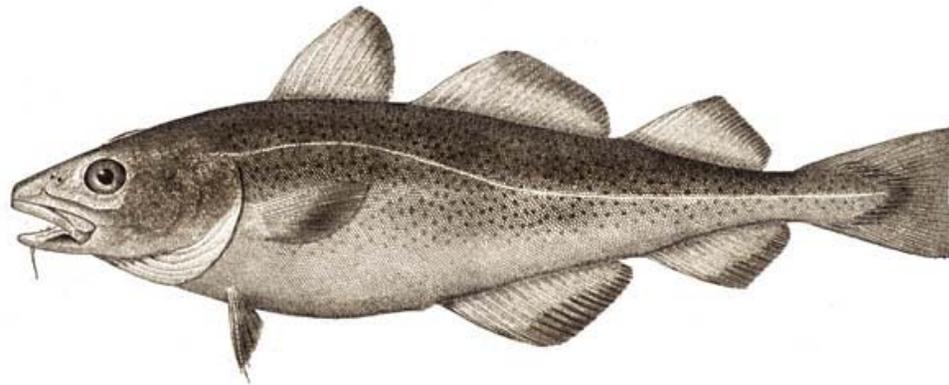




NOAA
FISHERIES

Northeast
Regional Office

Northeast Multispecies HPTRT Briefing



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Sector Policy Analyst

November 28, 2012

Outline

- Background Information
 - Sectors
 - Sector Exemptions
 - Effort Changes
- Anticipated Actions



Groundfish Sectors

- 18 Sectors
- Receive Annual Catch Entitlement (ACE)
- 6 sectors are 100% trawl gear
- 5 sectors mostly fixed gear/gillnet
 - GB Cod Fixed Gear Sector
 - Northeast Fishery Sectors 3, 11
 - Port Clyde
- 99% of fishing effort

Groundfish Sectors Continued

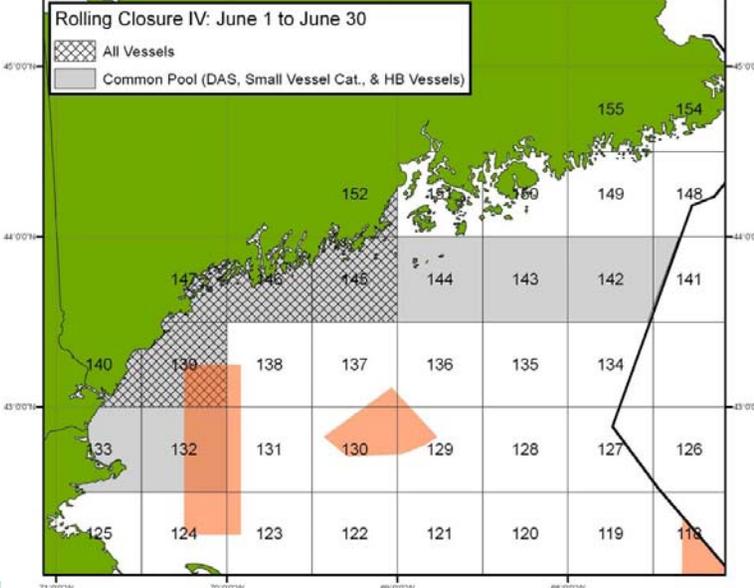
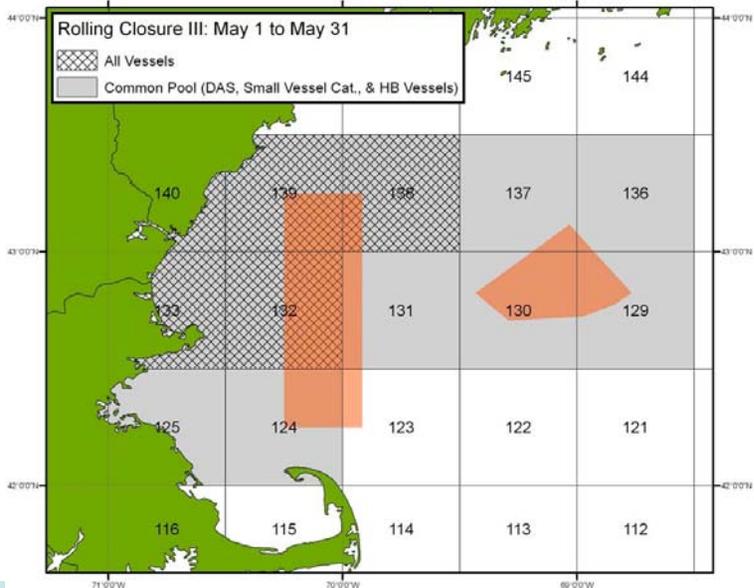
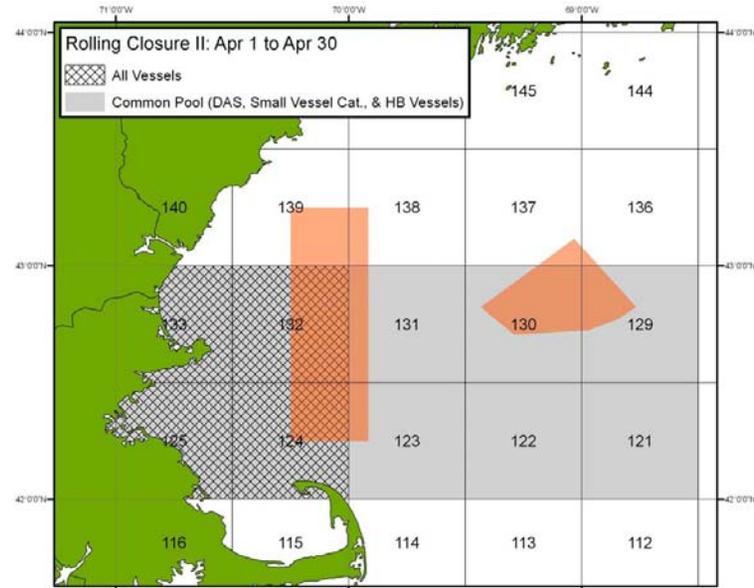
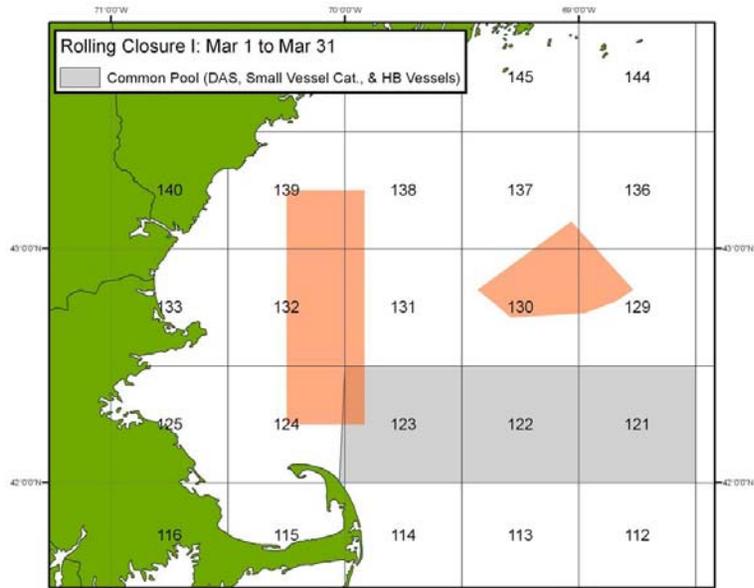
- Sectors submit annual operations plan Sept 1
 - Membership (December 1)
 - Harvest Rules
 - Distribution of allocation
 - Catch/Quota monitoring plan
 - Dockside/At-Sea monitoring plan
 - Enforcement provisions
 - Regulatory exemptions
- NMFS develops annual Environmental Assessment
- Proposed/final rule for all operations plans
- Approved annually



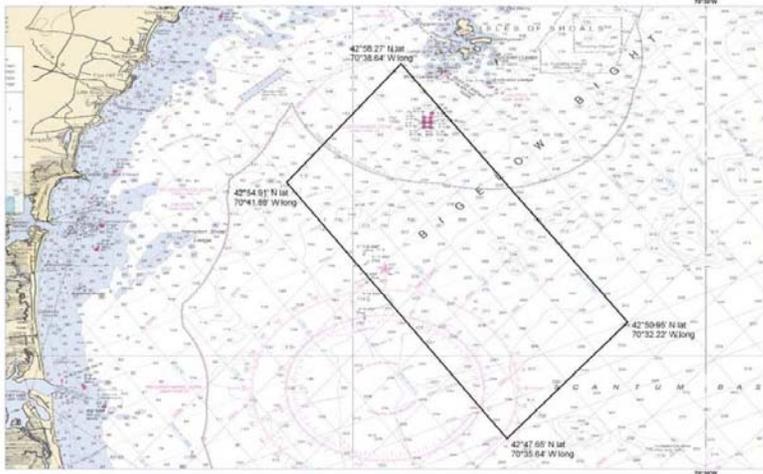
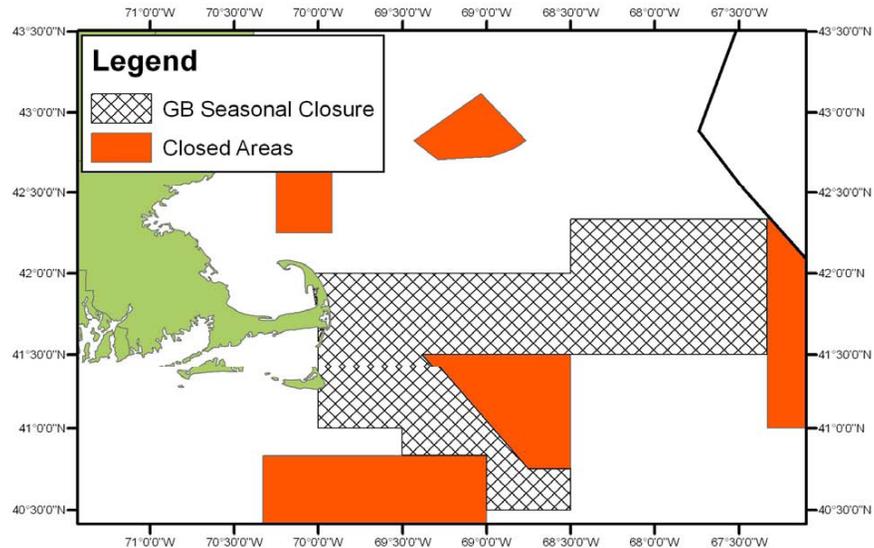
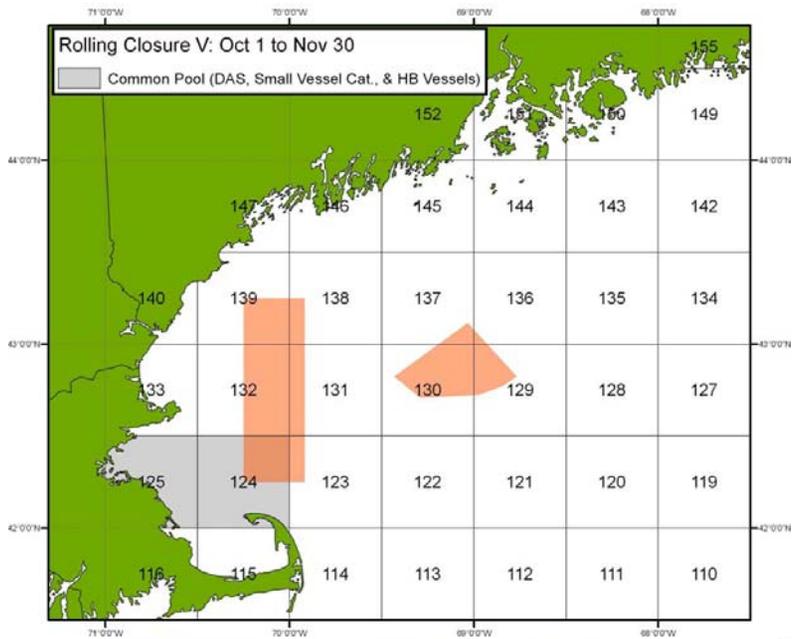
Sector Exemptions

- 20 current exemptions
- Increase efficiency
- Analyzed/approved for all sectors
 - 120 day gillnet block
 - 20 day spawning block
 - Community fixed gear
 - Limits on the number of gillnets
 - GOM sink gillnet exemption

Rolling Closure Area Modifications



RCA and other Modifications



- Sector Vessels Exempt from GB Seasonal Closure
- Whaleback closure June 1- June 30

Post-Sector Changes

- Decrease in allocation
 - Uncaught – haddock, pollock, redfish
 - Limiting stocks – GOM cod, white hake, yellowtail
- Increase in revenue
- Consolidation (fewer vessels catching more of the fish)
- Effort leaving groundfish



Summary of major trends (May through April, includes all vessels with a valid limited access multispecies permit)

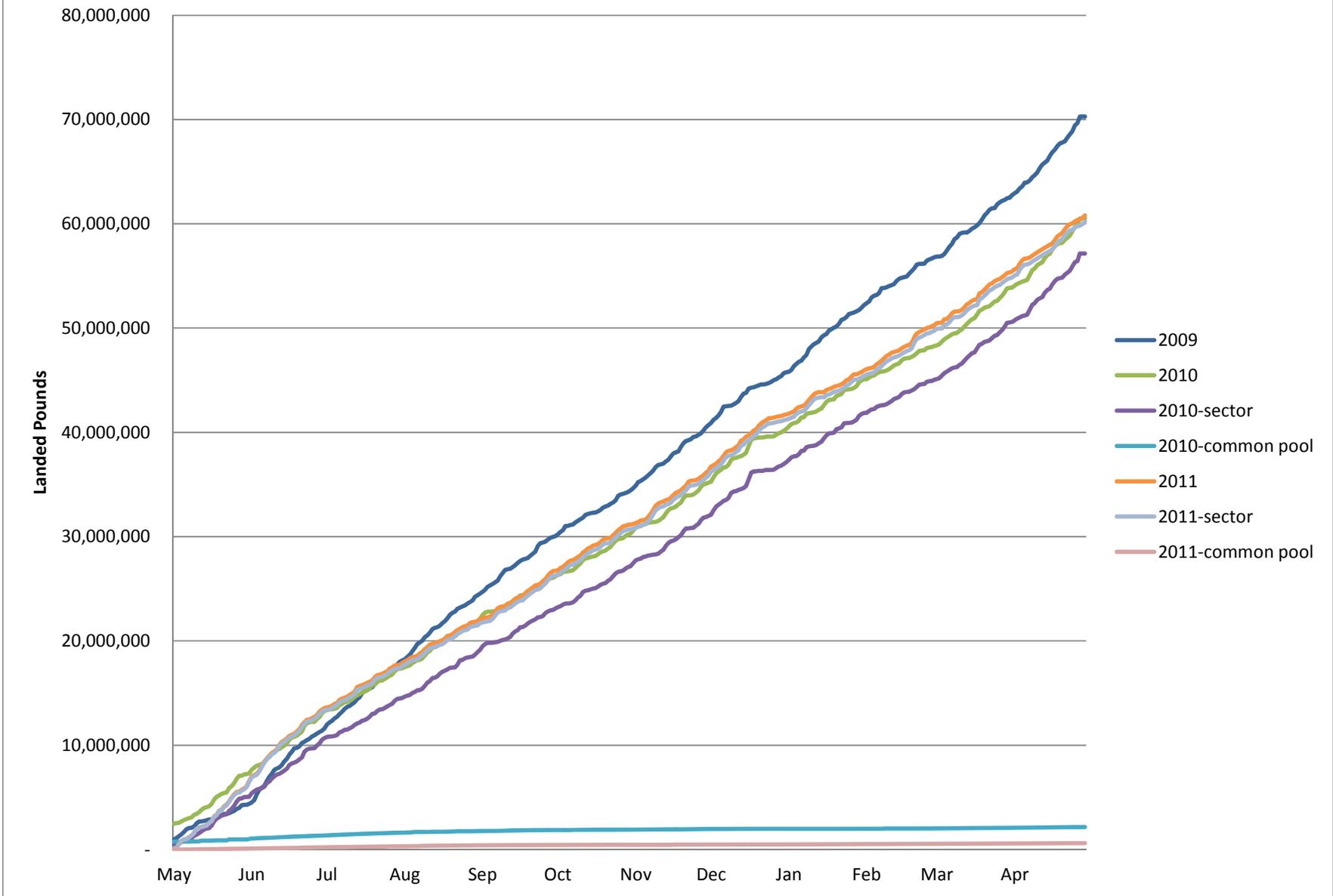
	2009	2010			2011		
		Total	Sector Vessels	Common Pool	Total	Sector Vessels	Common Pool
Groundfish Gross Nominal Revenue	\$84,112,835	\$82,984,988	\$80,750,083	\$2,234,905	\$90,115,537	\$89,144,311	\$971,226
Non-groundfish Gross Nominal Revenue	\$182,653,074	\$211,521,006	\$115,875,258	\$95,645,749	\$240,769,788	\$144,778,408	\$95,991,380
Number of active vessels*	957	890	440	456	805	446	366
Number of groundfish trips	26,056	13,441	11,159	2,282	15,929	13,642	2,287
Number of non-groundfish trips	39,943	41,753	16,791	24,962	36,386	17,002	19,384
Number of days absent on groundfish trips	24,237	17,614	16,057	1,558	20,724	19,227	1,498
Number of days absent on non-groundfish trips	31,241	31,552	15,446	16,106	27,913	14,973	12,940

Landings in landed weight (lb)

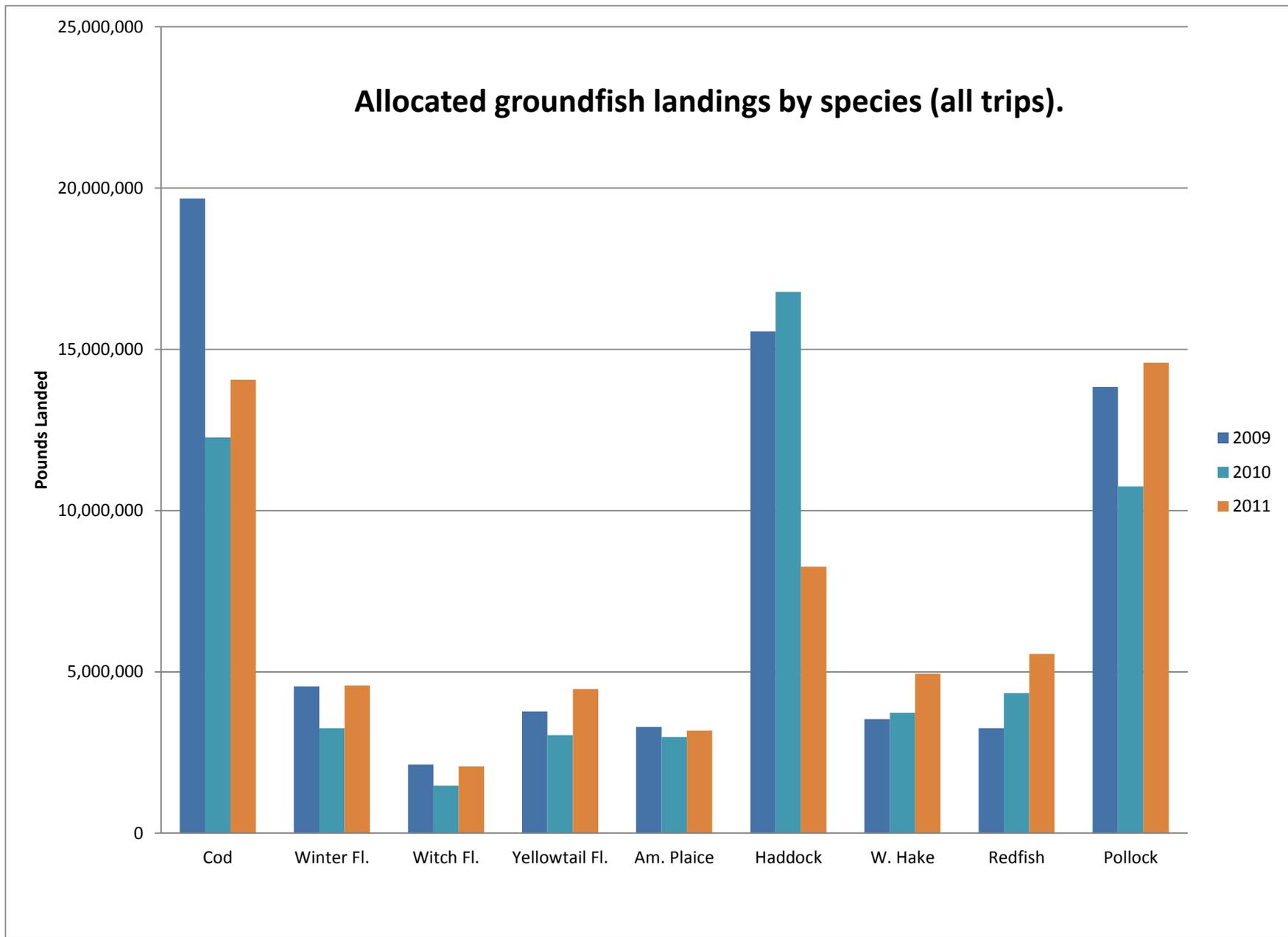
Groundfish revenue include estimate of missing dealer reports; dealer and vessel-reported revenue for other species.

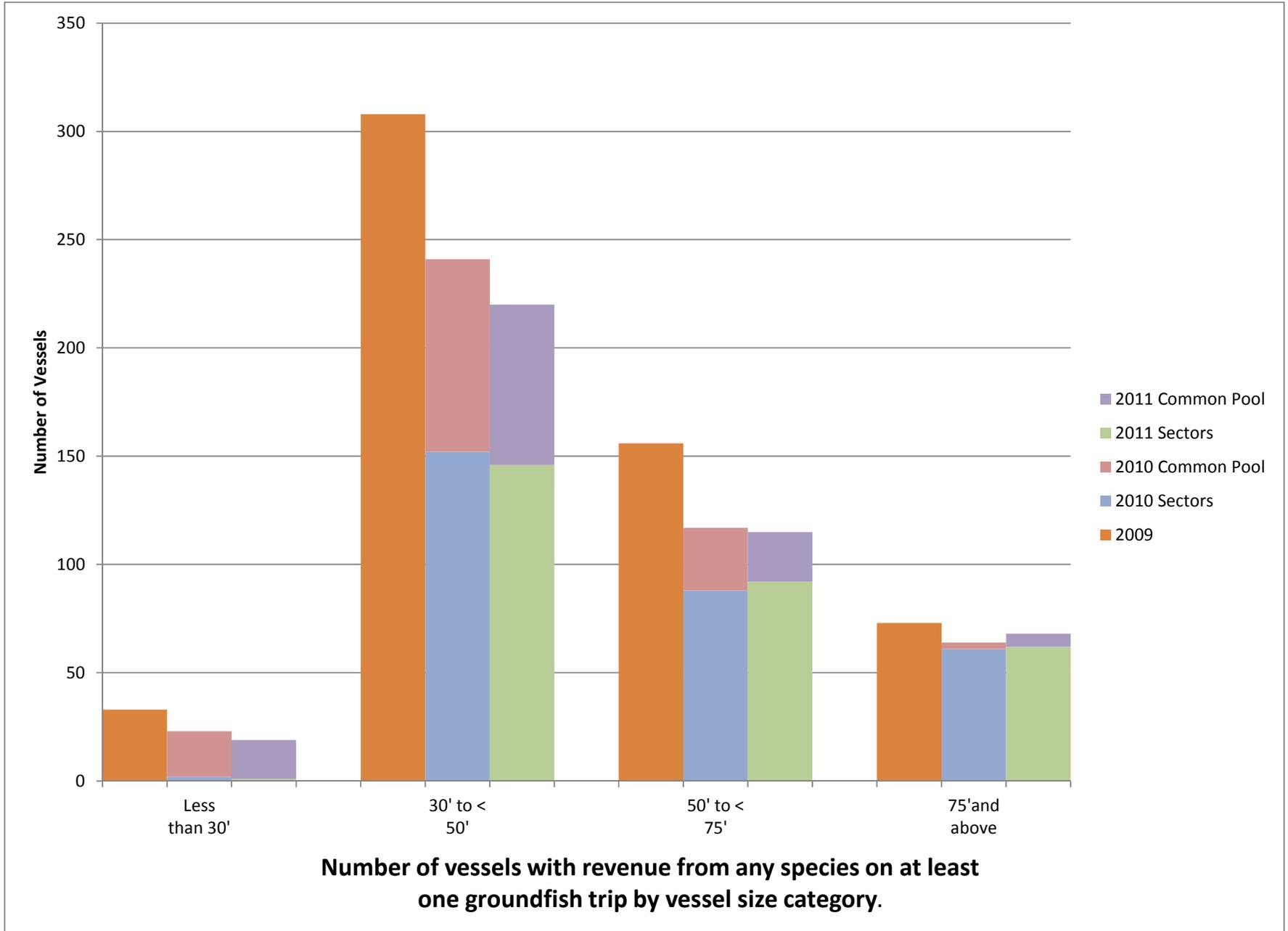
* Note sector vessels plus common pool counts may exceed total vessel count because vessels may switch between sector and common pool eligibilites during the fishing year.

Cumulative Landings of groundfish (all trips)



Allocated groundfish landings by species (all trips).





Sector Exemptions

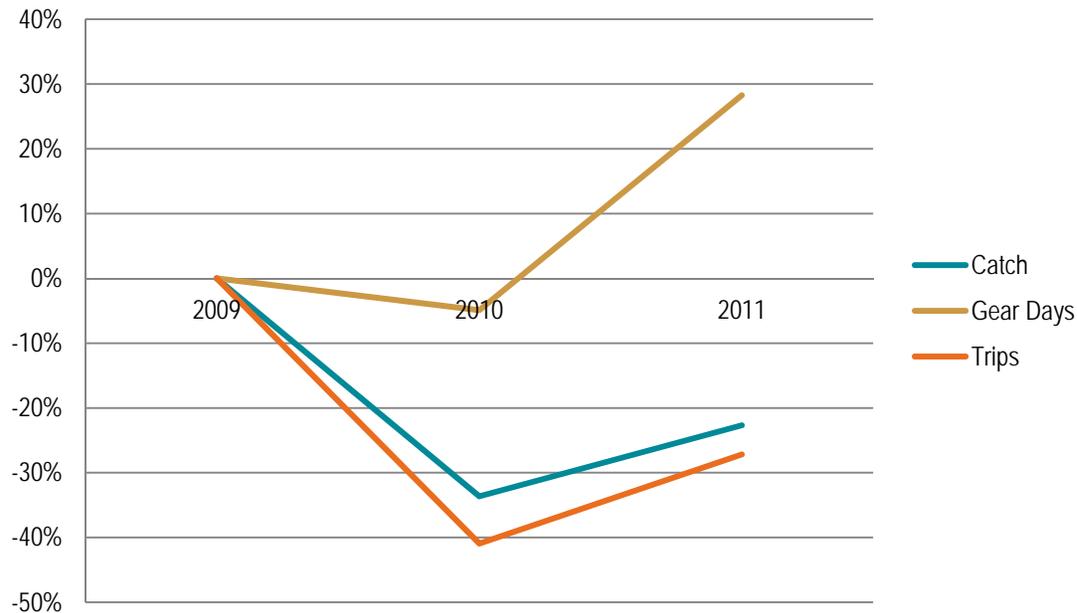


- Sector Specific Data
- Sector Exemptions
- Effort Changes

$$\text{GEAR DAY} = \frac{(\text{GEAR QUANTITY}) \times (\text{GEAR SIZE}) \times (\# \text{ OF HAULS}) \times (\text{SOAK OR TOW TIME})}{24 \text{ HOURS}}$$

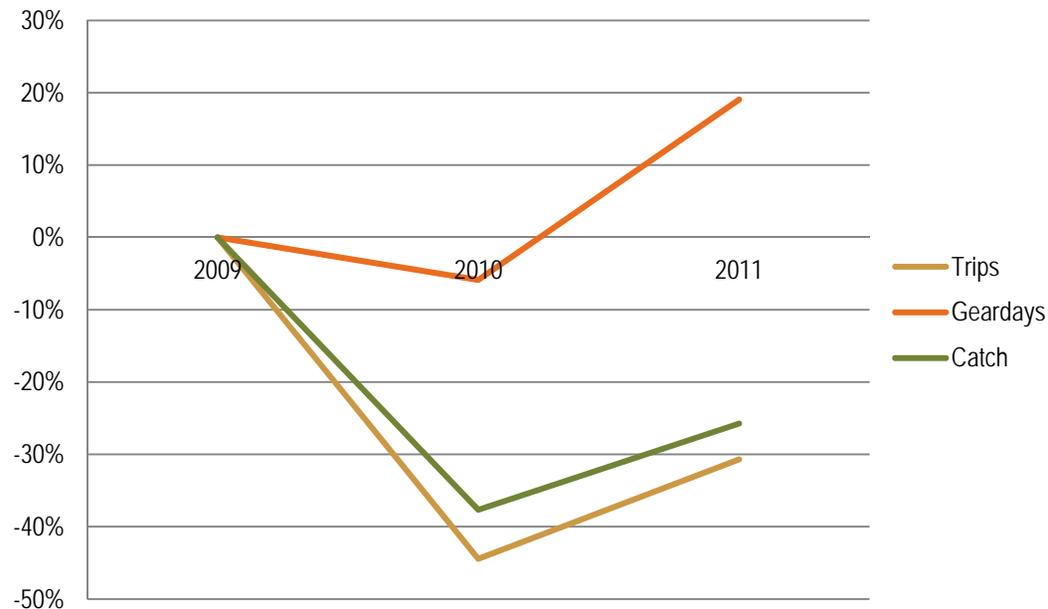
Overall Trips, Catch, and Geardays for Sector Vessels Fishing on All Gillnet Trips

Fishing Year	Trips	Catch (lbs)	Geardays
2009	10,932	30,810,087	452,131,220
2010	6,458	20,446,215	429,952,654
2011	7,962	23,819,894	579,985,179

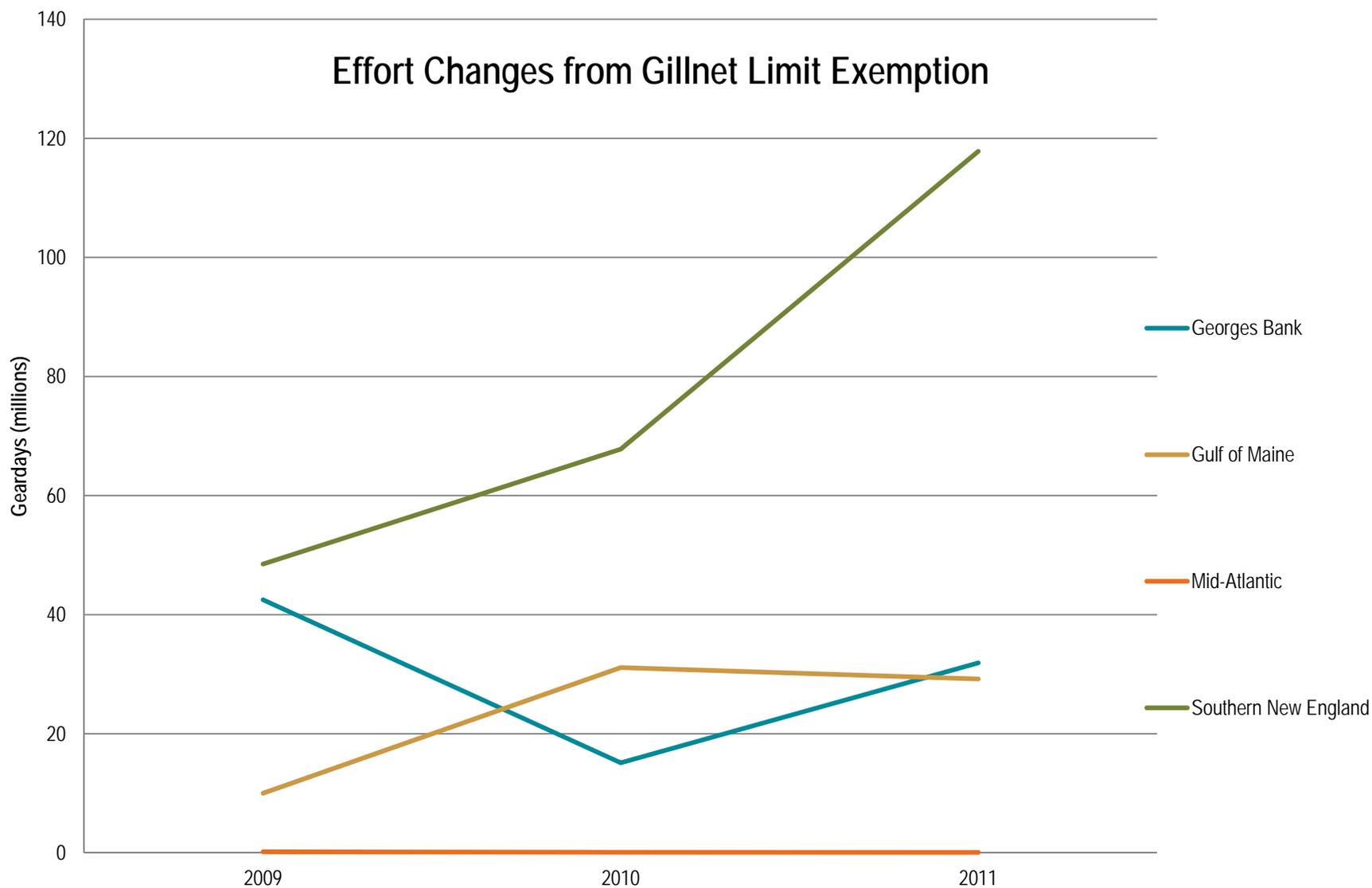


Overall Trips, Catch, and Geardays for Sector Vessels Fishing Gillnets on Groundfish Trips

Fishing Year	Trips	Catch (lbs)	Geardays
2009	10,740	30,255,595	438,692,622
2010	5,967	18,858,156	412,897,320
2011	7,443	22,465,607	522,341,695



Effort Changes from Gillnet Limit Exemption



Geardays for Gillnet Vessels Fishing Under a Monkfish/Groundfish DAS



Observed Takes by Gillnets (fixed, anchored, sink)

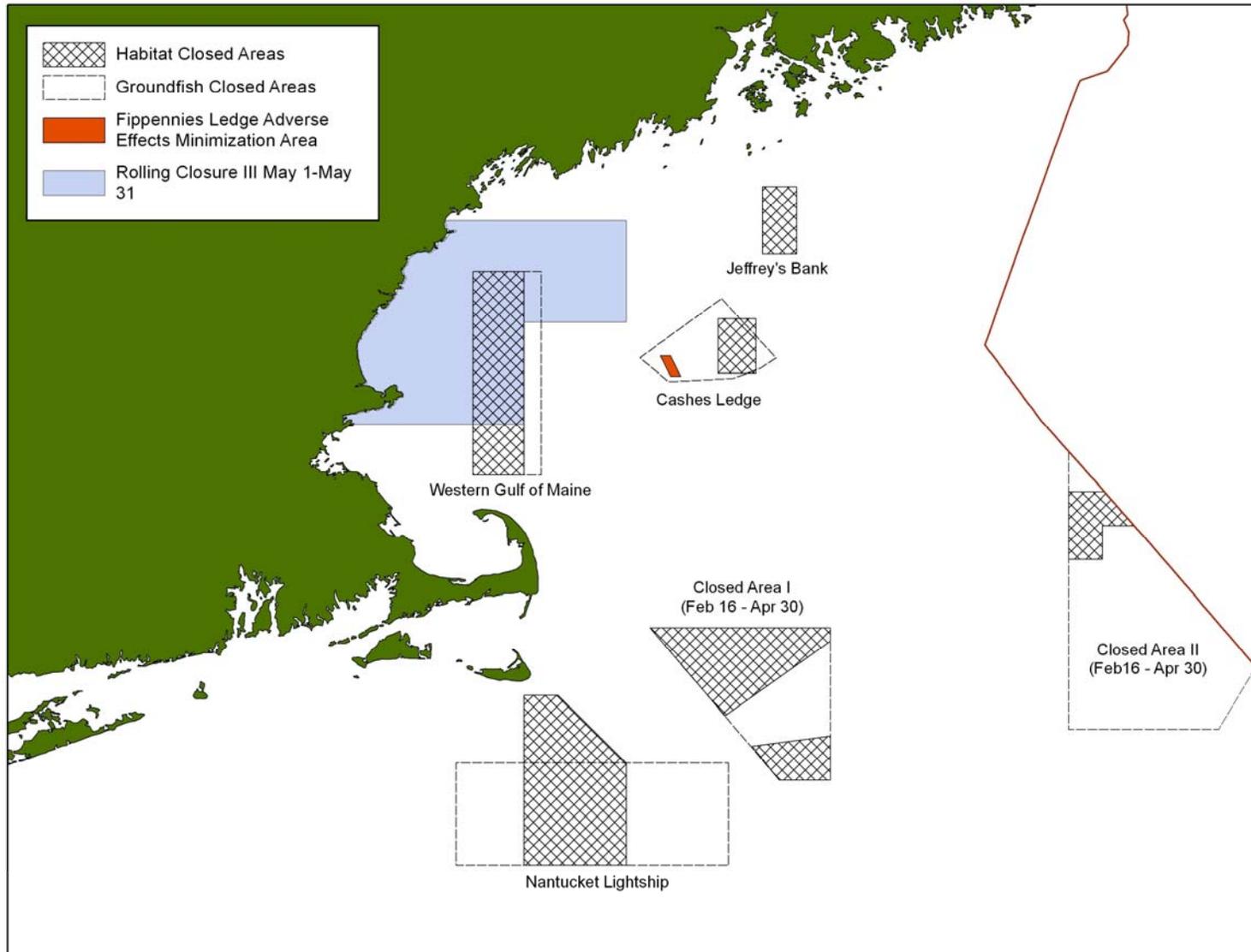
Species Category	Common Name	2009	2010	2011	Chi-squared	p*
Cetation	DOLPHIN, NK (MAMMAL)	0	0	1	2.00	1.0000
Cetation	DOLPHIN, WHITESIDED	1	1	0	1.00	1.0000
Cetation	DOLPHIN, COMMON (OLD SA	1	1	2	0.50	1.0000
Cetation	MARINE MAMMAL, NK	0	1	0	2.00	1.0000
Cetation	PORPOISE, HARBOR	18	31	10	11.42	0.0029
Cetation	PORPOISE/DOLPHIN, NK	0	0	2	4.00	0.3311
Cetation	WHALE, PILOT, NK	0	1	0	2.00	1.0000
Pinniped	SEAL, GRAY	52	41	53	1.82	0.4141
Pinniped	SEAL, HARBOR	27	4	30	19.90	0.0001
Pinniped	SEAL, HARP	2	1	0	2.00	0.7859
Pinniped	SEAL, NK	9	9	0	9.00	0.0138

Upcoming Actions/Issues

- Closed Area Exemption Requests
- New Annual Catch Limits



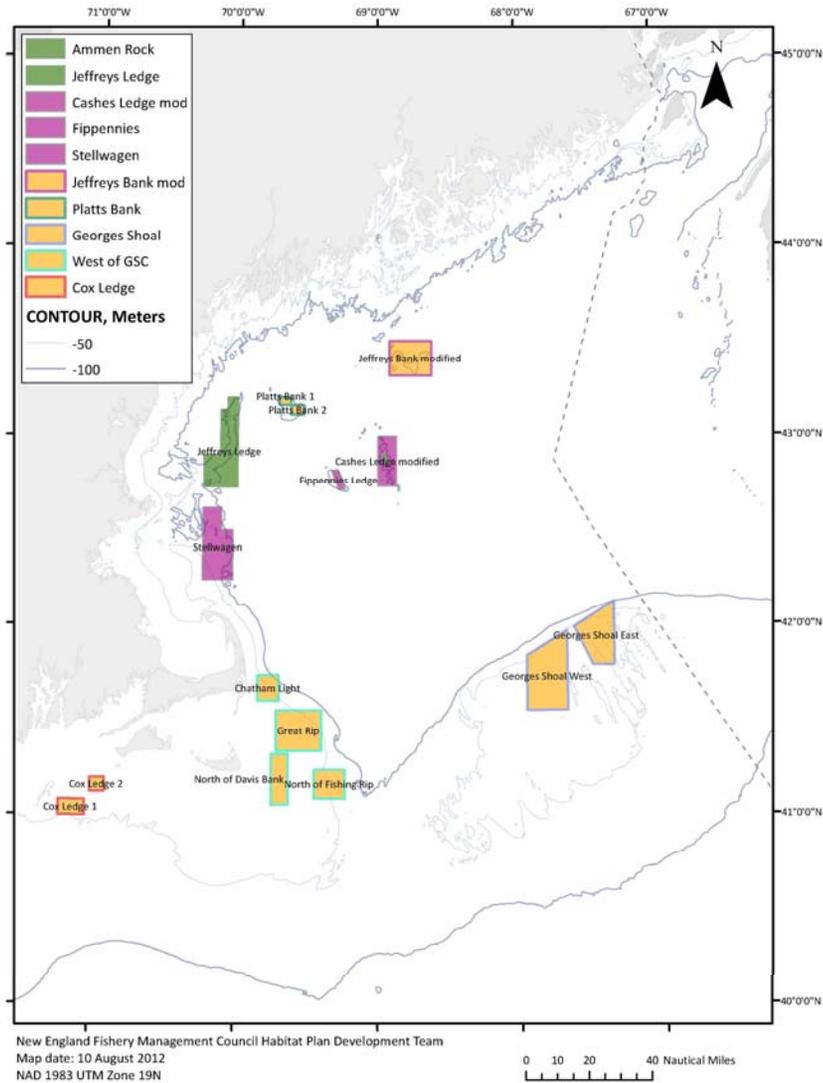
Closed Area Sector Exemption Request



Closed Area Sector Exemption Request

- Sectors currently unable to request exemptions from year-round closed areas
- Council reconsidering through FW 48
- Sectors could request access to mortality closures
- Not EFH areas or areas currently under consideration in Habitat Omnibus Amendment
- Detailed analyses and potential approval by NMFS through rulemaking
- EFH areas may be changing in Habitat Omnibus

Proposed EFH Areas in Omnibus



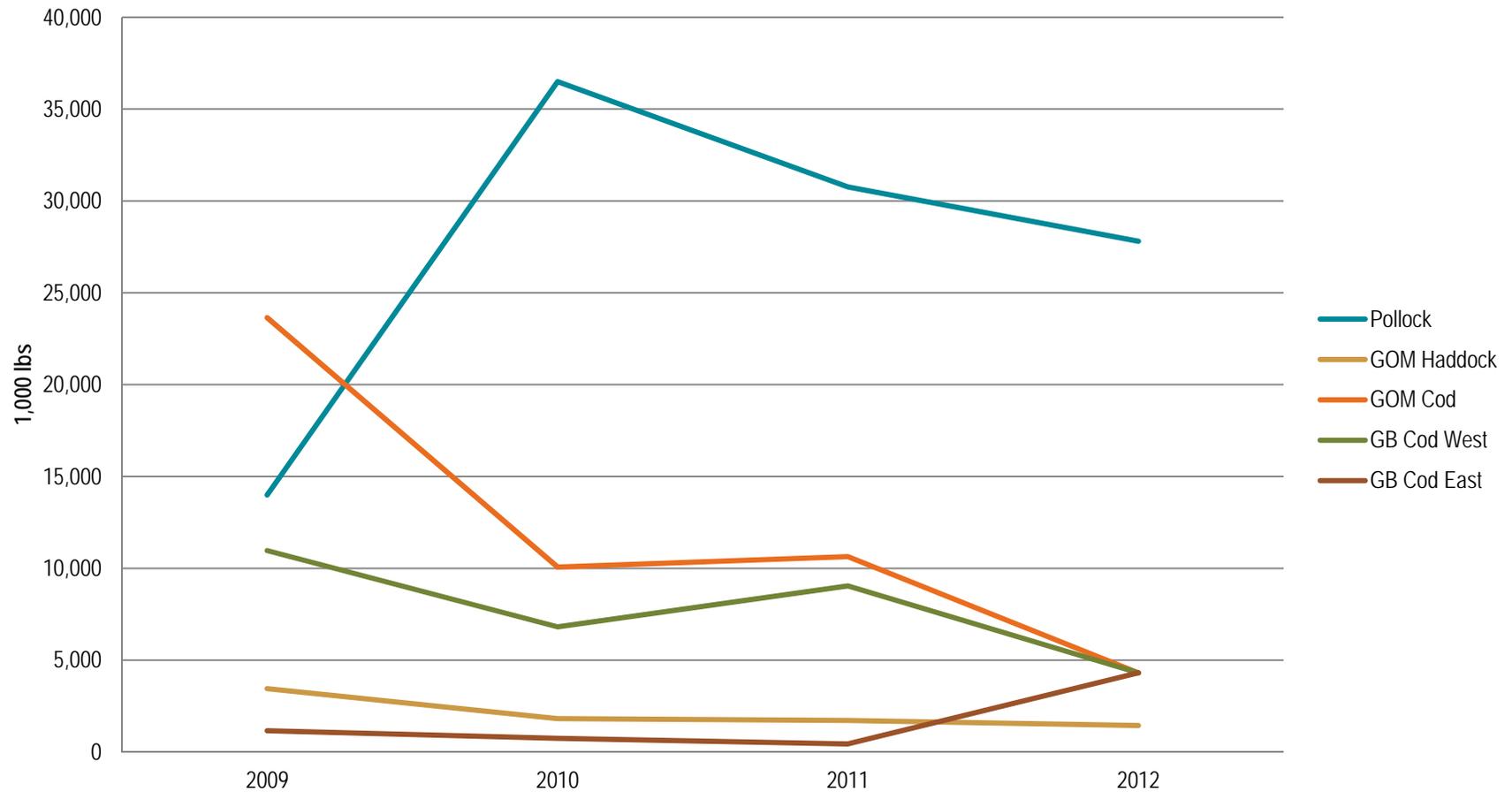
Changes in ACL Specifications

Commercial Groundfish Sub ACL FY 2009 to FY 2012							
Groundfish Stock	FY 2009 target/hard TAC (1,000 lbs)	FY 2010 ACL (1,000 lbs)	% Change 2009-10	FY 2011 ACL (1,000 lbs)	% Change 2010-11	FY 2012 ACL (1,000 lbs)	% Change 2011-12
Witch Flounder	2,489	1,878	-25%	2,725	45%	3,192	8%
White Hake	5,238	5,635	8%	6,557	16%	7,238	10%
SNE/MA Yellowtail Flounder	858	683	-20%	1,155	69%	1,676	45%
Redfish	18,991	15,093	-21%	16,625	10%	18,653	1040%
Pollock	13,991	36,493	161%	30,759	-16%	27,805	-10%
Plaice	7,086	6,279	-11%	6,852	9%	7,227	5%
GOM Winter Flounder	836	348	-58%	348	0%	1,576	353%
GOM Haddock	3,448	1,819	-47%	1,715	-6%	1,440	-16%
GOM Cod	23,642	10,069	-57%	10,637	6%	4,310	-59%
GB Yellowtail Flounder	3,565	1,814	-49%	2,518	39%	4,310	81%
GB Winter Flounder	4,418	4,083	-8%	4,425	8%	4,310	69%
GB Haddock West	171,861	62,726	-64%	46,165	-26%	4,310	-2%
GB Haddock East	24,471	26,429	8%	21,253	-20%	4,310	-29%
GB Cod West	10,966	6,817	-38%	9,041	33%	4,310	8%
GB Cod East	1,162	745	-36%	441	-41%	4,310	-19%
CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder	1,896	1,717	-9%	2,072	21%	4,310	11%
Totals	294,917	182,629	-38%	163,288	-11%	103,287	-6%



ACL Changes for Some Key Gillnet Stocks

Commercial Groundfish Sub ACL FY 2009-12



Proposed Changes for FY 2013

Stock	U.S. ABC	Total ACL	Groundfish sub-ACL
GB cod	-31% to -97%	-31% to -97%	-31% to -97%
GOM cod	na	-43% to -89%	-47% to -90%
GB Haddock	-5%	-5%	-5%
GOM Haddock	-71%	-71%	-71%
GB Yellowtail Flounder	-62%	-62%	-58% to -85%
SNE Yellowtail Flounder	-30%	-29%	-21%
CC/GOM Yellowtail Flounder	-53%	-53%	-54%
Plaice	-57%	-57%	-57%
Witch Flounder	-52%	-52%	-58%
GB Winter Flounder	0%	0%	2%
GOM Winter Flounder	0%	0%	0%
SNE/MA Winter Flounder	11%	11%	11%
Redfish	19%	19%	22%
White Hake	0%	0%	2%
Pollock	1%	1%	2%
Northern Windowpane	-13%	-12%	-24%
Southern Windowpane	42%	42%	42%
Ocean Pout	-8%	-8%	-8%
Halibut	16%	16%	44%
Wolffish	-16%	-15%	-15%

Conclusions

- Overall fishing effort has decreased in response to a reduction in allocation. This will continue next fishing year.
- Too soon to tell how sector exemptions have affected gillnet effort – more years of data will be helpful.
- Fewer fish/allocation may mean less effort or could mean more effort trying to find fish.