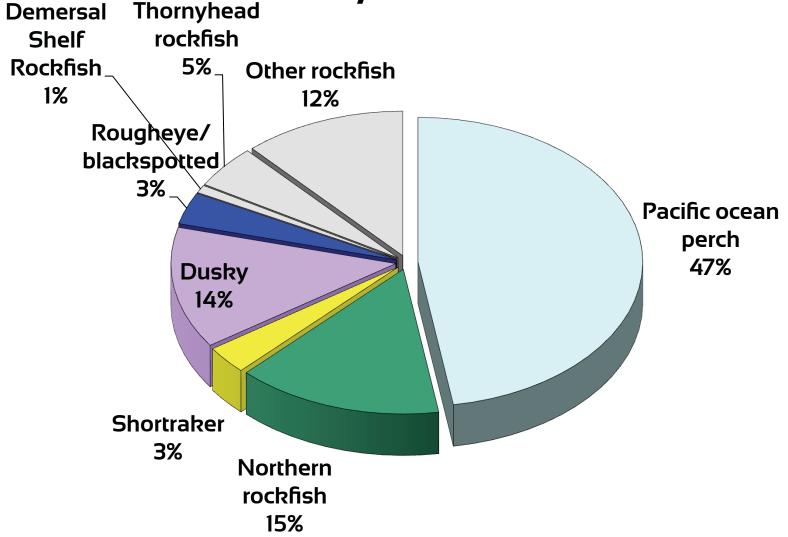
Executive summary



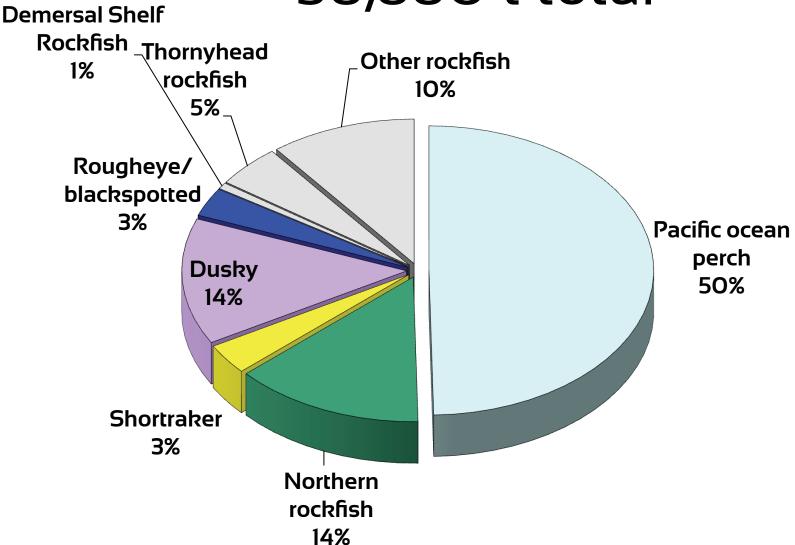
GOA Rockfish

	2014	2014 ABC				
Species	Catch	2014	2015	Change		
Pollock	139,753	174,976	203,934	up 28,958	(17%)	
Pacific Cod	59,633	88,500	102,850	up 14,350	(16%)	
Sablefish	10,375	10,572	10,522	down 50	(0%)	
Flatfish	43,270	104,849	108,038	up 3,189	(3%)	
Arrowtooth flounder	2,497	195,358	192,921	down 2,437	(1%)	
Rockfish	28,267	38,880	39,711	up 831	(2%)	
Atka mackerel	981	4,700	4,700	same	(0%)	
Skates	4,356	8,627	8,708	up 81	(1%)	
Other Species	3,412	14,213	14,213	same	(0%)	
Total	292,544	640,675	685,597	up 44,922	(7%)	

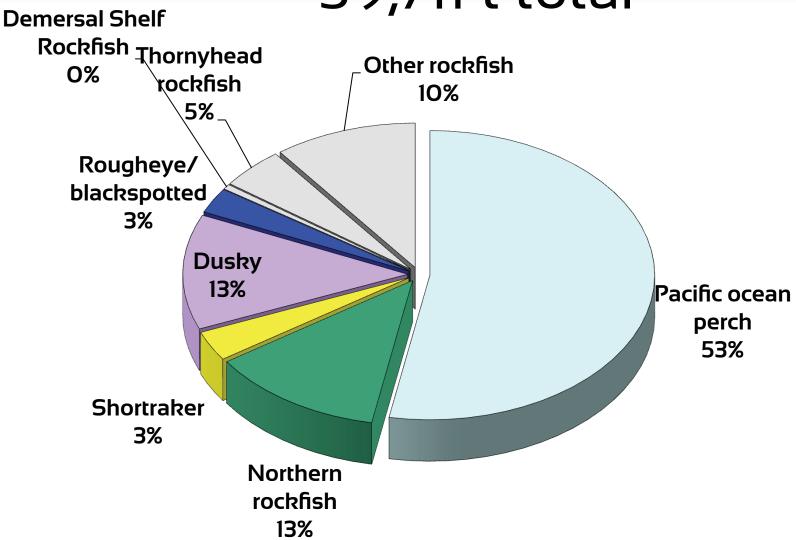
Slope Rockfish 2013 ABC's 34,568 t total



Rockfish 2014 ABC's 38,880 t total



Rockfish 2015 ABC's 39,711 t total



GOA Rockfish overview

2013

- Modified full assessments for POP, northern and dusky rockfish
- Executive summaries for shortraker, rougheye and blackspotted, thornyheads, other rockfish, and demersal shelf rockfish

2014

 Full assessments for POP and rougheye/ black spotted; others executive summary

Rockfish assessments

Projection model assessments

Northern Rockfish Tier 3

Dusky Rockfish Tier 3

Rollover assessments

Shortraker Rockfish Tier 5

Thornyheads Tier 5

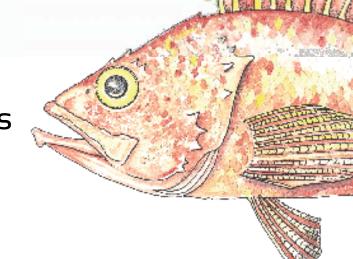
Other Rockfish (25 species)
 Tier 4 and 5

POP ABC Summary

Species	2014	2015	Change
POP	19,309	21,012	up 1,703(9%)
northern rockfish	5,322	4,999	down 323(6%)
Shortraker Rockfish	1,323	1,323	same(0%)
Dusky	5,486	5,109	down 377(7%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	1,244	1,122	same(0%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	274	225	same(0%)
Thornyhead	1,841	1,841	same(0%)
Other rock	4,081	4,080	down 1(0%)
Sub Total	38,880	39,711	up 831(2%)

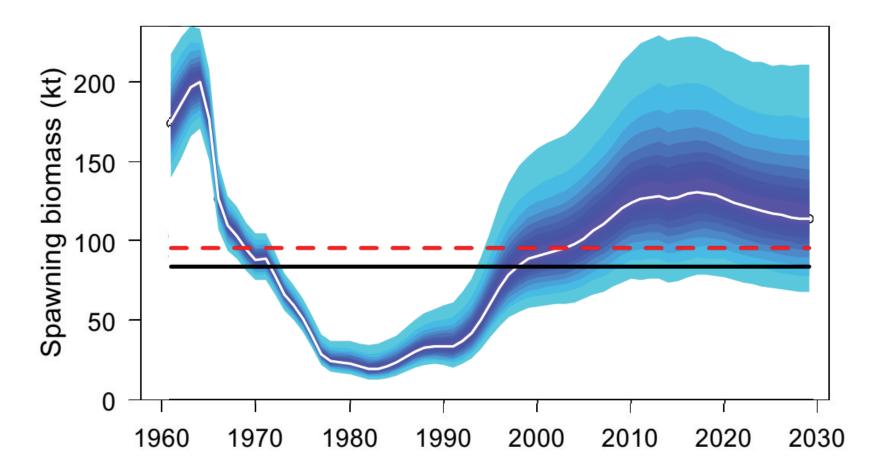
9. GOA Pacific ocean perch

- Features
 - Survey length composition analysis
 - New maturity
 - New growth
 - Random effects apportionment
- Tier 3a



GOA Pacific ocean perch

Pacific ocean perch	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	416,140	24,360	21,012
2016		24,849	21,436



GOA POP Area apportionment (tons)

	Western	Central	WYAK	SEO	Total
2015 ABC	2,302	15,873	2,014	823	21,012
2016 ABC	2,358	16,184	2,055	839	21,436
	Western	Central	WYAK	, SEO	Total
2015 OFL		23,406		954	24,360
2016 OFL		23,876		973	24,849

Species	2014	2015	Change
POP	19,309	21,012	up 1,703(9%)
northern rockfish	5,322	4,999	down 323(6%)
Shortraker Rockfish	1,323	1,323	same(0%)
Dusky	5,486	5,109	down 377(7%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	1,244	1,122	same(0%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	274	225	same(0%)
Thornyhead	1,841	1,841	same(0%)
Other rock	4,081	4,080	down 1(0%)
Sub Total	38,880	39,711	up 831(2%)

Northern rockfish

Tier 3a species

- Only update catches in the projection model
- Updated 2013 and estimated 2014-2016 catches

Catch Update:

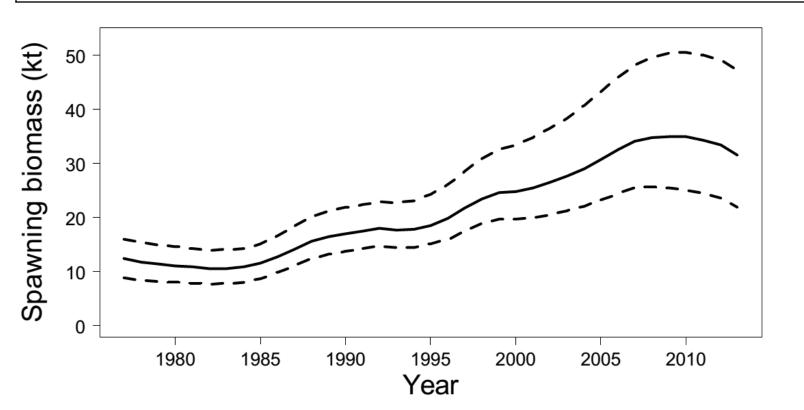
 Timing of WGOA fishery changed: catch estimate for 2014 changed accordingly

Species	2014	2015	Change
POP	19,309	21,012	up 1,703(9%)
northern rockfish	5,322	4,999	down 323(6%)
Shortraker Rockfish	1,323	1,323	same(0%)
Dusky	5,486	5,109	down 377(7%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	1,244	1,122	same(0%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	274	225	same(0%)
Thornyhead	1,841	1,841	same(0%)
Other rock	4,081	4,080	down 1(0%)
Sub Total	38,880	39,711	up 831(2%)

Species	2014	2015	Change
POP	19,309	21,012	up 1,703(9%)
northern rockfish	5,322	4,999	down 323(6%)
Shortraker Rockfish	1,323	1,323	same(0%)
Dusky	5, 4 86	5,109	down 377(7%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	1,244	1,122	same(0%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	274	225	same(0%)
Thornyhead	1,841	1,841	same(0%)
Other rock	4,081	4,080	down 1(0%)
Sub Total	38,880	39,711	up 831(2%)

12. Dusky rockfish summary

Dusky rockfish	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	66,629	6,246	5,109
2016		5,759	4,711



Dusky rockfish

Species	2014	2015	Change
POP	19,309	21,012	up 1,703(9%)
northern rockfish	5,322	4,999	down 323(6%)
Shortraker Rockfish	1,323	1,323	same(0%)
Dusky	5,486	5,109	down 377(7%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	1,244	1,122	same(0%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	274	225	same(0%)
Thornyhead	1,841	1,841	same(0%)
Other rock	4,081	4,080	down 1(0%)
Sub Total	38,880	39,711	up 831(2%)

13. Rougheye/blackspotted rockfish

Full assessment; summary of changes

New catch, survey, age/size compositions

Update catch, survey age compositions

Update growth, weight@age, size@age, age error

Change from RPW to RPN for longline survey



RE/BS Genetic Study

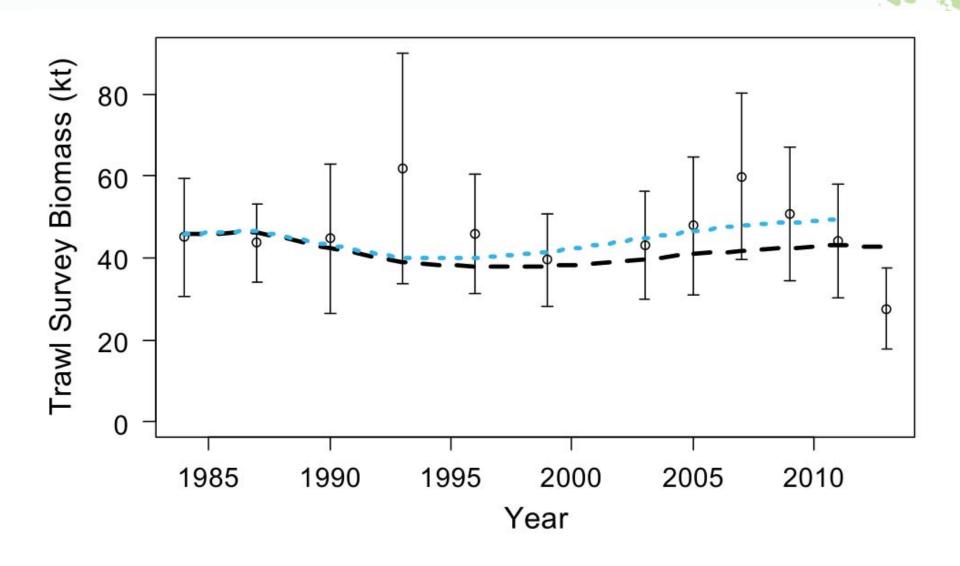
Project during 2009 and 2013 trawl surveys

- Collected length, weight, muscle tissue or fin clip for most RE/BS samples for otoliths
- Goals to improve at-sea ID, adjust biomass estimates by species, examine species-specific growth

Preliminary results

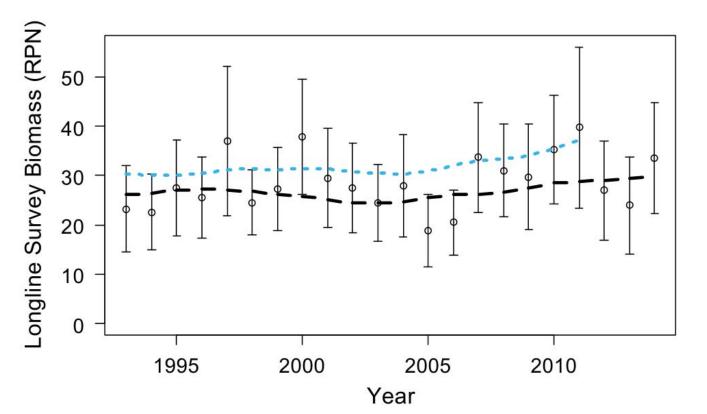
- Samples: 895 in 2009, 1,099 in 2013
- MisID: 23% in 2009, 13% in 2013 (previously 46%)
- Generally RE correctly ID in field, BS 31% incorrect
- Aged 2009: average RE = 15 years, BS = 20 years
- Growth 2009: RE grow faster with greater max size

RE/BS Trawl Survey Biomass



13. Rougheye/blackspotted rockfish summary

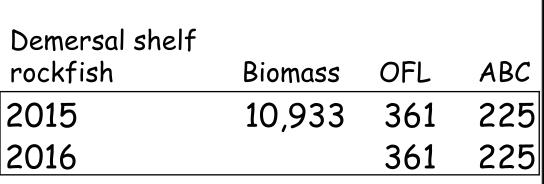
Rougheye-BS	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	36,584	1,345	1,122
2016		1,370	1,142

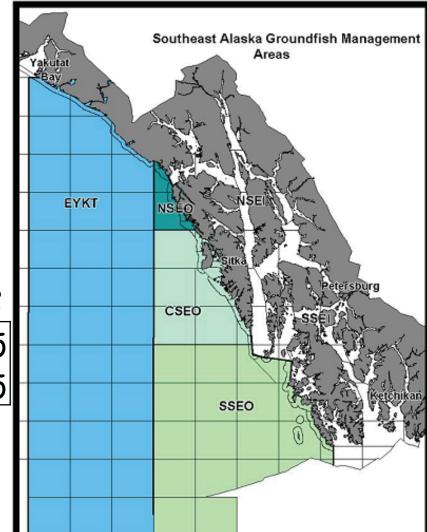




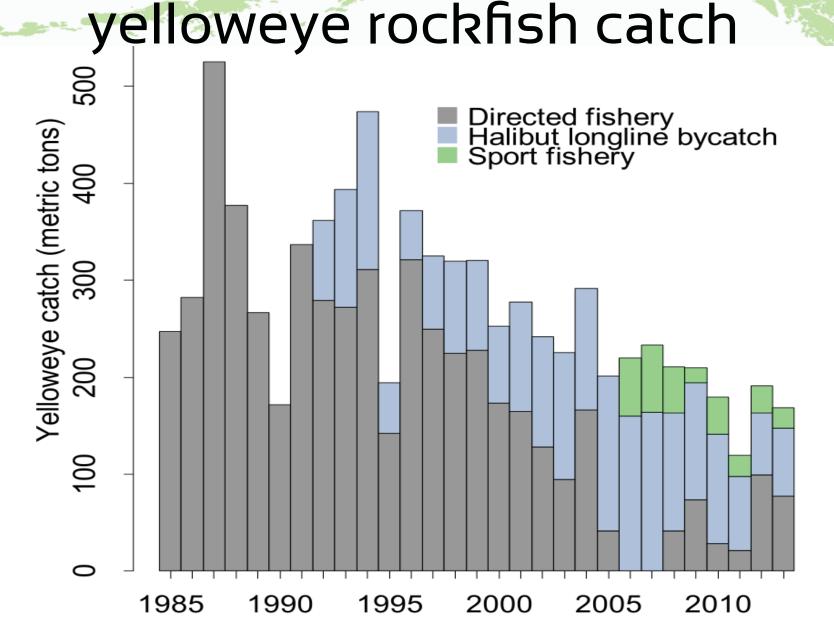


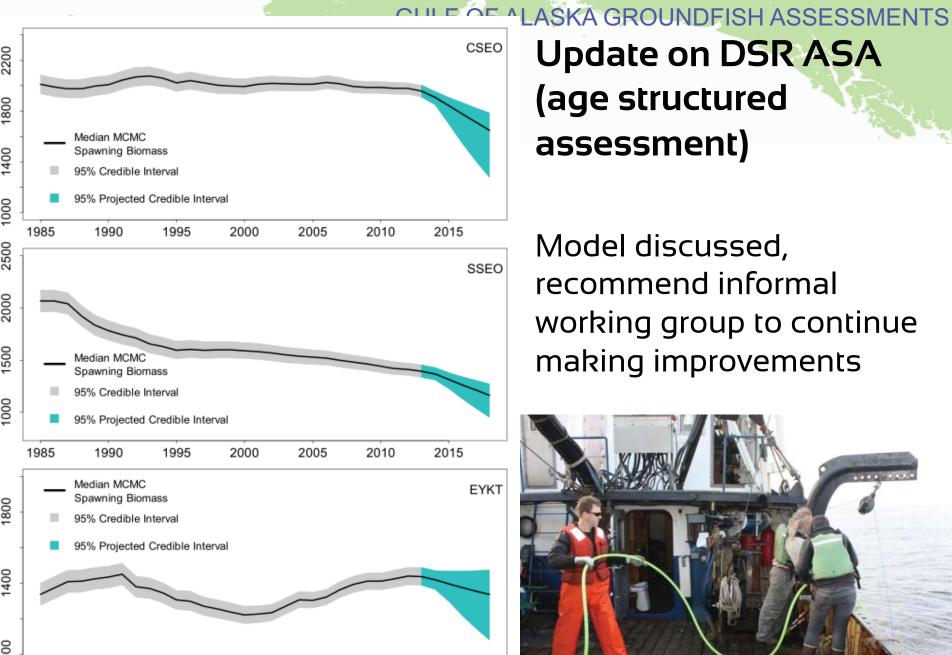
14. Demersal shelf rockfish





Demersal shelf rockfish





1985

1990

1995

2000

2005

2015

2010

Update on DSR ASA (age structured assessment)

Model discussed, recommend informal working group to continue making improvements



Species	2014	2015	Change
POP	19,309	21,012	up 1,703(9%)
northern rockfish	5,322	4,999	down 323(6%)
Shortraker Rockfish	1,323	1,323	same(0%)
Dusky	5,486	5,109	down 377(7%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	1,244	1,122	same(0%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	274	225	same(0%)
Thornyhead	1,841	1,841	same(0%)
Other rock	4,081	4,080	down 1(0%)
Sub Total	38,880	39,711	up 831(2%)

15. Shortspine thornyheads



Tier 5, executive summary

2013 trawl survey biomass up 11% from 2011

- Only depths less than 700 m sampled
- Biomass inflated to account for lack of sampling in deep strata (2011 methodology)

	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	81,816	2,454	1,841
2016		2,454	1,841

Species	2014	2015	Change
POP	19,309	21,012	up 1,703(9%)
northern rockfish	5,322	4,999	down 323(6%)
Shortraker Rockfish	1,323	1,323	same(0%)
Dusky	5,486	5,109	down 377(7%)
Rougheye and Blackspotted Rockfish	1,244	1,122	same(0%)
Demersal shelf rockfish	274	225	same(0%)
Thornyhead	1,841	1,841	same(0%)
Other rock	4,081	4,080	down 1(0%)
Sub Total	38,880	39,711	up 831(2%)

16. Other rockfish

Included 2013 GOA bottom trawl survey estimates

(3-survey average)

Composition of complex reviewed in September

Complex sum of individual species ABC/OFLs:

Tier 4: Sharpchin rockfish

Tier 5: 24 species

GOA Team recommendations Control Other rockfish

Other rockfish	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	83,383	5,347	4,079
2016		5,347	4,079

SSC Requests from Oct 2014 meeting:

- Stock structure for yelloweye/DSR species coastwide
- Yelloweye/DSR model developments (coastwide and SE)
- Examine fishery catch and survey data in detail
- Model development assistance for recommendations for review at September 2015 PT meeting.



ABCs for remaining GOA species

	2014	ABC			
Species	Catch	2014	2015	Change	
Pollock	139,753	174,976	203,934	up 28,958	(17%)
Pacific Cod	59,633	88,500	102,850	up 14,350	(16%)
Sablefish	10,375	10,572	10,522	down 50	(0%)
Flatfish	43,270	104,849	108,038	up 3,189	(3%)
Arrowtooth flounder	2,497	195,358	192,921	down 2,437	(1%)
Rockfish	28,267	38,880	39,711	up 831	(2%)
Atka mackerel	981	4,700	4,700	same	(0%)
Skates	4,356	8,627	8,708	up 81	(1%)
Other Species	3,412	14,213	14,213	same	(0%)
Total	292,544	640,675	685,597	up 44,922	(7%)

18. GOA skates

Species	2014 Catch	2014	2015	Change
Big skate	1,379	3,762	3,255	down 507(13%)
Longnose skate	1,418	2,876	3,218	up 342(12%)
Other skate	1,559	1,989	2,235	up 246(12%)
All skates	4,356	8,627	8,708	up 81(1%)

Skates ABC/OFL

Tier 5

Age-structured model may be available for Big and/or longnose skates next year

Big skates	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	5 43,398	4,340	3,255
2016	5	4,340	3,255
Longnose skates			
2015	5 42,911	4,291	3,218
2016	, 5	4,291	3,218
Other Skates			
2015	29,797	2,980	2,235
2016		2,980	2,235

19. GOA sculpin

Yellow Irish lord (YIL), plain, great, and bigmouth sculpin









ABC 5,569 t and OFL 7,448 t same as last year

20. Sharks ABC and OFL

Spiny Dogfish

Linked to survey biomass

Pacific sleeper, salmon and other/unidentified sharks

Tier 6 average historical catch

OFL = 7,986 t

ABC = 5,989 t

21. Squid

	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	-	1,530	1,148
2016		1,530	1,148

22. Octopus

	Biomass	OFL	ABC
2015	3,791	2,009	1,507
2016		2,009	1,507

Appendices

Ecosystem component species

- Grenadiers
 - Monitoring status, catches well below unofficial Tier 5 calculation

Forage fish