

Spiny Dogfish



December 2018 (NEFMC)

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Outline

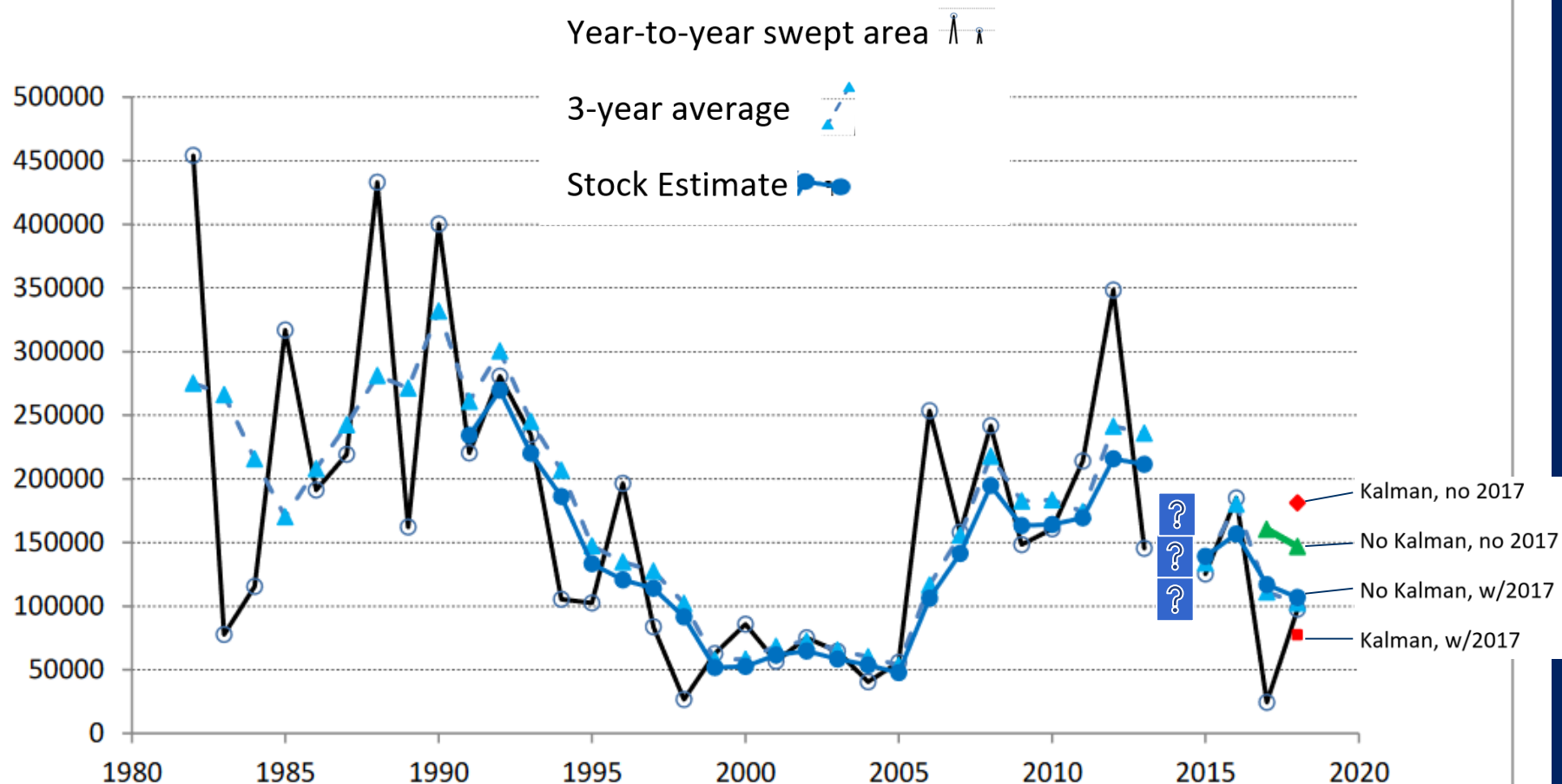
1. Stock Status and Biological Reference Points
2. Regulatory Review
3. Recent Fishery Performance
4. Advisory Panel Fishery Performance Reports
5. ABC Projections, Quota & Other Recommendations

Stock Status

- Last benchmark: SARC 43 (2006)
 - stochastic estimator of spawning stock biomass and fishing mortality
- 2018 assessment update
 - Not overfished in 2018 (67% of target), overfishing not occurring in 2017 (83% of threshold*).

Next benchmark planned spring 2022

Female spawning stock biomass Estimates 1982-2018



Pup Production

Pup Index, 1968-2018

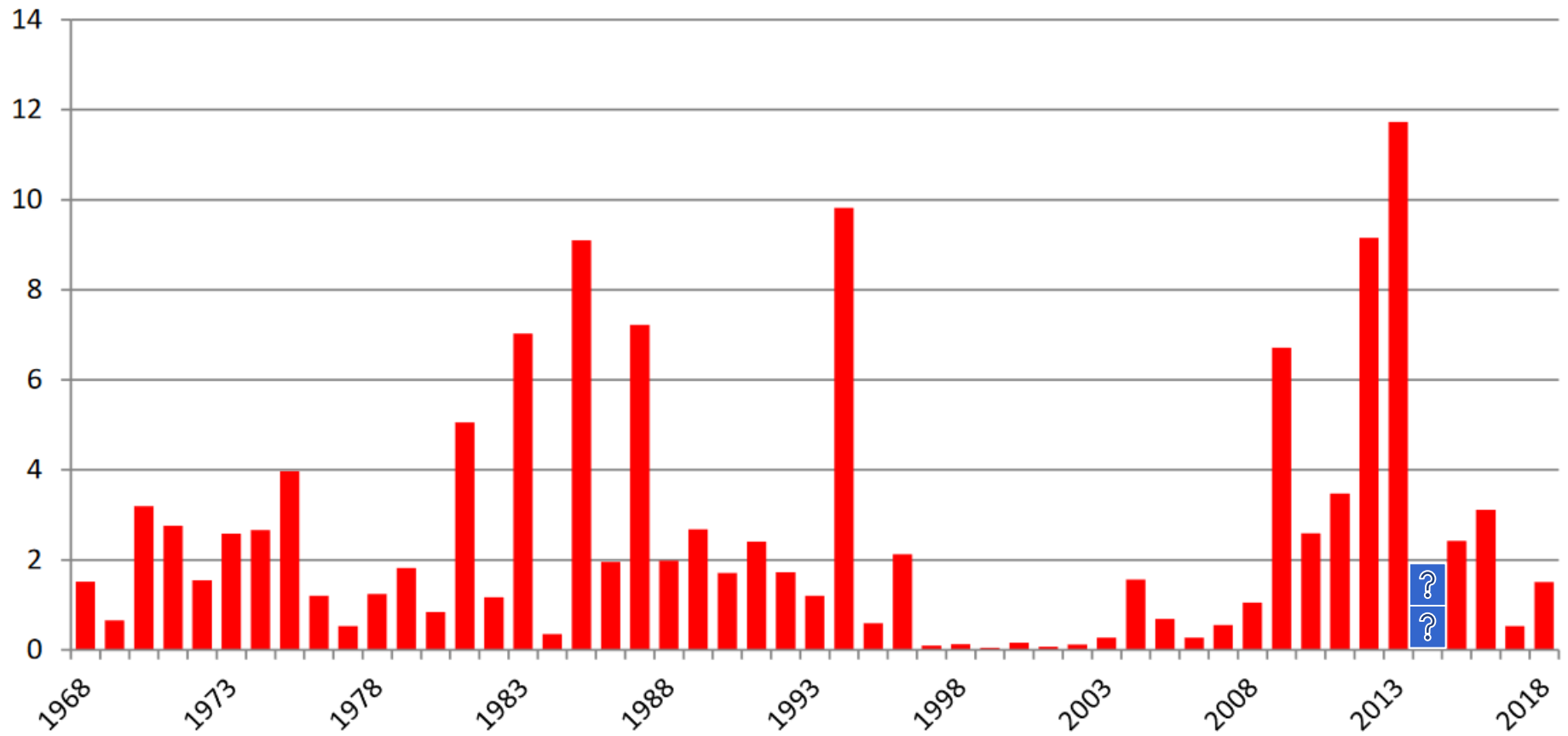


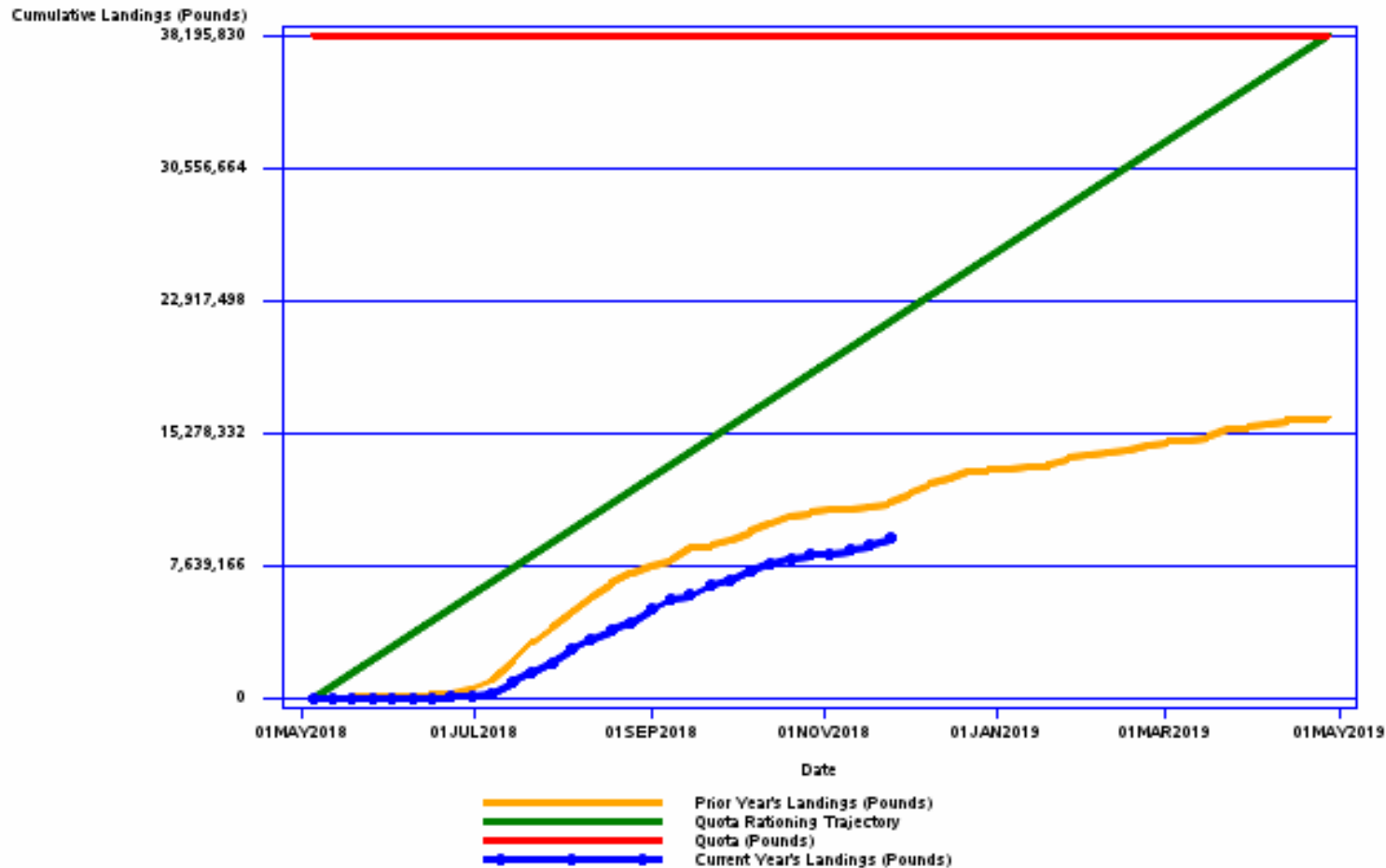
Figure 6. Estimated swept area biomass (mt) of total pups (spiny dogfish ≤ 35 cm) captured in the NEFSC spring bottom trawl survey, 1968-2018. Survey was incomplete in 2014; no estimate available.

Regulatory Review

- Current ABC = 22,635 MT
- 18-19 Quota = 17,325 MT (38.2 mil lbs)
- Open access
- Federal Trip Limit = 6,000 pounds
- 2017 fishing year landed about* 16.5 million lbs

Regulatory Review

Spiny Dogfish Quota Monitoring Report



Data through November 24, 2018

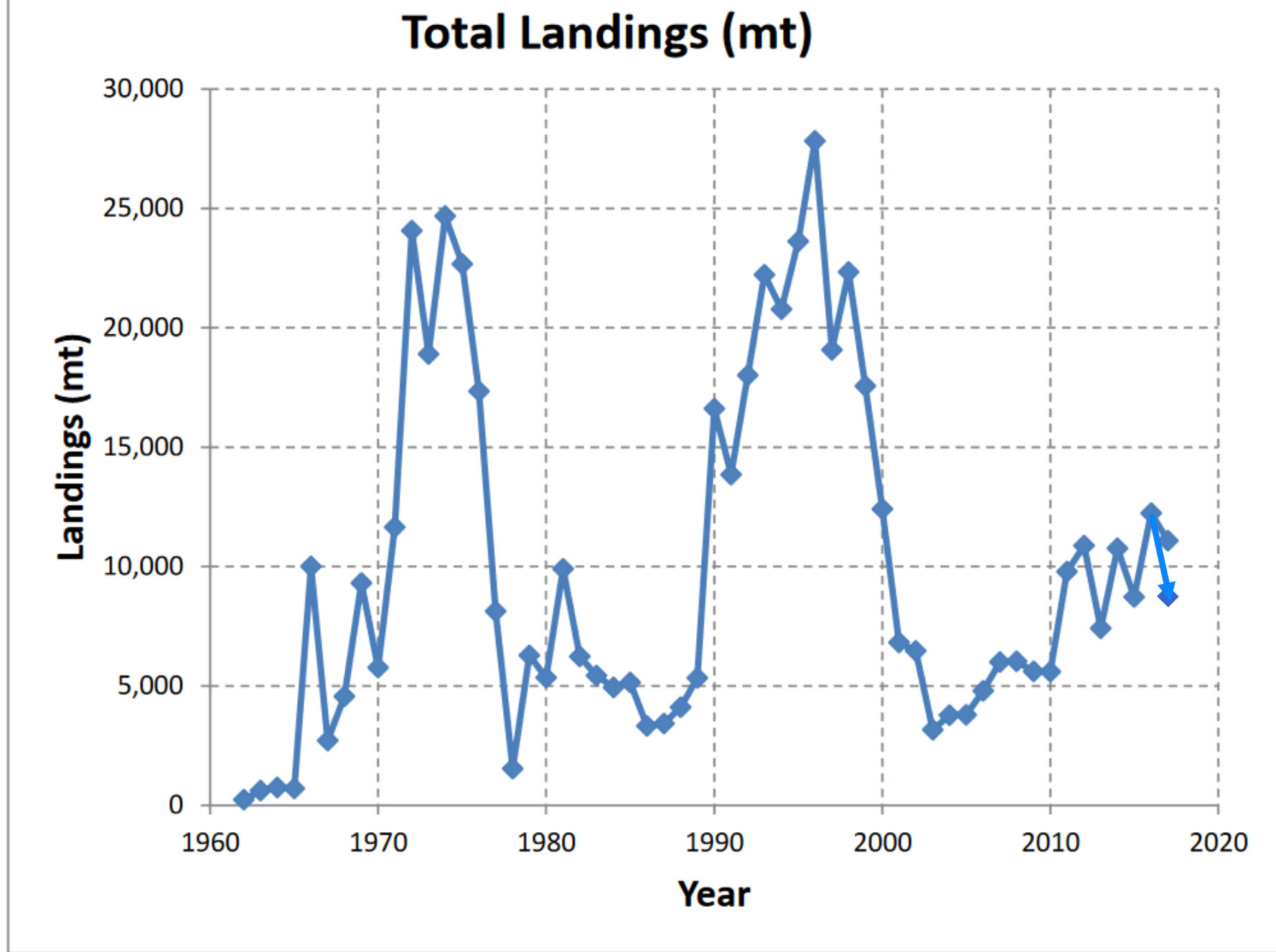
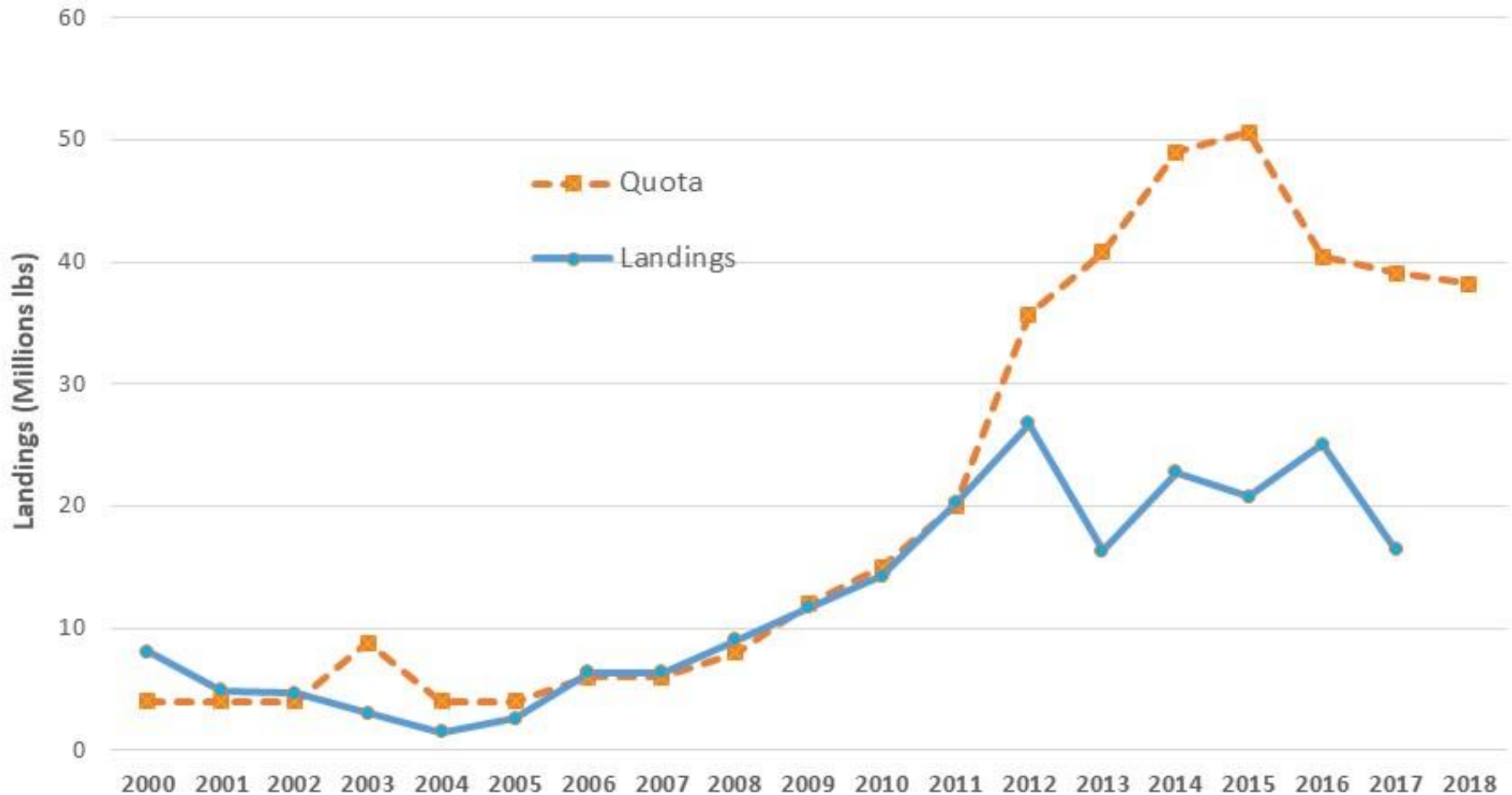


Figure 1. Estimated total landings (mt, live) of spiny dogfish in NAFO Areas 2 to 6, 1962-2017.

Fishery Performance

Commercial Spiny Dogfish Landings and Quotas (fishing year) 2000 fwd



Fishery Performance Report

- Markets, Markets, Markets
 - Price
- Boats have no problem catching trip limit
- No observations of drastic abundance changes in recent years
- Different regional perspectives on trip limits
- 2017 VA issue

Staff ABC Recommendation

- Consistent with projections in update, which are based on Council Risk Policy
- Standard smoothing (2016 2017 2018)
 - No Kalman
- P^* = Acceptable probability of overfishing = 26.9%, 27.4%, 29.6%
 - 100% CV (coefficient of variation)

Staff ABC Recommendation

- 12,914 MT for 2019; 14,126 MT for 2020; 16,043 MT for 2021
- Lower than current (22,635 MT) due in part to lower biomass, partly to lower tolerated risk of overfishing with lower biomass
- Risk policy advises more precaution with higher uncertainty

SSC

- Substantial discussion of smoothing, 2017 data, survey reliability/selectivity
- Survey low accuracy, affected by availability
- Different smoothing = different results
 - Biomass uncertainty
 - Pup & Size structure uncertainty
- Endorsed staff recommendation

Monitoring Committee

- Reporting issues
- Survey concerns
- Canada: most recent year
- Management Buffer: none
- Discards: 3-year average
- Rec: most recent year
- Trip Limits

Monitoring Committee

Table 1. SDMC-Recommended Specifications

Specifications	Basis	2019 (pounds)	2019 (mt)	2020 (pounds)	2020 (mt)	2021 (pounds)	2021 (mt)
OFL (from SSC)	Projected Catch at Fmsy	0	0	na	na	na	na
ABC (from SSC)	Council Risk Policy	28,470,497	12,914	31,142,499	14,126	35,368,761	16,043
Canadian Landings	= 2017 estimate	108,027	49	108,027	49	108,027	49
Domestic ABC	= ABC – Canadian Landings	28,362,470	12,865	31,034,473	14,077	35,260,734	15,994
ACL	= Domestic ABC	28,362,470	12,865	31,034,473	14,077	35,260,734	15,994
Mgmt Uncert Buffer	Ave pct overage since 2011	0	0	0	0	0	0
ACT	= ACL - mgmt uncert buffer	28,362,470	12,865	31,034,473	14,077	35,260,734	15,994
U.S. Discards	=3 year average 15-16-17	7,661,064	3,475	7,661,064	3,475	7,661,064	3,475
TAL	ACT – Discards	20,701,406	9,390	23,373,409	10,602	27,599,671	12,519
U.S. Rec Landings	= 2017 estimate	178,574	81	178,574	81	178,574	81
Comm Quota	TAL – Rec Landings	20,522,832	9,309	23,194,835	10,521	27,421,096	12,438

Monitoring Committee – Trip Limits

- Depends on policy goals
- Given low landings in 2017 fishing year and 2018 so far, no technical cause to change.
- Varied perspectives among participants.
 - Limited opportunity for public input in specs

Committee/ MAFMC

- SSC/Monitoring Committee recommendation went to Committee and then Committee to Council...
- Committee = Monitoring Committee for specs
- Consider an action on trip limits
- Encourage Science Center to be proactive with assessment (2022)

NEFMC

- At Sept 2018 mtg recommended:
- MAFMC increase trip limit up to 8,000 pounds
- Consider an action on trip limits

Massachusetts

- Economics White Paper
- “Given the constraints of global demand and processing costs, an increase in trip limits at this time will likely lead to lower prices to the boat and time off the water.”
- Explore new markets and handling/processing improvements

MAFMC

- Adopted previously-discussed specs
- Added trip limit action (Framework?) for further consideration next week as **possible** 2019 priority.
- Recommended no trip limit changes via specs
- Recommended Center take proactive approach w/ 2022 assessment

ASMFC

- Adopted previously-discussed specs for coastwide quotas
- 6,000-pound commercial trip limit for the northern region states
- Supported Councils pursuing trip limit action
 - Working group will review +/- of eliminating the federal trip limit

QUESTIONS?