

STAFF SUMMARY FOR JUNE 21-22, 2017

37. DEPARTMENT INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (MARINE)**Today's Item****Information** **Action**

Standing agenda item to receive and discuss informational updates from DFW:

- (A) Director's Report
- (B) Marine Region
- (C) Other

Summary of Previous/Future Actions (N/A)**Background**

Verbal reports are expected at the meeting for items (A) and (B).

- (B) In addition to a verbal report, DFW's Marine Region will provide an informational update on the northern pink shrimp fishery, including a capacity review (Exhibit B.1).

Significant Public Comments (N/A)**Recommendation (N/A)****Exhibits**

- B1. [DFW presentation](#)

Motion/Direction (N/A)



Pink Shrimp Update

California Fish & Game Commission

June 22, 2017

Sonke Mastrup
California Department of Fish & Wildlife



Outline

- Capacity review
- Management improvements
- State waters easement



CA Code of Regulations, Title 14

120.2 (h) Capacity Goal.

- (1) The department shall evaluate the capacity goal every three years...regarding issuance of new permits.
- (2) The capacity goal for transferable permits shall be a range from 75 up...

Fishery History

Fishery developed through CDFW research cruises

1951

Restricted Access Program

1994

Peak 315 CA permits

2001

Federal Buyback

2003

SB 1459 – authority to FGC, state waters ban, bycatch reduction device required

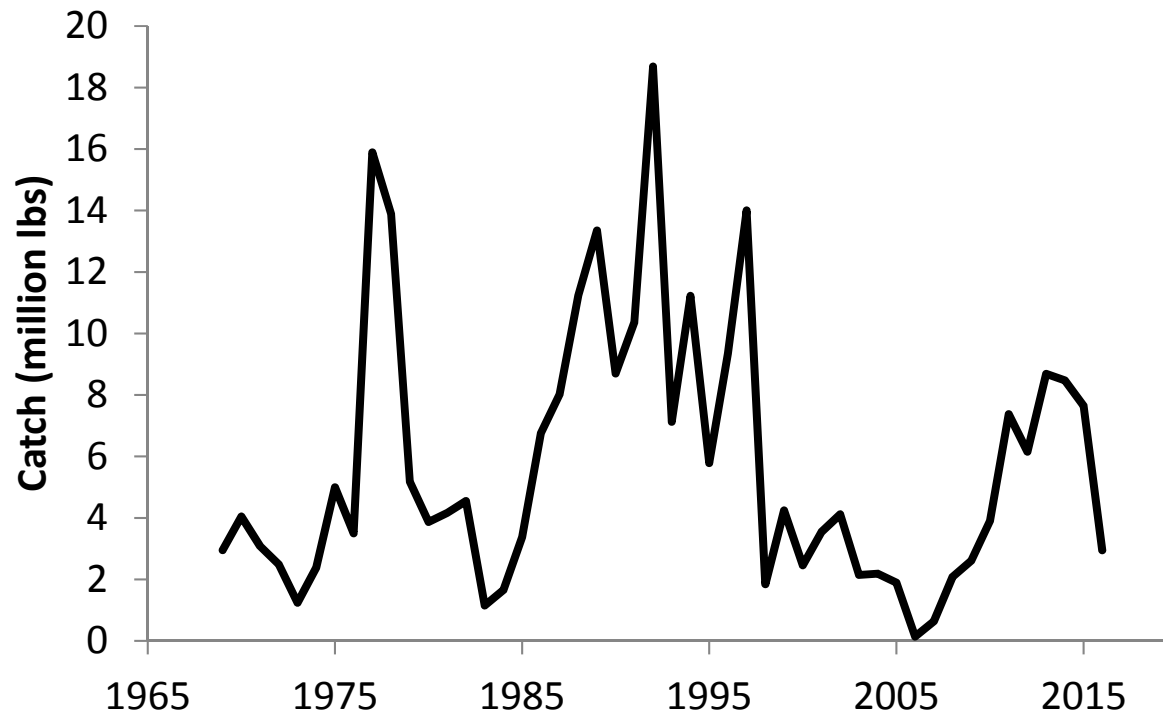
2004

Low 35 CA permits

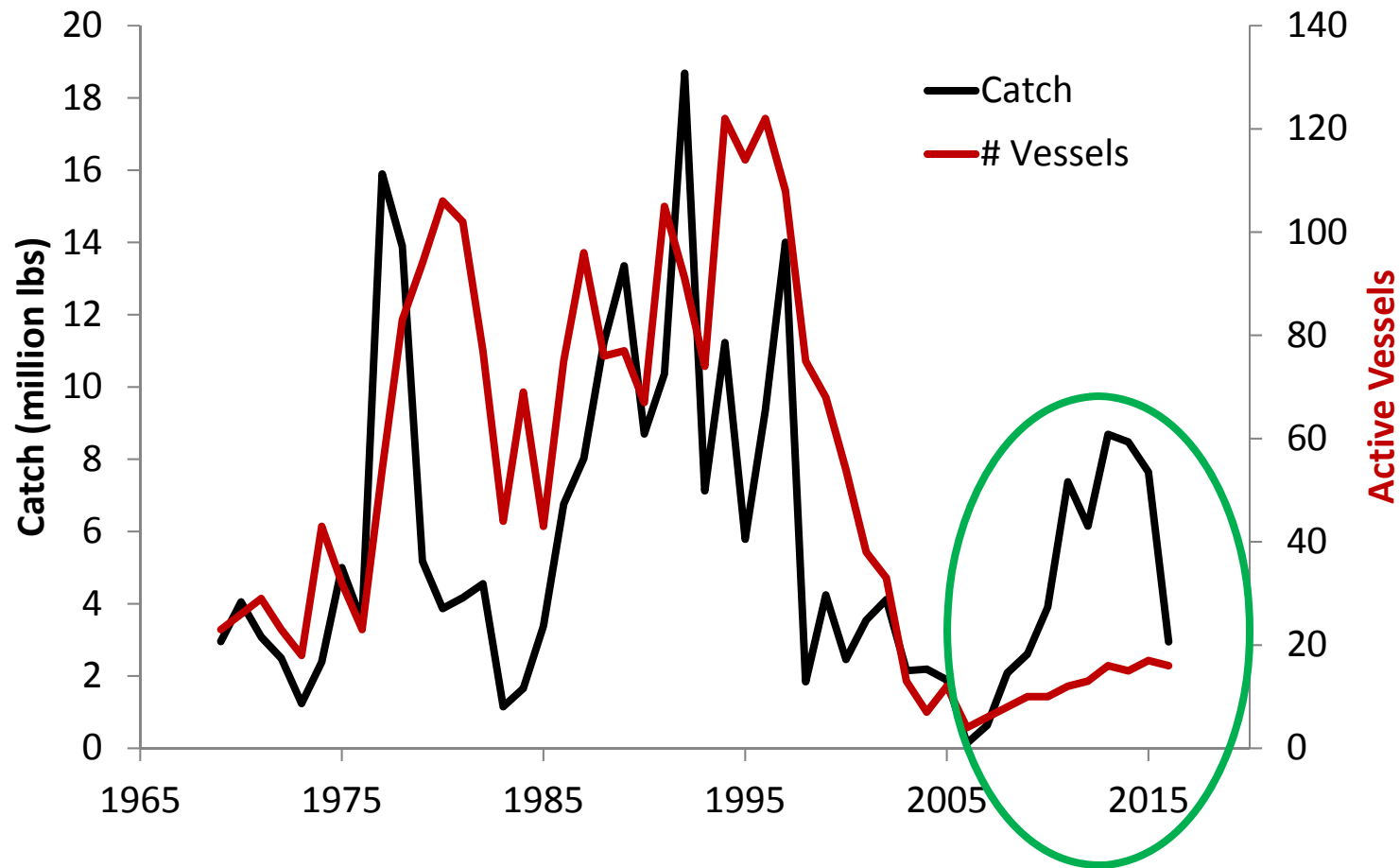
2016

Biological Sustainability

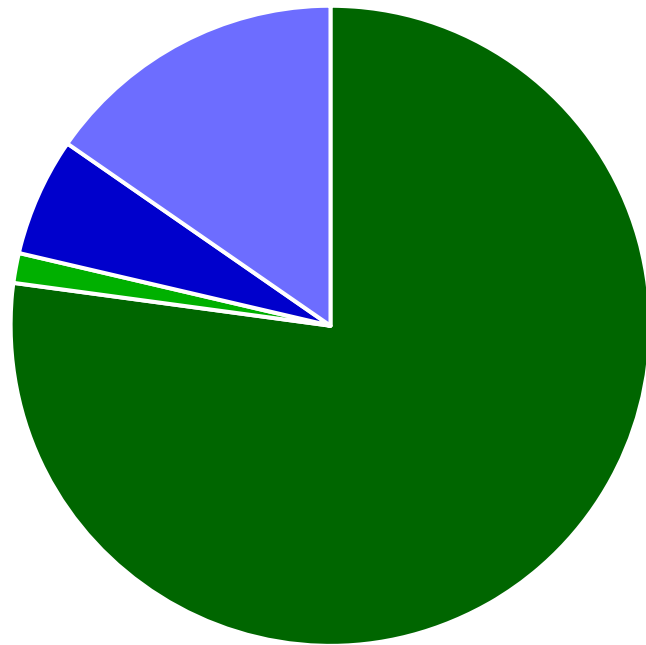
- Pink shrimp stock is volatile and environmentally dependent



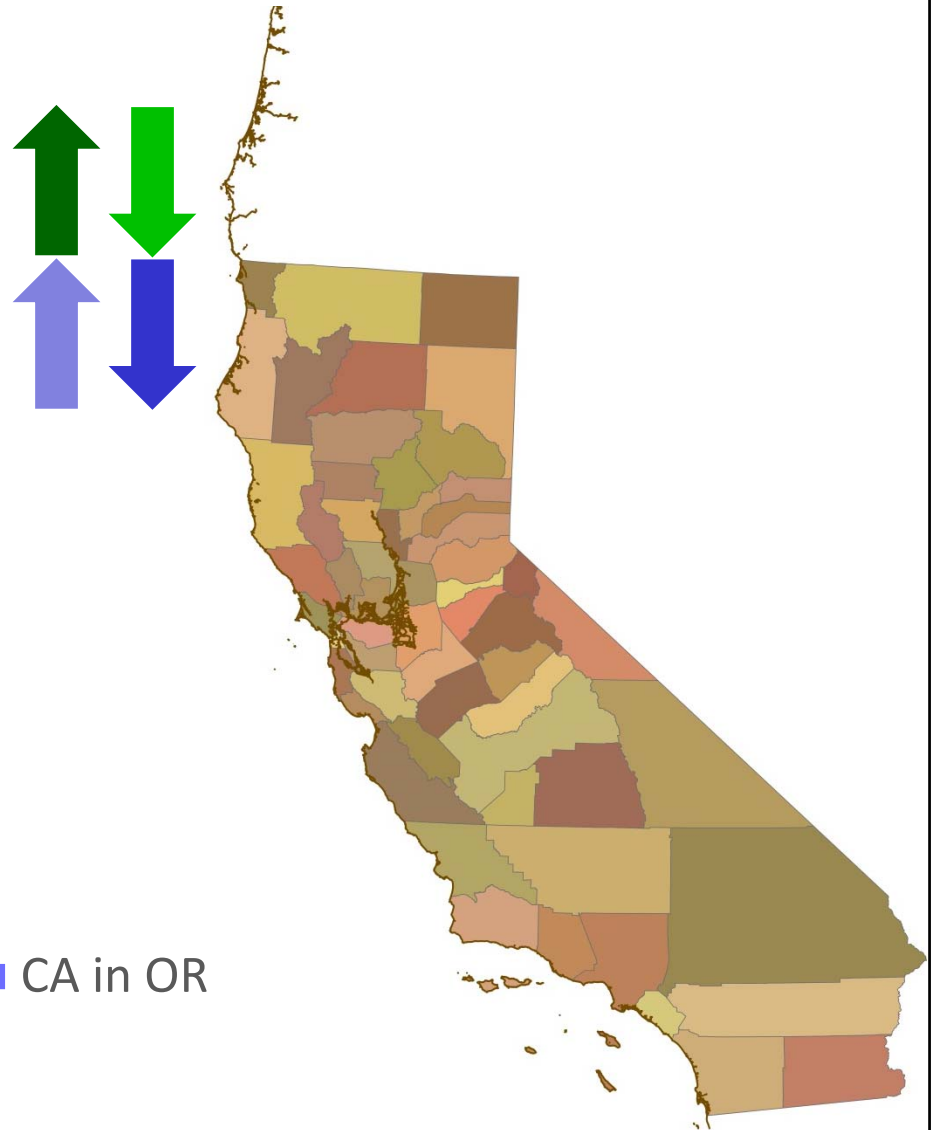
Fleet Efficiency



Cross-border fishing 2016

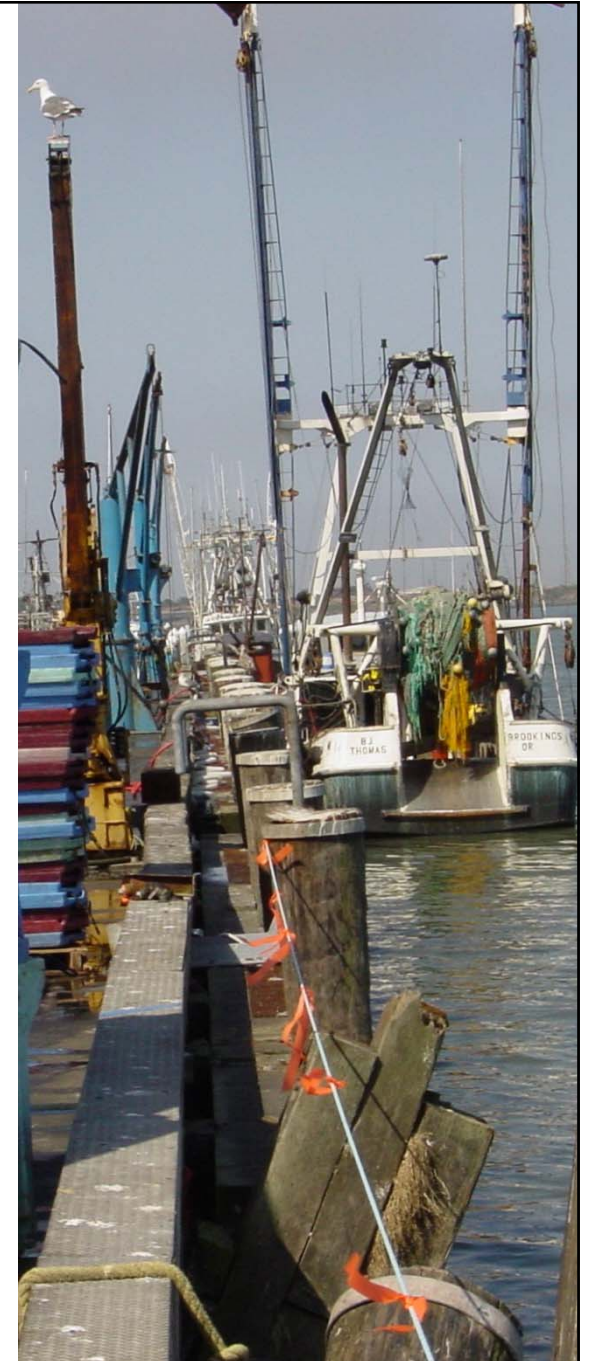


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Capacity Summary

- Resource sustainability
- Efficiency
- Cross-border fishing
- Opportunities for other trawlers
- Ecosystem – bycatch, habitat damage
- Orderly & enforceable
- Processor capacity

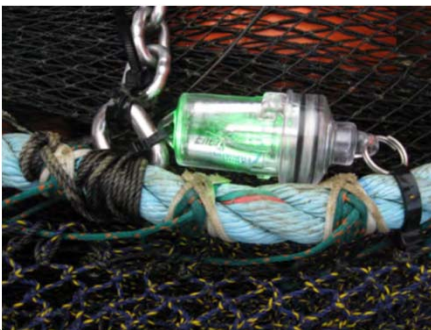


Initial Capacity Recommendation

- No new transferrable permits at this time
- Consider:
 - Addition of limited-term, non-transferrable permits
 - Replace vessel size restriction for permit transfer with maximum vessel length of 80 feet

Management Improvements

- Improved communication with fleet
- Reference points & harvest controls consistent with other states
- Research plan & biological sampling
- Enforcement
- Bycatch prevention requirements



Trawl Areas

Fish & Game Code Section 8842

- (b) Trawling may be allowed within waters between 2 – 3 nautical miles from shore between False Cape and Point Reyes
- (d) The commission shall permit shrimp trawling from the area above if it finds
 - Gear minimizes bycatch
 - Will not damage seafloor
 - Will not adversely affect ecosystem health
 - Will not impede restoration of kelp, coral or other biogenic habitats

New Information

- Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife research comparing open & closed pink shrimp grounds
 - Impacts documented, significance unknown
- Bycatch reduction devices were required by Senate Bill 1459 in 2004, thus bycatch has likely been reduced by 66-86% (Hannah & Jones 2007)

Studies to Meet Ecosystem Criteria

- Trawl surveys inside & outside state waters
 - Shrimp gear: differences in bycatch
 - Groundfish gear: differences in community composition, evidence for community implications of habitat damage
- ROV surveys of CA pink shrimp beds inside & outside state waters
 - Has cessation of trawling inside state waters resulted in habitat change/recovery?
- Analysis of bycatch density and identity in pink shrimp tows along a gradient of pink shrimp effort

Summary

- Initial recommendation for no new transferrable permits
- Improve management & attain Marine Stewardship Council certification
- State waters easement
- Seek further guidance at MRC

