

Welcome to Fluke 101



Fluke 101

- ♦ Summer flounder stock status
- ♦ RI management plan
- ♦ RI fishery performance
- ♦ RI fishery profile



Summer Flounder Stock Status

- ♦ The summer flounder stock: not overfished, overfishing not occurring according to output of 2011 stock assessment update and relative to SAW 47 biological reference points
- ♦ According to 2011 stock assessment update, stock considered rebuilt, ahead of scheduled deadline.



Summer Flounder Stock Status

- ♦ Fishing mortality (F) ranged between 1.0 and 2.0 during 1982-1996
- ♦ The fishing mortality rate estimated at 0.216 in 2010
- ♦ Below the threshold fishing mortality reference point
 $FMSY = F35\% = 0.310$



Summer Flounder Stock Status

- ♦ Spawning stock biomass (SSB) decreased from 25,000 mt in the early 1980s to 7,000 in 1989, increased above 40,000 mt by 2002
- ♦ SSB estimated at 60,238 mt in 2010
- ♦ About 100.2% of the SSBMSY = SSB35% reference point = 60,074 mt .



Summer Flounder Stock Status

- ♦ The arithmetic average recruitment 1982 to 2010: 43 million fish at age 0
- ♦ The 2009 year class currently estimated at 60 million fish
- ♦ 40% above average, largest in assessment since 1986.



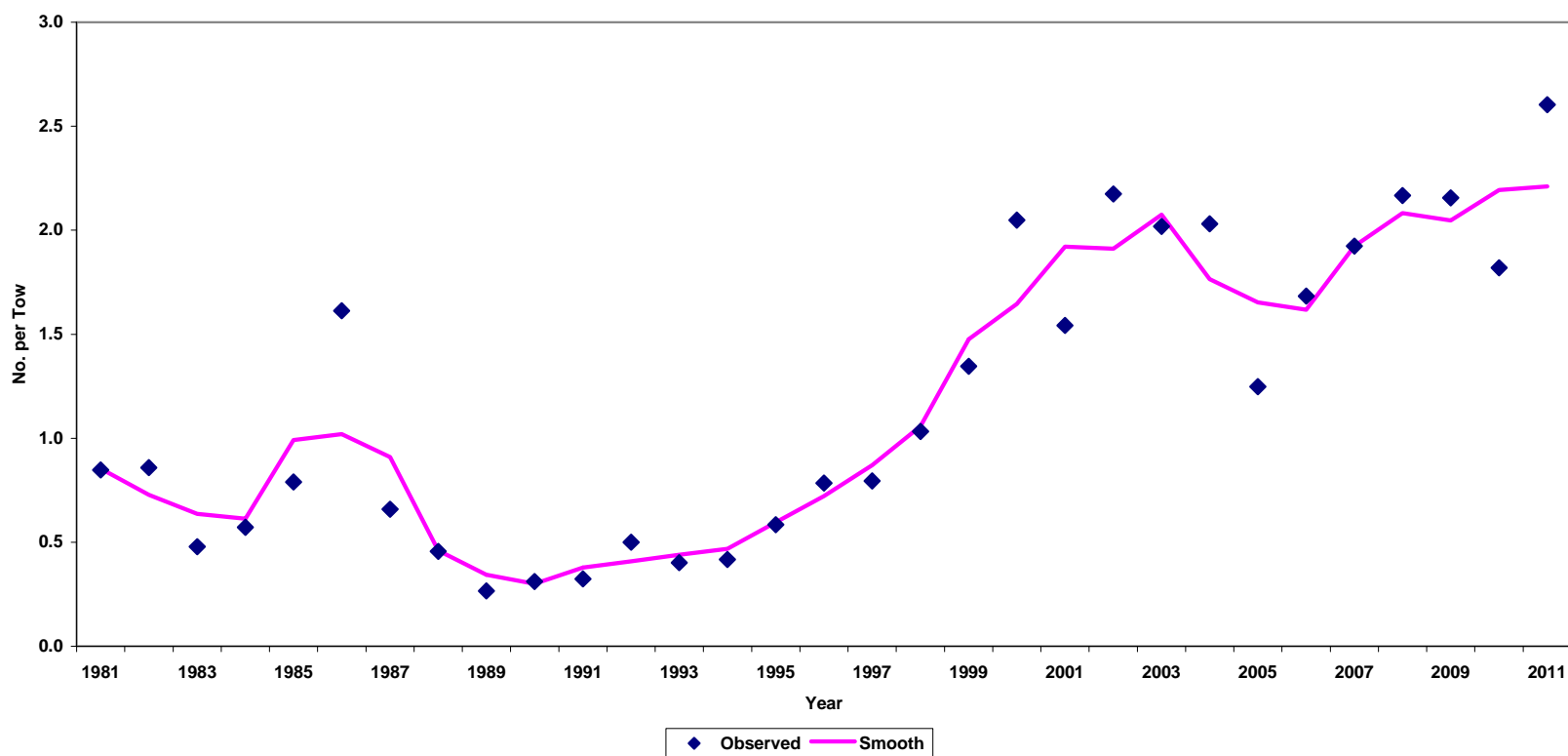
Summer Flounder Stock Status

- ♦ The original 2010 assessment update indicated recruitment at 80 million fish
- ♦ This decreased upon full updated assessment to 60 million fish
- ♦ Reason quota decreased for 2012.



Summer Flounder Stock Status – Local Info

Summer Flounder Abundance in the RI Area Based on Trawl Surveys and Recreational Catch Data



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Summer Flounder
Population as determined
by stock assessment



Amount that can be removed and
maintain sustainability



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Summer Flounder
Population as determined
by stock assessment



Now Called "Over Fishing
Limit"

Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation



Now Called "Over Fishing
Limit"

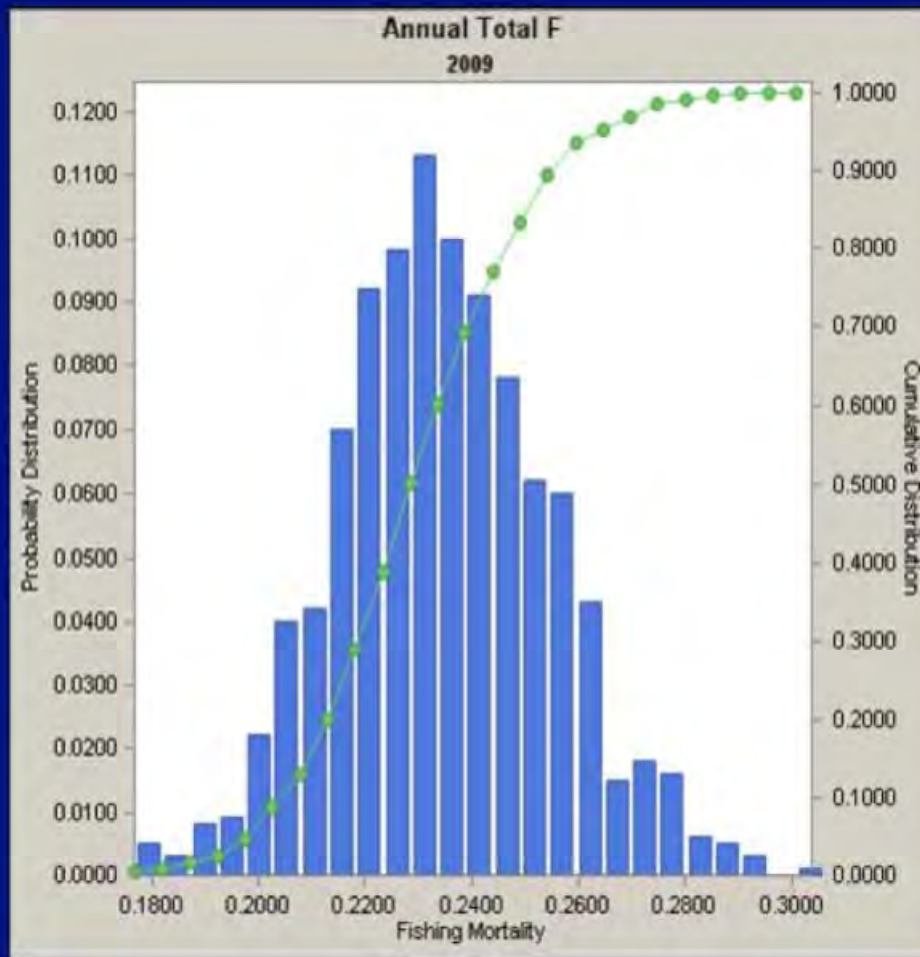
Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation



Now Called "Over Fishing
Limit"

Scientific
Uncertainty

Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation



Now Called "Over Fishing
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Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation



Now Called "Over Fishing
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Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation



Now Called "Allowed Biological
Catch or Total Allowable Catch"

Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Now Called "Allowed Biological Catch or
Total Allowable Catch"



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Recreational
Annual Catch
Limit

Commercial Annual
Catch Limit



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Recreational
Annual Catch
Limit

40%

Commercial Annual
Catch Limit

60%



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

ZOOM IN



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Recreational Annual
Catch Limit

Commercial Annual Catch Limit



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Recreational Annual
Catch Limit

Management
Uncertainty

Commercial Annual Catch Limit

Management
Uncertainty



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Recreational Annual
Catch Limit

Commercial Annual Catch Limit



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

ZOOM OUT



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Recreational Annual
Catch Limit

Commercial Annual Catch Limit



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Now Called Recreational
Annual Catch Target

Now Called Commercial Annual Catch
Target



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Now Called Recreational
Annual Catch Target

Discards

Now Called Commercial Annual Catch
Target

Discards



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Now Called Recreational
Annual Catch Target

Now Called Commercial Annual Catch
Target



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Now Called Recreational
Landings Level

Now Called Commercial Landings
Level



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Now Called Recreational
Landings Level

RSA

Now Called Commercial Landings
Level

RSA



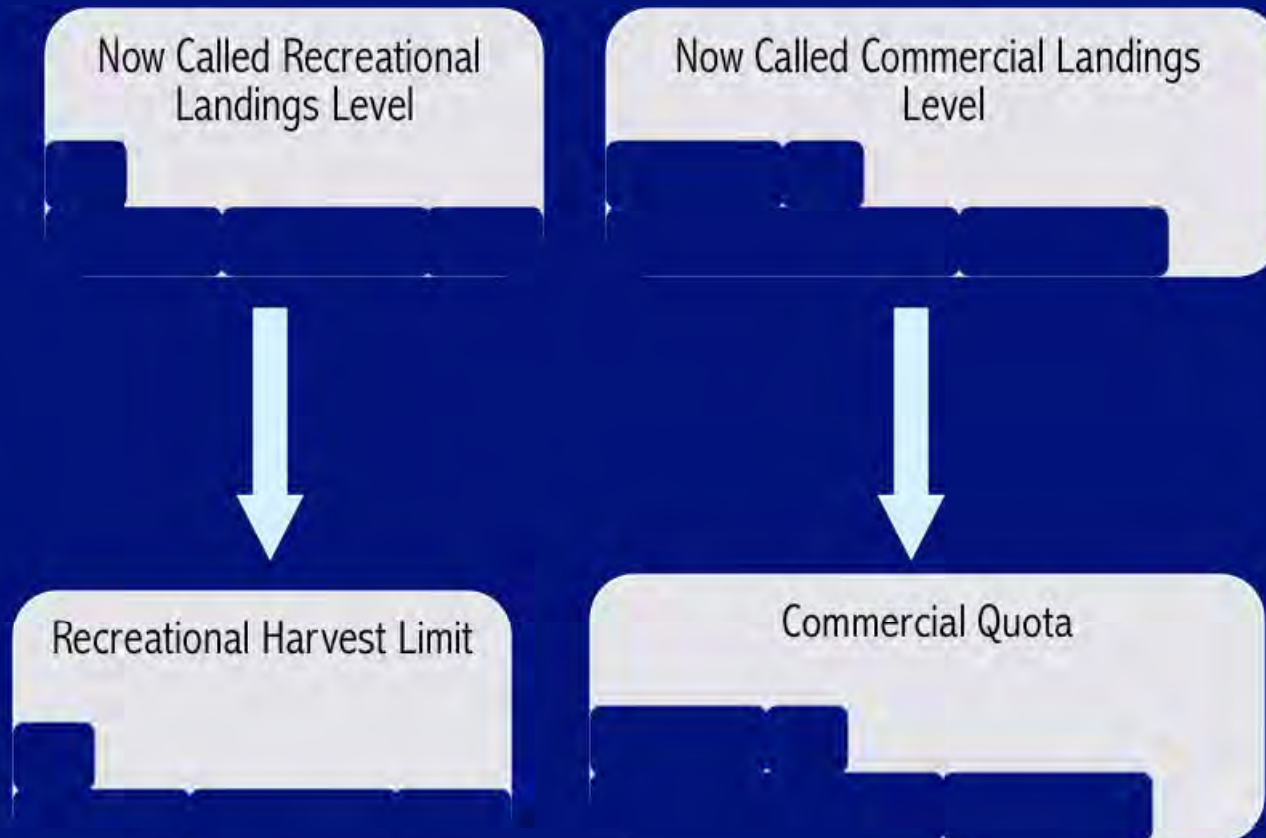
Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation

Now Called Recreational
Landings Level

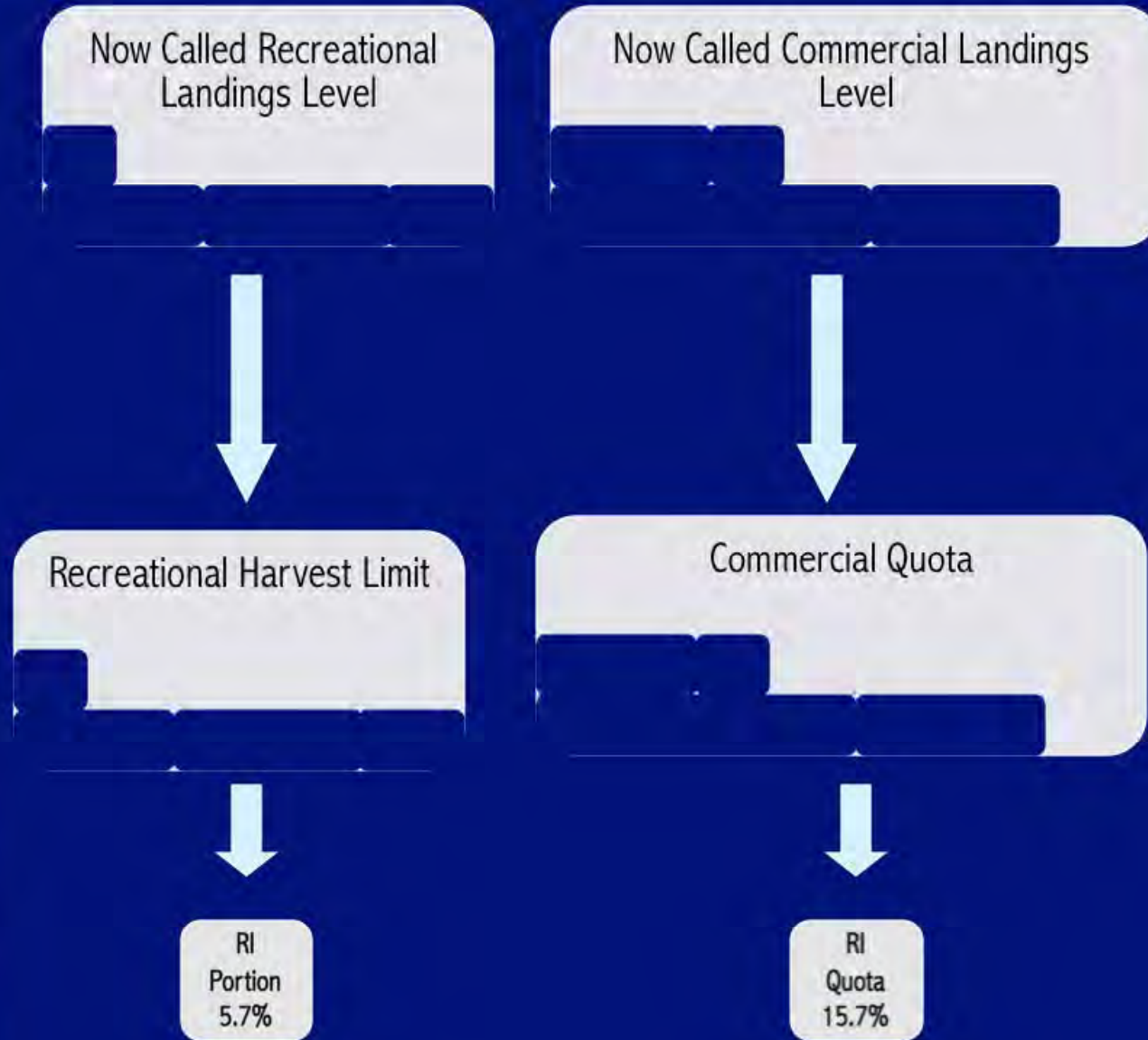
Now Called Commercial Landings
Level



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation



Derivation of RI's Summer Flounder Allocation



RI Summer Flounder Quota Management Program: 2011

- ♦ Winter 1 Sub Period

- ♦ Season is Jan – Apr

- ♦ 54% of starting adjusted state allocation = 1,256,560 lbs

- ♦ Starting Possession Limits:
300/day; Aggregate Period 3,000/week or 500/day



RI Summer Flounder Quota Management Program: 2011

- ♦ Summer Sub period
- ♦ Season is May – Oct
- ♦ 35% of starting adjusted state allocation = 814,343 lbs
- ♦ Starting Possession Limits:
100/day; Aggregate Period 500/week or 100/day
- ♦ Fri/Saturday Closures



RI Summer Flounder Quota Management Program: 2011

- ♦ Winter 2 Sub Period
- ♦ Season is Nov – Dec
- ♦ 11% of starting adjusted state allocation = 236,212 lbs
- ♦ Starting Possession Limits:
600/day



RI Summer Flounder Quota Management Program: 2011

- ♦ Sector Pilot Program
- ♦ One group applied in 2011, the RI Fluke Conservation Cooperative, 13 vessels
- ♦ Commenced February 21, 2011
- ♦ Allocation was 15.7% of state's total allocation
- ♦ Based on period of Jan – Dec 31; 2004 – 2008
- ♦ Summer TAC = # vessels x open days at 100 lbs
- ♦ In pounds Summer TAC = 140,400 lbs.



RI Licenses & Landing Permits that Allow for the Commercial Harvest & Landing of Fluke in RI

License Category	# of Licenses	# Landing Fluke	% Active in Fishery
MPL (Resident Only)	862	353	41%
PEL w/RFF Residents Non-Residents	263	149 99 50	57%
CFL w/RFF (Residents)	18	9	50%
Resident Landing Permits	43	13	30%
Non-Res Landing Permits	7	6	86%
Totals Residents Non-Residents	1175	521 465 56	44%



RI Summer Flounder Exemption Certificate

- Current Permit Information:

Permits issued	173
Transfer actions	80+
Inactive permits	25
Invalid	21

- Original intent: protect traditional RI fishery against influx of out of state effort once other states fisheries closed

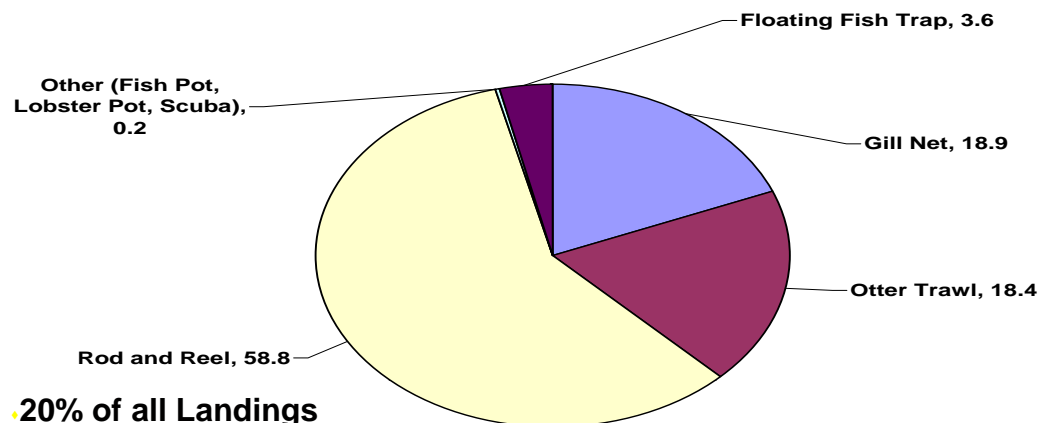
- Created at advent of state by state quotas

- Pitfalls: implementation creates burden for DFW; creates a business hindrance for fishermen



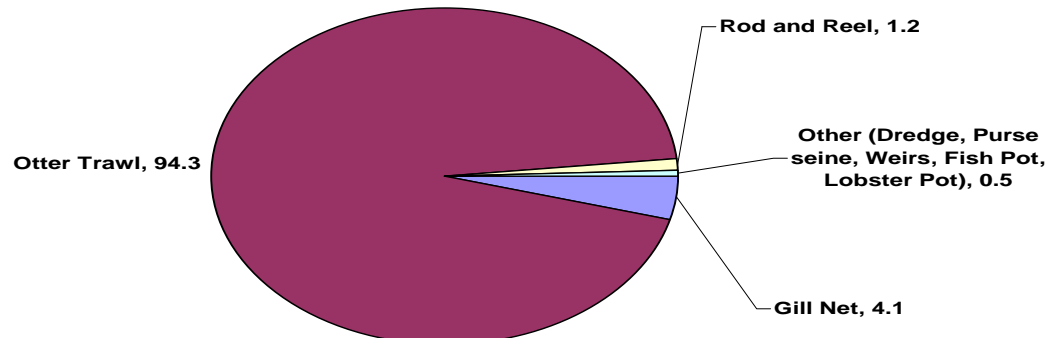
Proportions of Gear Types Landing Fluke in RI

2007 - 2010 Gear Type Proportions Based on State Logbooks



- 20% of all Landings
- Represents state vessel landings

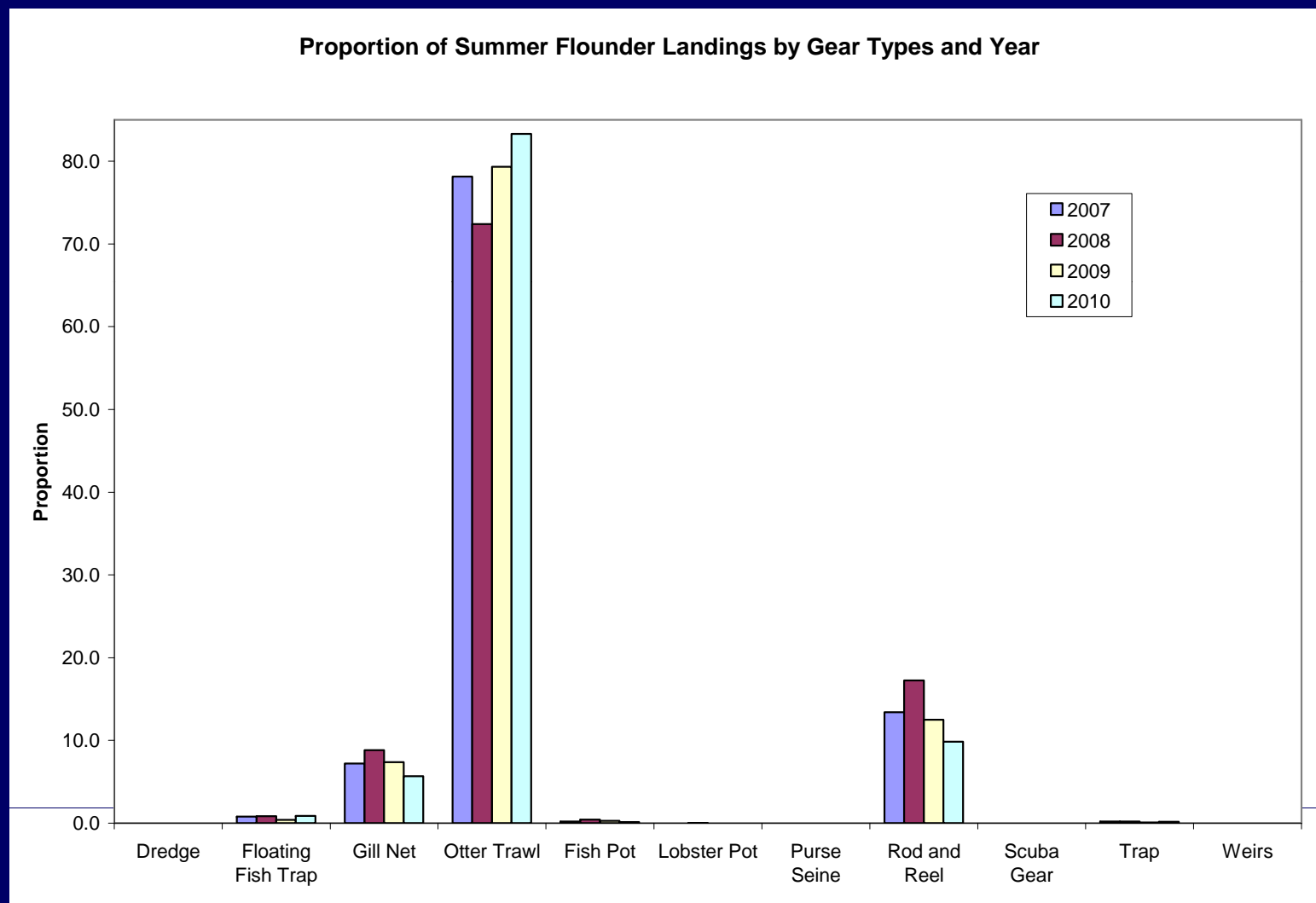
2007 - 2010 Gear Type Proportions Based on VTR



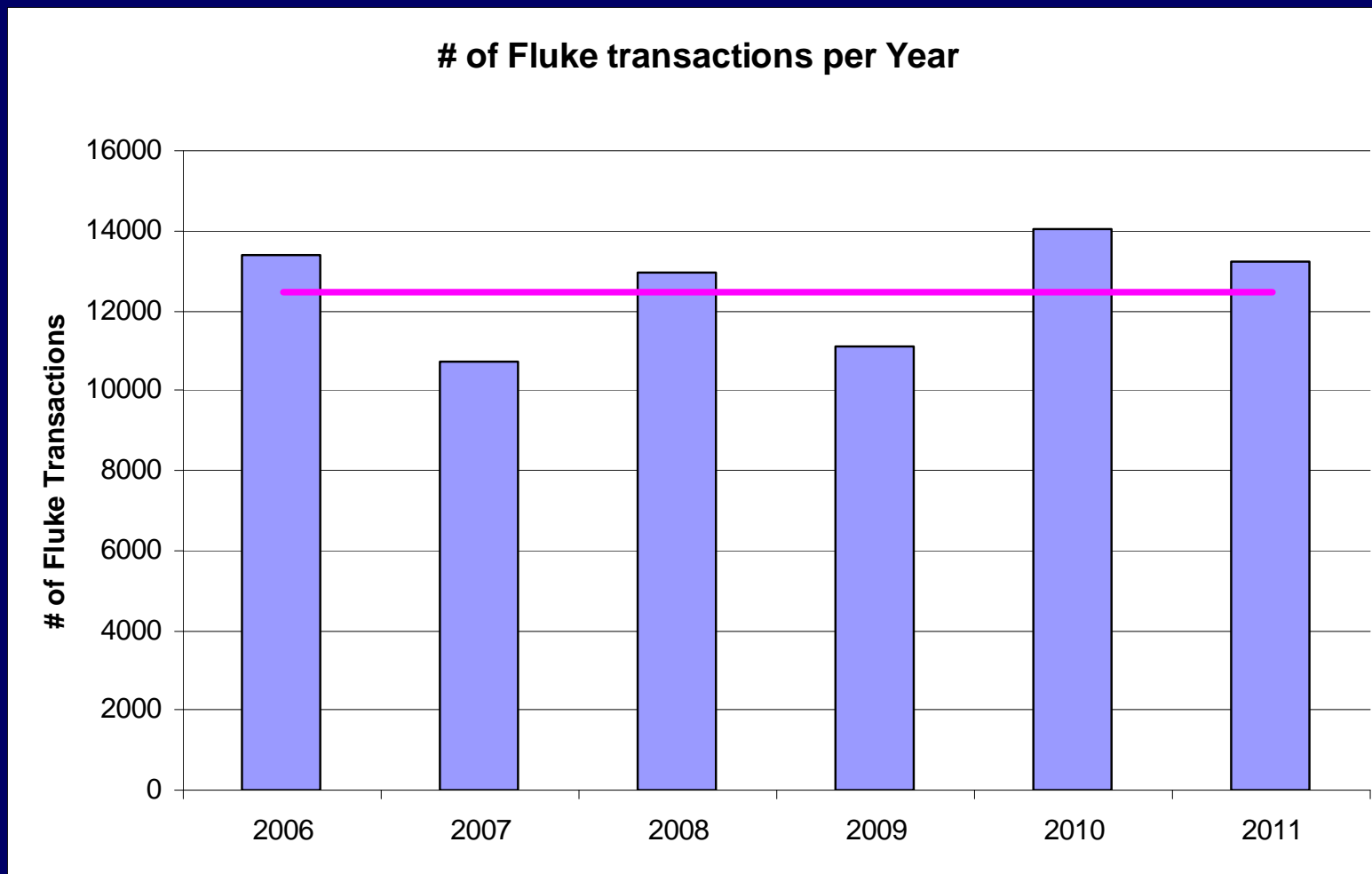
- 80% of all Landings
- Represents federal vessel landings



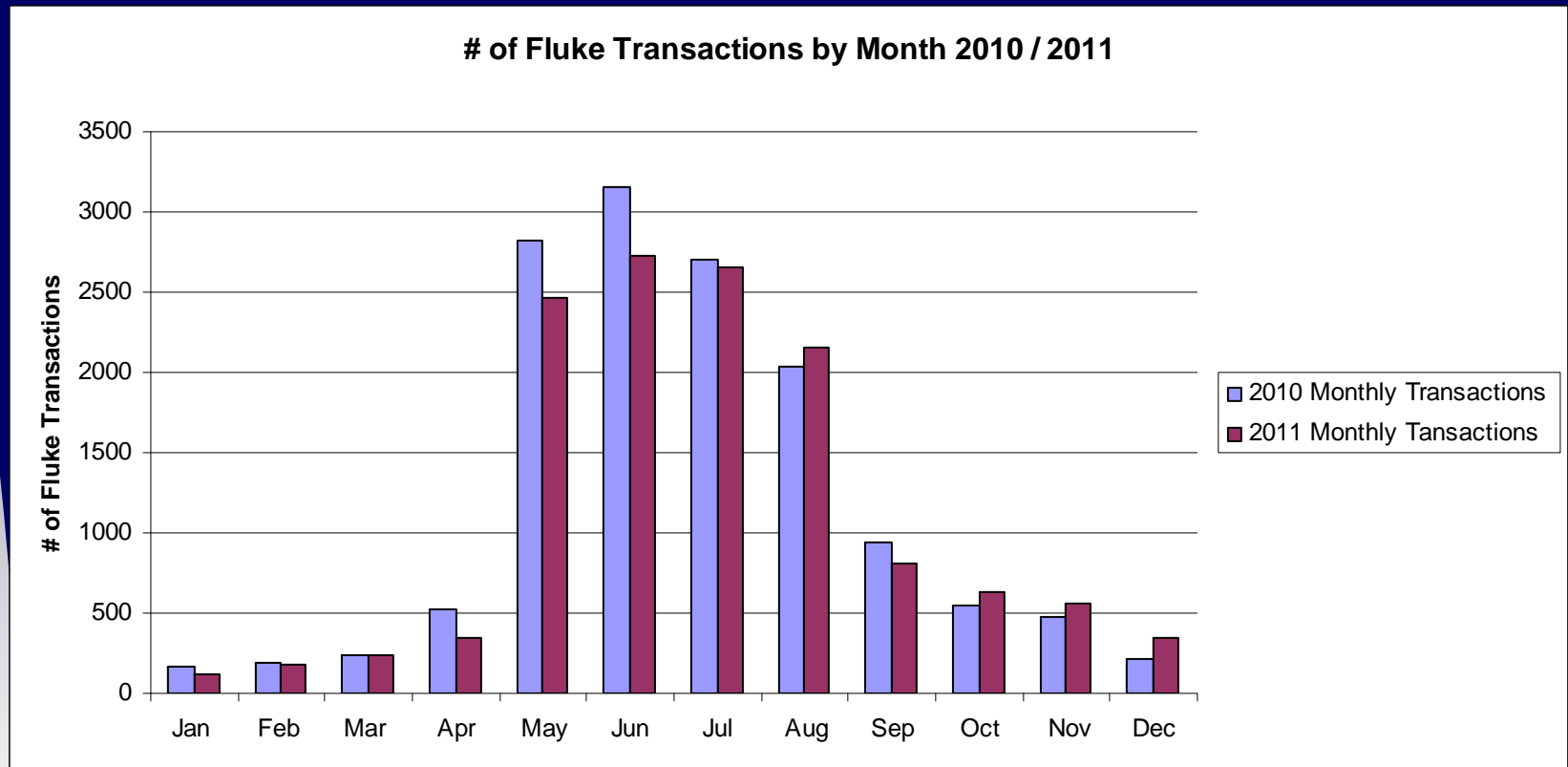
Proportions of Gear Types Landing Fluke in RI



Commercial Landings – Change in Effort Between Years

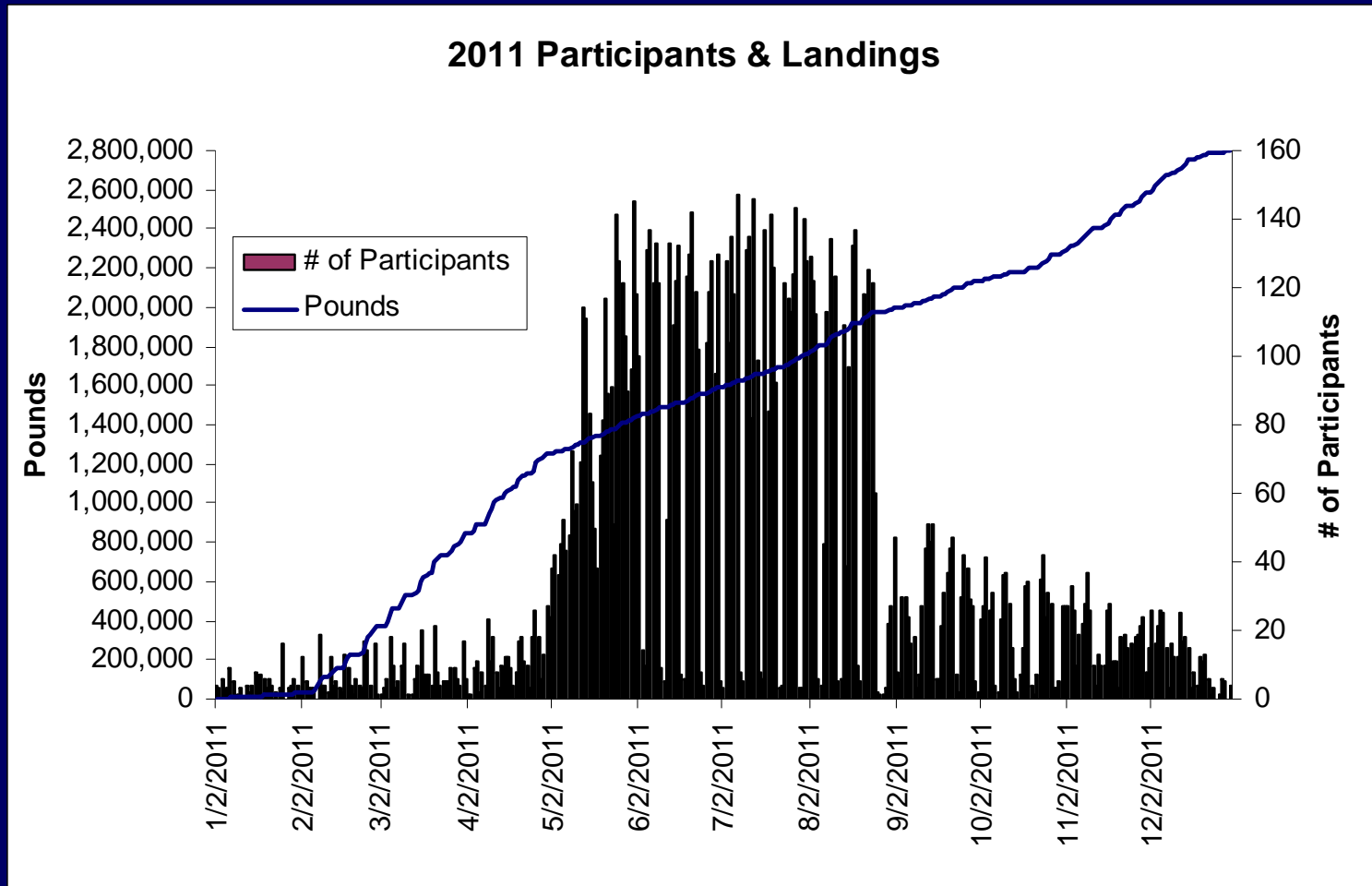


Commercial Participation – 2010 - 2011



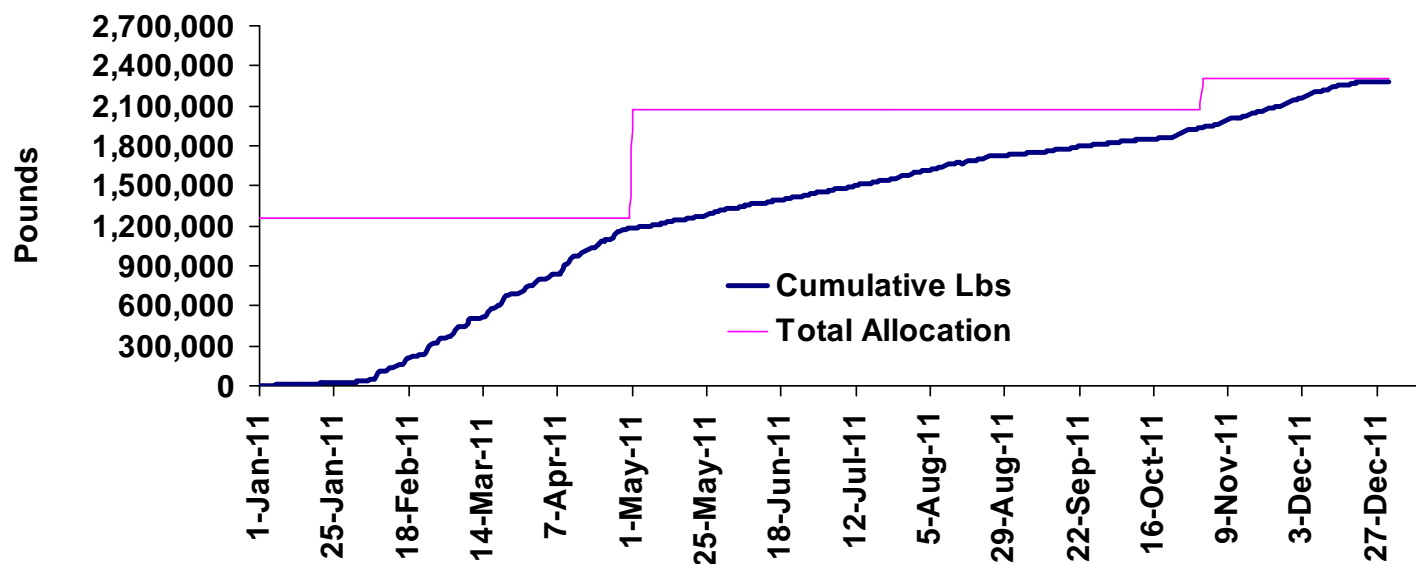
• This chart represents the total # of RI licenses landing summer flounder at RI dealers by month from Jan 1, 2010 – Dec 31, 2011

Commercial Landings 2011– Effort During Season

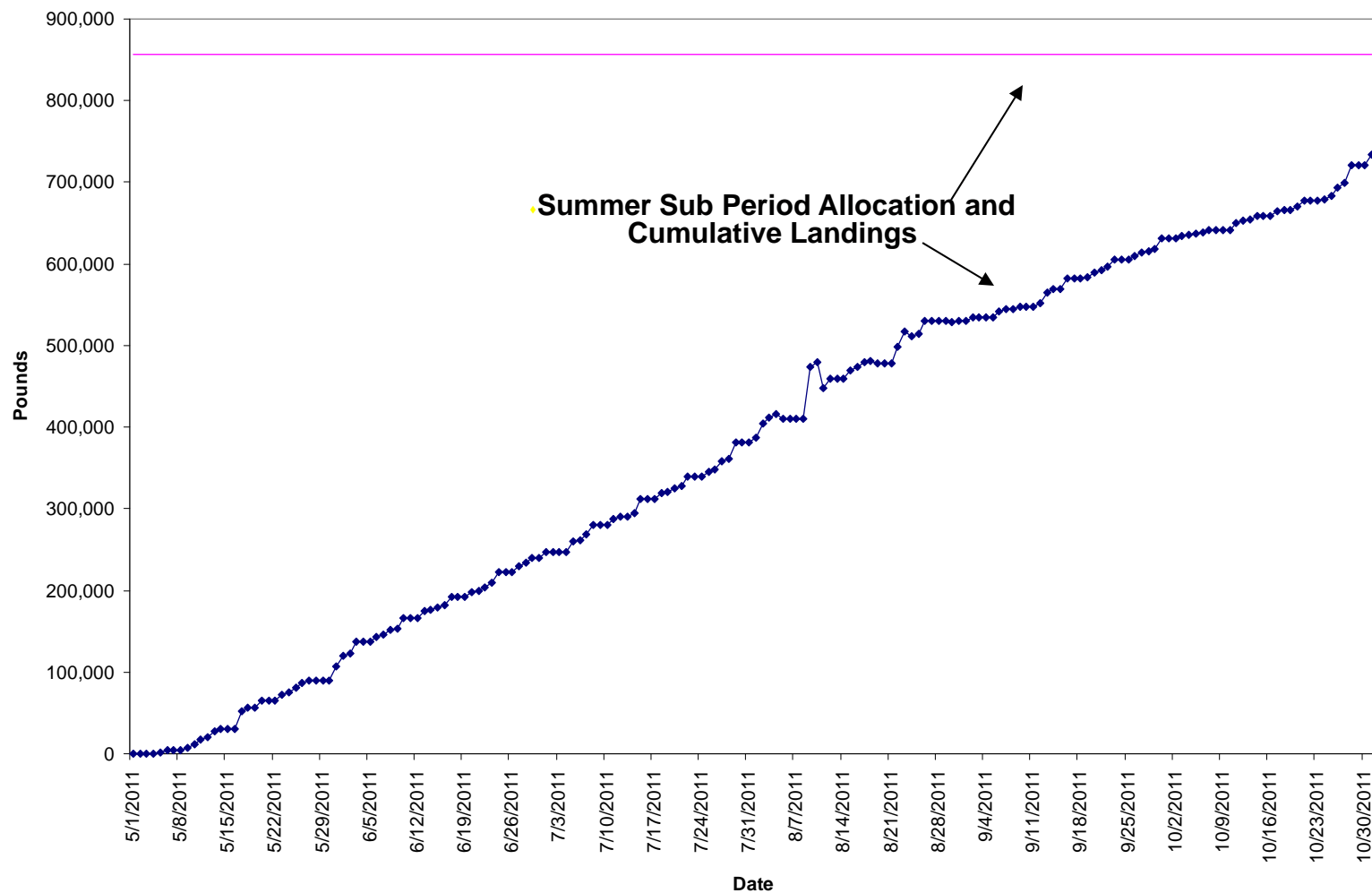


RI Fishery Performance - Commercial Landings

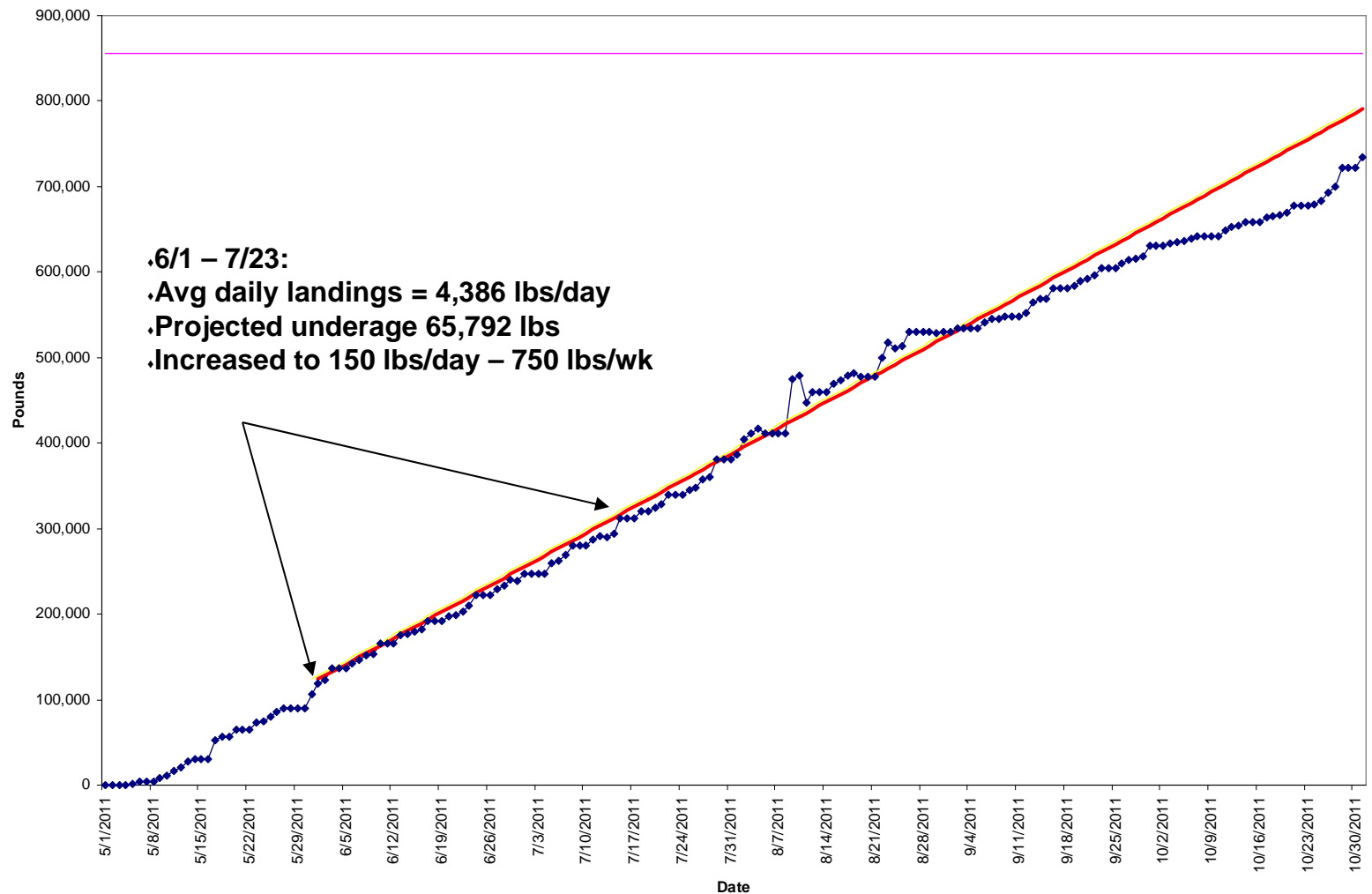
Summer Flounder



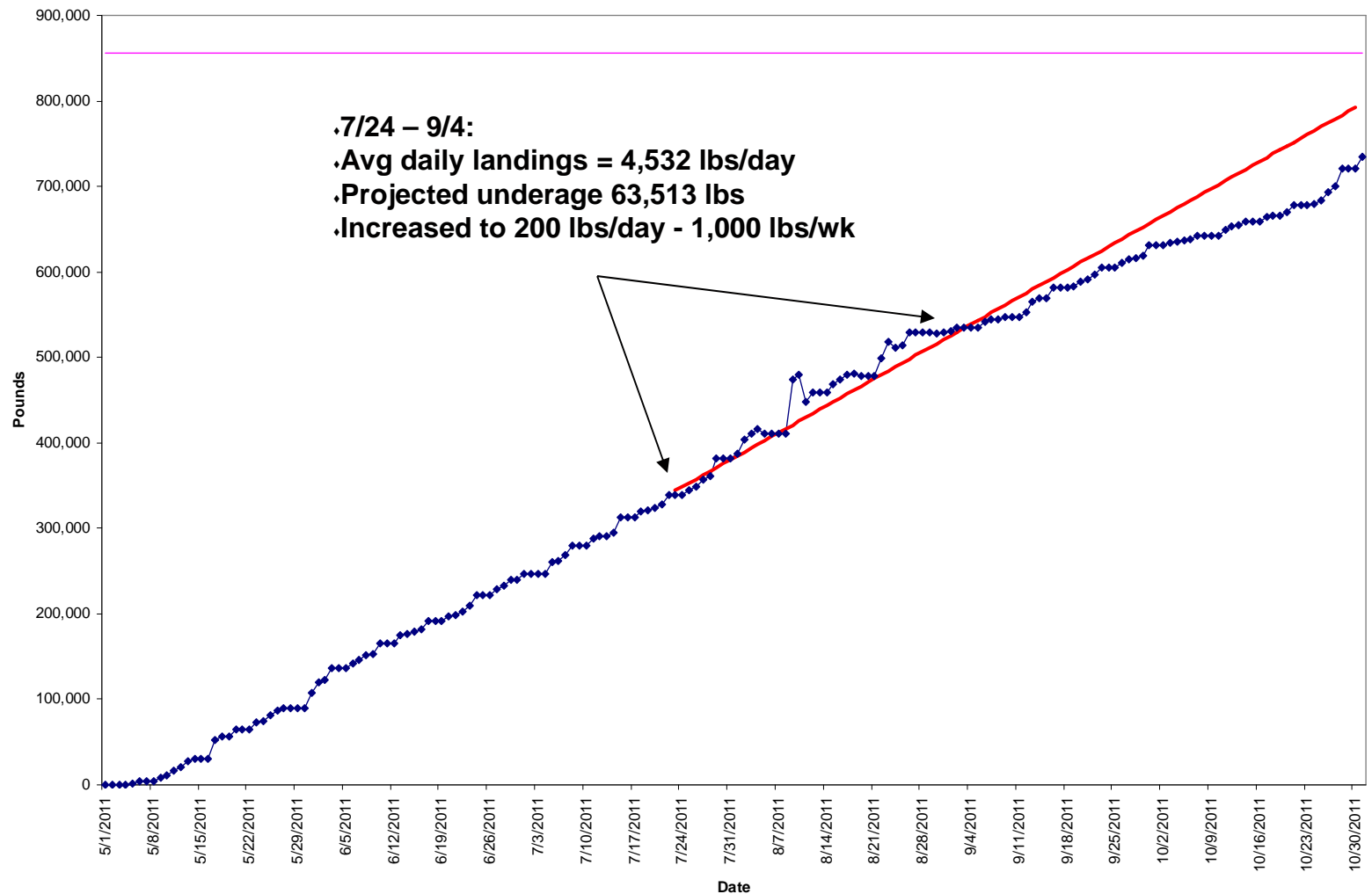
RI Fishery Performance - Commercial Landings During 2011 Summer



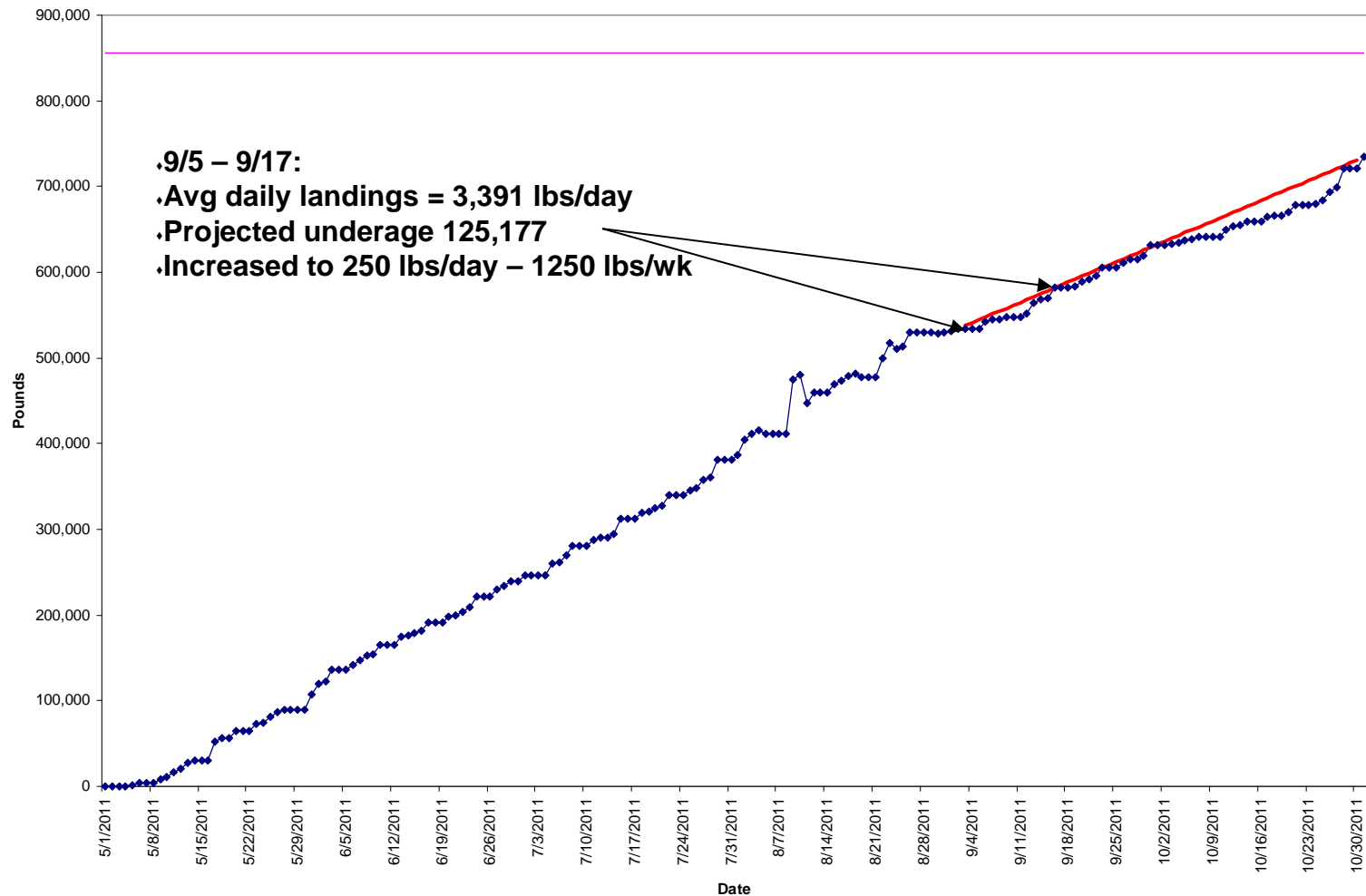
RI Fishery Performance - Commercial Landings During 2011 Summer



RI Fishery Performance - Commercial Landings During 2011 Summer

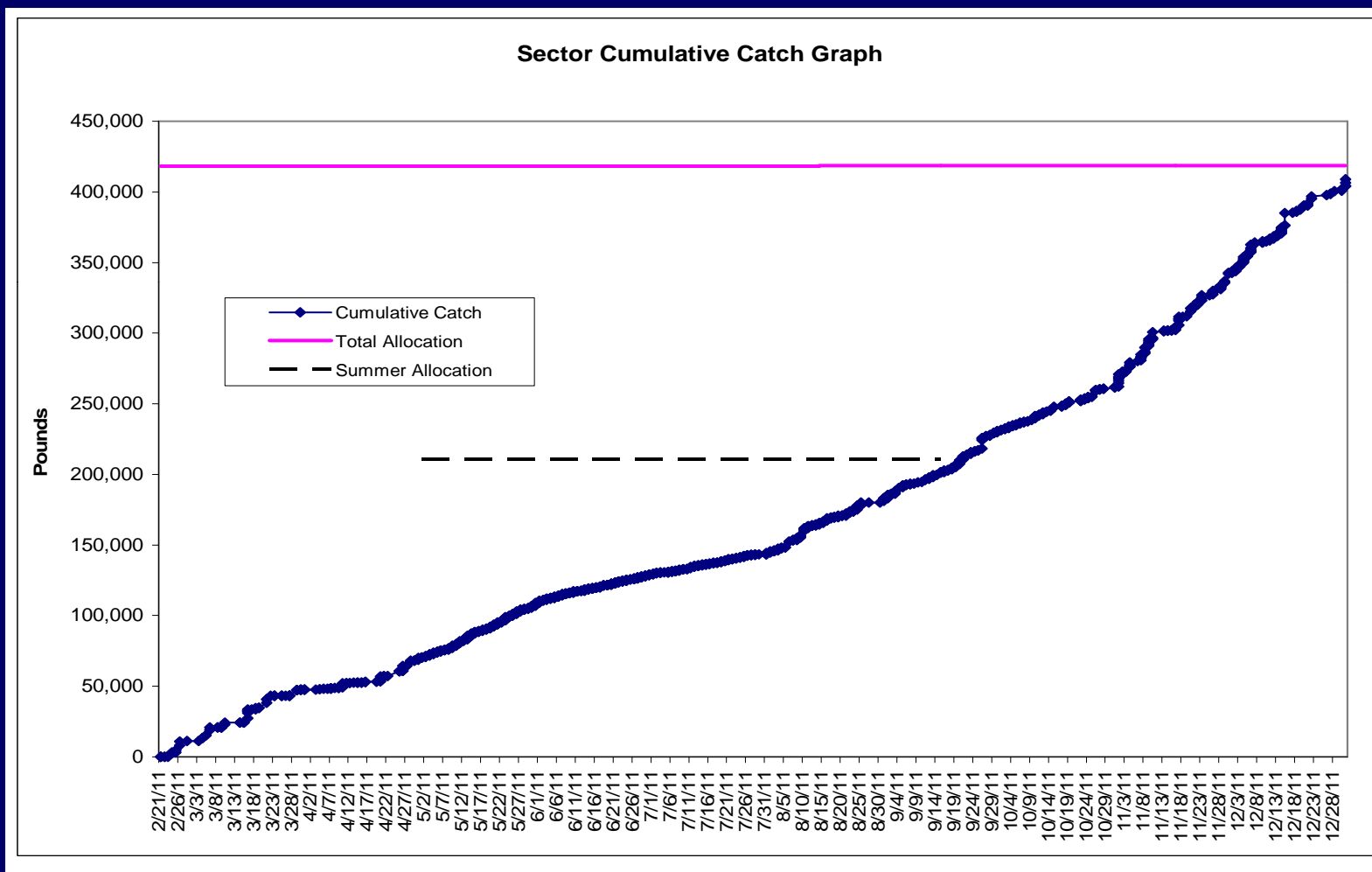


RI Fishery Performance - Commercial Landings During 2011 Summer



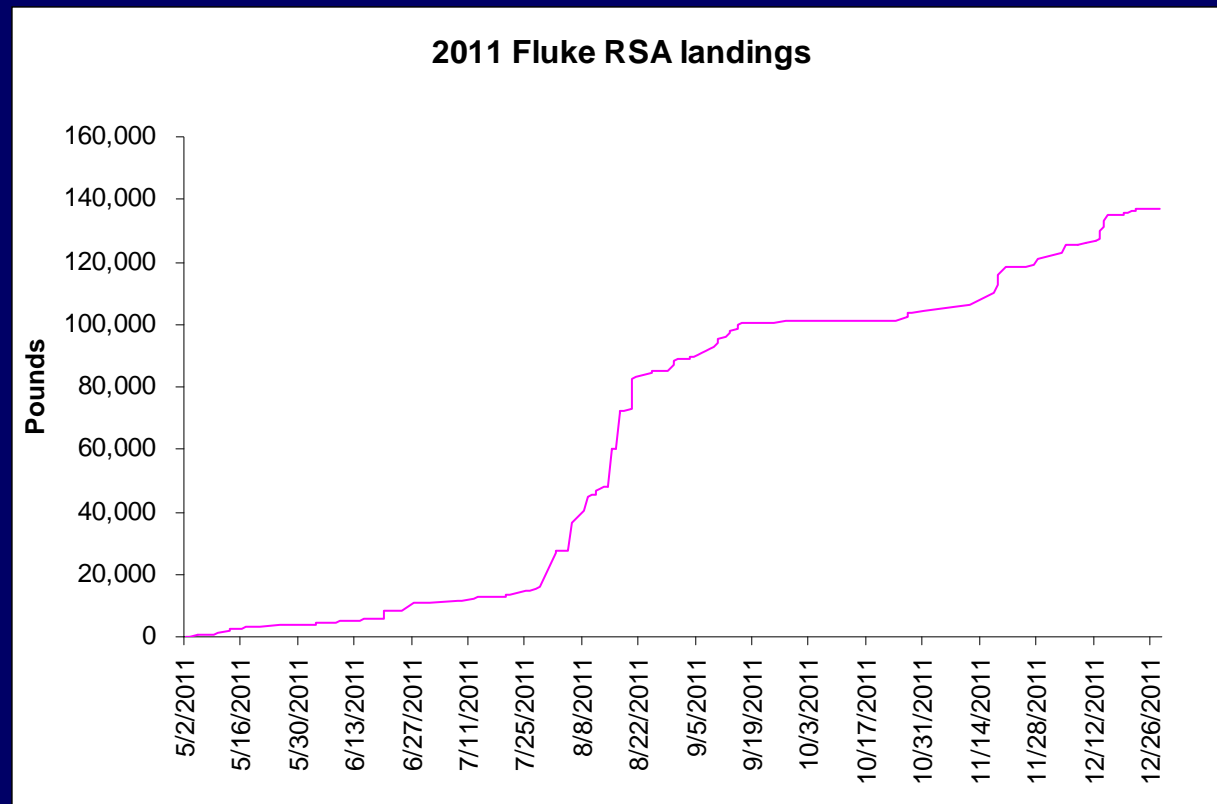
- Continued to monitor in this manner
- Made 4 additional adjustments
- Maxed out at 1,000 lbs/day – 5,000 lbs/wk

2011 Sector Info – Cumulative Landings

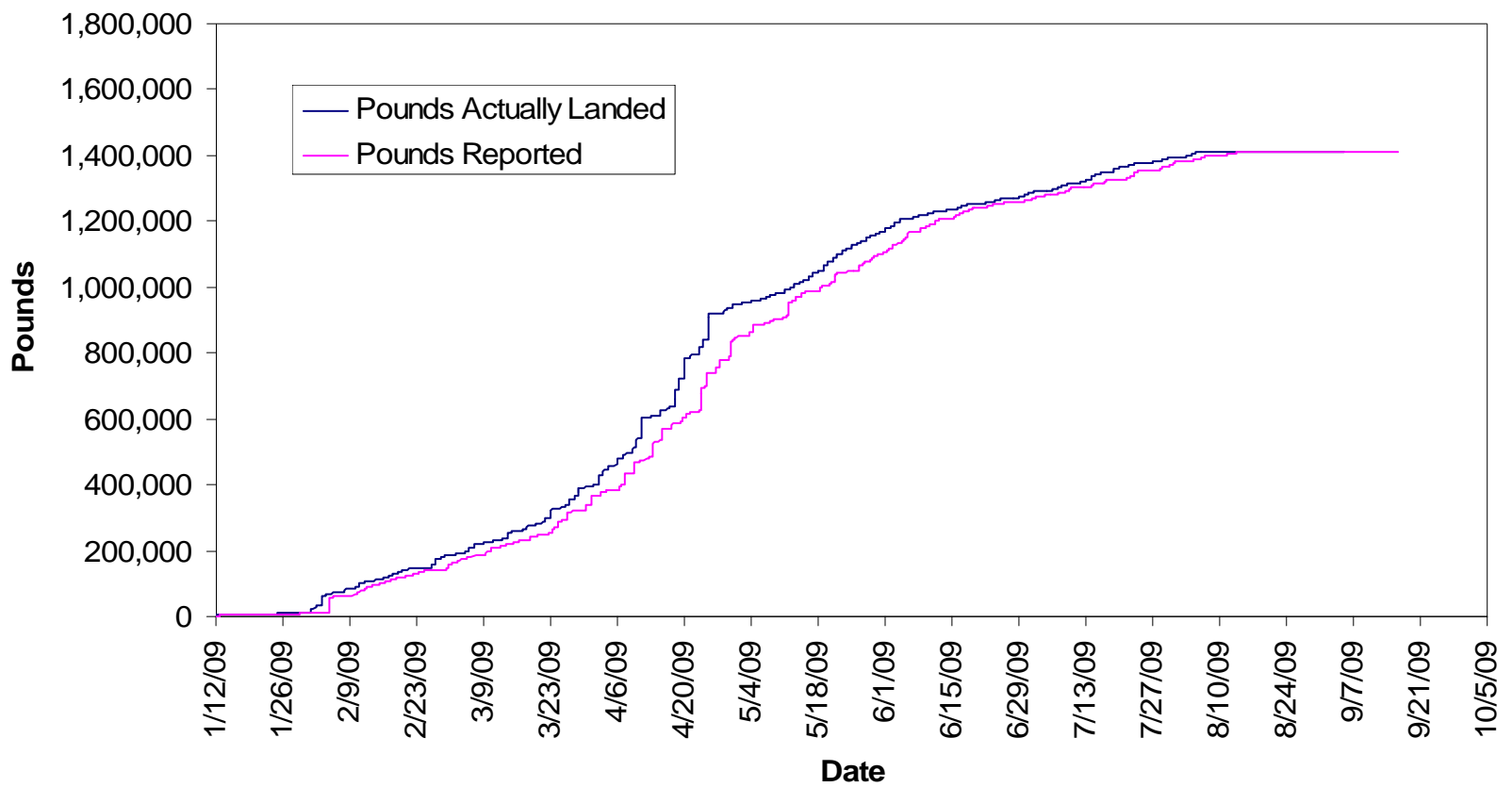


2011 Summer Flounder Research Set Aside Landings

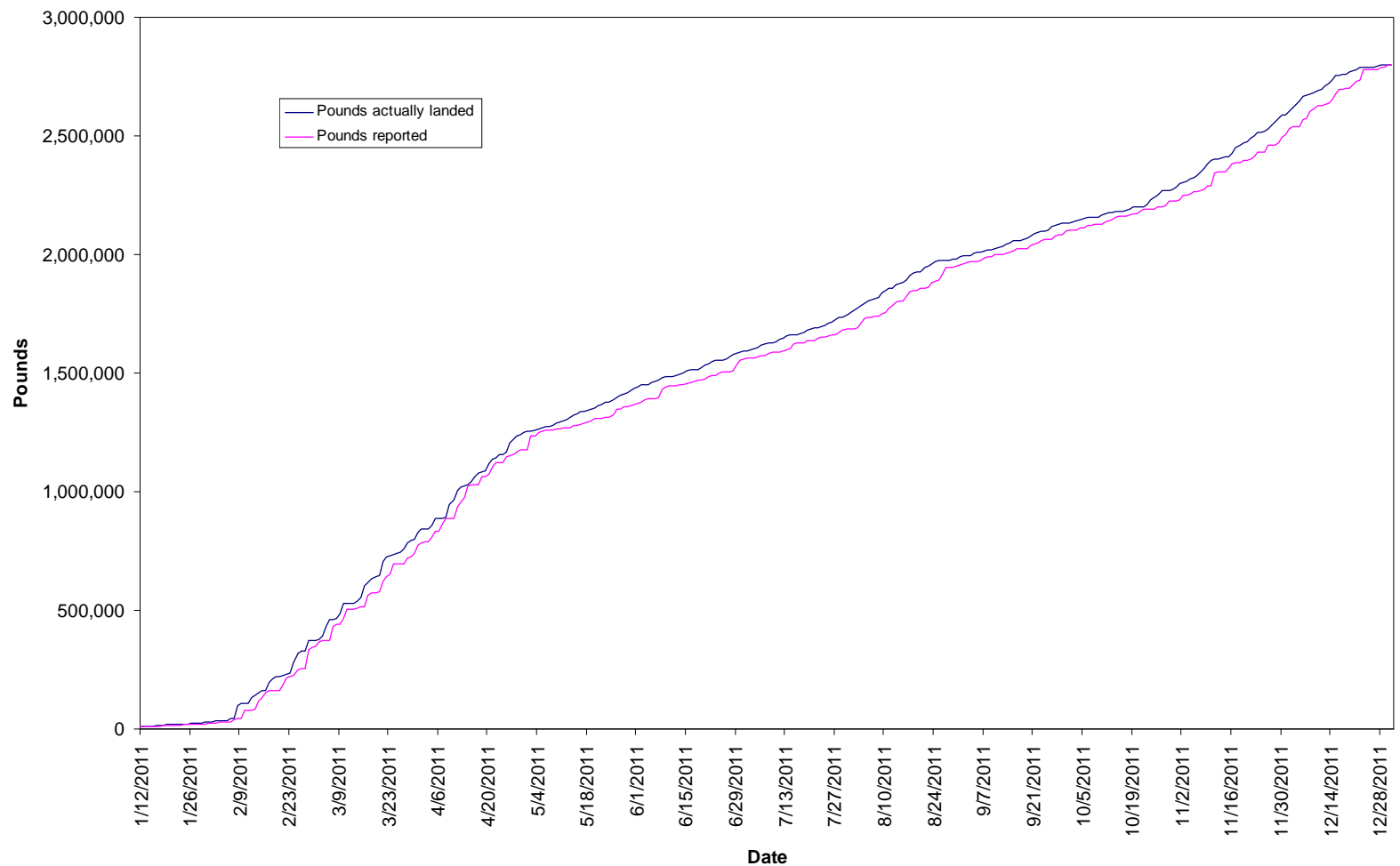
- 11 Commercial vessels landed RSA Fluke in 2011
- Landings totaled 136,944 pounds
- RSA landings have no negative impact on state quota, but do make day to day monitoring a challenge due to data lags and misreporting



Commercial Landings – Monitoring Lag 2009



Commercial Landings – Monitoring Lag 2011



2010 vs 2011 Summer Flounder Dealer Reporting

- 14,027 summer flounder records reported - 2010
- 13,229 summer flounder records reported - 2011
- 46 records with Non-Rhode Island licenses - 2010
- 0 records with Non-Rhode Island licenses - 2011
- 25 records with unknown license - 2010
- 1 records with unknown license - 2011
- 1,359 records (9.7%) w/ unk vessel reported - 2010
- 323 records (2.4%) w/ unk vessel reported - 2011
- 162 records (1.2%) reported “from shore” - 2010
- 172 records (1.3%) reported “from shore” - 2011



RI Summer Flounder Quota Management Program: 2012

- ♦ Winter 1 Sub Period
- ♦ Season is Jan – Apr
- ♦ 54% of state allocation = 1,078,056 lbs
- ♦ Possession Limits:
500/day; Aggregate Period 3,500/week or 500/day



RI Summer Flounder Quota Management Program: 2012

- ♦ Summer Sub Period
- ♦ Season is May – Oct
- ♦ 35% of state allocation = 698,740 lbs
- ♦ Possession Limits:
100/day; Aggregate Period 700/week or 100/day;
Fri/Sat Closure removed



RI Summer Flounder Quota Management Program: 2012

- ♦ Winter 2 Sub Period
- ♦ Season is Nov – Dec
- ♦ 11% of state allocation = 219,604 lbs
- ♦ Possession Limits:
600/day



Conclusions

- ♦ Still room for improvement with dealer reporting
- ♦ Need to do a better job accounting for drop off in effort
- ♦ Made it through year with no closures and no overages
- ♦ Achieved almost entire state allocation
- ♦ Improved dealer reporting
- ♦ Other improvements - TBD



Appreciation

- I would like to acknowledge and extend appreciation to:
- Dan Costa and Kevin Smith, RIDFW
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- Judith Swift, Coastal Institute

