



Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission



Evaluación de la población de atún aleta amarilla en el Océano Pacífico Oriental: evaluación de referencia de 2025 y análisis auxiliares

Stock assessment of yellowfin tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean: 2025 benchmark assessment and auxiliary analyses

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(SAC-16-03 and SAC-16-INF-F)

16^a Reunión del Comité Científico Asesor - 2-6 de junio de 2025
16th Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee – 2-6 June 2025
La Jolla, California, USA-EE.UU.



Temario—Outline

- Antecedentes
- Modelo conceptual
- Datos Supuestos y parámetros
- Modelos
- Resultados de la evaluación
- Estado de la población
- Direcciones futuras

- Background
- Conceptual model
- Data
- Assumptions and parameters
- Models
- Assessment results
- Stock status
- Future directions

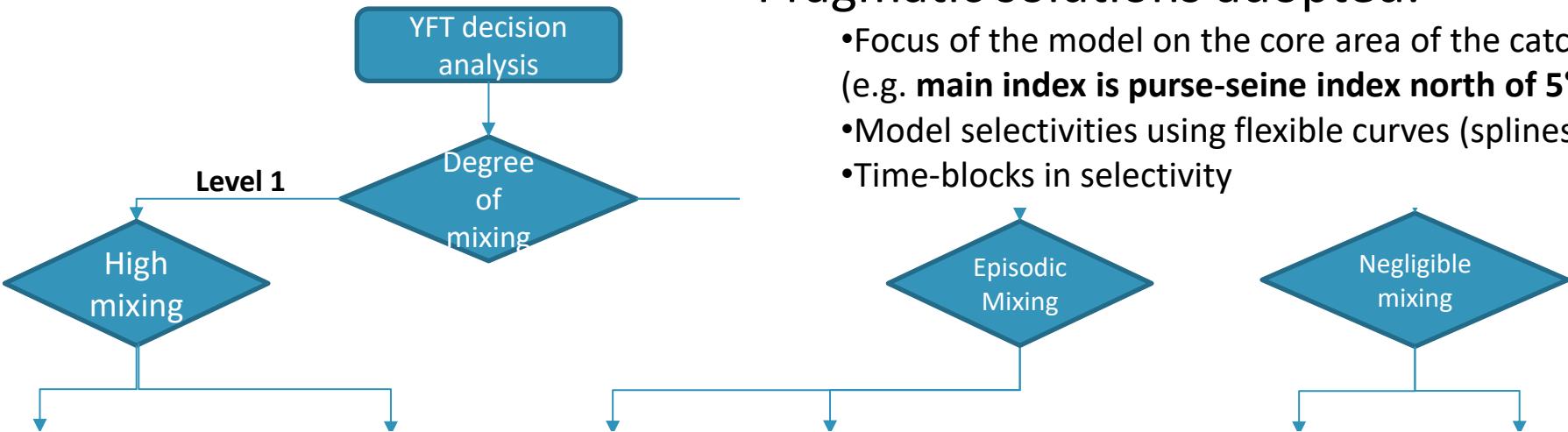
Background: Benchmark Assessment SAC-11-07 2020

Issues that remained:

- Stock structure/spatial structure (explorations on how to “split” stocks inconclusive)
- Bimodal/multimodal patterns in length composition of fisheries and index
- Uncertainty in growth and natural mortality

Pragmatic solutions adopted:

- Focus of the model on the core area of the catches (e.g. **main index is purse-seine index north of 5°N**)
- Model selectivities using flexible curves (splines)
- Time-blocks in selectivity

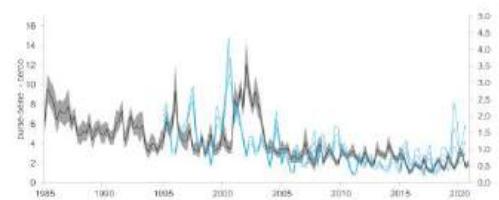
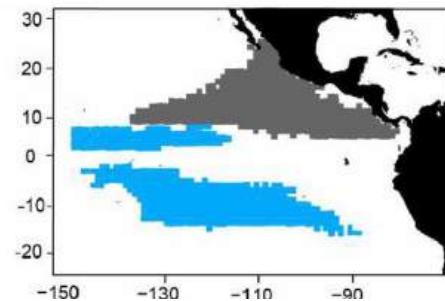


Background: Exploratory analyses SAC-14-06 2023

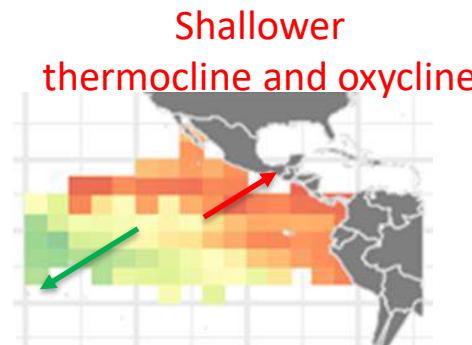
I.Genetic and genomic data is sparse but points towards spatial structure (NE vs SW)

II.Archival tagging data shows limited movement

III.PS-DEL index and **LL index**:
do not overlap in space and are dominated by different cohorts



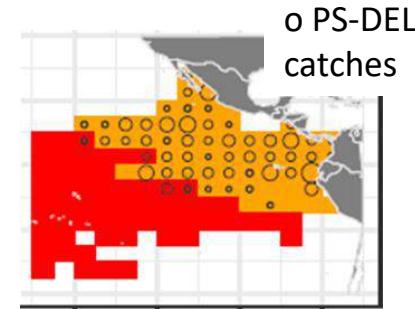
IV.“Stock” structure may be related to broad oceanographic patterns, and may vary temporally



Deeper
thermocline and
oxycline

Shallower
thermocline and oxycline

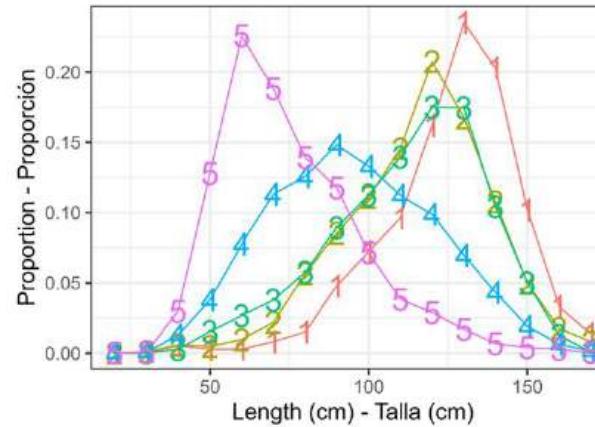
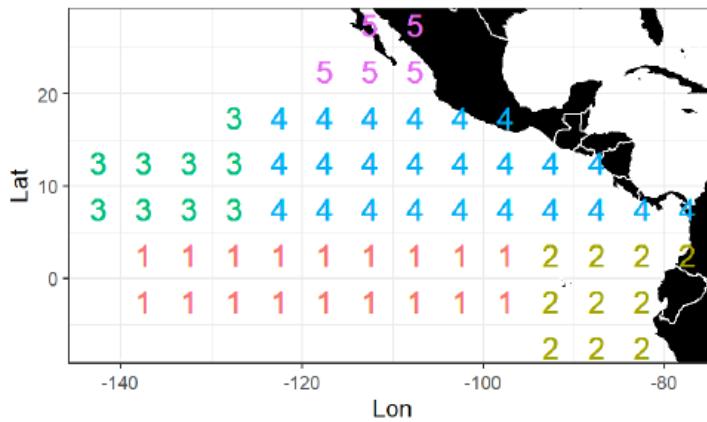
V.“Stocks” may occupy irregular areas, not able to split using latitude and longitude”.



Areas based on
habitat and tree
analysis of PS-OBJ
length frequencies

Background: Exploratory models SAC-15-03 2024

- There is spatial structure even within PS-DEL area
- May be related to stock structure
- Limitations of the methods to discriminate areas: only along latitude and longitude
- Index associated with multimodal length compositions



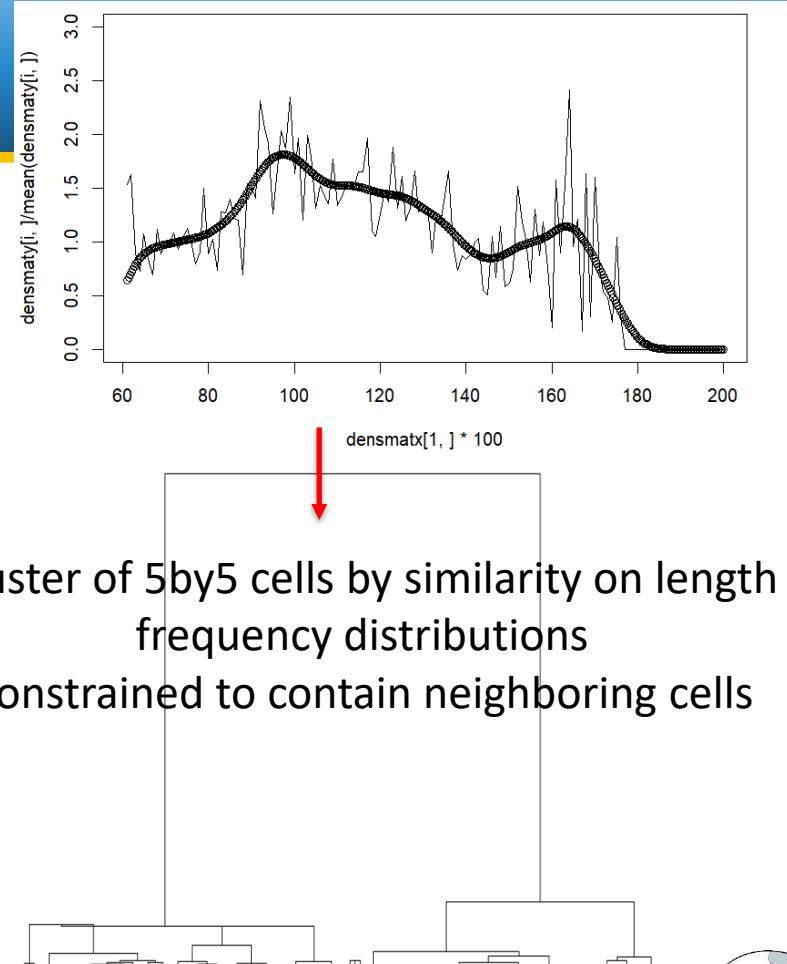
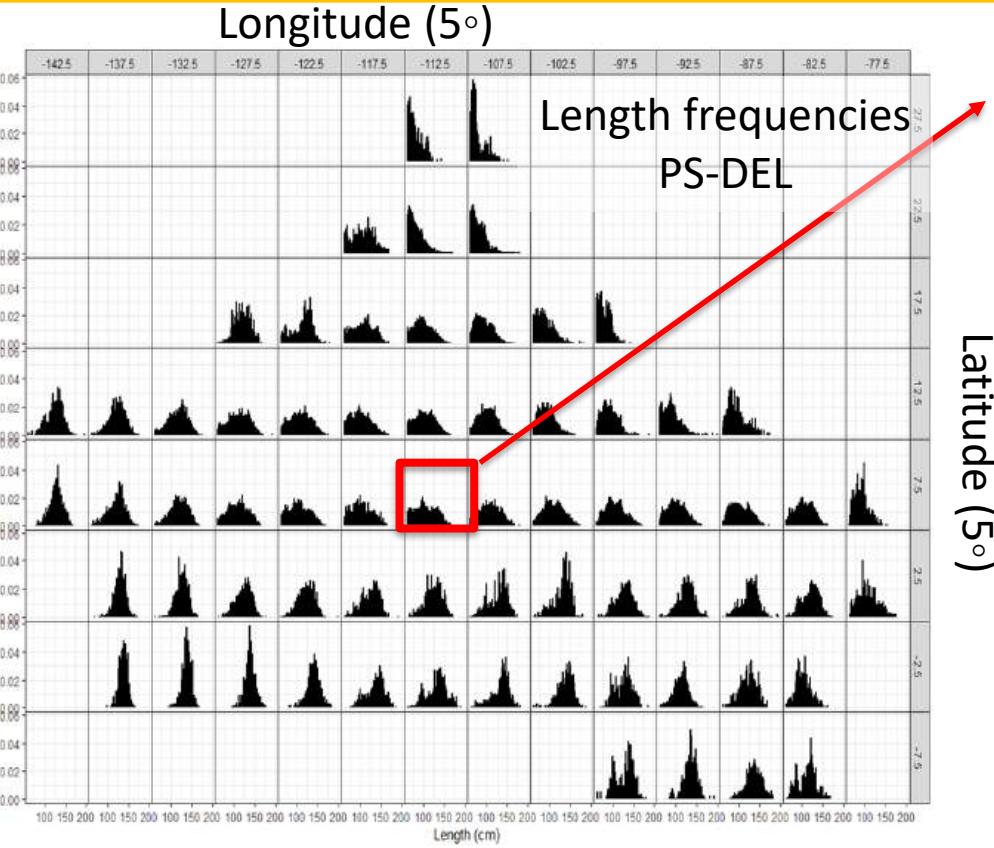
Workplan: 2025 benchmark assessment

- Cluster analysis for irregular areas
- Flexible well-behaved asymptotic selectivity curves
- Spatio-temporal analysis of tagging data
- Longline CPUE index based on all distant water fleets
- Investigate dolphin associated fishery CPUE index
- Investigate within-year depletion in the DEL index
- Investigate changes in the ecosystem after the 1997-1998 el Niño
- Further develop models of stock structure

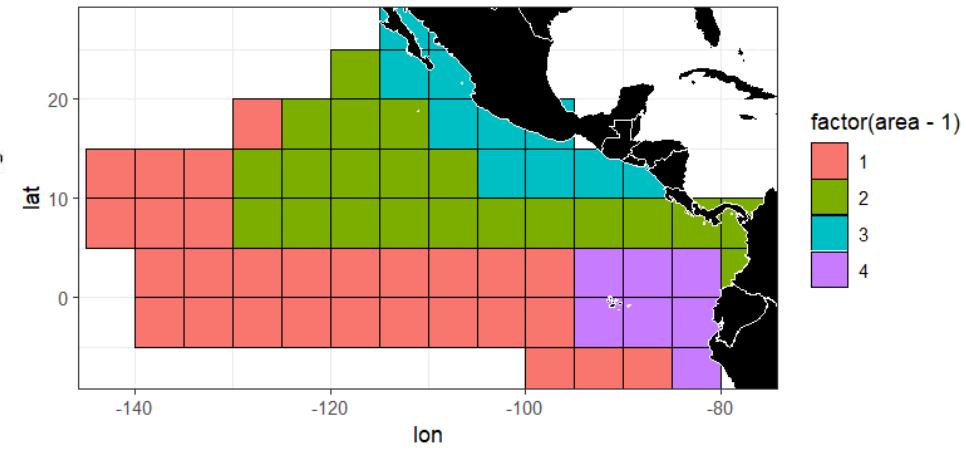
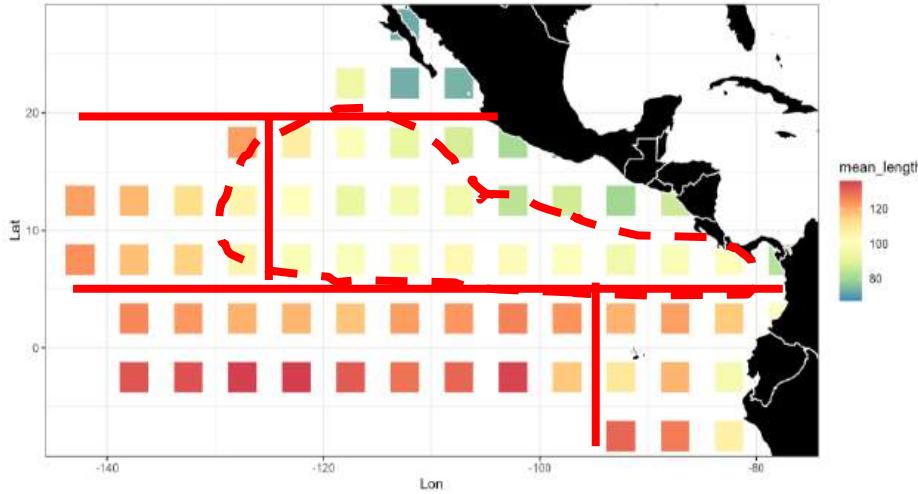
2025 benchmark assessment: achievements

- Cluster analysis for irregular areas ✓
- Flexible well-behaved asymptotic selectivity curves ✓
- Spatio-temporal analysis of tagging data
- Longline CPUE index based on all distant water fleets ✓
- Investigate dolphin associated fishery CPUE index ✓
- Investigate within-year depletion in the DEL index
- Investigate changes in the ecosystem after the 1997-1998 el Niño ✓
- Further develop models of stock structure ✓

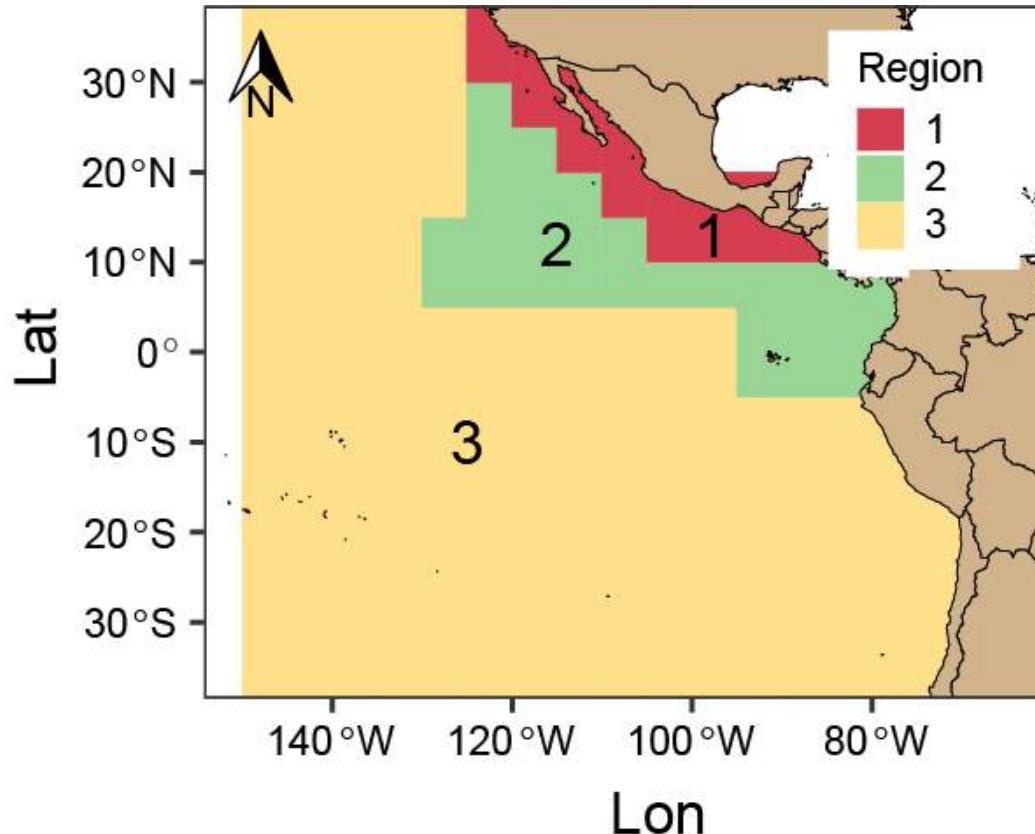
Conceptual model: cluster



Conceptual model



Stock structure hypotheses

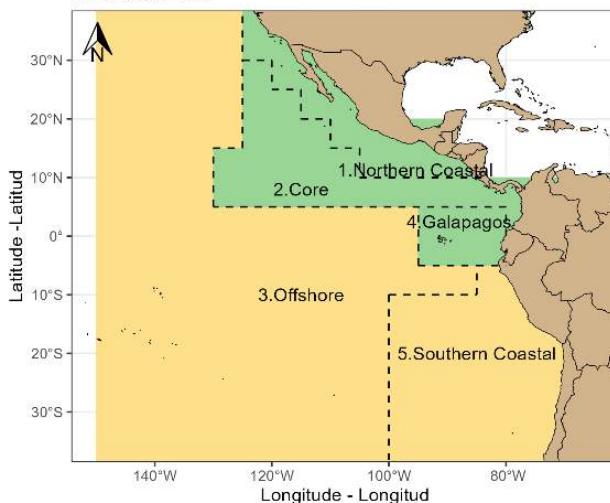


- H1: full mixing
- H2: Regional dynamics
- H3: Independent stocks

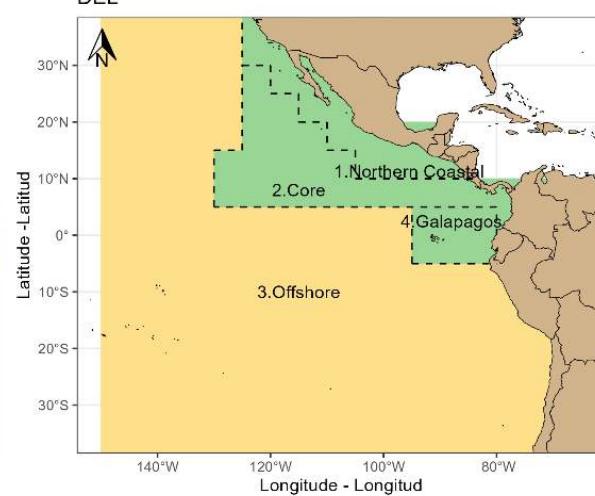
Fishery definitions

By gear, purse-seine set type, area of operation

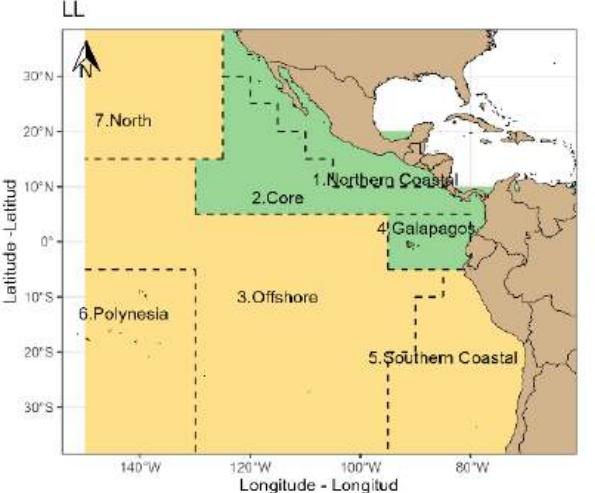
OBJ and NOA



DEL



LL



Region
NE
SW

Indices of abundance and corresponding length composition

Purse-seine:

Purse-seine sets on dolphins CPUE and length composition data

ISAM: spatiotemporal model that allows for:

- Sharing of vessel effects between areas
- Variable spatial domain (ENSO)

Indices of abundance and corresponding length composition

Longline:

Collaborative work with Japan, Korea, China and Chinese Taipei

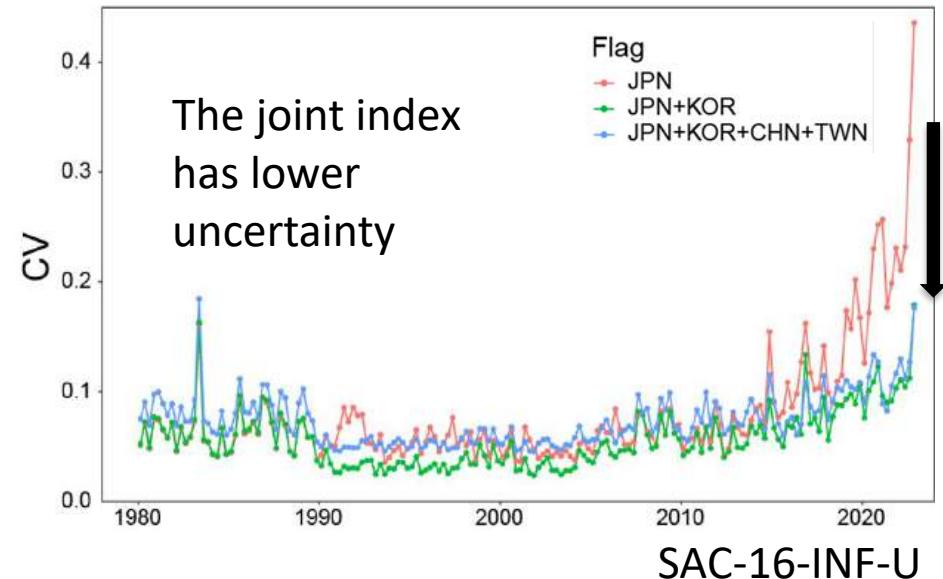
VAST: Multi-fleet index from standardization of operational level data for Japan and Korea using spatiotemporal model

Length composition:

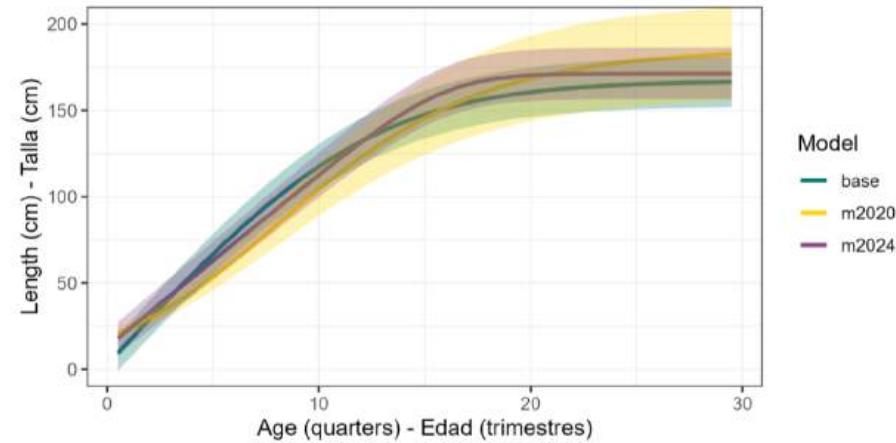
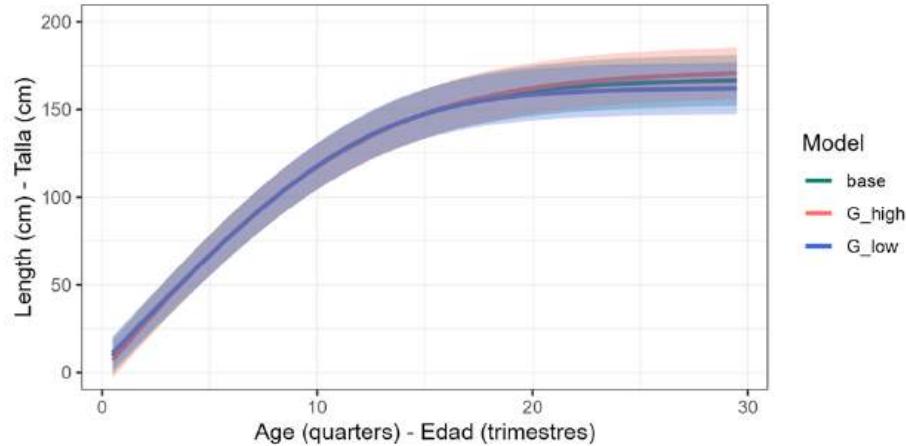
Data from fishers (Japan) and observers (Japan and Korea)

Standardized with spatiotemporal model with correlation parameters fixed at the Index values.

Data raised to the density.

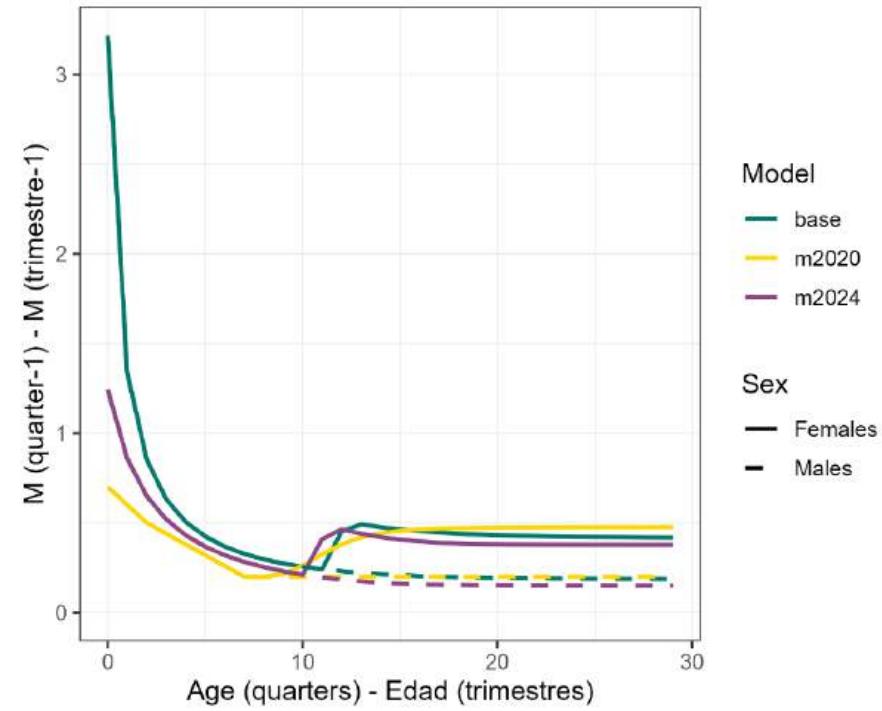
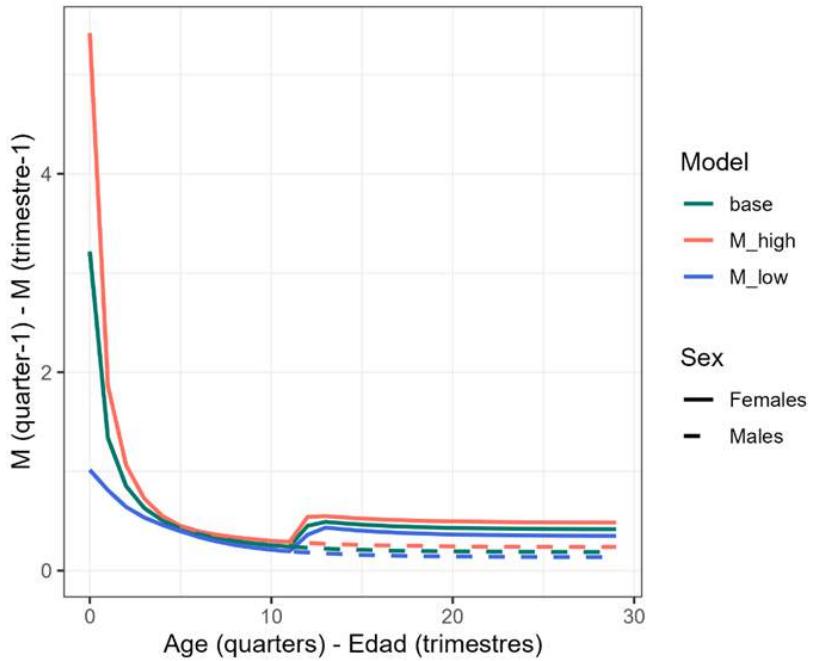


Assumptions and parameters: growth



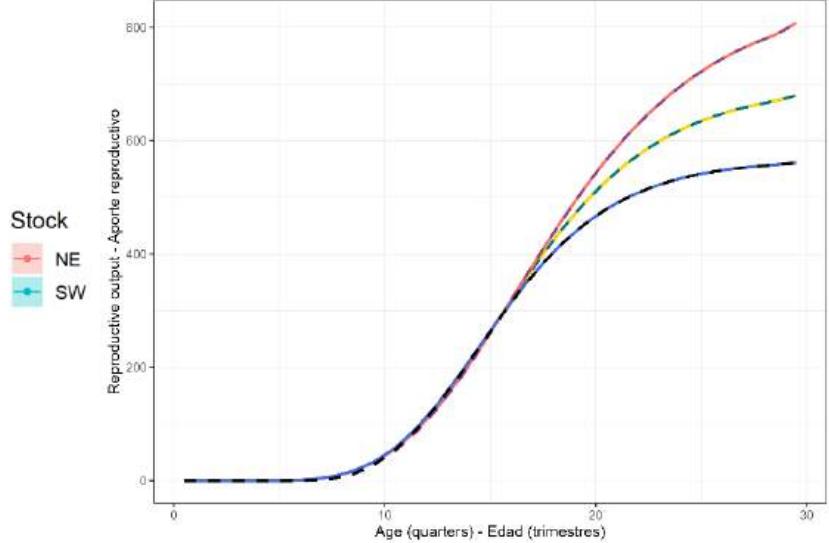
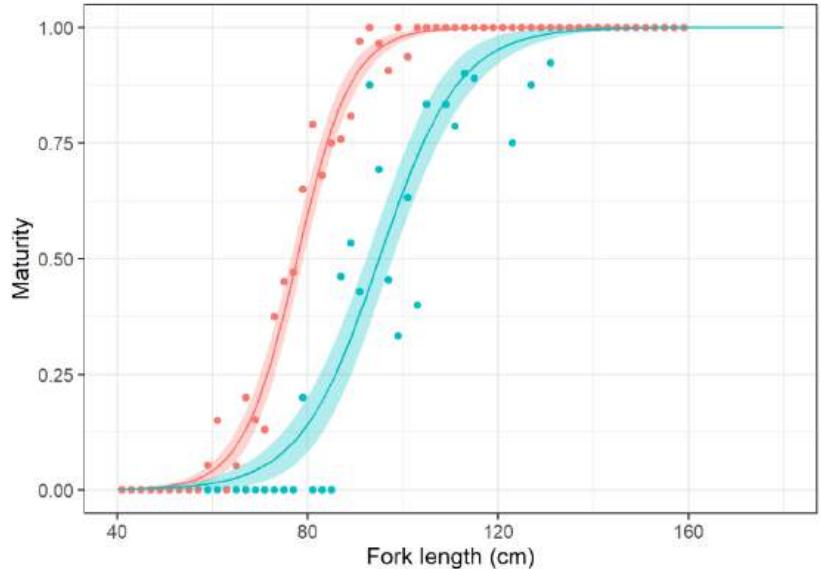
- Growth cessation model
- Fits to recent otoliths data and tagging data

Assumptions and parameters: natural mortality



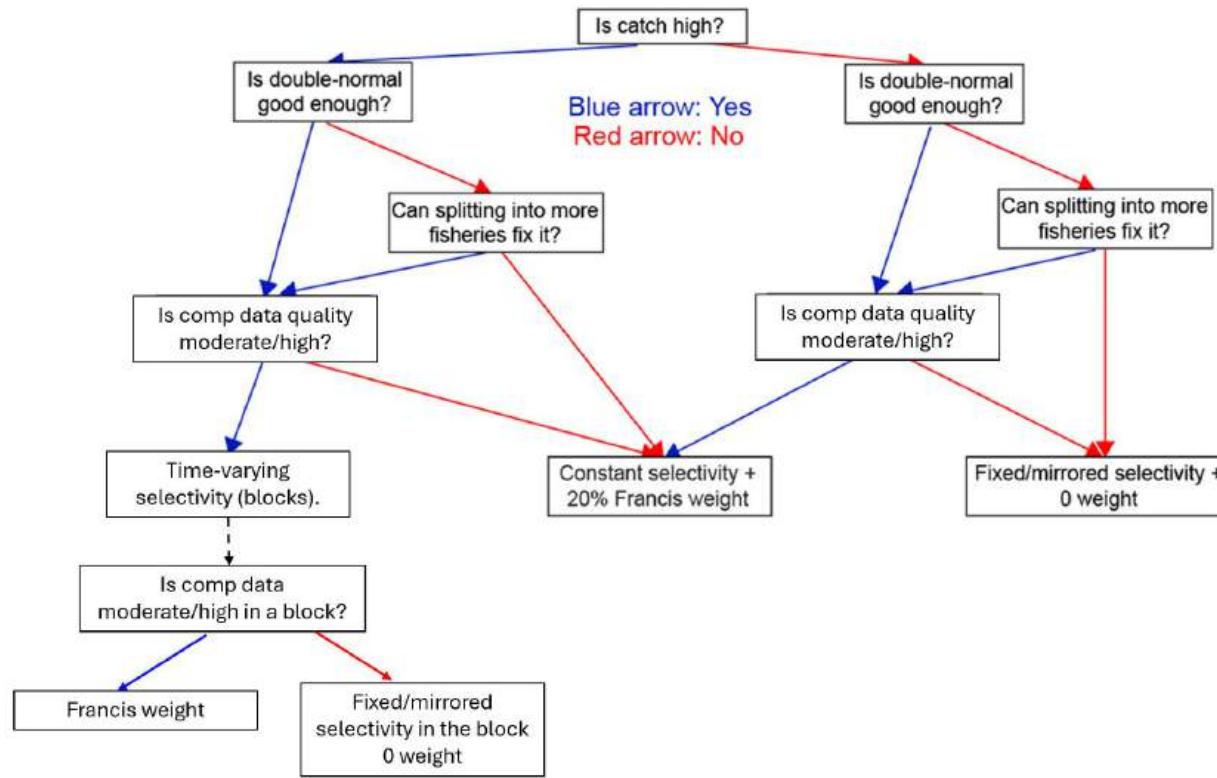
- Lorezen curve with logistic offset
- Cohort analysis
- Fits to tagging data and sex-ratio

Assumptions and parameters: reproductive biology

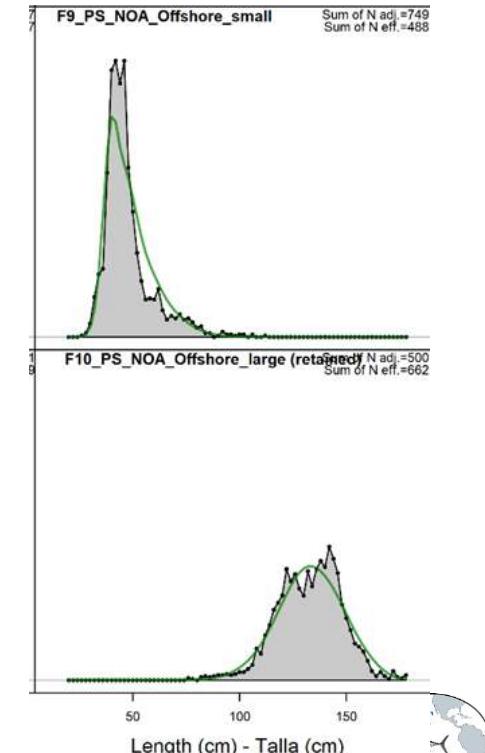
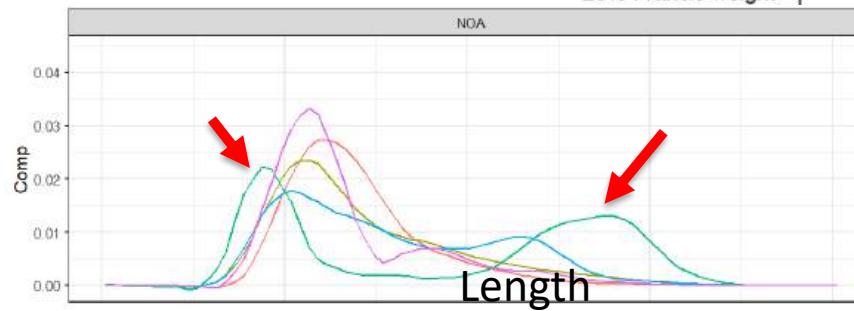
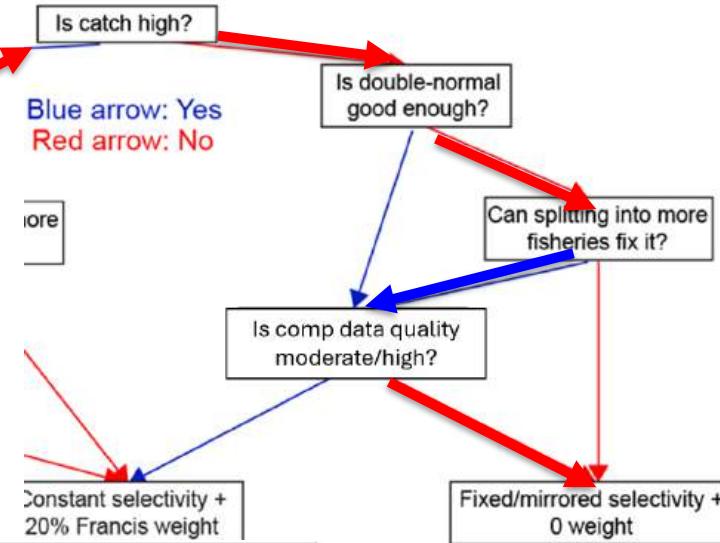
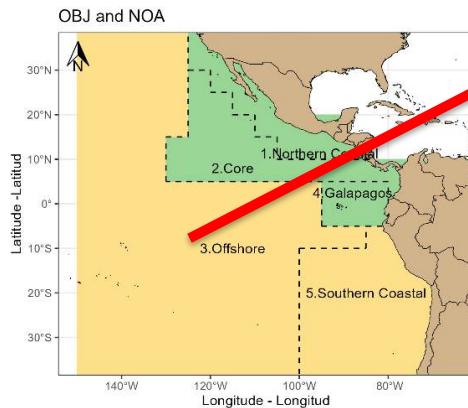


- Recent publication on reproductive biology
- Estimates for two “stocks”

Assumptions and parameters: selectivity and data weighting



Assumptions and parameters: selectivity and data weighting – example NOA offshore



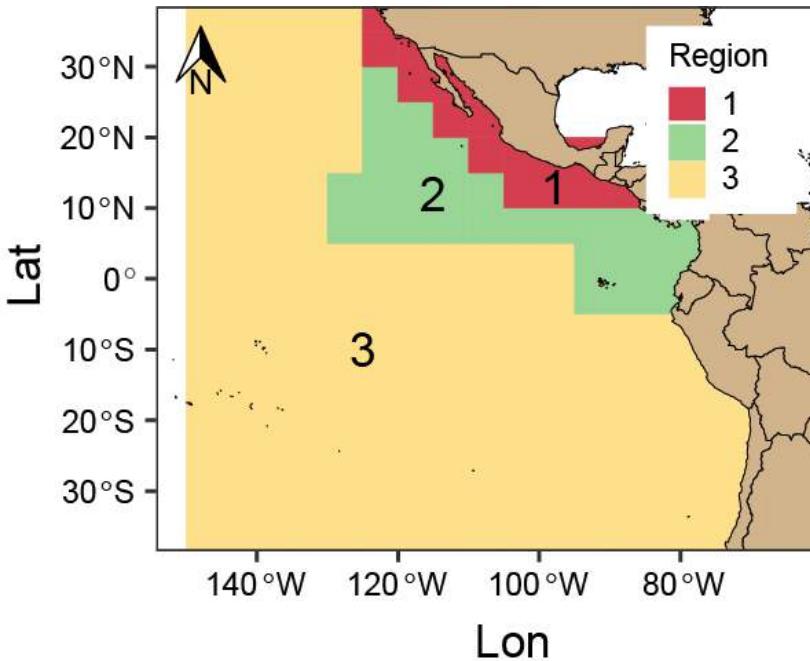
Risk analysis

Level 1 - spatial structure

Level 2 - uncertainty in biological parameters and effort creep

Level 3 - steepness of the stock-recruitment relationship.

Level 1: Spatial structure



EPO:

- spatial model: movement estimated to be near zero
- areas-as-fleet model

NE: Region 1 and 2

SW: Region 3

Level 1: Spatial structure

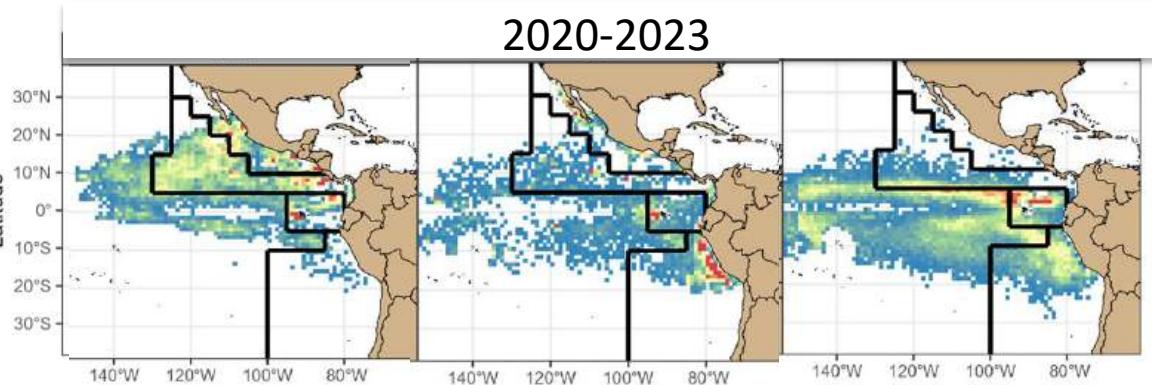
Number of sets

DEL

NOA

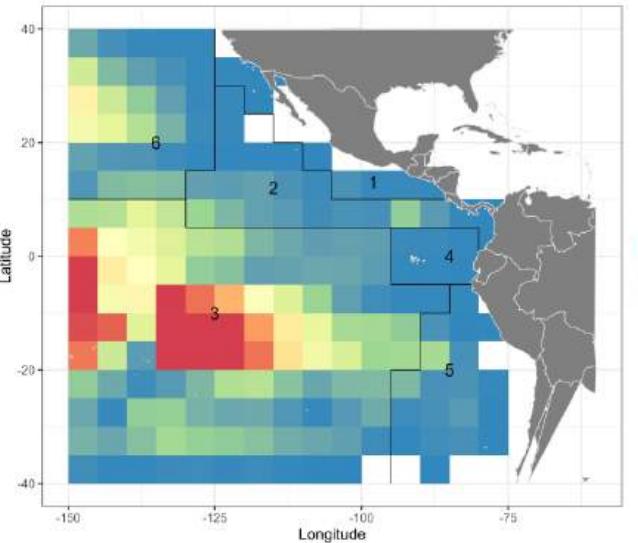
OBJ

2020-2023



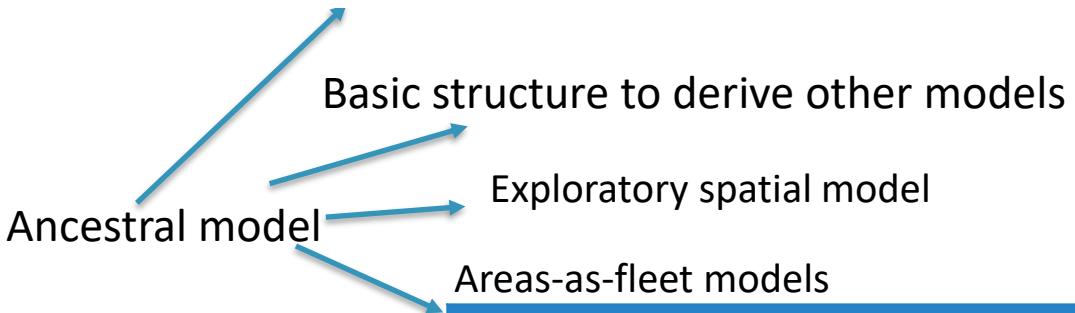
Number of hooks

Longline



Models

Estimation of selectivities for fleets with 0 weight in other models



Level 1

Period: 1984 to 2023
2006 to 2023 (NE_short)
Start from fished conditions
All models converged

72 models

Level 2

	EPO	NE	NE_short	SW
base	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$
G_high	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	Level 3
G_low	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$
M_high	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$
M_low	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$
q1	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$	$h=1,0.9, 0.8$

Assessment results:

16th Meeting of the Scientific Ad X

https://www.iattc.org/en-US/Event/DetailMeeting/Meeting-SAC-16

Annual summary reporting - scientific observers for longline vessels (Resolution C)

Background documents *i*

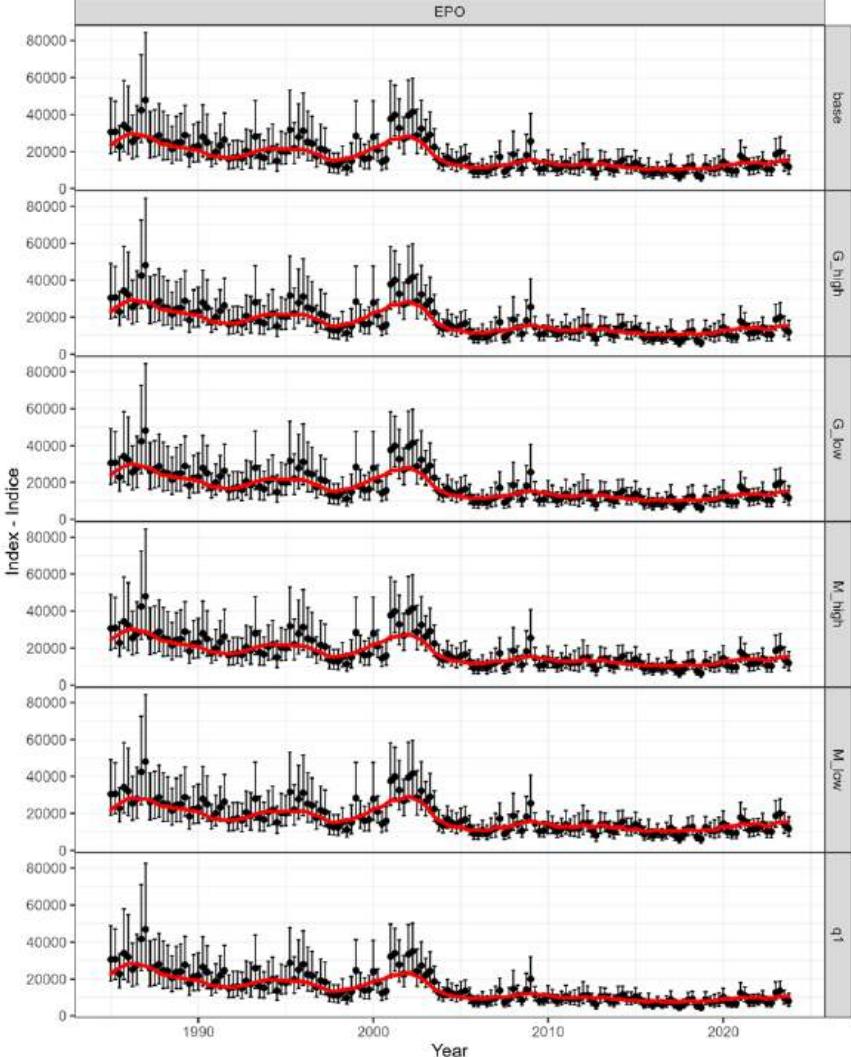
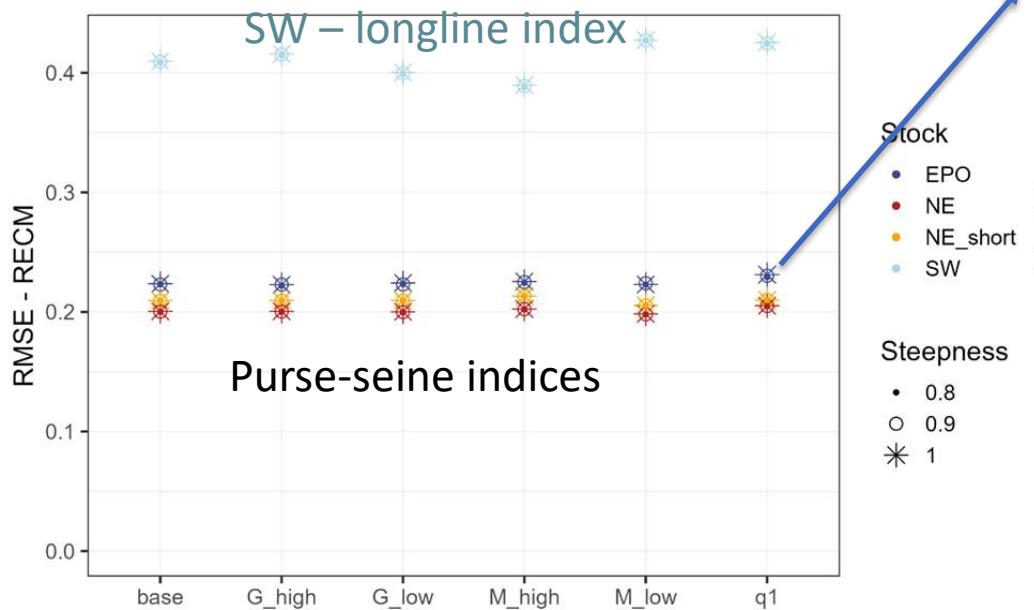
- Yellowfin tuna 2025 Benchmark Assessment

LINK:

<https://www.iattc.org/StockAssessments/2025/YFTWebsite/YFT%202025%20Benchmark%20Stock%20Assessment.htm>

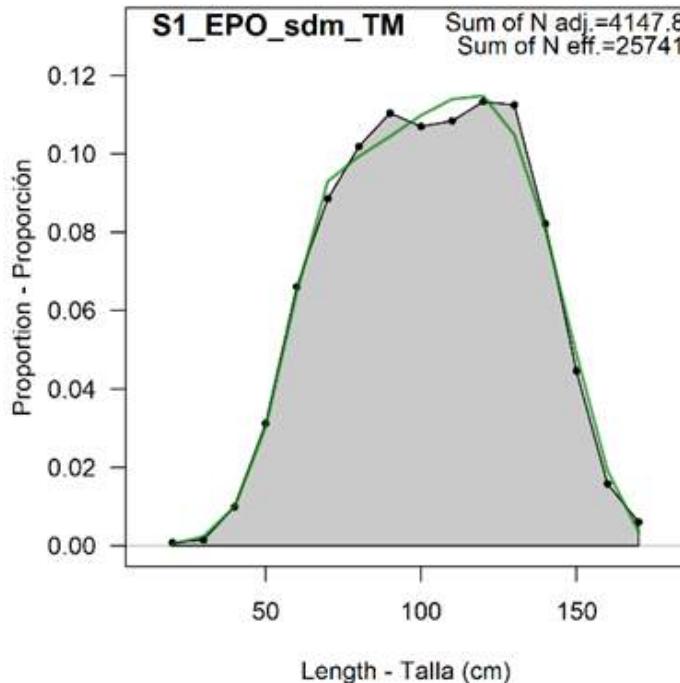


Assessments results: fits

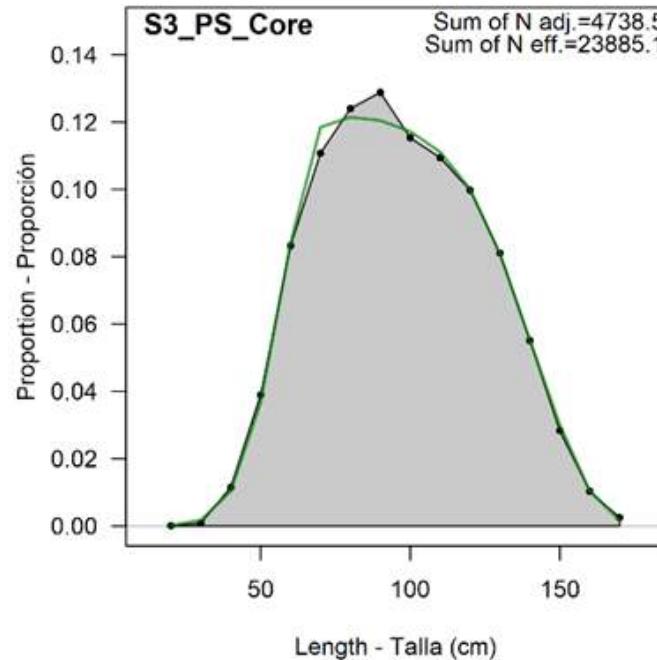


Assessments results: fits to length composition data

EPO

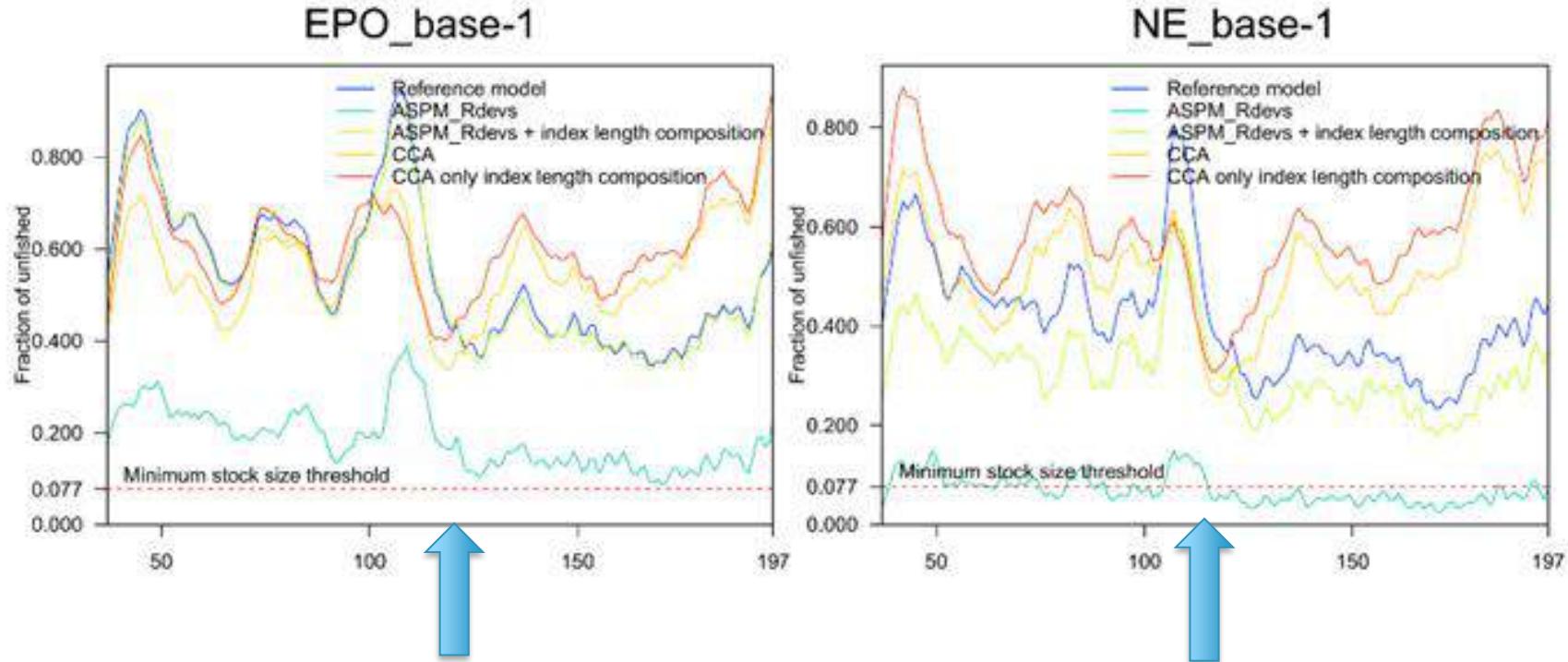


NE



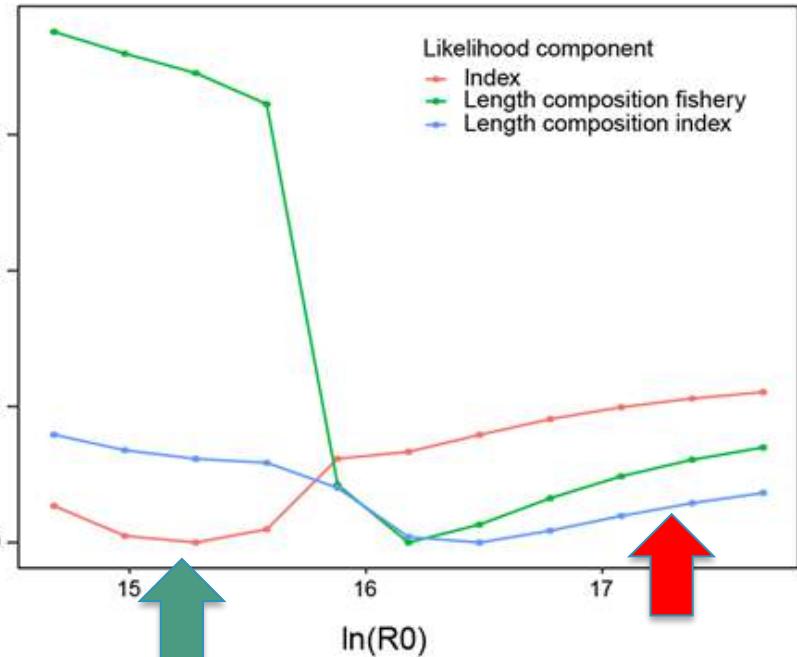
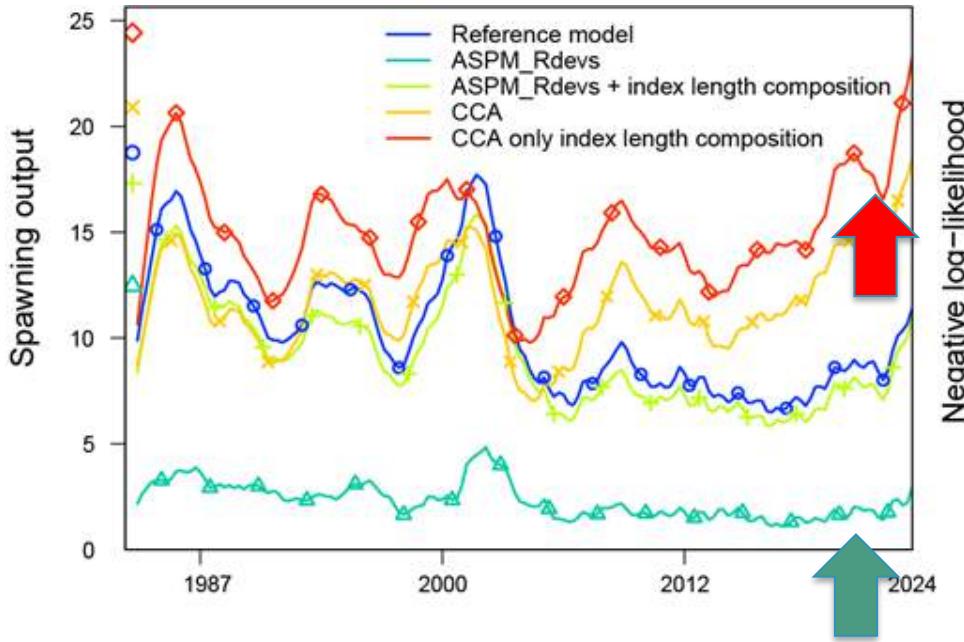
EPO index: Biomodality is improved but not solved

Assessments results: integrated model diagnostics

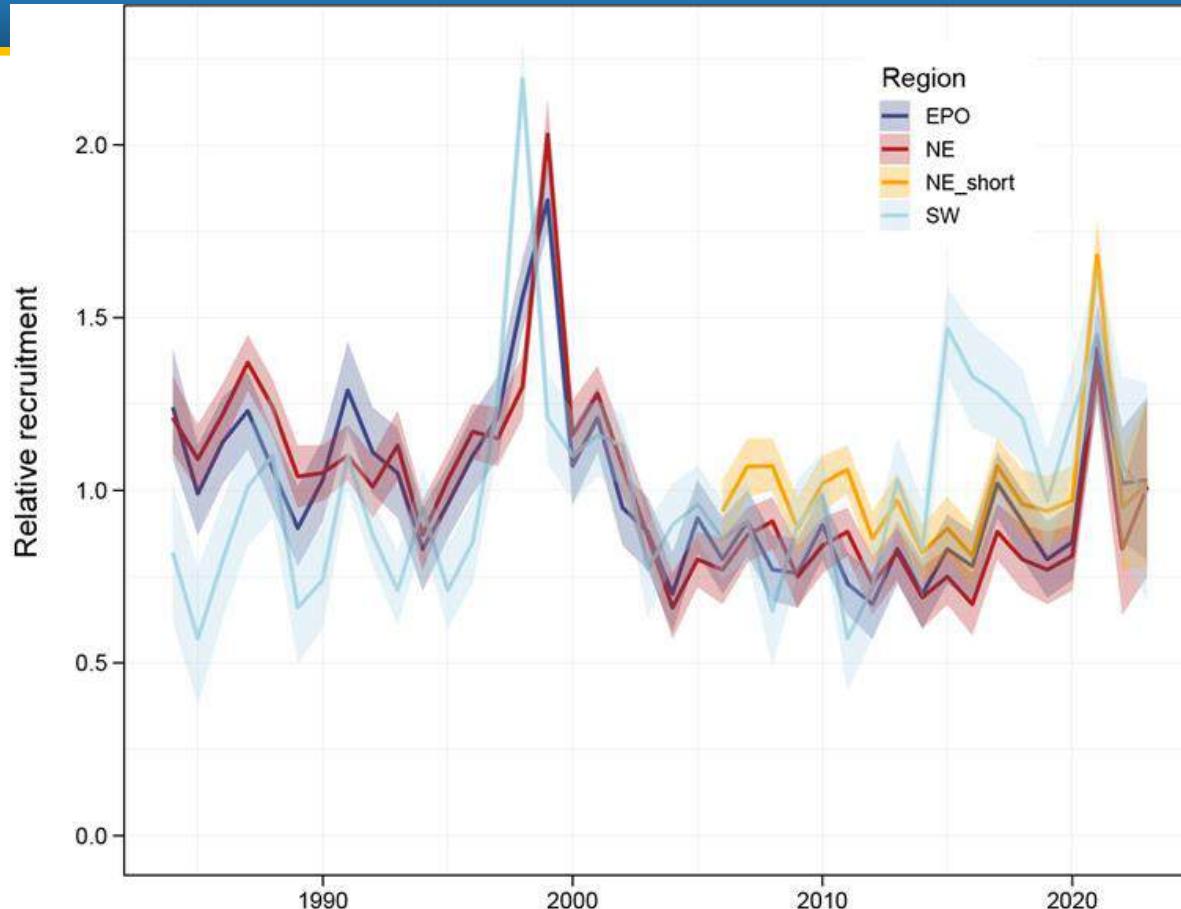


Assessments results: integrated models diagnostics

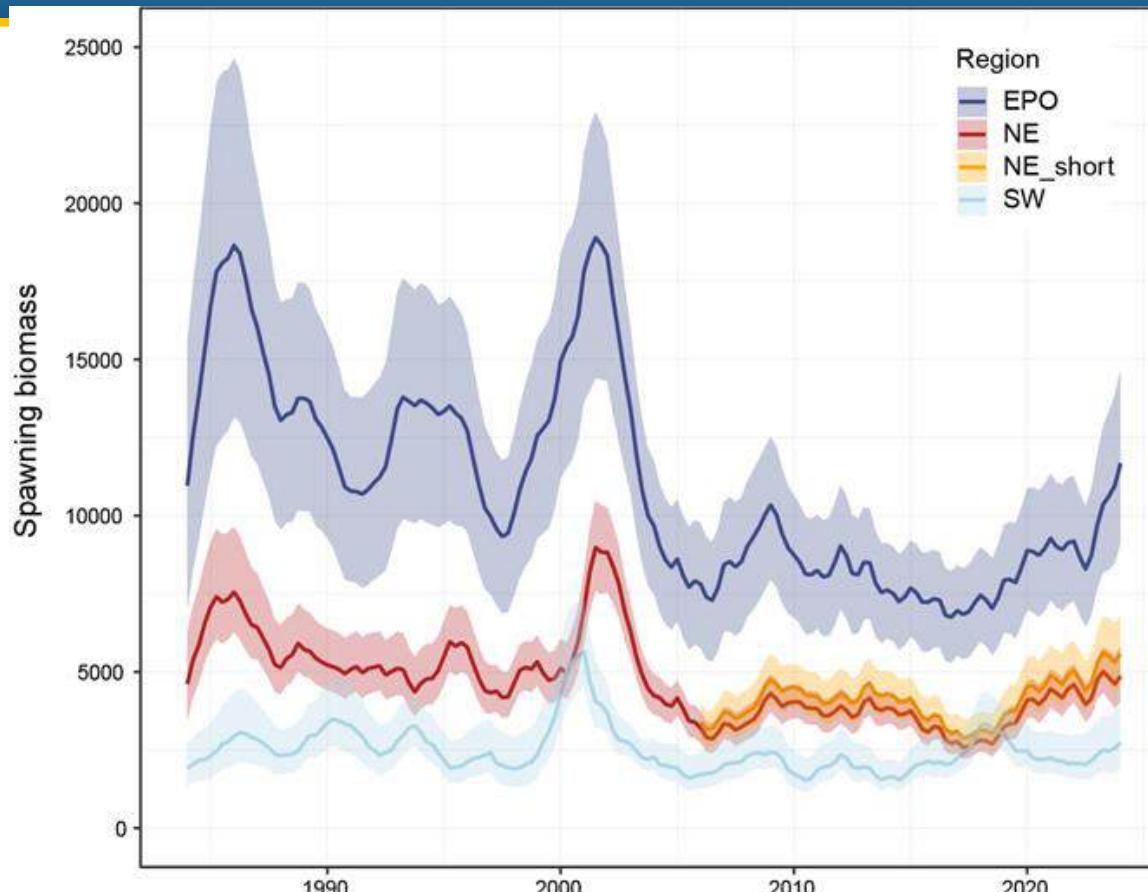
EPO-base-1



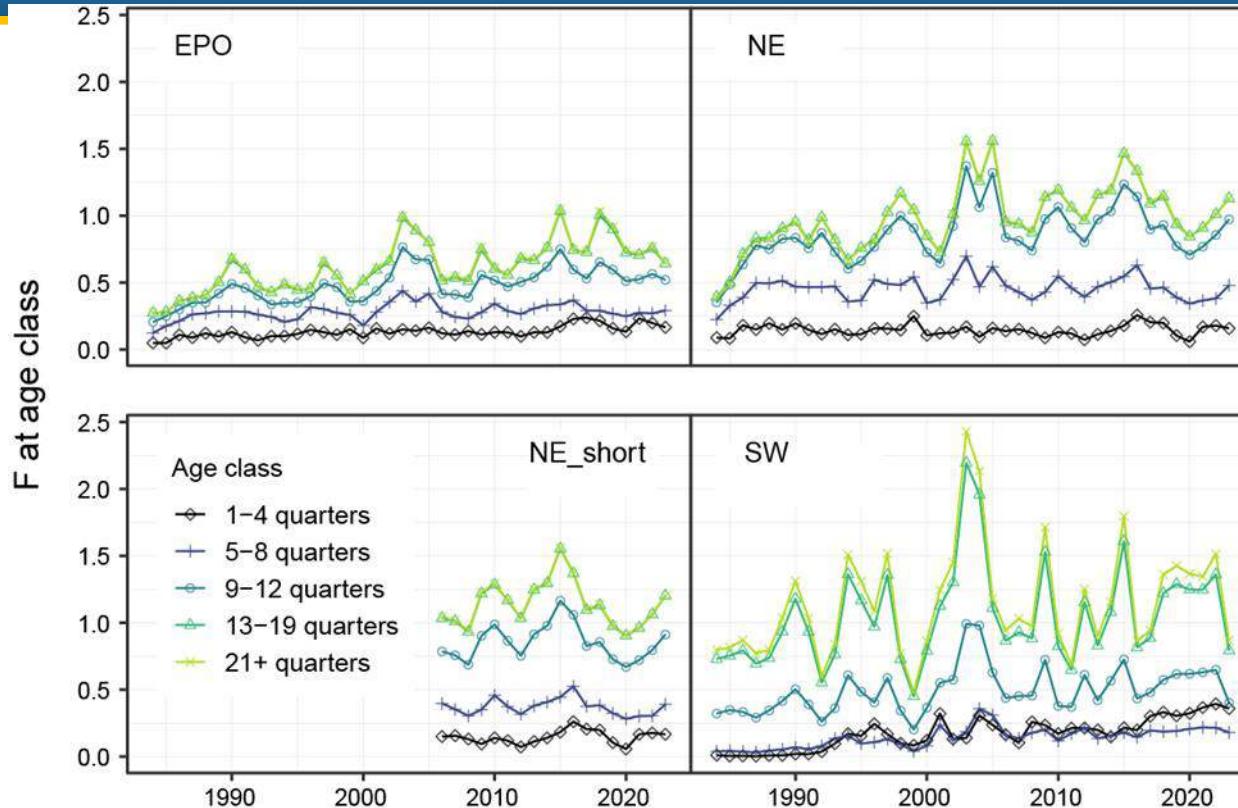
Recruitment: multimodel estimates



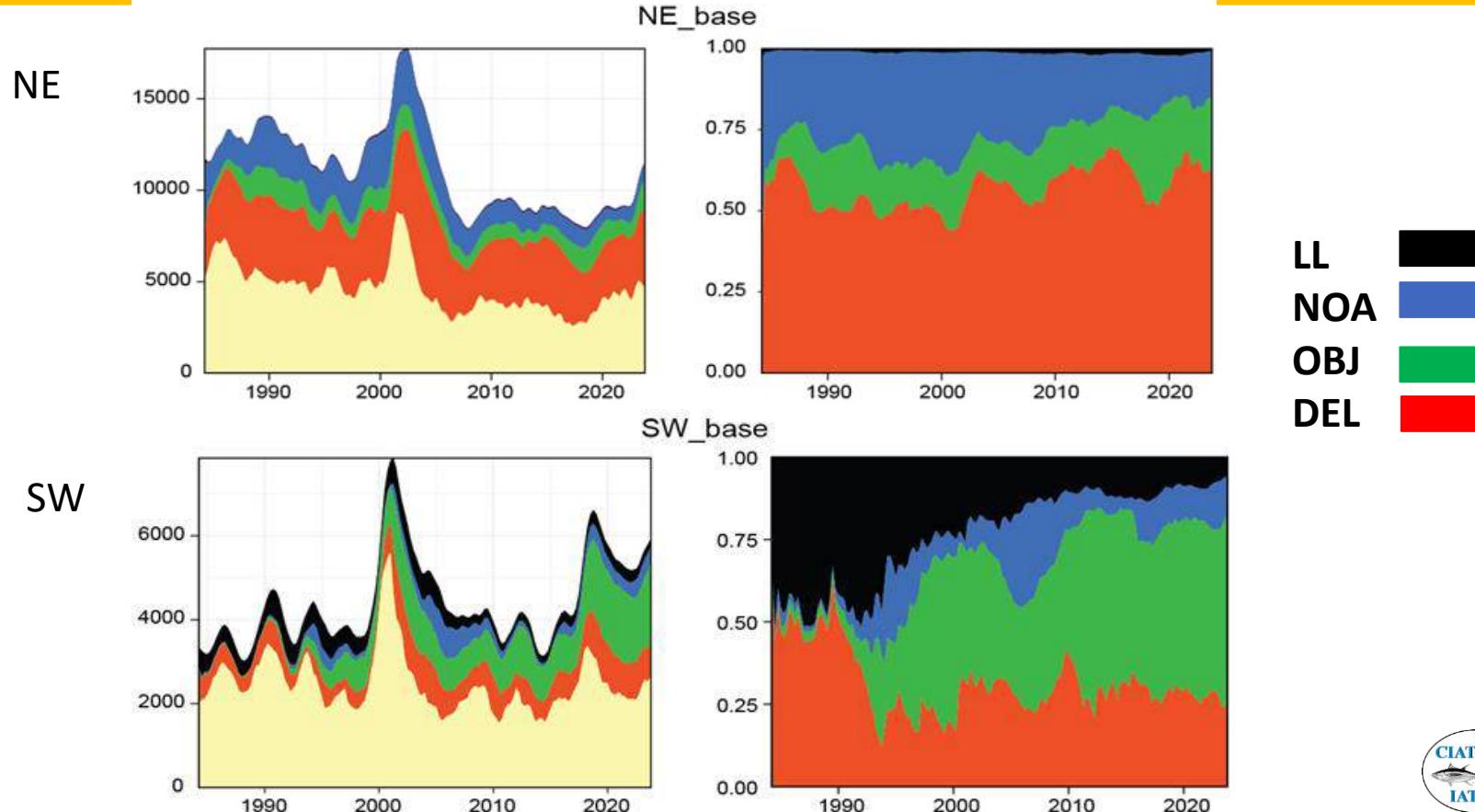
Spawning biomass: multimodel estimates



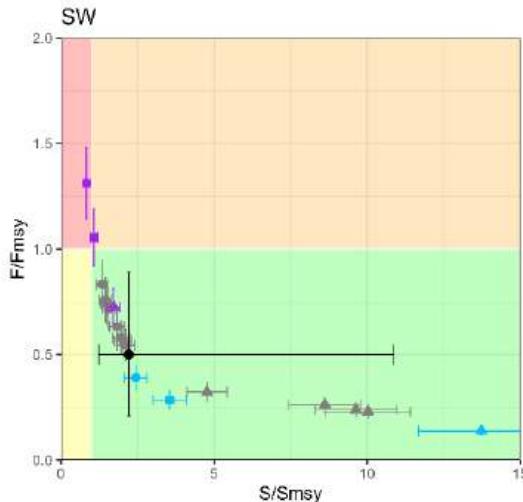
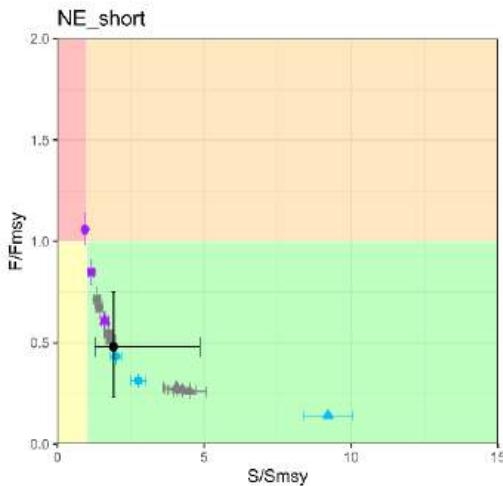
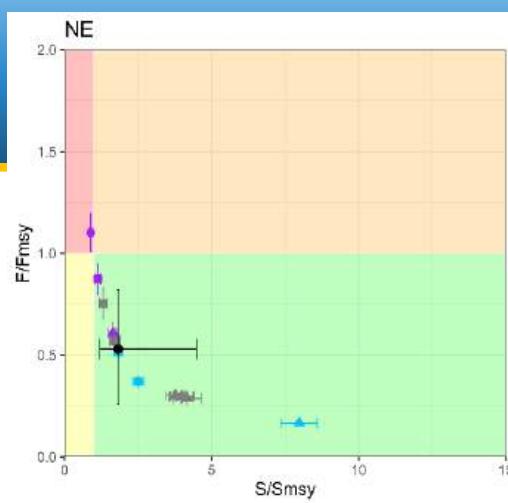
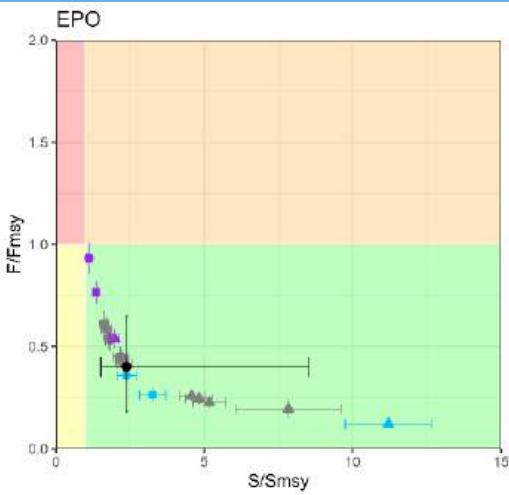
Assessment results: Fishing mortality



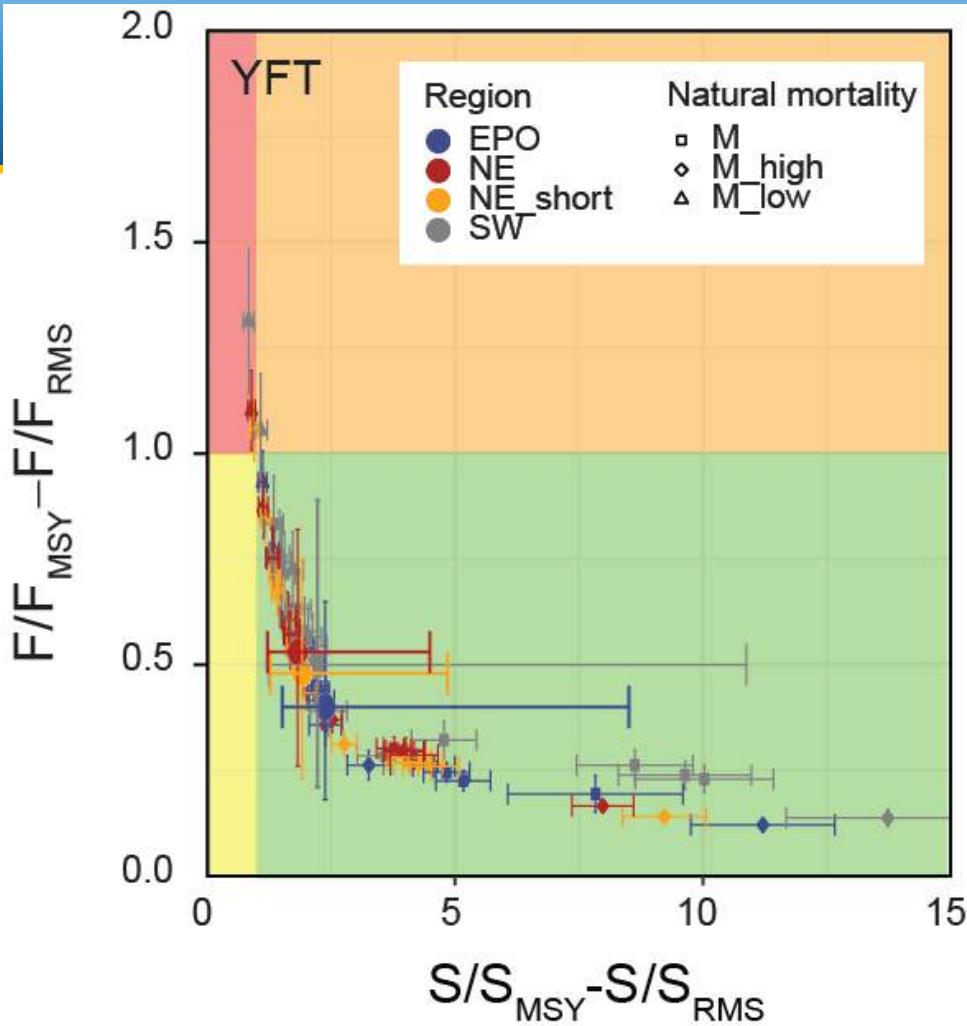
Assessment results: fisheries impact



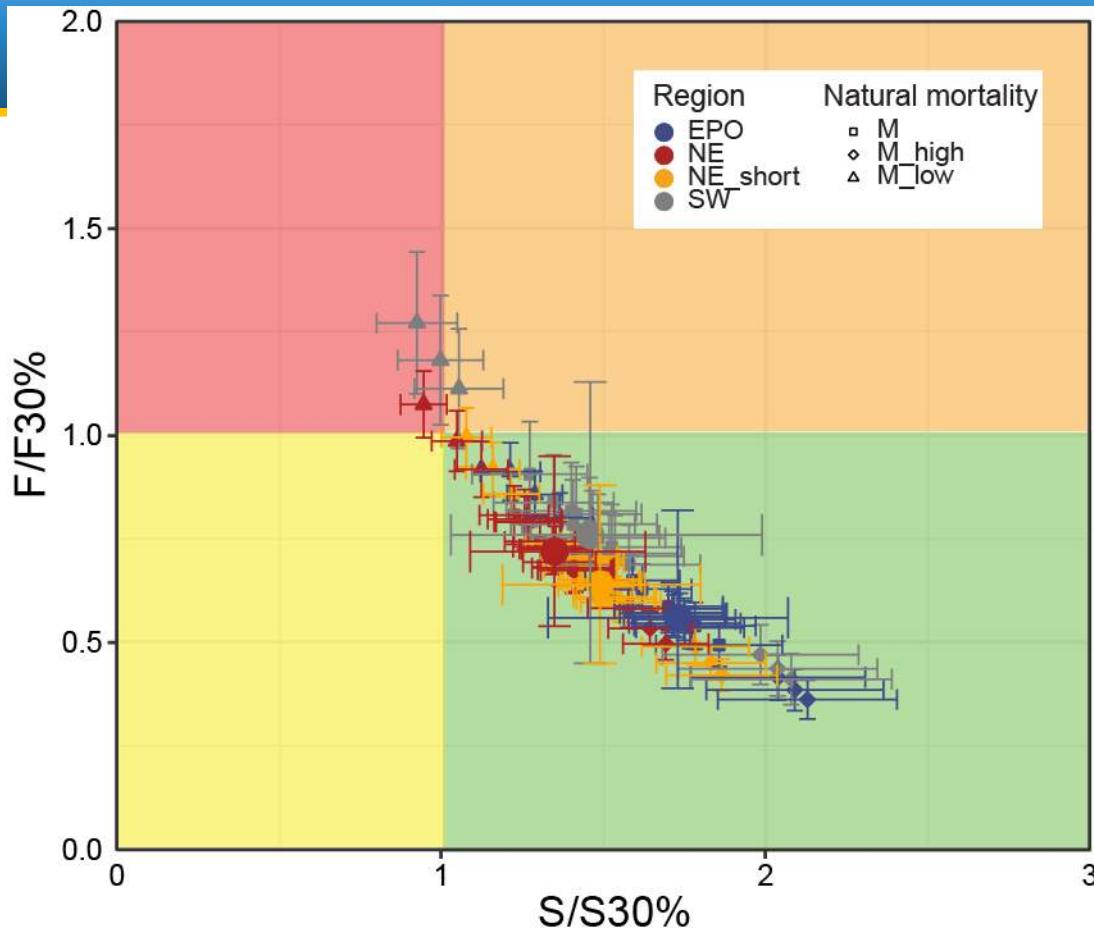
Stock status



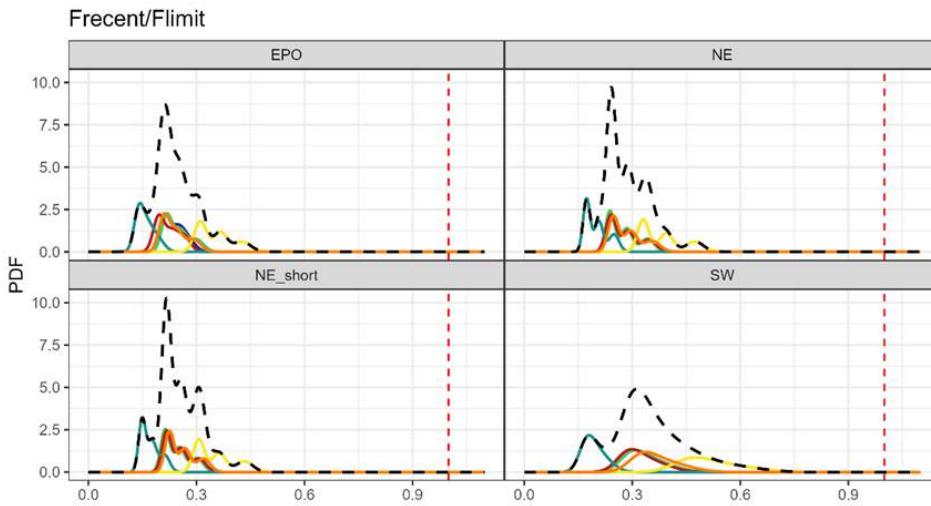
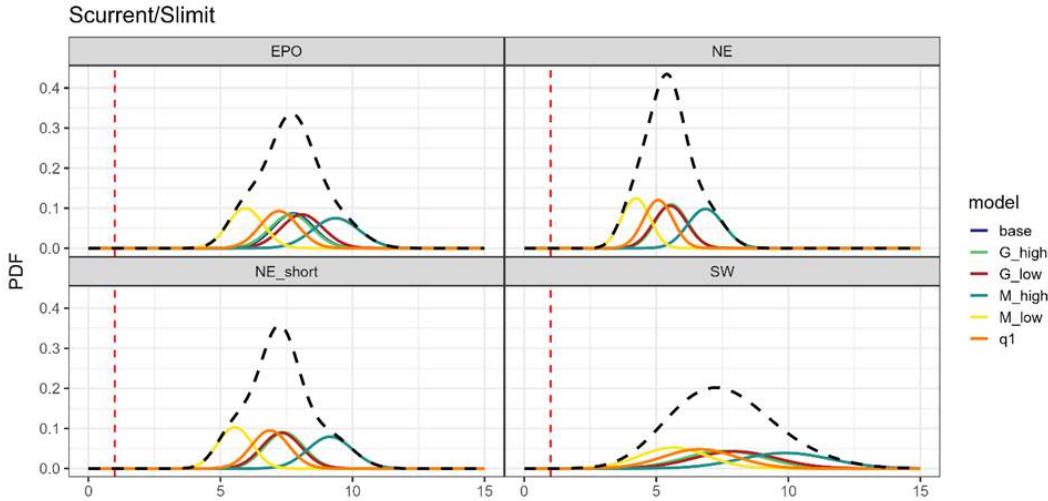
Stock status



Stock status



Risk analysis



Risk analysis

Median or *Mean

	EPO	NE	NE_short	SW
$SMSY/SO *$	0.180	0.189	0.194	0.162
$SMSY_d/SO_d *$	0.190	0.192	0.201	0.170
$F_{\text{current}}/F_{30\%SO_d}$	0.559	0.718	0.643	0.757
$p(F_{\text{current}} > F_{30\%SO_d})$	0.002	0.059	0.020	0.161
$F_{\text{current}}/F_{\text{MSY}}$	0.397	0.532	0.484	0.502
$p(F_{\text{current}} > F_{\text{MSY}})$	0.004	0.034	0.031	0.075
$F_{\text{current}}/F_{\text{LIMIT}}$	0.232	0.272	0.243	0.330
$p(F_{\text{current}} > F_{\text{LIMIT}})$	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
$S_{\text{current}}/30\%SO_d$	1.73	1.35	1.49	1.46
$p(S_{\text{current}} < 30\%SO_d)$	0.0000588	0.044	0.004	0.081
$S_{\text{current}}/S_{\text{MSY}_d}$	2.38	1.82	1.91	2.22
$p(S_{\text{current}} < S_{\text{MSY}_d})$	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
$S_{\text{current}}/S_{\text{LIMIT}}$	7.67	5.43	7.23	7.48
$p(S_{\text{current}} < S_{\text{LIMIT}})$	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

- Zero probability of breaching LIMIT RP

Risk analysis

Median or *Mean

	EPO	NE	NE_short	SW
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$p(S_{\text{current}} < S_{\text{LIMIT}})$	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

- Low probability of breaching TARGET RP

Future directions

- A main uncertainty in the stock assessment of yellowfin tuna in the EPO continues to be the **spatial structure**.
- This assessment showed that different areas in the EPO may have different depletion levels.
- The values used for **natural mortality** and the reliance **on size composition data** to inform absolute abundance remain key sources of uncertainty.
- Growth, especially at older ages, relied on a few high-quality tag returns
- All four of these sources of uncertainty could be **reduced by a comprehensive tagging program**.
- This will allow the development of **spatio-temporal analysis of tagging data**

Preguntas - Questions



Extra slides

Management table: NE

	B			Gh			Gl			Mh			MI			Q1		
	1	0.9	0.8	1	0.9	0.8	1	0.9	0.8	1	0.9	0.8	1	0.9	0.8	1	0.9	0.8
NE																		
MSY (1,000 t)	226	208	200	225	208	200	226	208	200	276	237	220	200	195	196	236	216	205
MSY_d (1,000 t)	238	213	199	237	212	199	238	213	199	284	245	222	209	195	192	235	209	195
C _{current} /MSY_d	0.91	1.01	1.09	0.91	1.02	1.09	0.91	1.01	1.08	0.76	0.88	0.97	1.04	1.11	1.13	0.92	1.03	1.11
S _{MSY} /S ₀	0.11	0.23	0.28	0.11	0.23	0.28	0.10	0.23	0.28	0.07	0.20	0.26	0.19	0.26	0.31	0.10	0.23	0.28
S _{current} /S ₀	0.45	0.42	0.40	0.45	0.43	0.40	0.44	0.42	0.39	0.54	0.53	0.50	0.35	0.32	0.29	0.41	0.39	0.37
S _{current} /S _{LIMIT}	5.79	5.51	5.15	5.80	5.53	5.16	5.76	5.48	5.11	7.07	6.83	6.52	4.49	4.17	3.76	5.26	5.04	4.75
p(S _{current} <S _{LIMIT})	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
F _{current} /F _{LIMIT}	0.24	0.29	0.34	0.24	0.28	0.34	0.24	0.29	0.35	0.17	0.21	0.25	0.33	0.39	0.47	0.25	0.30	0.35
p(F _{current} >F _{LIMIT})	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
S _{current} /S _{MSY_d}	3.96	1.71	1.32	3.77	1.70	1.31	4.17	1.71	1.32	7.98	2.52	1.83	1.65	1.13	0.89	4.00	1.71	1.32
p(S _{current} <S _{MSY_d})	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.97	0.00	0.00	0.00
F _{current} /F _{MSY}	0.29	0.57	0.75	0.30	0.57	0.75	0.29	0.57	0.75	0.17	0.37	0.51	0.61	0.87	1.10	0.30	0.58	0.75
p(F _{current} >F _{MSY})	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.92	0.00	0.00	0.00
S _{current} /30%S _d	1.41	1.35	1.27	1.42	1.35	1.27	1.41	1.34	1.26	1.69	1.64	1.58	1.12	1.05	0.95	1.36	1.30	1.23
p(S _{current} <30%S _d)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.21	0.83	0.00	0.00	0.00
F _{current} /F _{30%S_d}	0.68	0.73	0.79	0.67	0.73	0.79	0.68	0.73	0.80	0.50	0.53	0.58	0.92	0.99	1.08	0.69	0.74	0.81
p(F _{current} >FF _{30%S_d})	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.41	0.88	0.00	0.00	0.00

Retrospective analysis

