

2015 Sport Halibut Season Public Meeting

Monday, Aug 11 7:00 pm



Meeting will begin shortly



Meeting Overview

- Staff Introductions
- Introduction to Go To Meeting™
 - Including how to ask questions or provide comments
- Presentation
- Discussion



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Font Paragraph Drawing

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Slides Outline

8 **Reproduction**

- A 50 lb female can produce ~500,000 eggs
- A female over 250 lbs can produce 4 million eggs
- In recent years, mature males are not reaching 22 inches
- Females spawn once per year
- Female eggs in surface over several days
- Eggs hatch after 11-22 days, depending on temperature
- Larvae float closer to the surface, remain in water column for ~7 months
- They settle to the bottom in shallow water (20-100 feet)

9 **Spawning Grounds**

- In deep water (~600 - 1,800 feet) along continental slope
- December to March
- Concentrated at a number of locations in the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, Gulf of Alaska and south British Columbia

10 **Range**

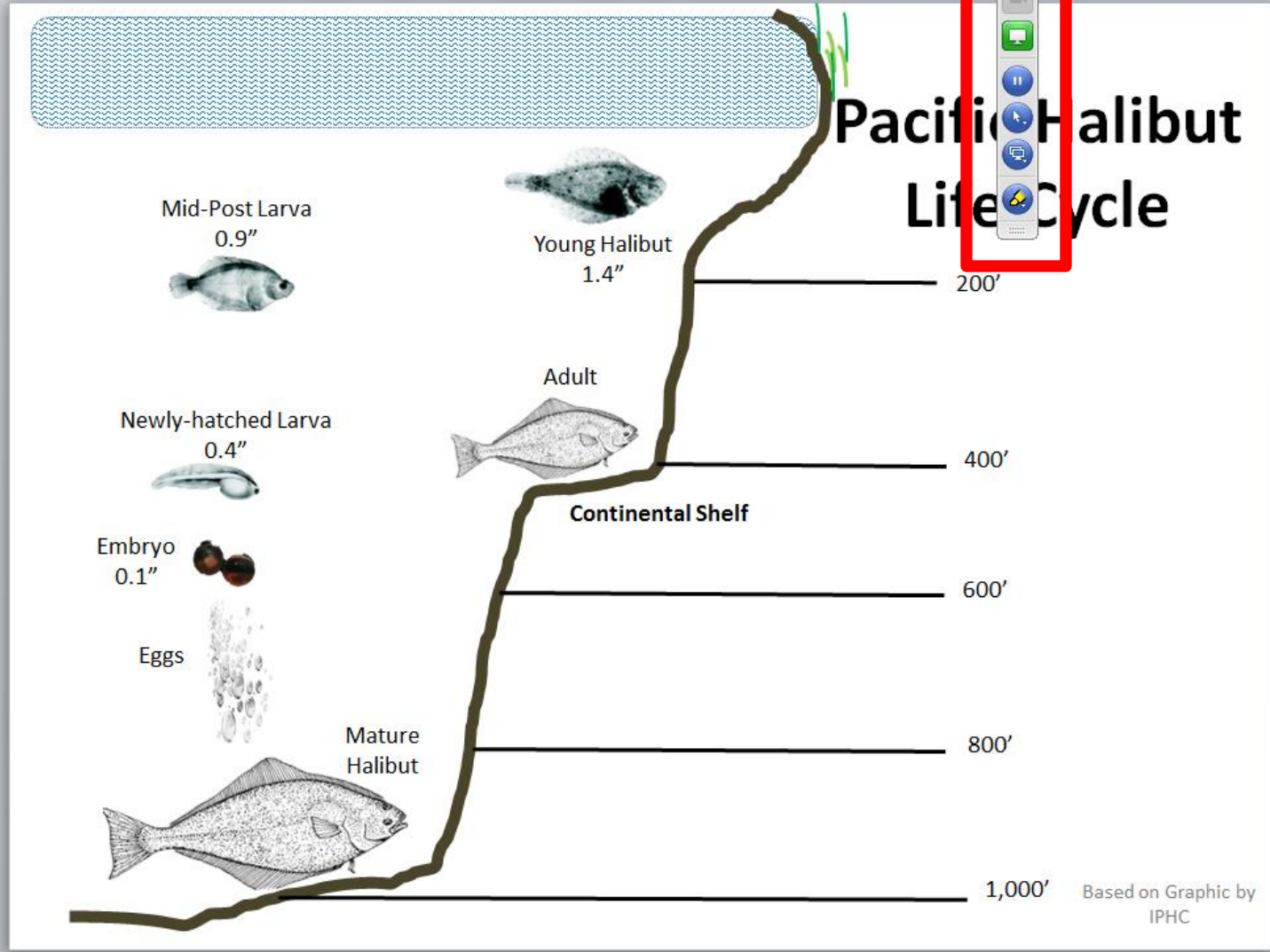
11 **Habitat**

- Juveniles (1 inch and greater) common in shallow, nearshore waters (to 364 feet)
- Move to deeper water as they age
- Migrate primarily eastward and southward in the eastern Pacific
- Adults migrate seasonally from shallow summer feeding grounds to deeper winter spawning grounds
- Have been taken in depths 20 - 3,000 feet

12 **Food**

- Juveniles eat small crustaceans and other benthic organisms
- Mature fish prey on cod, pollock, sablefish, rockfish, other flatfish, sculpins, sand lance, herring, octopus, crabs, clams, and occasionally smaller halibut

13 **Pacific Halibut Life Cycle**



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Slides Outline

8 **Reproduction**

- A 50 lb female can produce ~500,000 eggs
- A female over 200 lbs can produce 4 million eggs
- In recent years, mature males are not reaching 22 inches
- Female spawn once per year
 - Female eggs in buckets over several days
 - Eggs hatch after 11-22 days, depending on temperature
 - Larvae float closer to the surface, remain in water column for ~7 months
 - Then settle to the bottom in shallow water (20-120 feet)

9 **Spawning Grounds**

- In deep water (~600 - 1,800 feet) along continental slope
- December to March
- Concentrated at a number of locations in the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, Gulf of Alaska and south British Columbia

10 **Range**

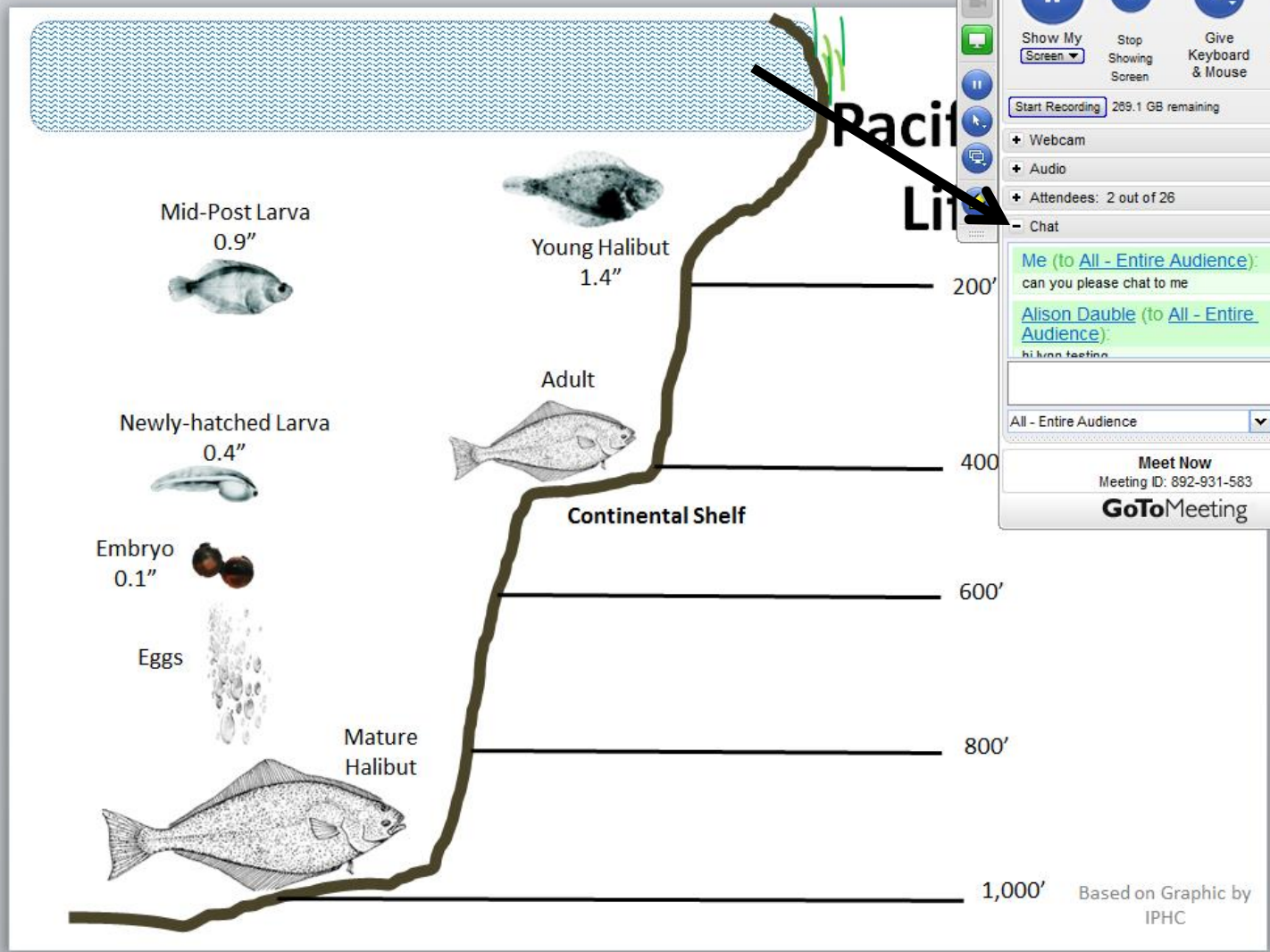
11 **Habitat**

- Juveniles (1 inch and greater) common in shallow nearshore waters (to 104 feet)
- Migrate to deeper water as they age
- Migrate primarily eastward and southward in the eastern Pacific
- Adults migrate seasonally from shallow summer feeding grounds to deeper winter spawning grounds
- Have been taken in depths 20 - 5,800 feet

12 **Food**

- Juveniles eat small crustaceans and other benthic organisms
- Mature fish prey on cod, pollock, sablefish, rockfish, other flatfish, sculpin, sand lance, herring, octopus, crabs, clams, and occasionally smaller halibut

13 **Pacific Halibut Life Cycle**



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Screen Sharing

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Start Recording 289.1 GB remaining Settings

Webcam Audio Attendees: 2 out of 26

Chat

Me (to All - Entire Audience): can you please chat to me

Alison Dauble (to All - Entire Audience): hi how testing

All - Entire Audience Send

Meet Now Meeting ID: 892-931-583

GoToMeeting

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Slides Outline

8 **Reproduction**

- A 50 lb female can produce 500,000 eggs
- A female over 250 lbs. can produce 4 million eggs
- In recent years, mature males are not reaching 25 inches
- Females spawn once per year
- Females lay 10 billion per female day
- Eggs hatch after 11-23 days depending on temperature
- Larvae float closer to the surface, remain in water column for ~7 months
- They settle to the bottom in shallow water (20-120 feet)

9 **Spawning Grounds**

- In deep water (~600 - 1,800 feet) along continental slope
- December to March
- Concentrated at a number of locations in the Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, Gulf of Alaska and south British Columbia

10 **Range**

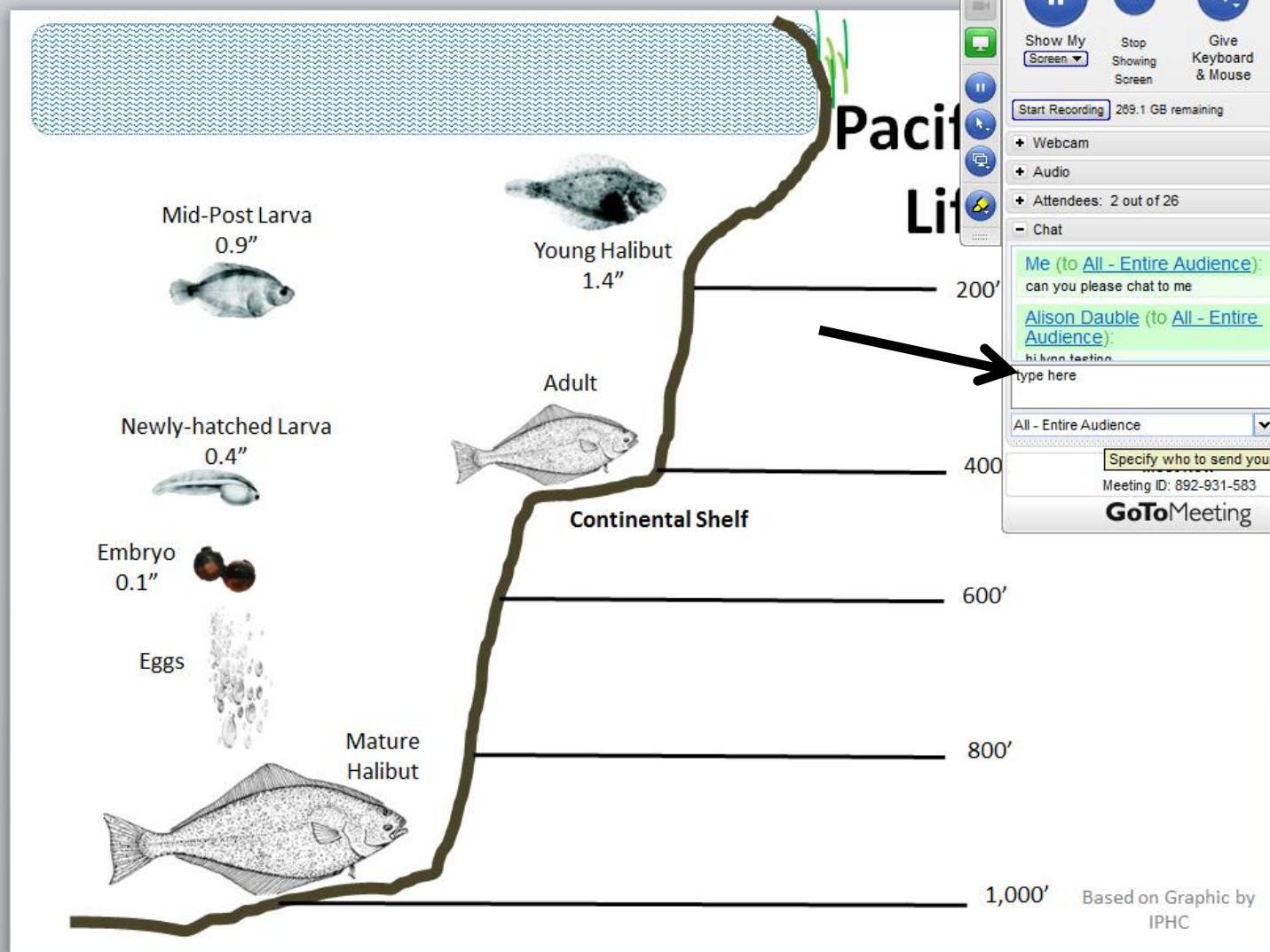
11 **Habitat**

- Juveniles (3 inch and greater) common in shallow, nearshore waters (to 204 feet)
- Move to deeper water as they age
- Migrate primarily eastward and southward in the eastern Pacific
- Adults migrate seasonally from shallow summer feeding grounds to deeper winter spawning grounds
- Have been taken in depths 20 - 3,000 feet

12 **Food**

- Juveniles eat small crustaceans and other benthic organisms
- Mature fish prey on cod, pollock, sablefish, rockfish, other flatfish, sculpins, sand lance, herring, octopus, crabs, clams, and occasionally smaller halibut

13 **Pacific Halibut Life Cycle**



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+ Webcam

+ Audio

+ Attendees: 2 out of 26

- Chat

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Alison Dauble (to All - Entire Audience): hi king fishing

type here

All - Entire Audience Send

Specify who to send your message to

Meeting ID: 892-931-583

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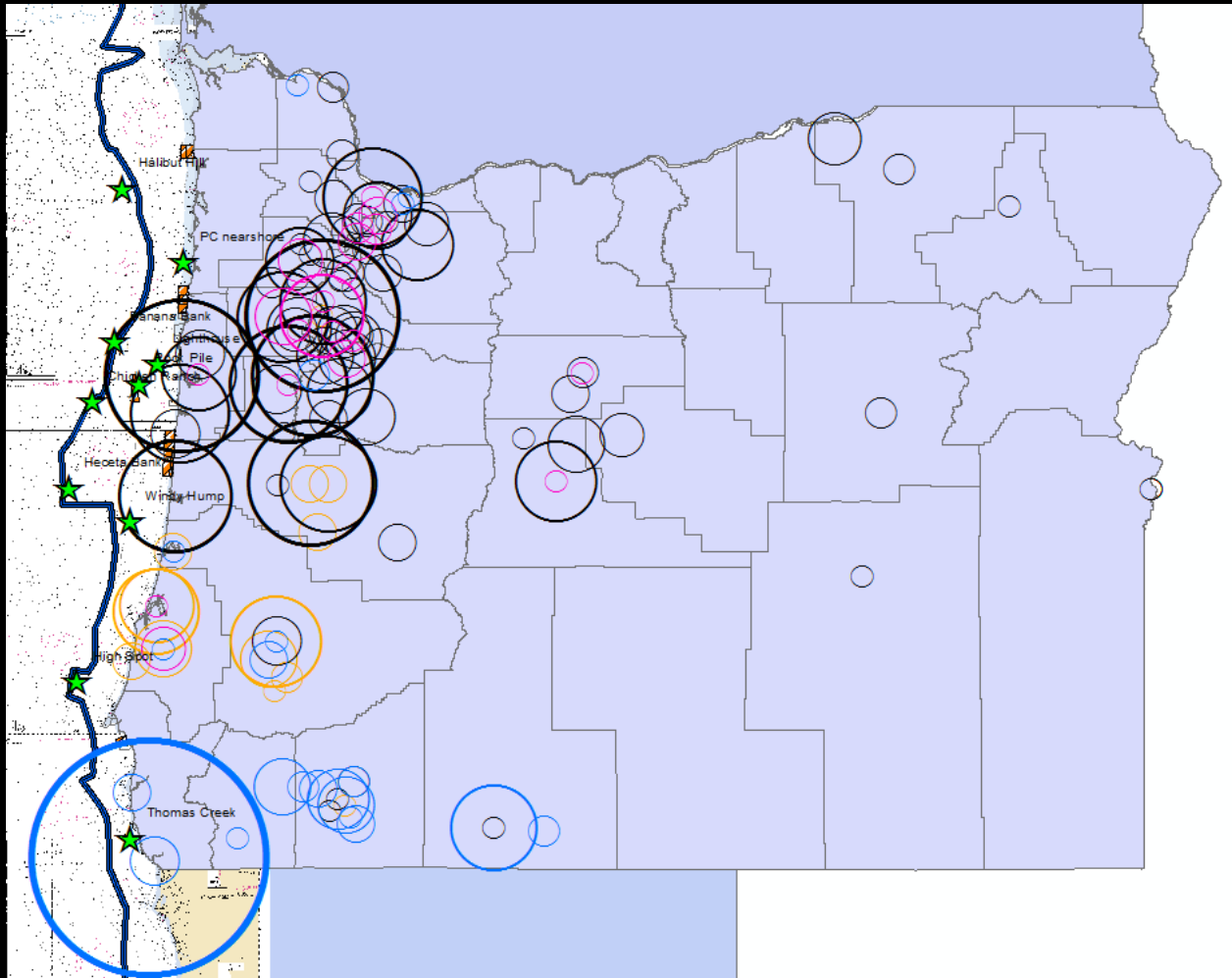
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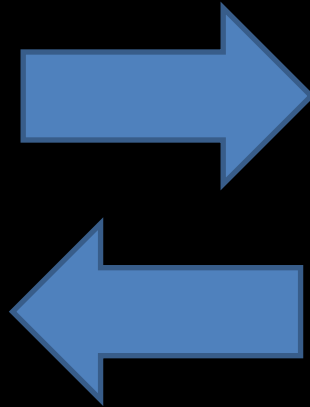
Online surveys

Meetings



Halibut Meeting

Tell us your ideas to improve the fishery



Why are we here?

Halibut fisheries change

Need to adapt the rules

Why are you here?

To tell us your ideas

How to shape the fishery

Not a vote – Different ideas

Please respect ideas of others

Overview:

- 1) Process for regulation changes
- 2) Past ideas & results
- 3) Current regulations and seasons
- 4) Discussion

Other questions or concerns?

Catch Estimates

Stock Assessment

Halibut Biology or Behavior

Please wait until after the presentation

Process for regulation changes

1) Anglers propose changes (Aug)

“Two-fish bag limit”

2) We evaluate proposals for merit

(+) Saves gas (-) Shorter seasons

3) We gauge support by anglers (Sept.)

Which would you rather have?

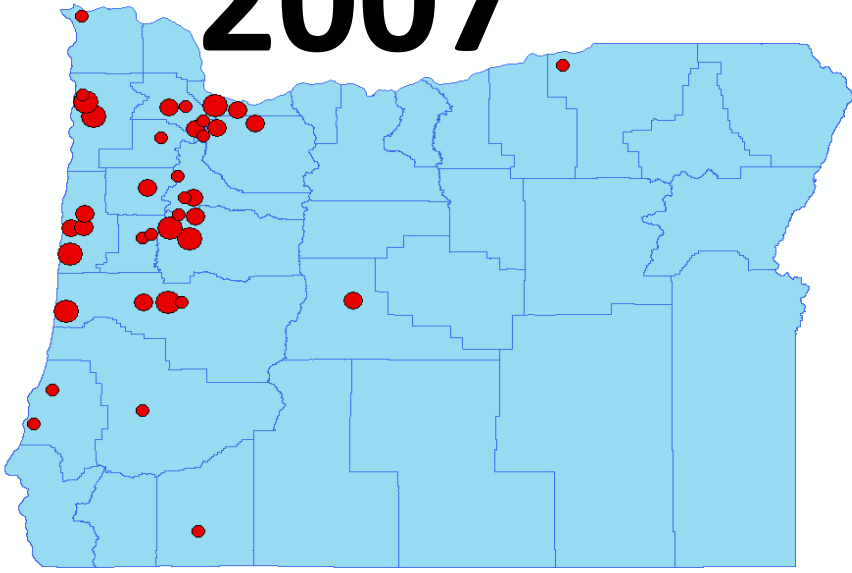
[21%] Two-fish bag, short season

[79%] One-fish bag, long season

What you told us last year:

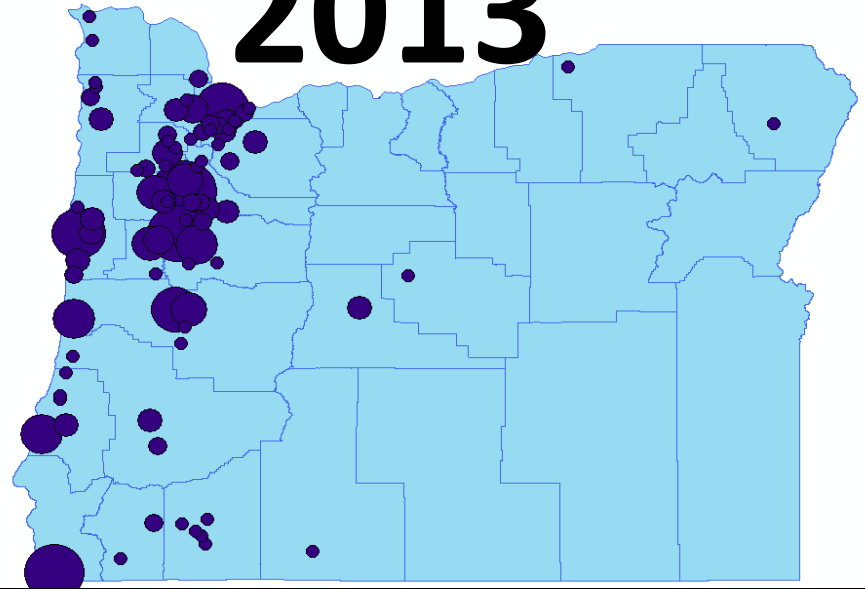
Fix the nearshore fishery!

2007



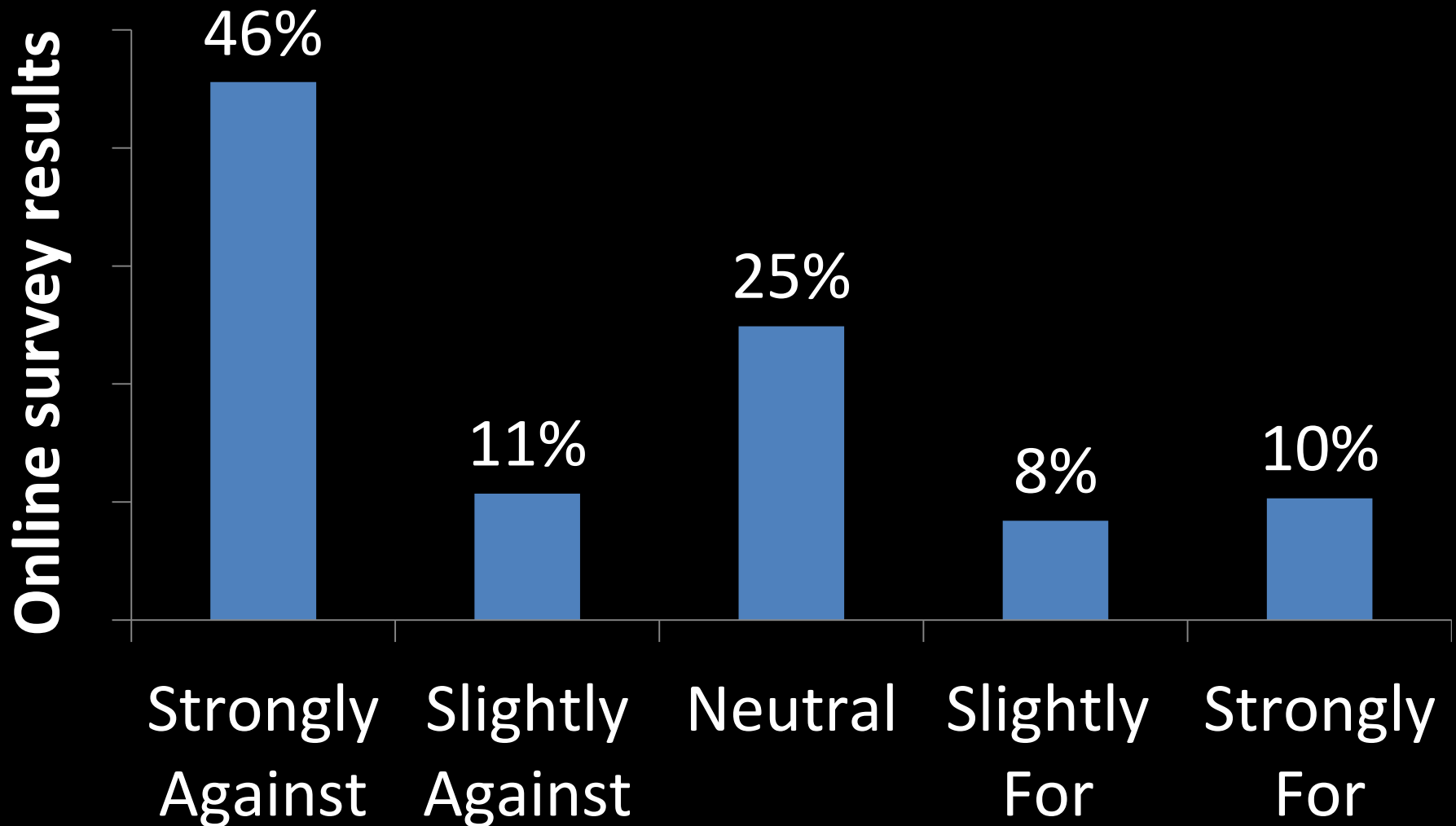
140 days

2013

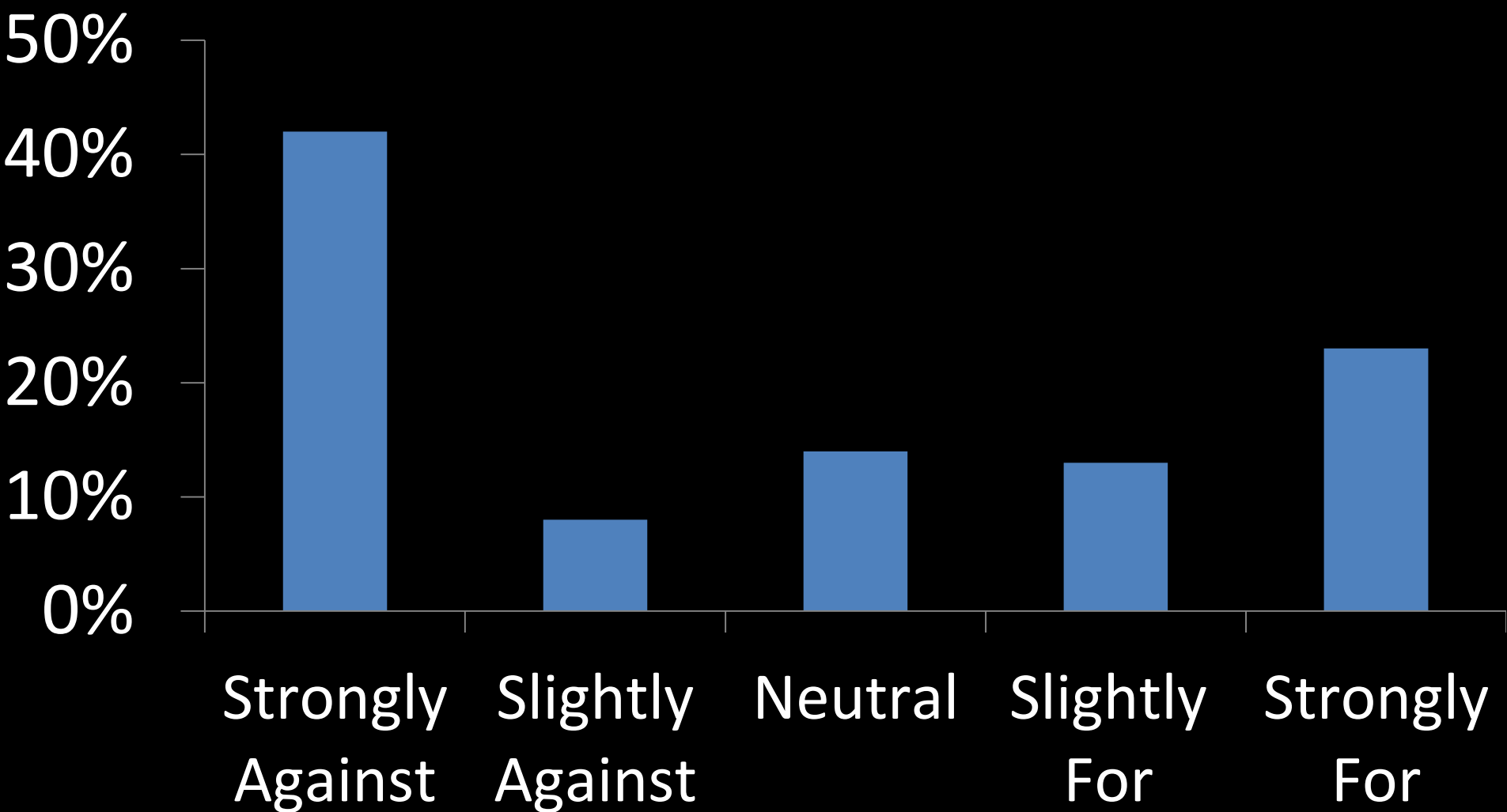


22 days

Nearshore 30-fathom limit?



Shift entire summer all-depth quota to nearshore?



Split summer all-depth to spring and nearshore?

56% Yes

44% No



Close vote:

Those in favor = impartial

Those against = very opposed

Change the nearshore season?

Later start & seven days per week?

Longer season this year

(22 days last year)

Allow bottomfish on all-depth days?



Issue:

Yelloweye rockfish
(bycatch mortality)

Allow lingcod =

Targeting of lingcod over deep reefs =

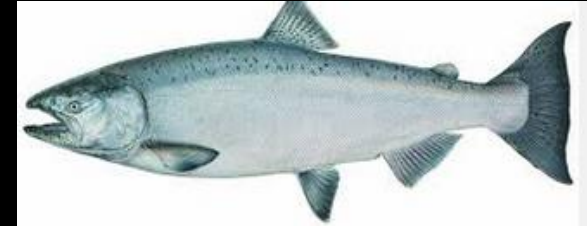
More dead yelloweye =

Closed seasons or 20-fathoms

No Bottomfish on all-depth days

Allowed to keep most fish

(except for deep reef fish)



Expand for next year?



End of background section:

Helps shape where we are....

Help us move forward

GROUP DISCUSSION

Allocations:

61% Spring AD
25% Summer AD
12% Nearshore
2% Southern OR

Limits

Any size
Daily bag = 1
Annual bag = 6

Nearshore:

- July 1 start
- 7 days per week
- 40-fathom limit
- Bottomfish allowed

Spring all-depth:

- 2Nd week of May
- Thursday-Saturday
- Back-to-back weeks
(skip adverse tides)

Summer all-depth:

- Friday-Saturday
- August
- Every other week

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.