



Marine
Resources

Public Meetings on the 2024 Recreational Halibut Seasons

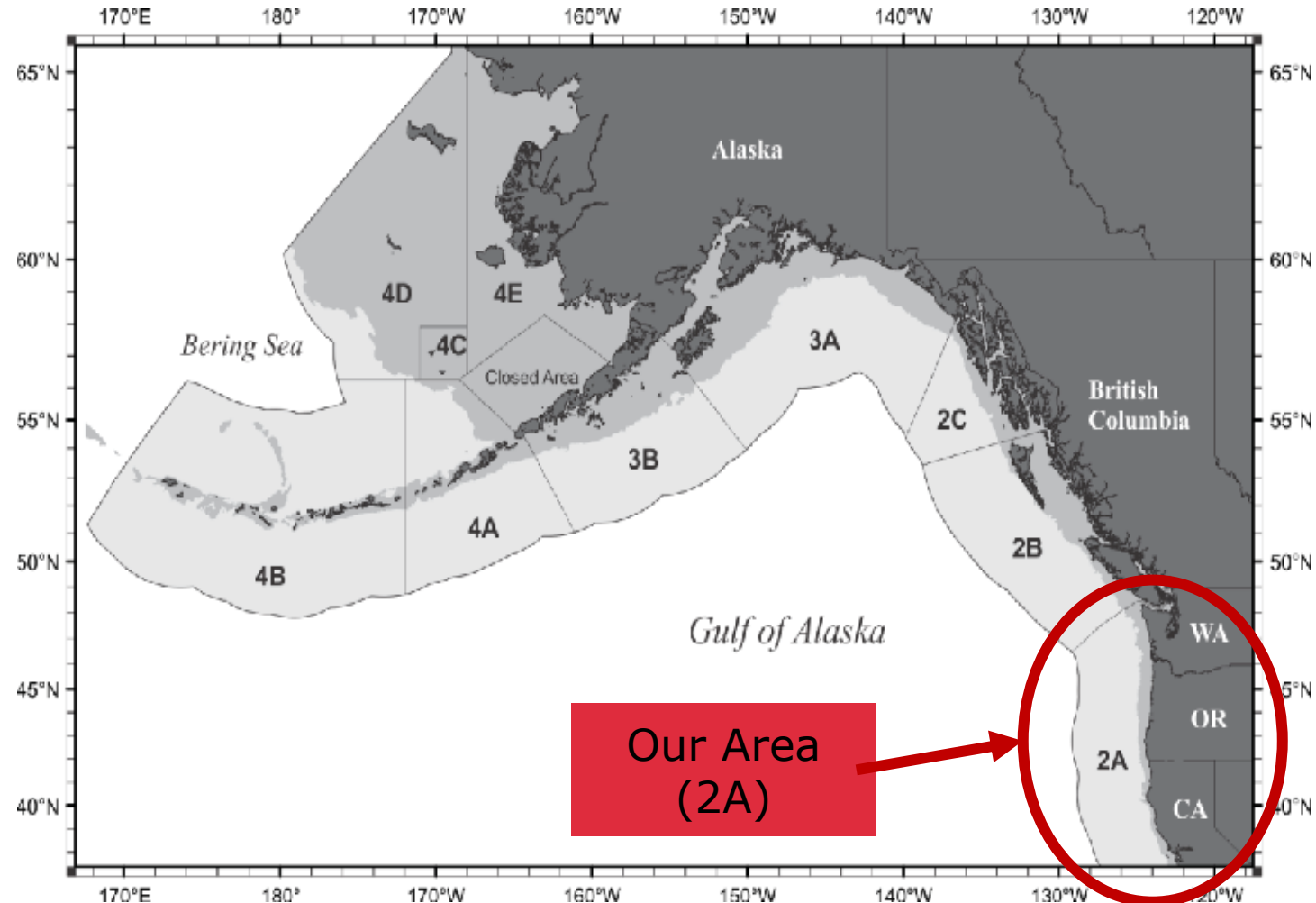
August 1-3, 2023



© Lynn Mattes

Meeting Outline

- Status of the Pacific halibut stock
- Area 2A allocations
- Recent suggested changes
- Discussion for 2024



2023 IPHC Annual Meeting Results

- Trends are up off the West Coast, but down Coastwide (Alaska and Canada)
- 2012-year class was the most caught year class in 2022
 - Magnitude of biomass still somewhat uncertain
- Center of the stock distribution shifting away from the Gulf of Alaska west towards the Bearing Sea and south to the West Coast
- Size at age continues to increase in females
 - Trend the last few years

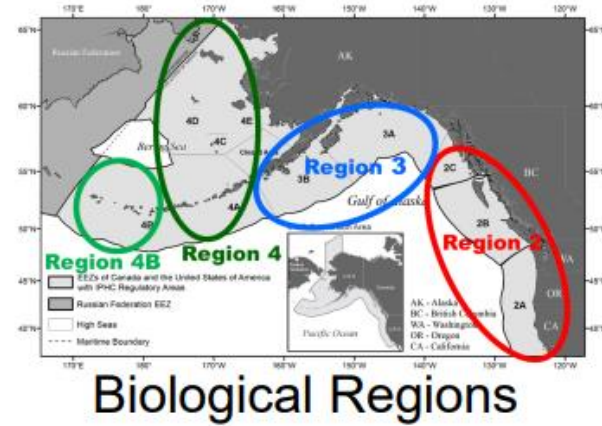
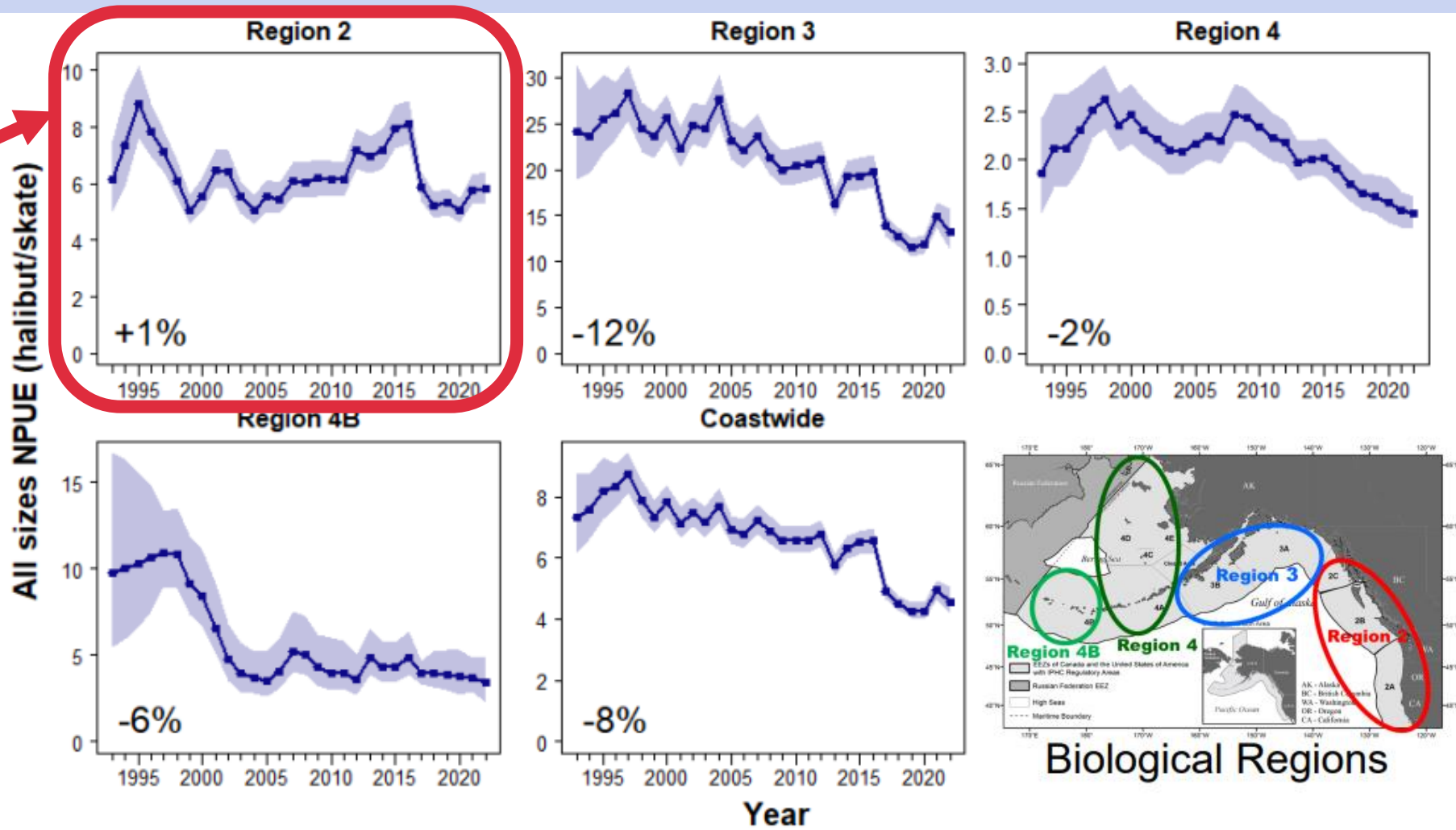


Modelled Survey Trends (Numbers)

Our area

Estimated % change from 2021 to 2022 is shown at bottom left

Source:
[IPHC Annual meeting](#)

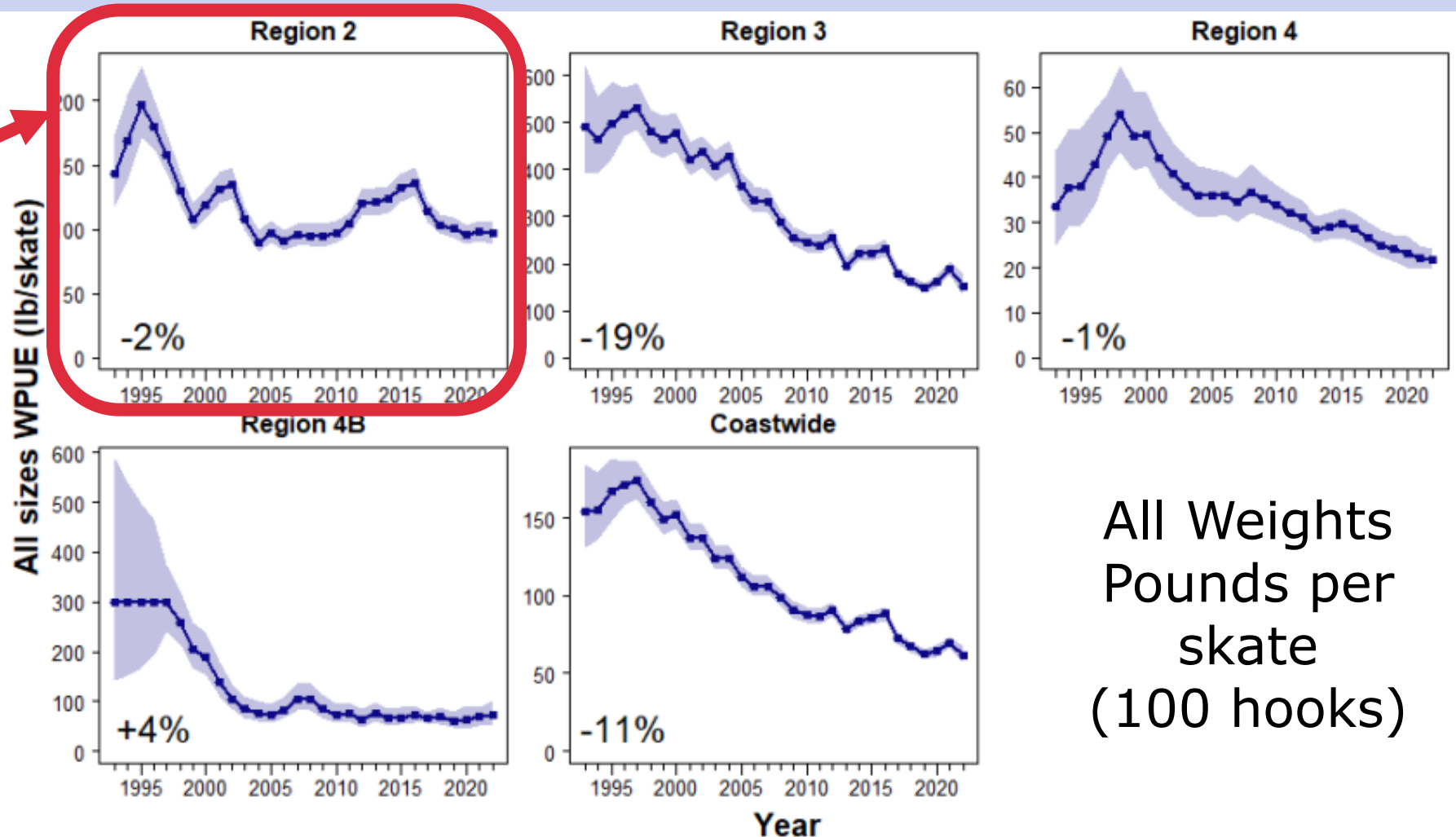


Modelled Survey Trends (Weight)

Our area

Estimated % change from 2021 to 2022 is shown at bottom left

Source:
[IPHC Annual meeting](#)

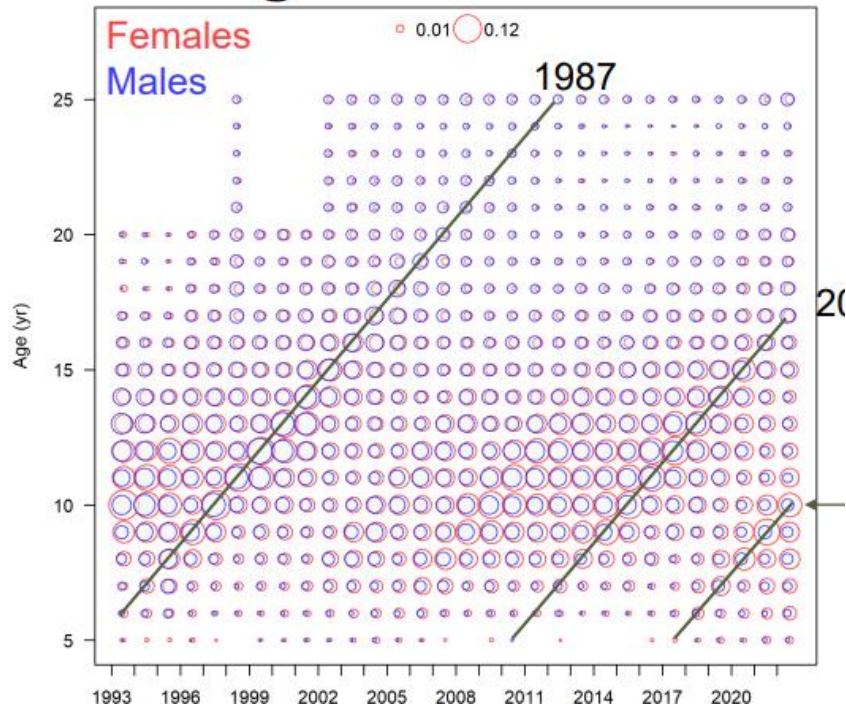


All Weights
Pounds per
skate
(100 hooks)



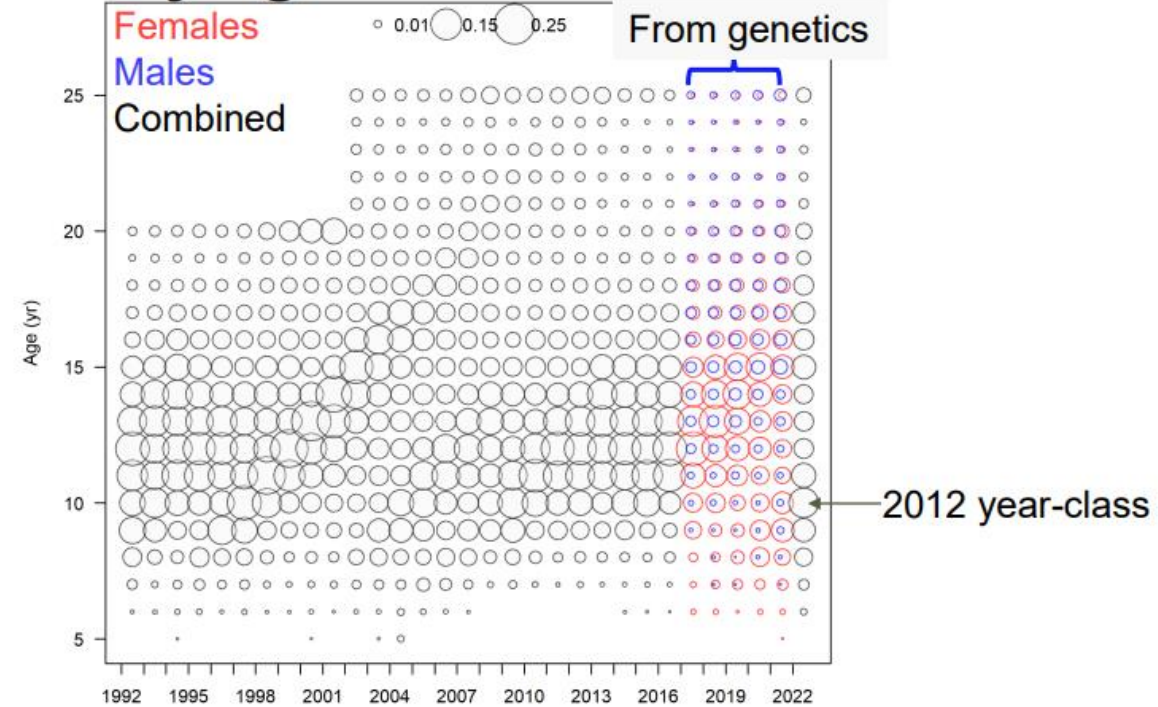
Age Trends (in weight)

Recent FISS[★] ages



Source:
[IPHC](#)
[Annual meeting](#)

Recent fishery ages

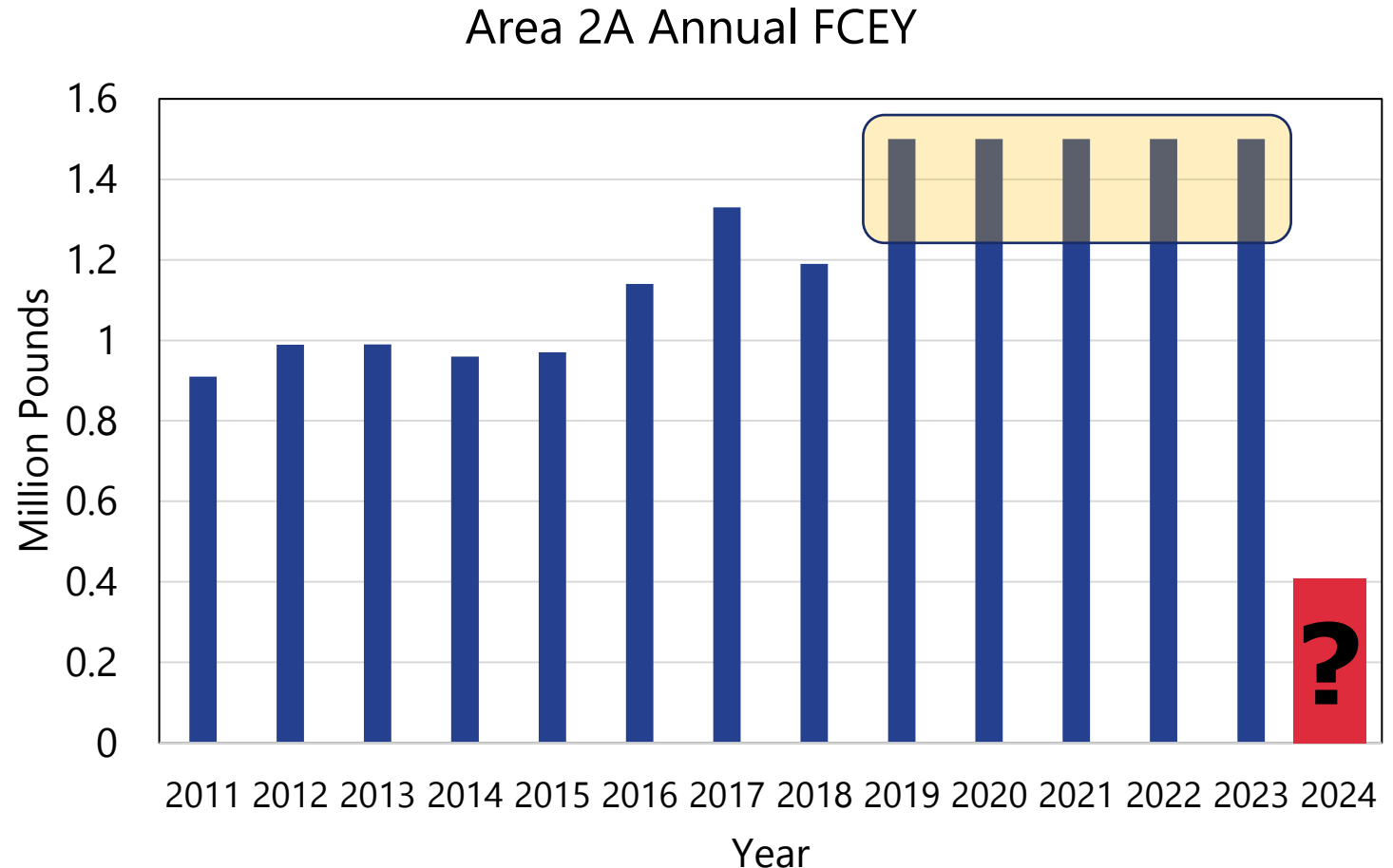


[★]FISS – Fishery Independent Setline Survey



Area 2A Allocation

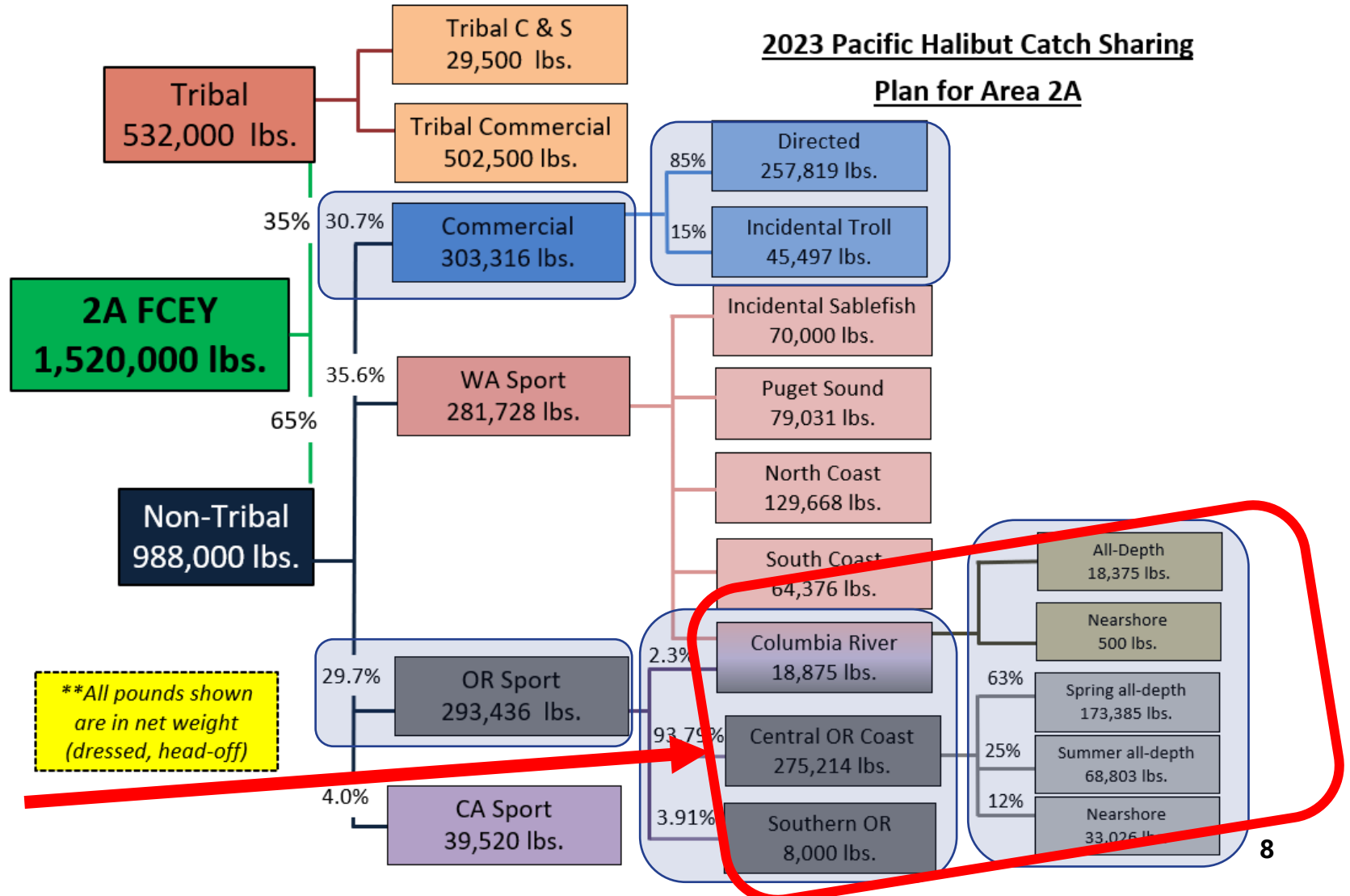
- 2018 through 2023
 - 1.5 million lbs. allocation
 - Stabilized fisheries
 - No biological concern
 - Low compared to AK & BC
- **2024 quota is unknown**
 - Determined by IPHC in January 2024
 - **Early signs suggest a lower quota (no further information on this yet)**



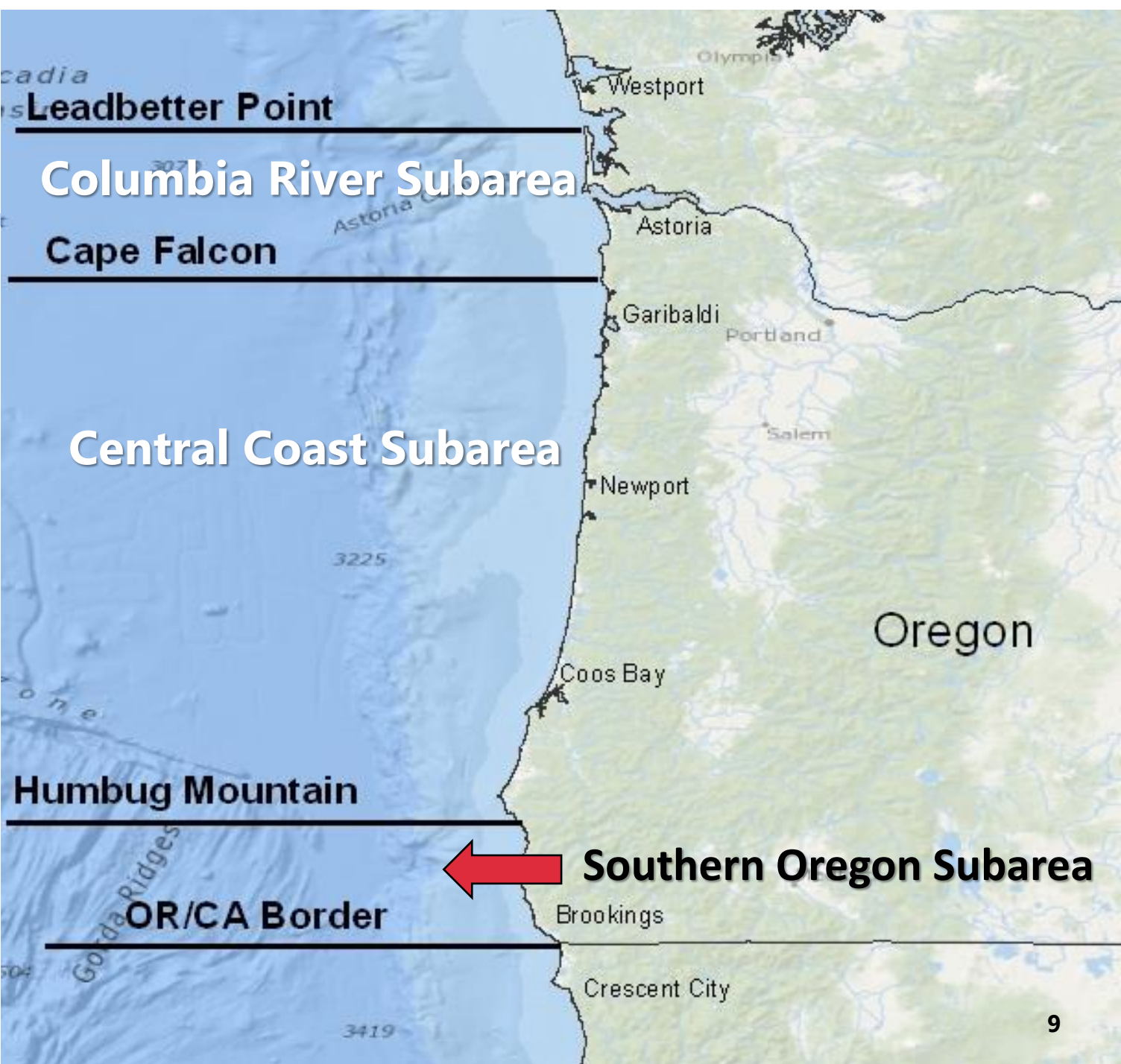
Area 2A Allocation 2023



Oregon recreational allocations



Oregon has 3 subareas for the recreational Pacific halibut fishery



Changes to the Catch Sharing Plan (CSP) for 2023

Added options to allow more flexibility and opportunity

- Central Oregon Coast Subarea
 - If the Central Coast spring all-depth allocation is 100,000 pounds, the season may open up to seven days per week during months when the bottomfish fishery is not depth restricted
 - If the Central Coast remaining allocation is 60,000 pounds after August 1, the summer all-depth season may open up to seven days per week during months when the bottomfish fishery is not depth restricted
- Central Coast and Southern Oregon Subarea
 - If the entire Central Coast allocation is 200,000 pounds, the daily bag limit may be increased to 2 halibut per angler
- Longleader and All-Depth Halibut
 - Allow longleader gear fishing and retention of sablefish, Pacific cod, and other flatfish with all-depth halibut on the same trip.



Halibut Catch Sharing Plan (CSP)

- Process to implement changes for 2024 fishery:
 - **Late July/early Aug: ODFW solicits public input** ←
 - September 2023: PFMC preliminarily adopts changes for 2023 for further public comment (Spokane, WA) www.pcouncil.org
 - Late Sept / early Oct 2023: ODFW solicits public input on specific proposals forwarded by PFMC
 - November 2023: PFMC adopts final changes for 2024 fishery (Garden Grove, CA) www.pcouncil.org
 - January 2024: IPHC Annual Meeting, quotas set (Anchorage, AK) www.iphc.int



Proposed Changes

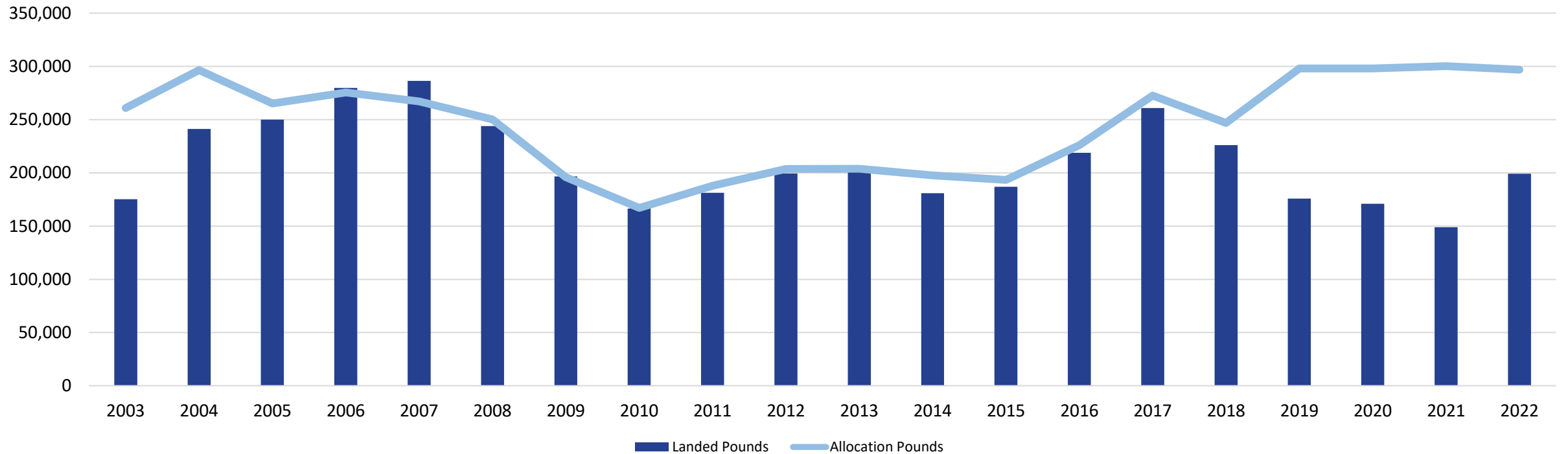
• Allocation Shift?

- **California Proposal:** Move 1% from the non-tribal WA sport allocation and 2% from the non-tribal OR sport allocation to the CA sport sector
 - Based on 2023 FCEY, 19,730 pounds would shift from OR to CA
- **Washington Proposal:** Move 0.5% of the WA sport allocation and 1% of the OR sport allocation to the CA sport sector in years when the Area 2A FCEY is (option A) 1.3M lbs. or (option B) 1.5M lbs.
 - Based on 2023 FCEY, 2,934 pounds would shift from OR to CA
- The state and federal agencies are working collaboratively to show how each state fishery has managed the fishery in recent years
- ODFW will provide a report on the proposed changes as well as a history of our fishery report



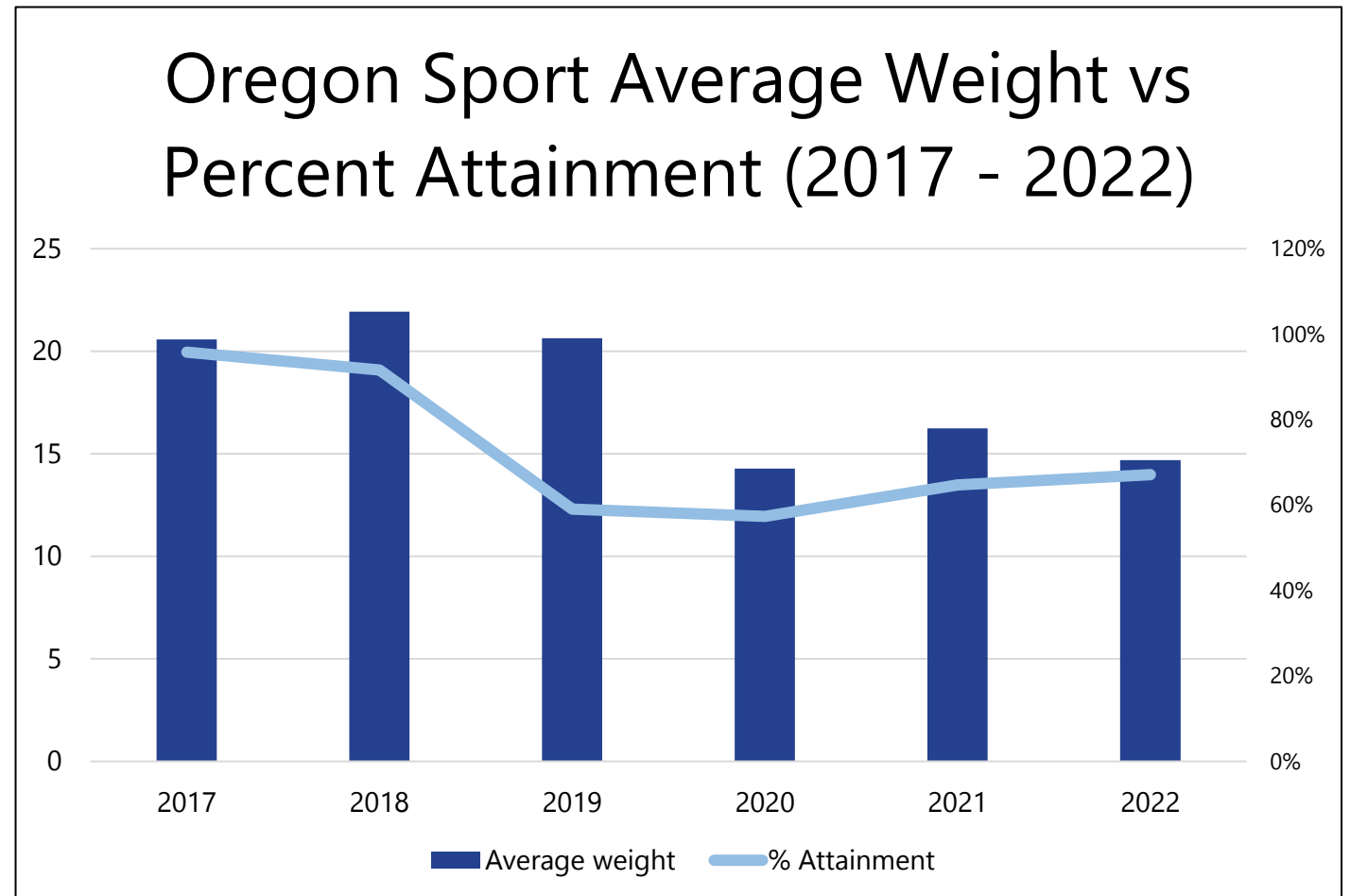
Oregon Sport

Oregon Sport Pounds Landed vs Allocation (2003 - 2022)



Oregon Sport

- For 2023 we will likely reach our allocation for the first time since 2018
 - Columbia River subarea is at 86% attainment with five more all-depth days
 - Central Coast subarea is projected to reach the Spring all-depth allocation
 - Southern Oregon has about 50% of the allocation remaining



Planning for 2024

- 2024 CSP currently in development:
 - Any new suggestions / modifications?
 - ODFW to host a follow-up public meeting in September on proposed changes to the CSP
- 2024 quota will be set late January at the IPHC annual meeting
- Public meeting in February to discuss the 2024 season structure / all-depth fishing
- Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission will adopt season dates in April





Marine
Resources

Thank you

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Contact us!

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Reminder: upon landing a halibut, you need to **IMMEDIATELY record the fish on your Combined Angling Tag**



Immediately means:

- Prior to rebaiting & putting the rod back out to fish
- Before taking a snack or drink break
- Not 5, 10, or 15 minutes later
- **Do not wait** until you are on the way back to the dock



- If using electronic tagging, make sure to download the app and log in before you leave the dock
- If having trouble getting the app to open while offshore, try putting the phone in "airplane" mode
 - Once the app is open, you can record your fish
 - When you get back into cell service take off "airplane" mode, and it will upload tagged fish to the system

For more info on tagging salmon and halibut, see:

<https://myodfw.com/articles/9-tips-tagging-fish-and-game-using-e-tagging-or-paper-tags>