



# California Halibut Emergency Action

Photo: CDFW



17 May 2023

*Presented to:*

**California Fish and Game  
Commission**

*Presented by:*

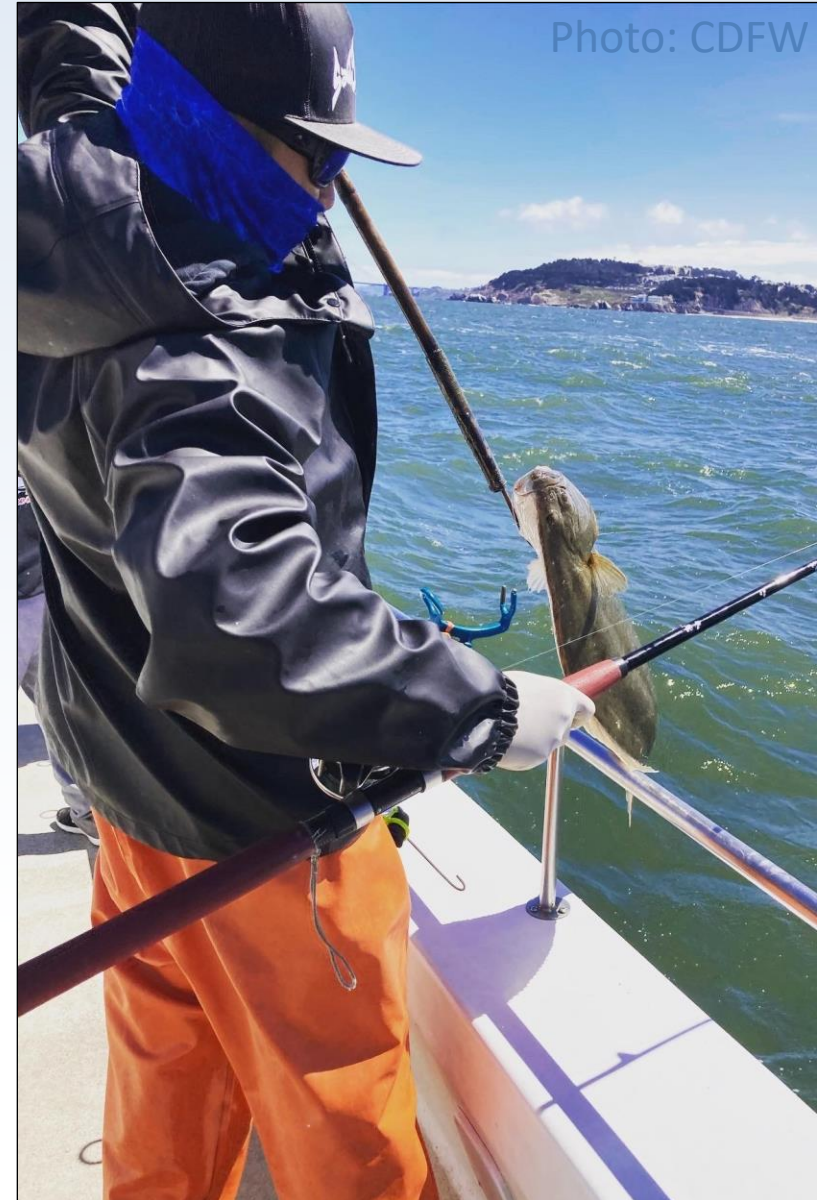
**Kristine Lesyna**

**Environmental Scientist  
Marine Region**



# Overview

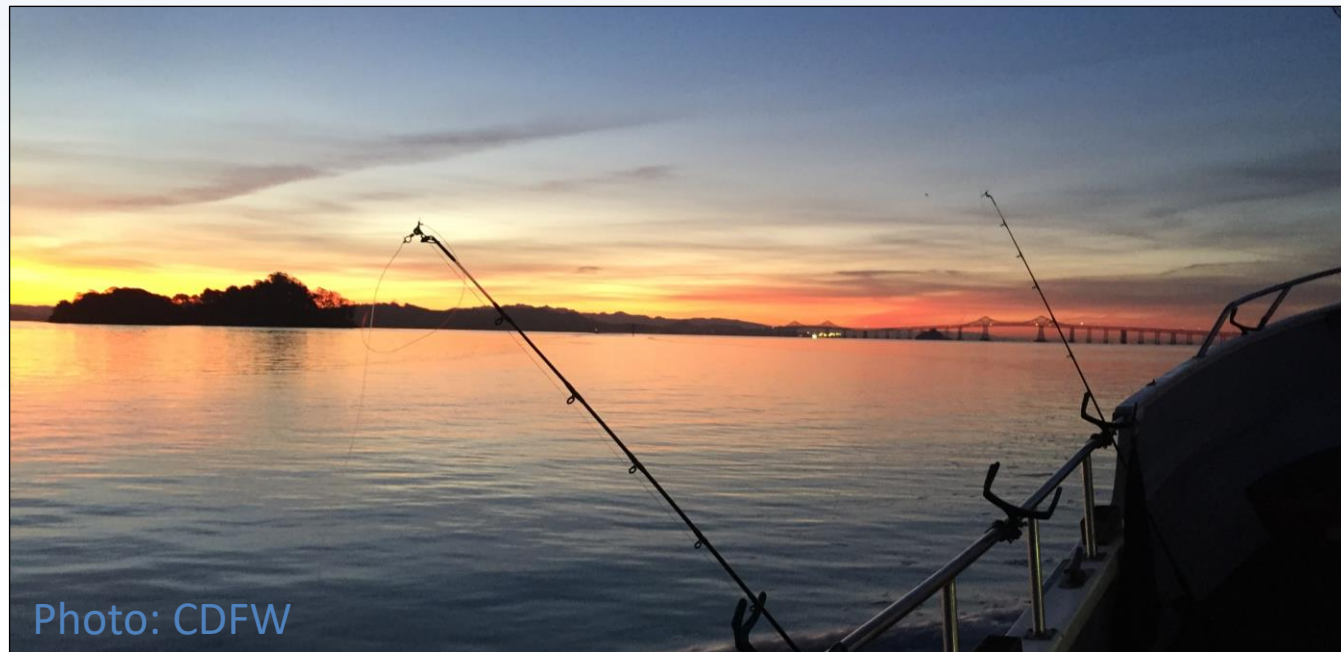
- Background
- Data considerations
- Regulatory Proposal
- Outreach Efforts





# Background

- Current regulations allow:
  - Bag and possession limit of three fish north of Point Sur, Monterey County
- 2023 salmon fishery closure







# Data Considerations

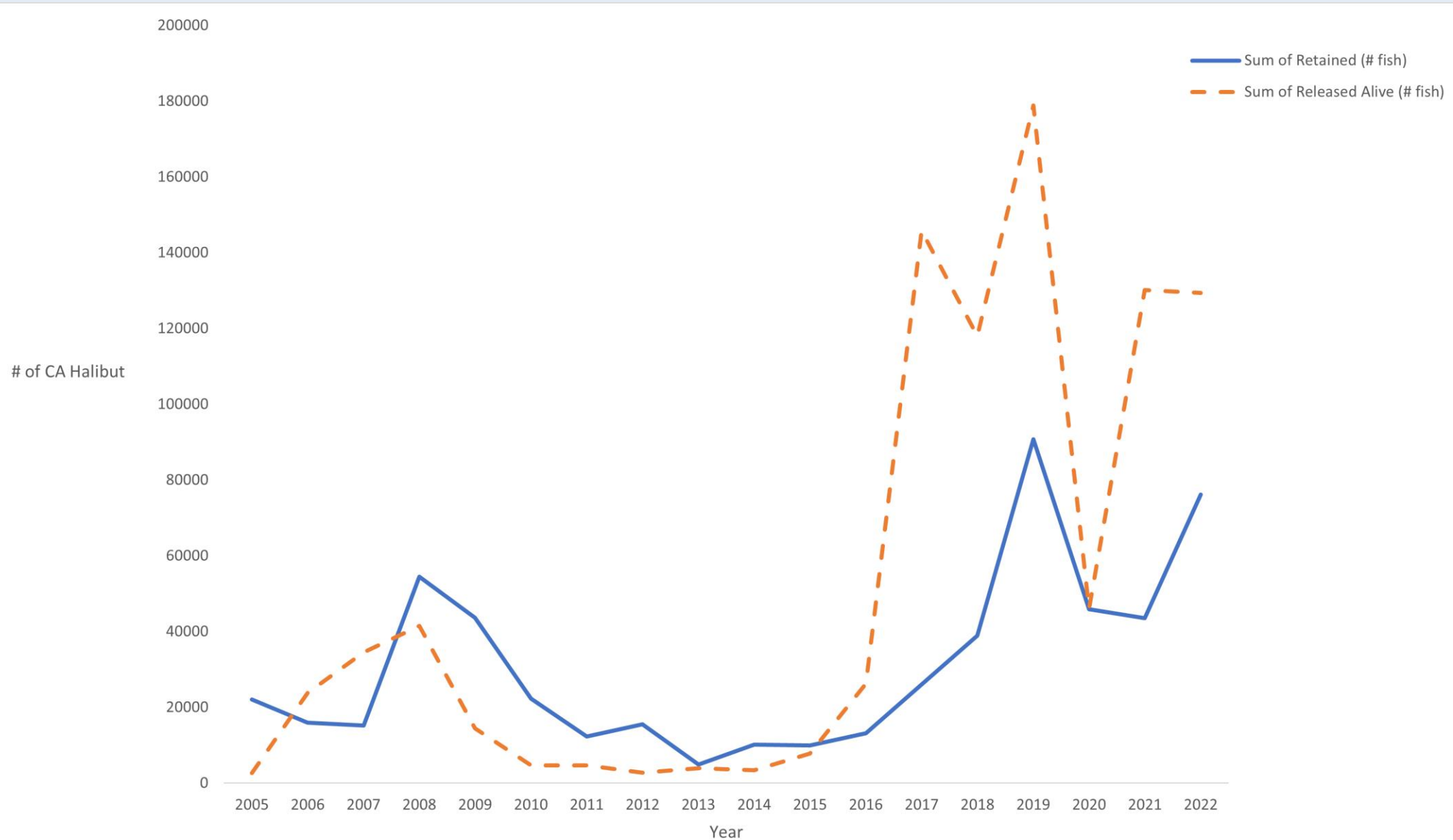
- Recreational catch
- Recreational effort
- Environmental factors



Photo: Huy Dang



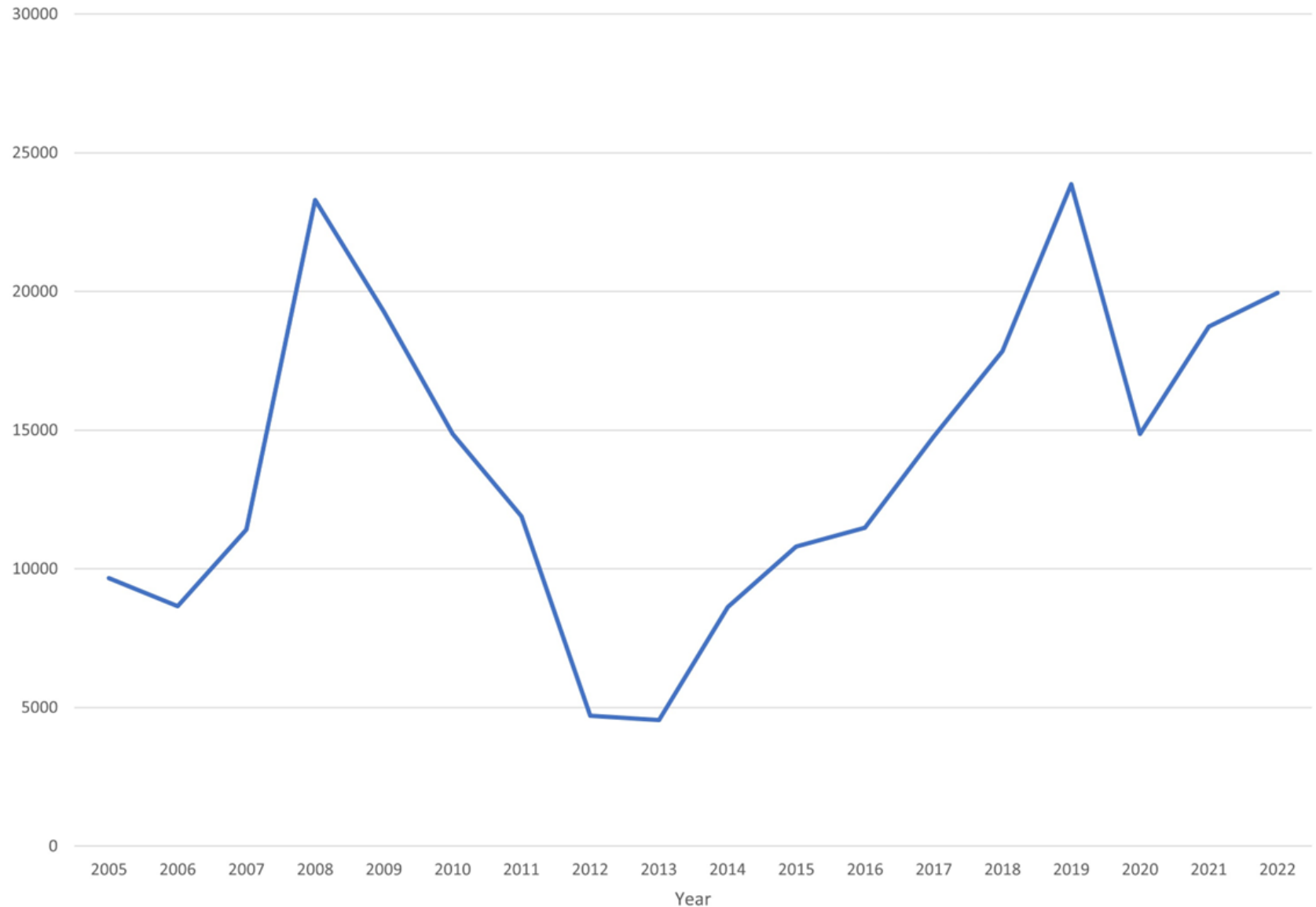
# Recreational Halibut Catch





# Recreational Fishery Effort Shifts

Number of Fishers that Retained California Halibut in Northern California from CPFVs





# Environmental Factors

- Minimum size limit
- Cold water since mid-2020
- 3-4 year recruitment lag after water warms
- Last good recruitment documented mid-2019







# Regulatory Proposal

- Goal: lessen fishing pressure to promote sustainability
- Reduce daily bag and possession limit to two fish north of Point Sur, Monterey County
- Bag limit reduction could save 13% (~7,500 fish)







# Outreach

- Requests from Commercial Passenger Fishing Vessel (CPFV) operators and recreational anglers
- Marine Management News blog announcing the proposal
- Tribal notification



# Presentation Summary

- Recommendation: Daily bag and possession limit reduction from three to two fish
- Expected to promote sustainability of halibut population and fisheries



Photo: CDFW

# Thank You

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<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/Nearshore>

<https://marinespecies.wildlife.ca.gov/california-halibut/>