

Halibut Meeting

Tell us your ideas to improve the fishery



In memory of Jim Welter



Why are we here?

*Halibut fisheries change
Need to adapt regulations*

Why are you here?

*Tell us your ideas
Your input shapes the fishery*

Not a vote - All input matters

Please respect ideas of other

Overview:

- 1) Process for regulation changes
- 2) History – Your input built the fishery
- 3) Future of the fishery

Comment on new quota proposal

Change the season structure?

Work together to design your fishery

Other questions or concerns?

Catch estimates

Stock Assessment

Biology or Behavior

Please wait until after the presentation

Process for regulation changes

1) Anglers propose changes (Now)

“Keep us a separate area”

2) We evaluate proposals for merit

(+) local needs (-) possibly shorter seasons

3) We gauge support by anglers (Sept.)

Which would you rather have?

[79%] Separate area

[21%] Join Central Coast

History – Before 2011

South of Humbug Mt.
Including California

Small halibut fishery



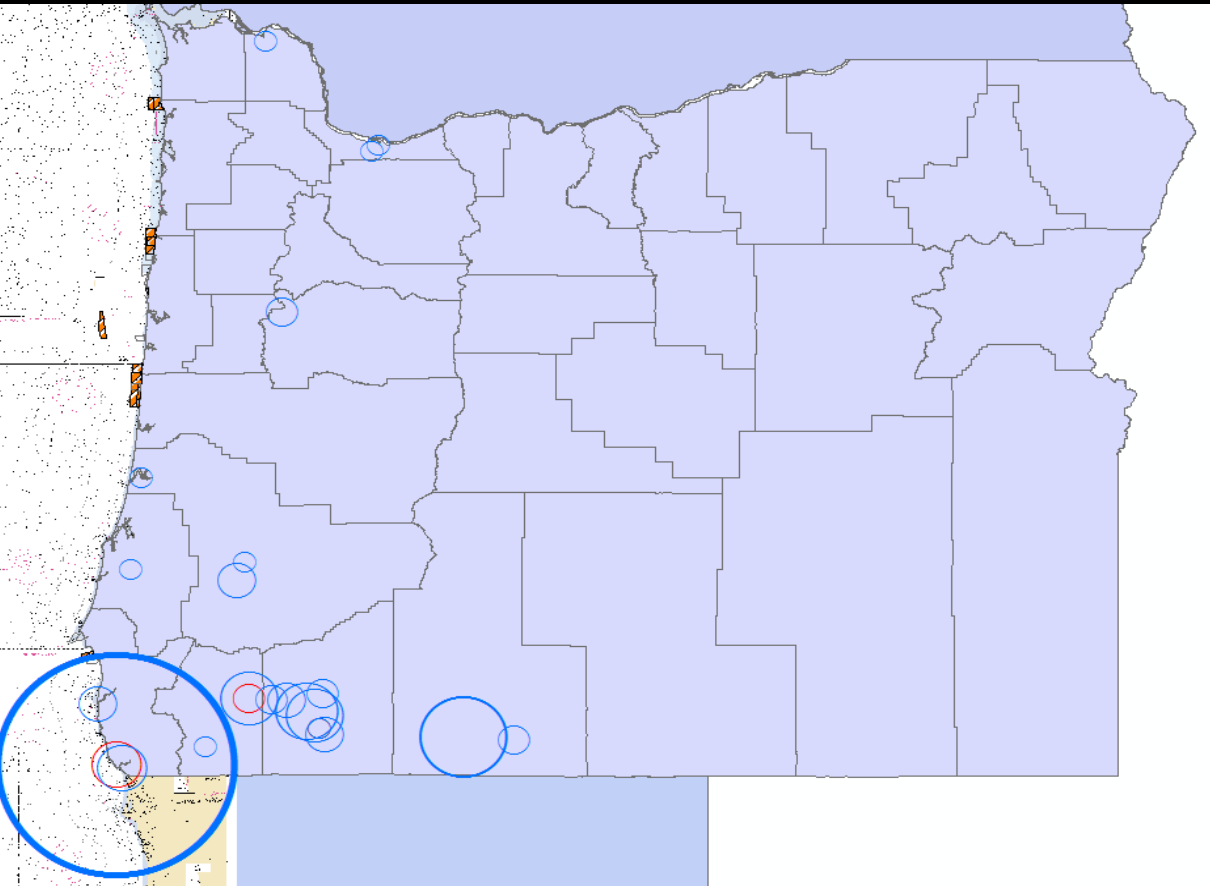
Few restrictions needed

May 1- Oct. 31, Seven days per week

2011 – Fishery begins

July: Hotspot found off Thomas Creek

2,000 lbs landed in one week

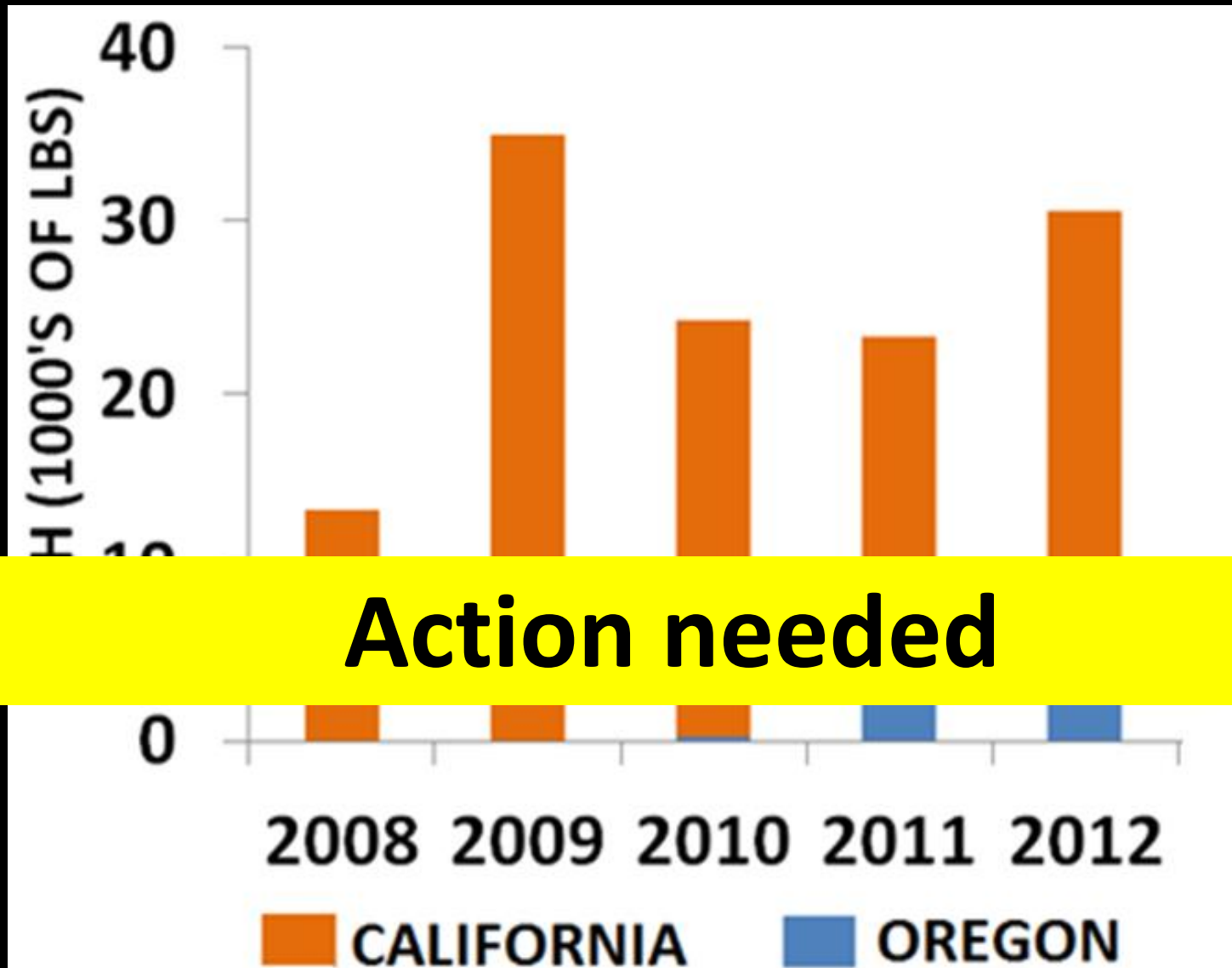


Fishery
explodes

10,000 lbs
landed

California's fishery also explodes

Quota (3%) exceeded by both states



Asked you what to do:

Q1: Stay with California?

“No – let us manage our own fishery”

Q2: Join the Oregon Central Coast area?

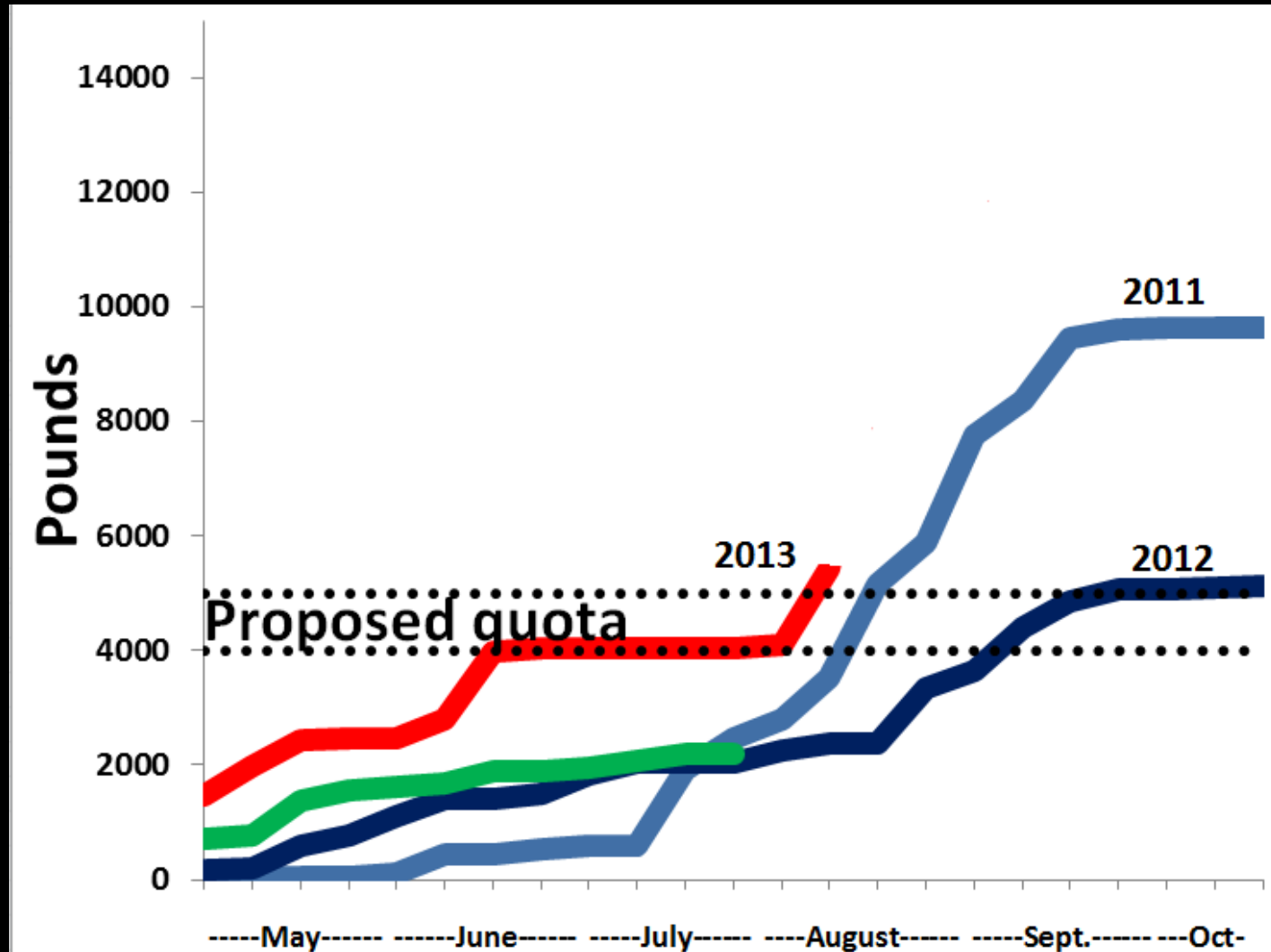
“No – let us manage our own fishery”

- **“Worse weather”**
- **“Can’t compete with charters”**
- **“Lose our voice”**

August 2013: Brookings public meeting

Q3: How much quota for S. Oregon?

“Give us 4,000-5,000 lbs to stay open through August”



August 2013: Brookings public meeting

Q4: Change the regulations in S. Oregon?

“No, there is not a need to”

“Keep May 1st start and seven days per week”

After the August 2013 meeting:

We submitted your input



Halibut managed federally

- Quotas (to OR fisheries)
- Regulations
- Seasons

August Meeting



~~Option 1: Stay with California~~

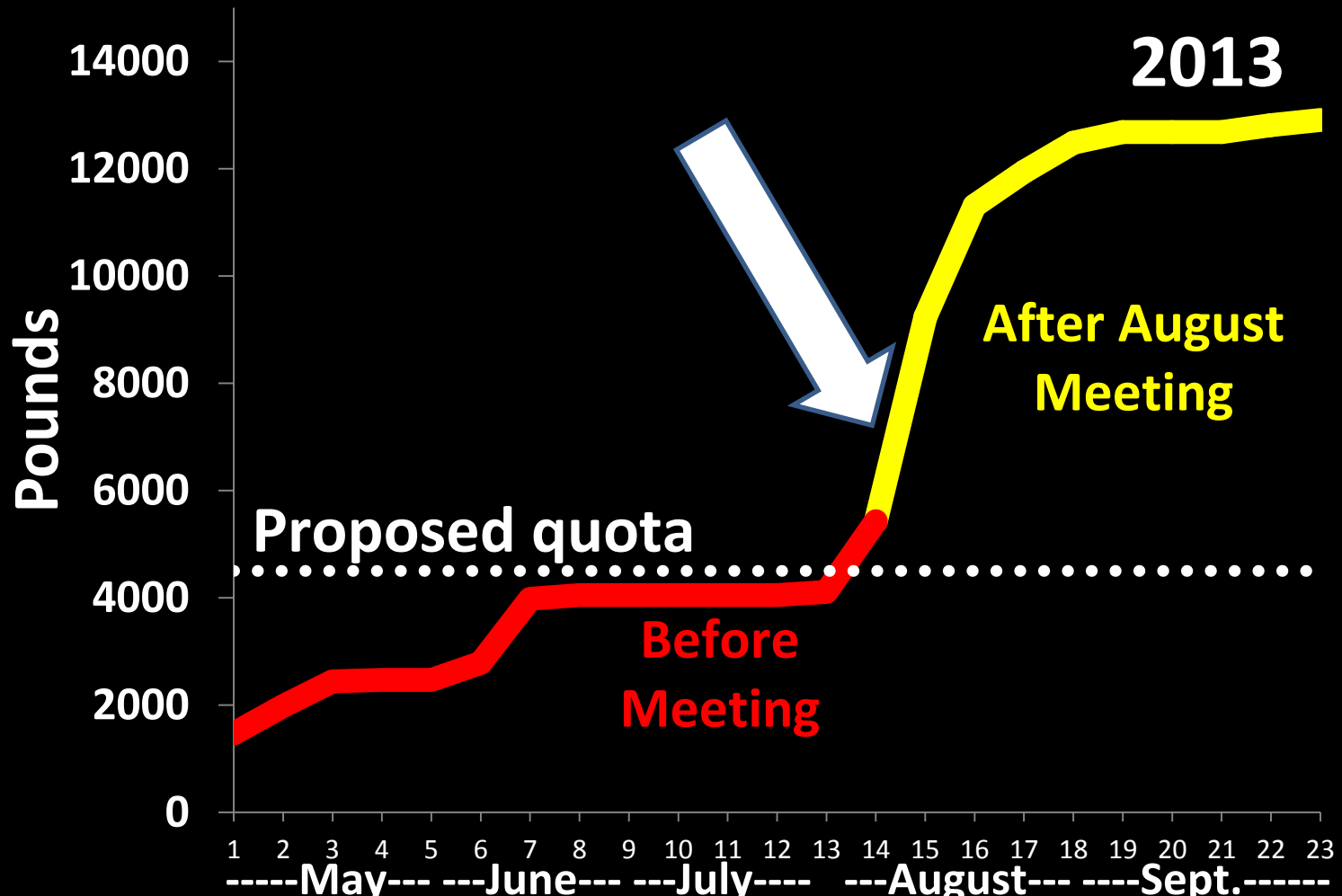
~~Option 2: Join Central Coast~~

Option 3: Separate & 2% quota

Options approved for more feedback

Meanwhile, here in August...

Caught entire proposed quota in one week



September Brookings meeting:

We came back to get more feedback:

“Update: caught 4,000 lbs in one week after we left, might not make it through August”

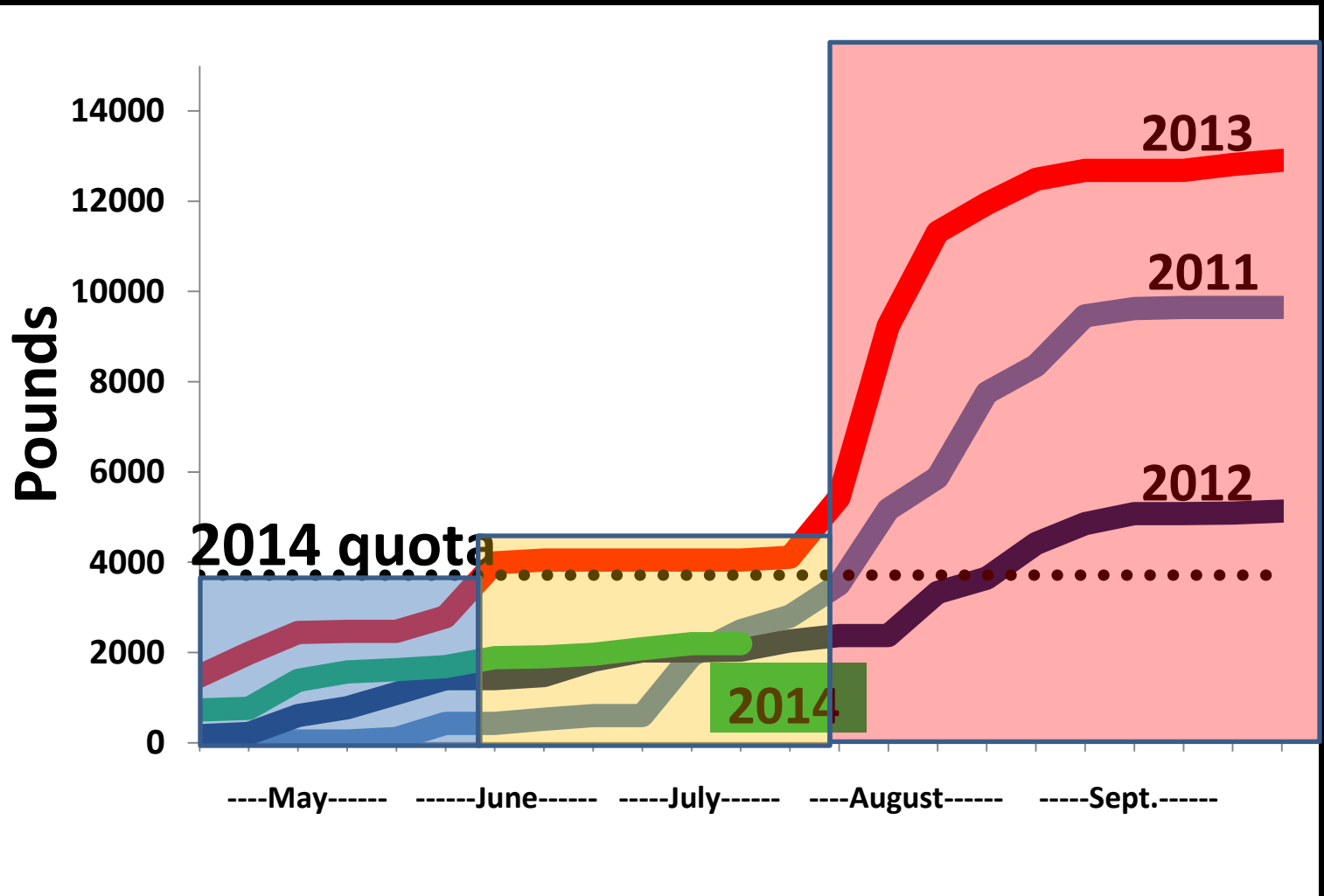
“Season might be short if halibut fishing is hot in May, joining Central Coast is more stable”

“Still want to be separate. If we catch the quota quickly, let us decide if we want to change the regulations”

“Discuss next year if 2% of Central Coast quota is fair”

2014: Halibut still open

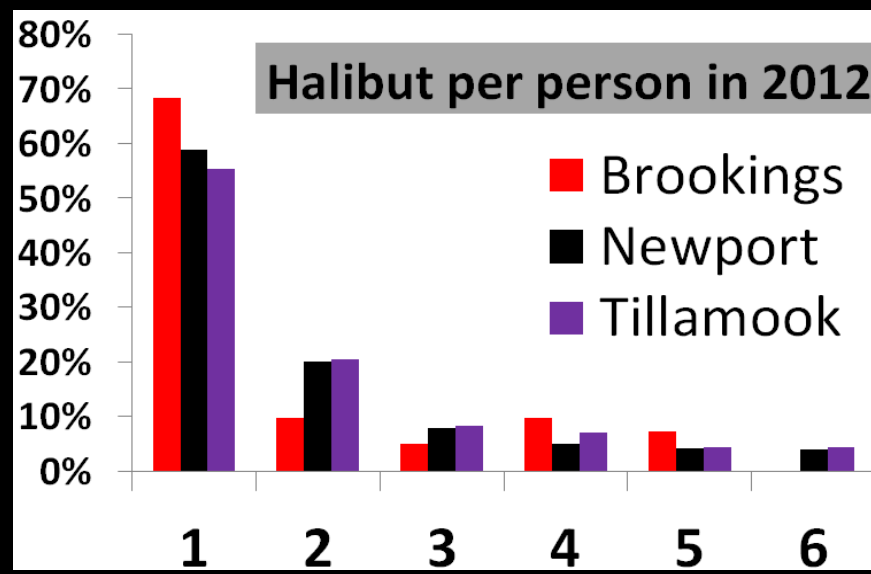
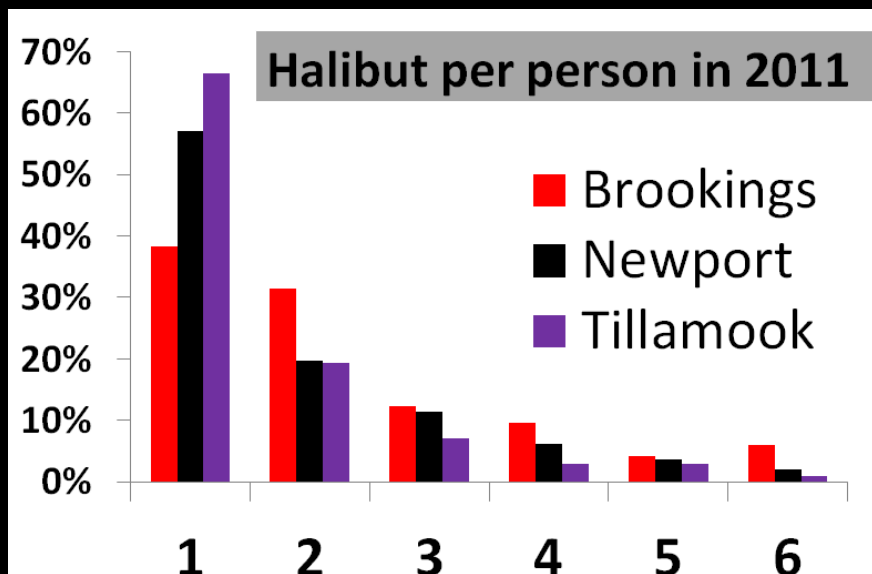
Pattern developing



Now to discuss the future

Increase quota to 6,000-7,000 lbs?

Rationale:



2011:

- Catch was 10,000 lbs
- Outfished other areas

2012:

- Catch was 5,500 lbs
- Caught less than others
- Closer to even

Change the season structure?

**When is it most important to have
the halibut fishery open?**

Current rules favor a spring season

Closures would will likely happen in August

End of presentation – thank you!

What happens next?

After meeting, we will come up with specific proposals based on your input.

In September, will ask you for more feedback on these proposals.