

# Sablefish Industry Meeting Northern Southeast Inside (NSEI)

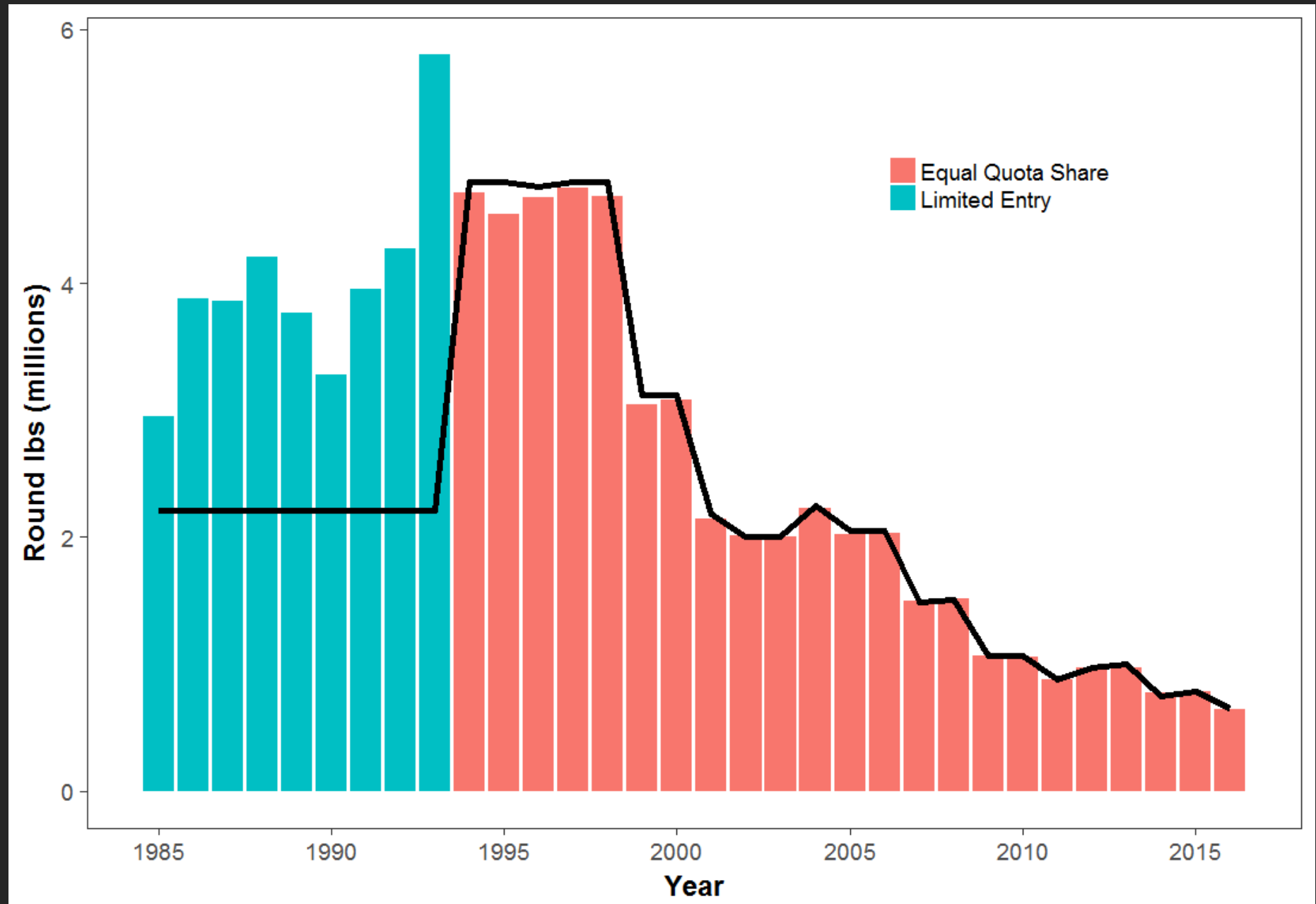


March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017  
Andrew Olson ADF&G

# Agenda

- Introduction—**Andrew Olson (ADF&G)**
- NSEI Fishery & Survey Data Review-**Ben Williams (ADF&G)**
- NSEI Age Structure Assessment UPDATE-**Ben Williams (ADF&G)**
- CFEC Update and Question-**Bruce Twomley (CFEC)**
- Outlook for 2017 NSEI sablefish quota/NSEI Decrement Review-**Andrew Olson (ADF&G)**
- NSEI Future Field Work/Budget Update-**Andrew Olson (ADF&G)**
- ADF&G Graduate Studies Research-**Rhea Ehresmann (ADF&G)**
- GOA Federal Sablefish Fishery Stock Status-**Dana Hanselman (NOAA)**
- Sperm Whale Tagging & Depredation-**Neve Baker (SEASWAP)**

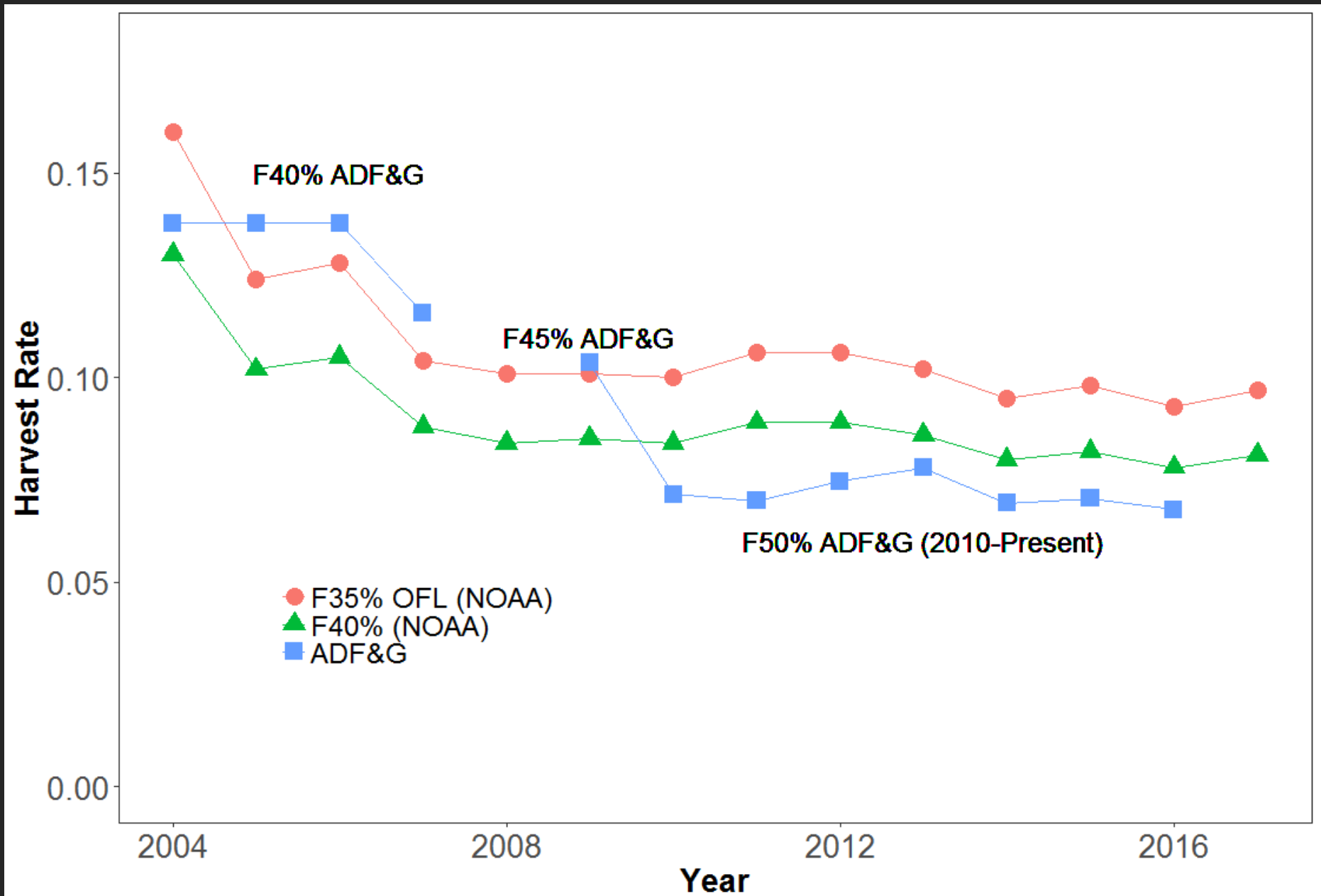
# History of the NSEI Fishery



# Stock Assessment History

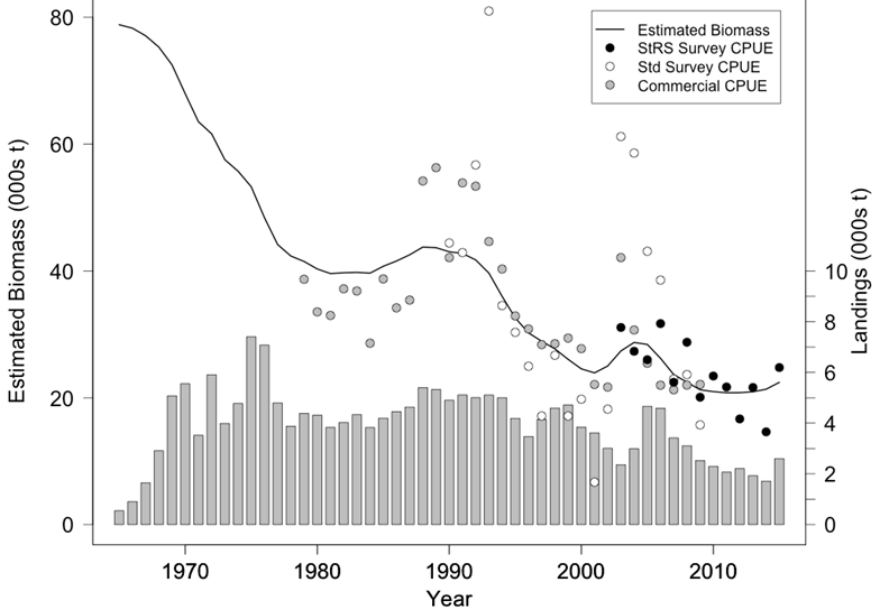
- Survey CPUE (1988–Present)
- Fishery CPUE (1997: logbooks implemented)
- Mark/Recapture Study
  - 1997–1999 tagged fish released from longline survey
    - Concerns over hook shyness
  - 2000–Present, tagged fish released with pots
    - Used to estimate sablefish abundance in conjunction with fishery/survey data to convert biomass/calculate harvest rate

# NSEI Harvest Rate History

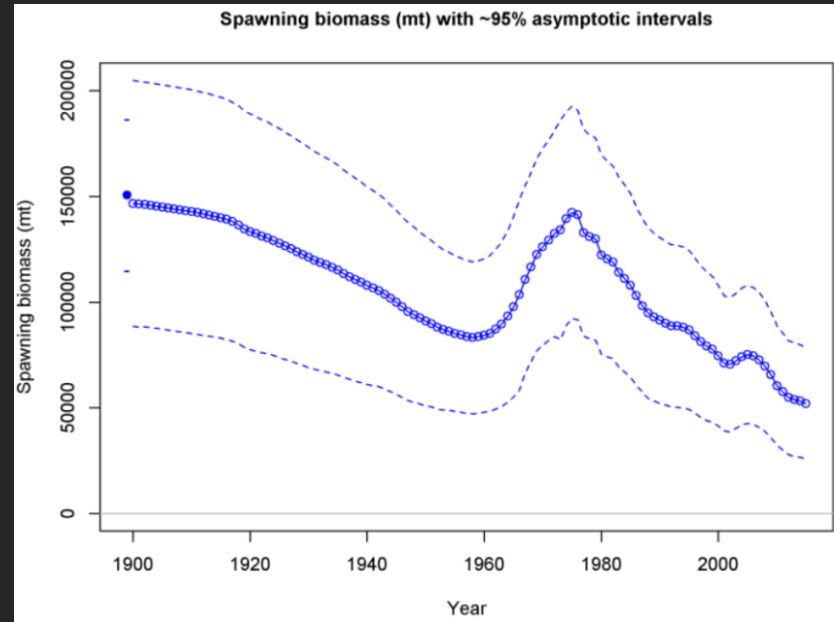


# Sablefish Geographic Trends

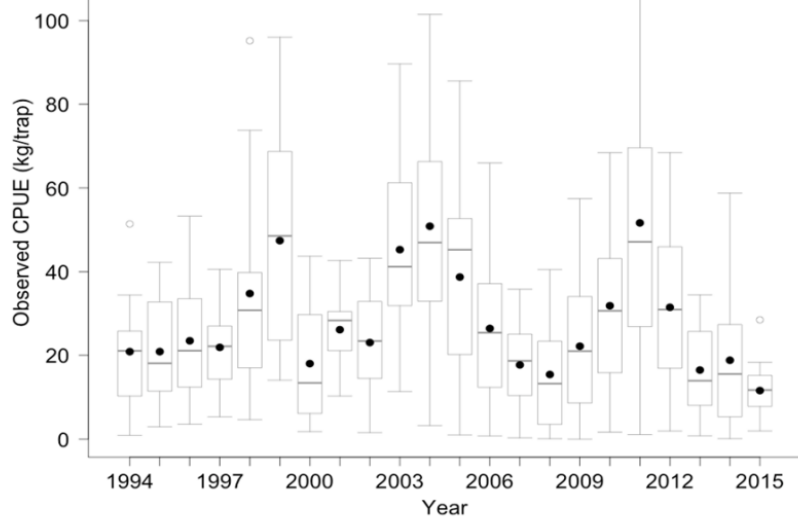
## DFO Canada Biomass



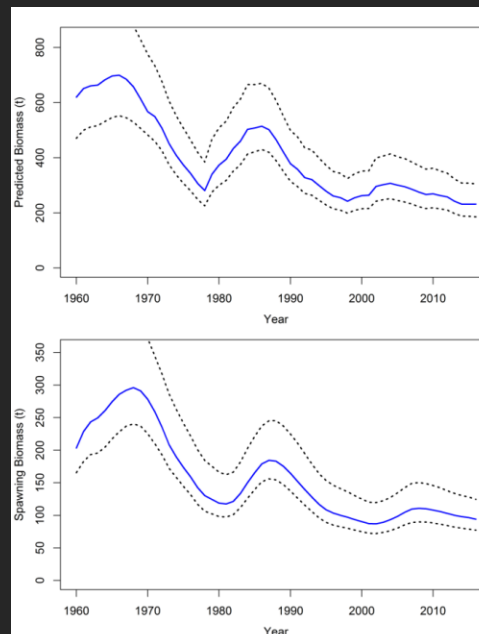
## Pacific Coast Biomass



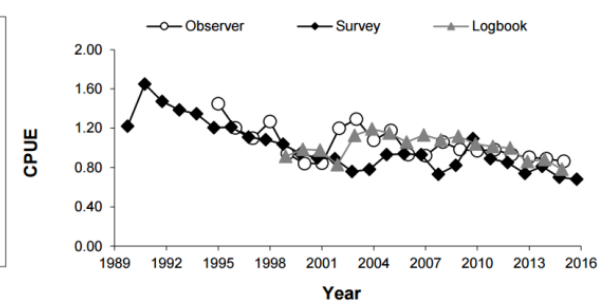
## DFO Canada Trap Survey




## NOAA Alaska Biomass (outside waters)



## East Yakutat/Southeast



# 2017 AHO Outlook

-  Survey and fishery CPUE
- Recruitment signs in fishery/survey
- *F50%* Harvest rate policy
- Finalizing analyses for AHO
  - Expect small increase
  - Decrements being finalized



# Decrements

AHO is calculated by making the following decrements from the ABC:

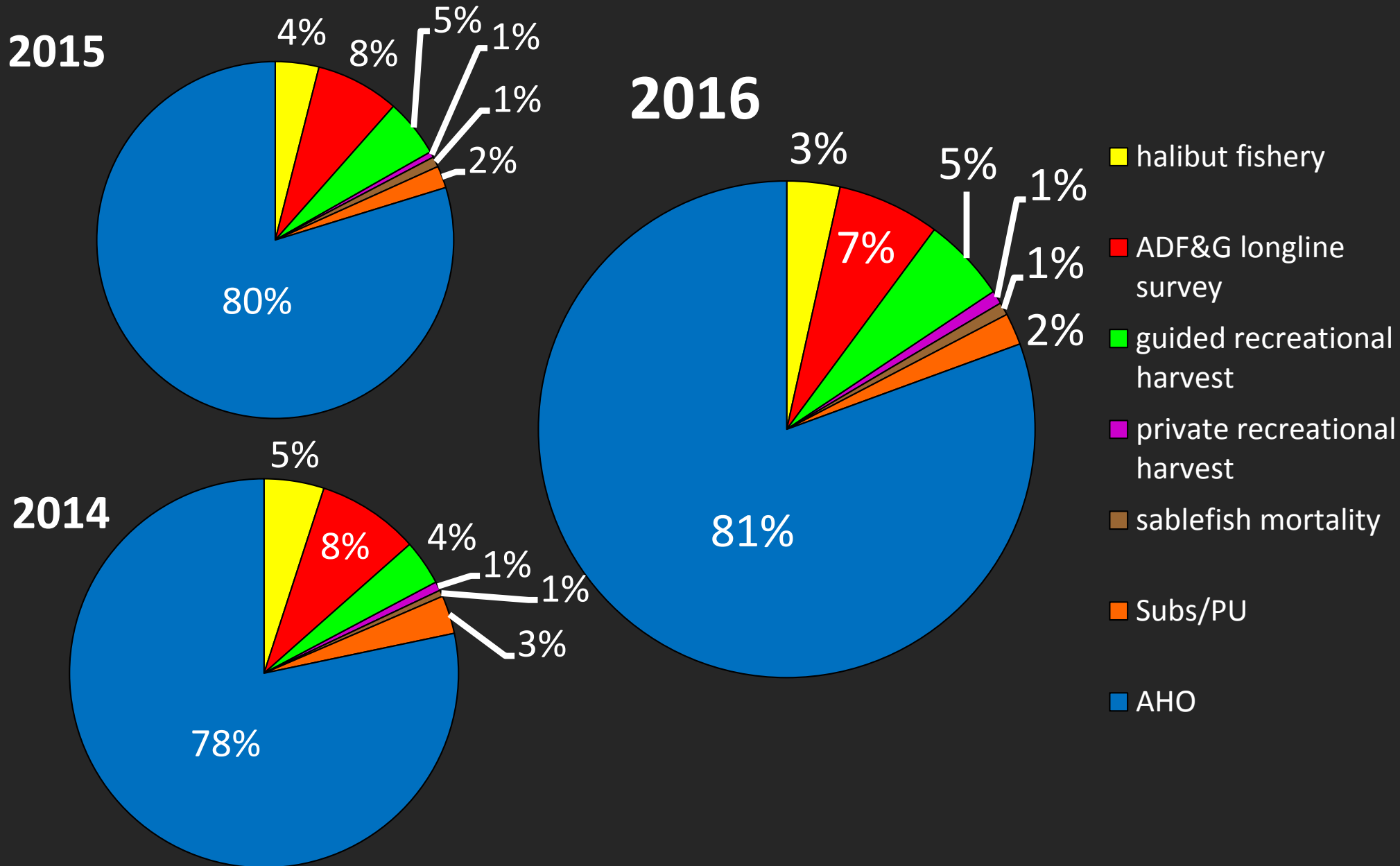
- 1) Est. sablefish bycatch mortality in the commercial halibut fishery
- 2) ADF&G longline survey removals
- 3) Recreational harvest (guided & un-guided)
- 4) Subsistence and personal use harvest
- 5) Est. sablefish discard mortality in directed commercial fishery



# Sablefish Decrements 2014 –2016

<b>Year Decrement Type (lbs)</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Bycatch mortality in halibut fishery	47,514	38,963	27,915
ADF&G longline survey removals (excluding catch retained by permit holders)	80,814	74,689	53,914
Guided recreational harvest	35,944	51,910	44,509
Private recreational harvest (unguided)	7,706	5,212	7,015
Discard mortality in sablefish fishery	5,081	9,218	6,719
Subsistence and personal use	30,335	19,741	16,734
<b>Total Decrements</b>	<b>206,764</b>	<b>199,733</b>	<b>156,805</b>
AHO	745,774	786,748	650,754
# of Permit Holders	78	78	78
<b>EQS</b>	<b>9,561</b>	<b>10,087</b>	<b>8,343</b>

# NSEI AHO/Decrements as % of ABC



# ADF&G NSEI Tagging Pot Survey

- Goal: Tag 6,000-8,000 sablefish throughout NSEI for recapture during the commercial fishery for abundance estimate
- Surveys conducted in: 2012, 2013, 2015 on ADF&G vessel
- 2015 Survey Summary
  - 6,862 sablefish tagged
  - 210–445 fm depth
  - 17–41" sablefish length
- 2017 Survey May–June



# ADF&G NSEI Longline Survey

- Continue annual cost-recovery LL surveys
  - 3 vessels under contract for next 5 years (2017-2021)
- 3 vessels, with up to 9 permit holders can participate (3 per vessel)
  - Permit holders need to be present when PQS is harvested
  - Reduces survey removal impact and benefits fleet



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# Budget Update

- General Fund sablefish significantly cut
- Longline Surveys (Cost Recovery)
  - Pays for:
    - Longline Survey contracts (3 vessels in NSEI)
    - NOW pays for marking pot survey (1 vessel NSEI)

Questions?

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