



North Pacific Fishery Management Council - 2016 Review

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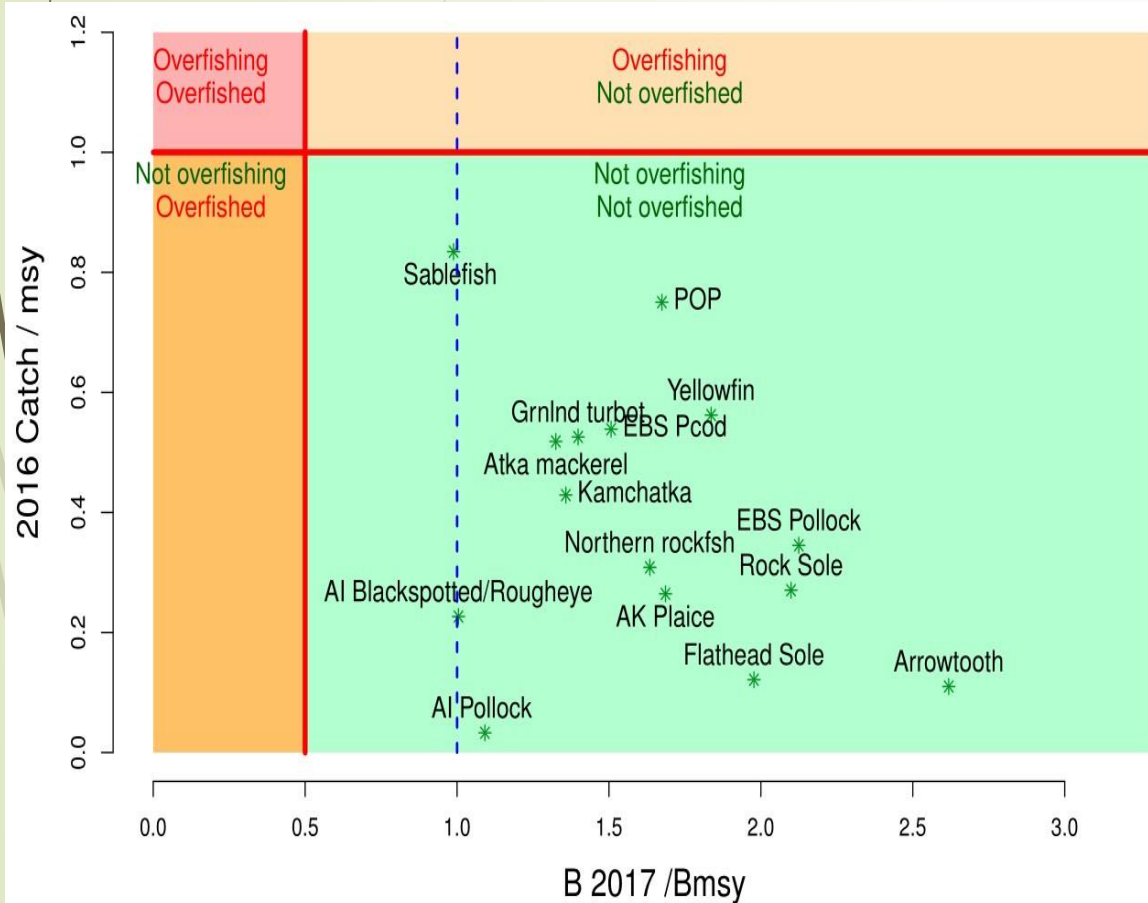
Director's Office

Major Issues

- ▶ Bering Sea summary
- ▶ Halibut Bycatch Management
- ▶ Electronic Monitoring for catch and bycatch estimation
- ▶ Recreational Quota Entity



Bering Sea 2017 Groundfish Stock Status



- Total ABC is 4.01 million metric tons for 2017.
- Pollock ABC is 2.8 mmt
- 2015 Groundfish ex-vessel value is \$894 million, 52% of total AK value.
- Ecosystem considerations – 2014-2016 were anomalously warm. Many ecosystem indicators show declining productivity.



Halibut Bycatch Management

- ▶ Halibut Management Framework – adopted a year ago, provides policy direction and a work plan. Objectives include improved management coordination with IPHC.
- ▶ Abundance based approach – In early development, held a public session at the February meeting.
- ▶ Industry measures – Amendment 80 cooperative agreements, covered all participants. Appeared successful in first year.
- ▶ Deck Sorting – In developmental stage, although about half of Am 80 vessels are participating. Continual progress, trying to reduce expenses.

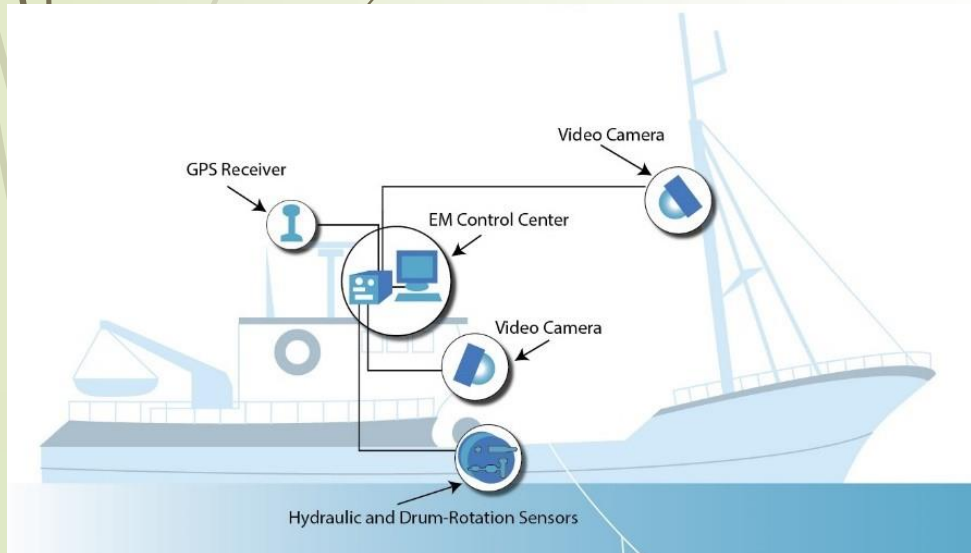
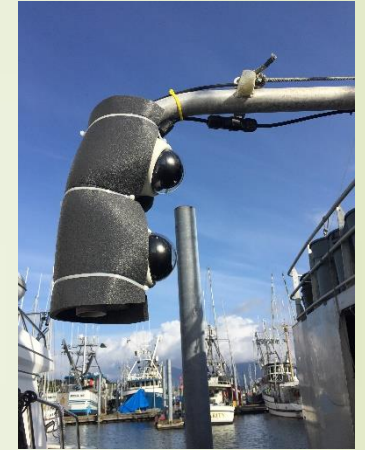
2016 Halibut Mortality in Bering Sea Groundfish Fisheries

Fishery	Mortality (metric tons)	Limit (metric tons)
Trawl (all sectors)	1928	2805
Trawl (Amendment 80)	1327	
Pacific Cod Hook and Line	204	710

- Amendment 80 sector showed a 32% reduction from 2011-2015 average
- 2016 mortality rate in groundfish fisheries was 1.2kg of halibut per metric ton of groundfish, or about 0.012% of the catch.
- Total Bering Sea groundfish harvest in 2016 was 1.935 million metric tons.

Electronic monitoring tools for onboard catch and bycatch estimation

- ▶ Adopted tools for over 40' vessels fishing hook and line or pots
- ▶ Costs are decreasing
- ▶ Data storage and analysis still to be determined
- ▶ Broad applicability to other small boat fleets
- ▶ NFWF support in development



Recreational Quota Entity

- Innovative approach to reallocation, using a market-based, compensated reallocation approach.
- RQE purchases quota from willing sellers, and holds quota on behalf of entire charter halibut fishery
- Objective is to stabilize recreational fishery at lower levels of abundance.

