An underwater photograph showing a diver in the background and a large, blue, multi-armed starfish in the foreground. The water is clear and greenish. The text is overlaid on the image.

**Shellogy:
Reading shells to empower
reef scale management**

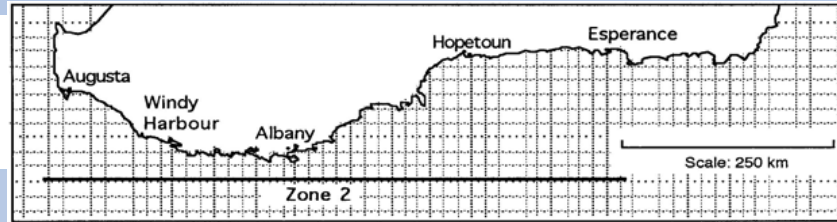
Jeremy Prince

Auckland

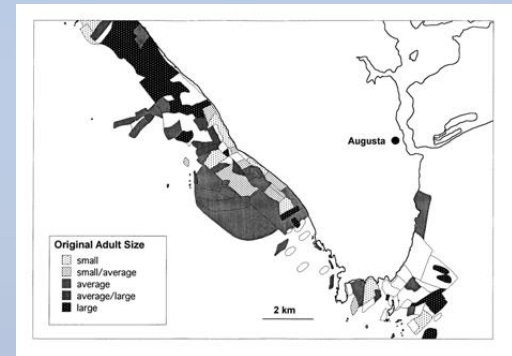
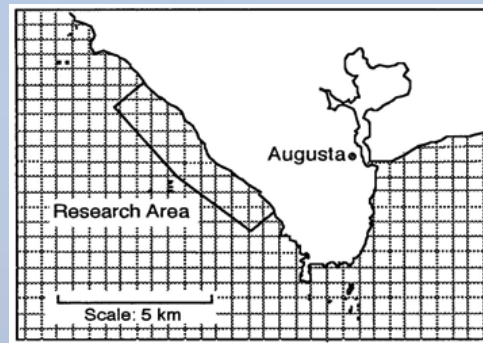
February 2023

The Tyranny of Scale

Regional Scale of Management and Enforcement



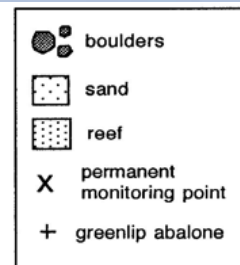
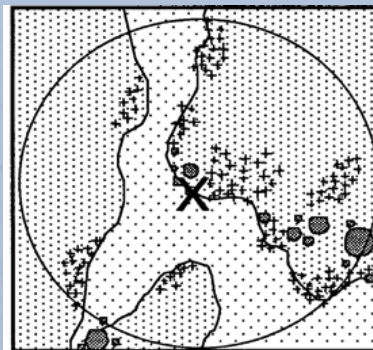
Local Scale of Data Collection and Stock Assessment

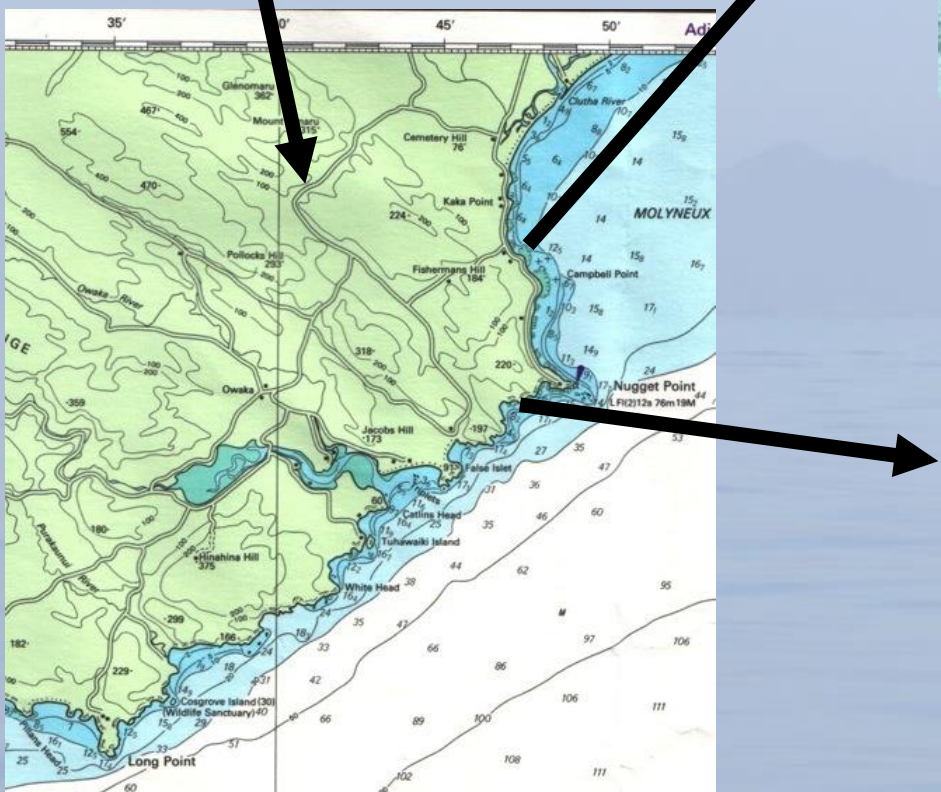
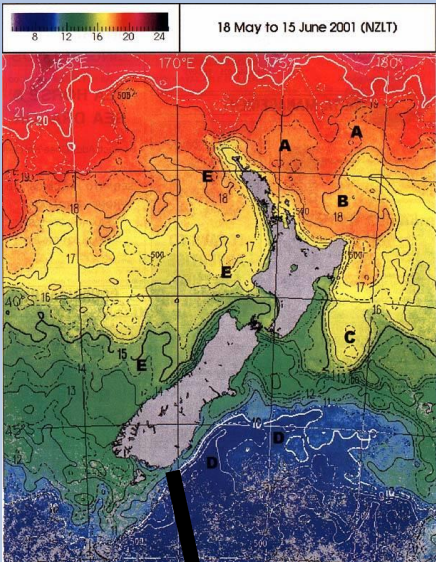


10m Radius Survey Circle

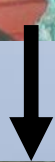
The Challenge:

Managing at the Scale of Functional Stocks requires Motivated Diver Behaviour





Emergence & Maturity



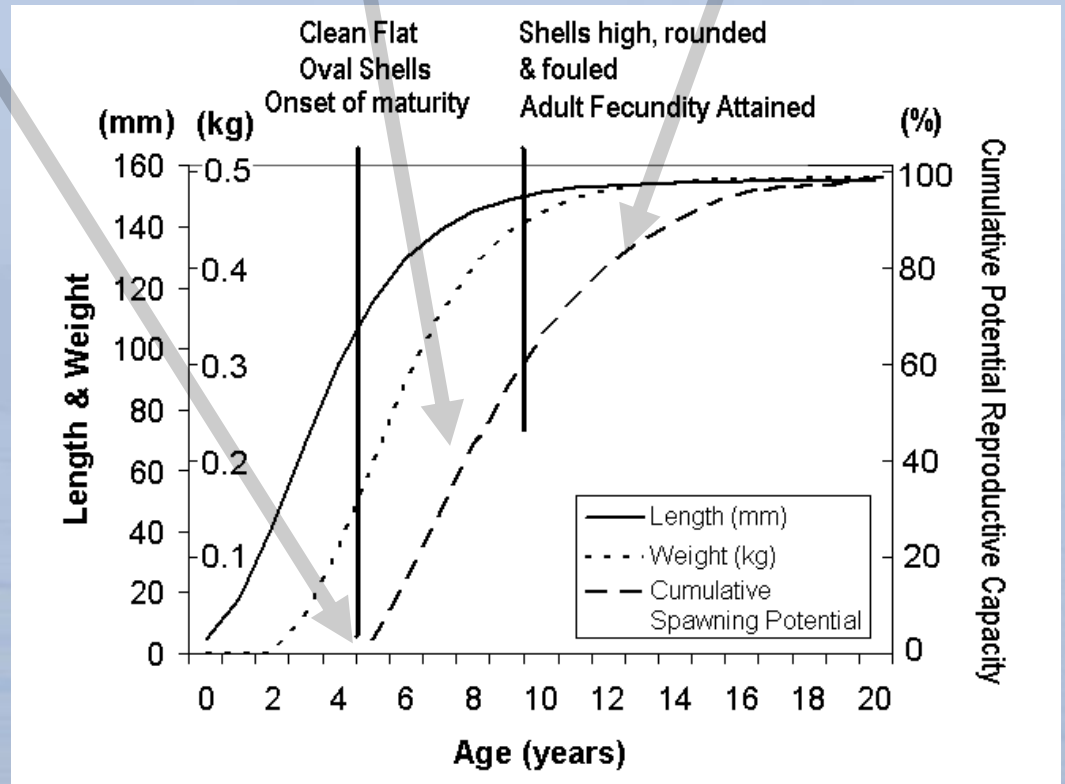


Shellogy:

Using morphometric markers to visually assess reefs

Shell Appearance:

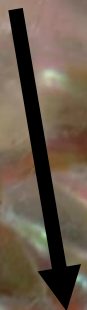
1. Doming & rounding
(Height : Length ratio)
(Length : Width ratio)
2. Fouling & Erosion
3. Breeding scar



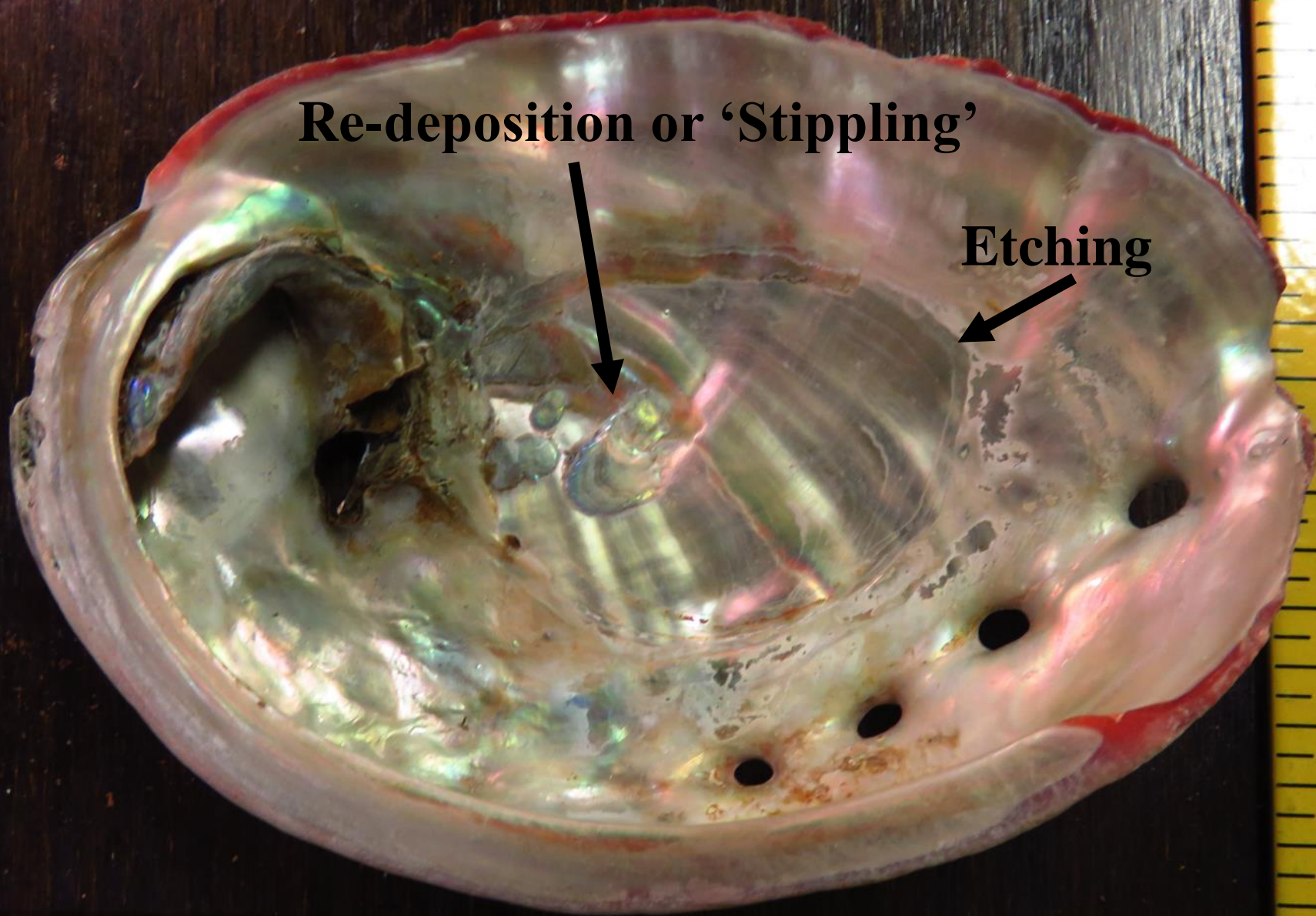


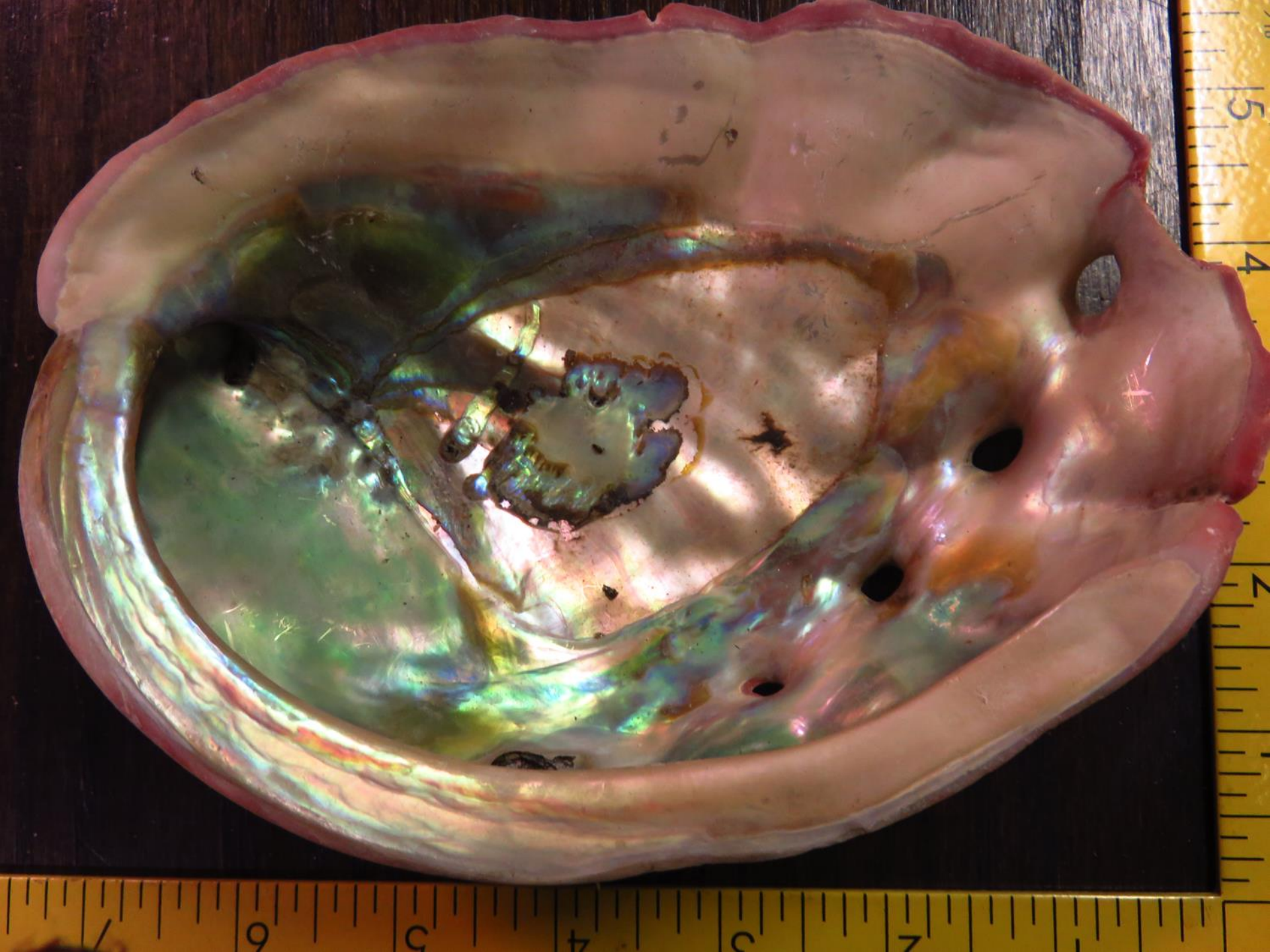
650

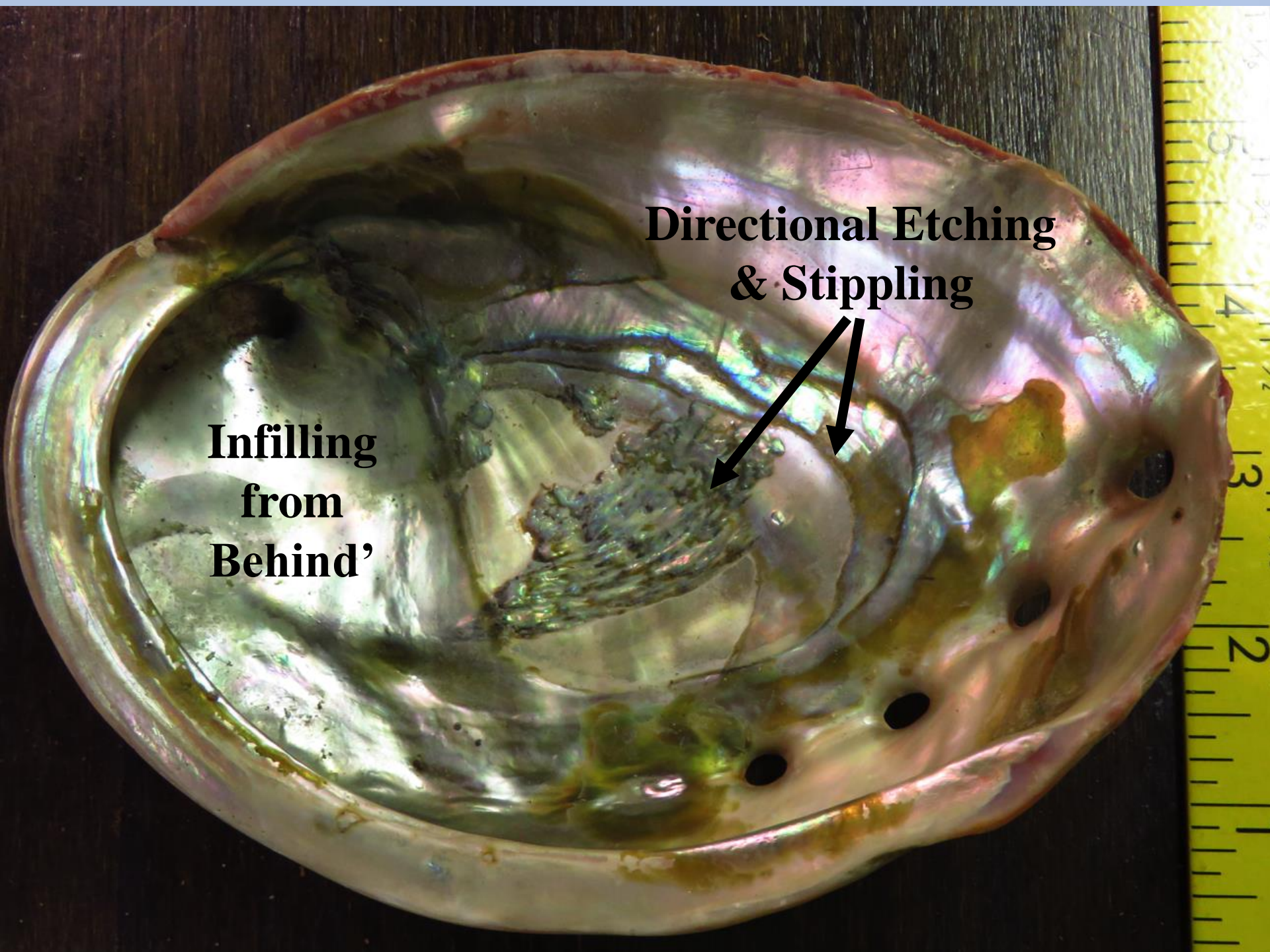
Re-deposition or 'Stippling'



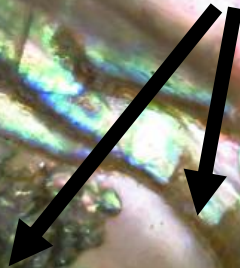
Etching







**Directional Etching
& Stippling**



**Infilling
from
Behind'**





Haliotis rufescens



Haliotis rubra



Haliotis laevigata

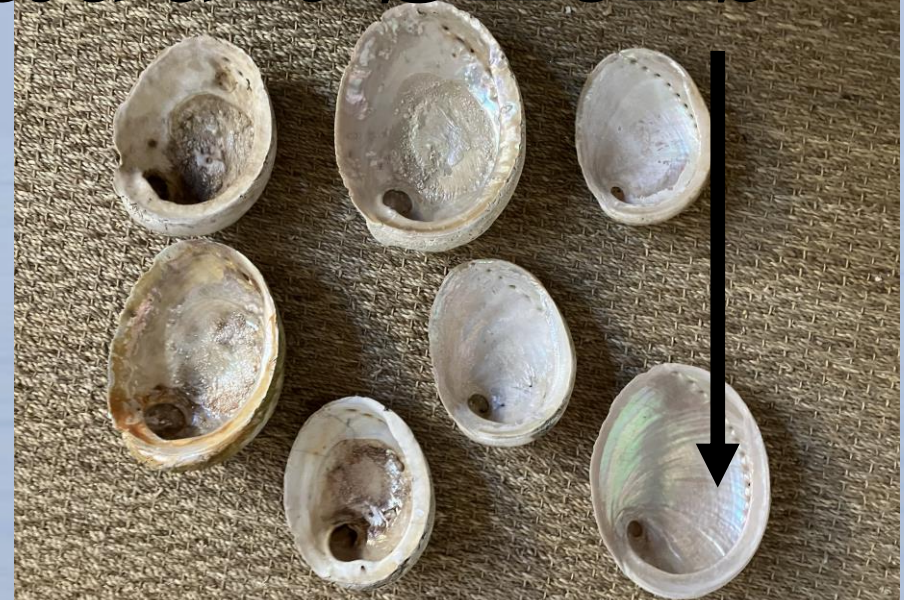
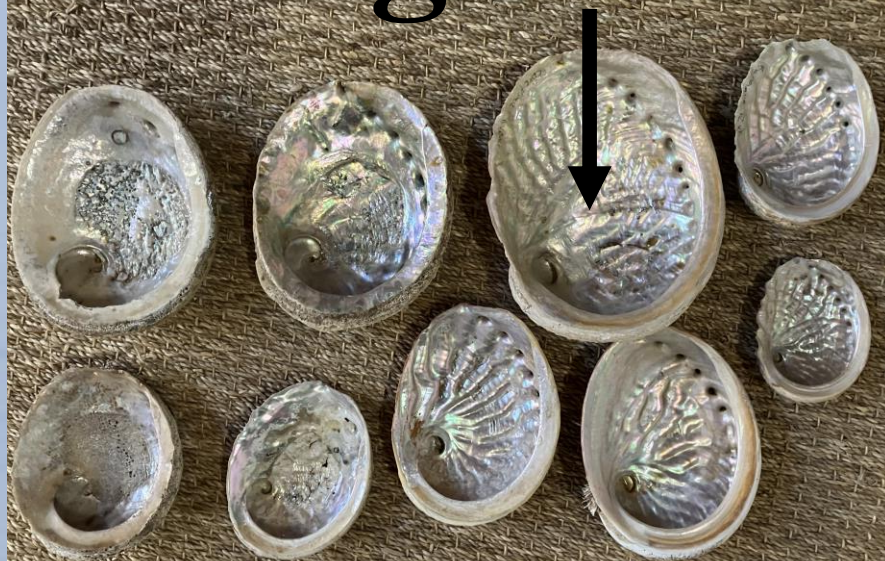


Haliotis rubra

Haliotis laevigata



Large Sub-adult Shells



Haliotis rubra

Haliotis laevigata



Small Fully Mature Shells



Abalone Working Group
Pilot Project

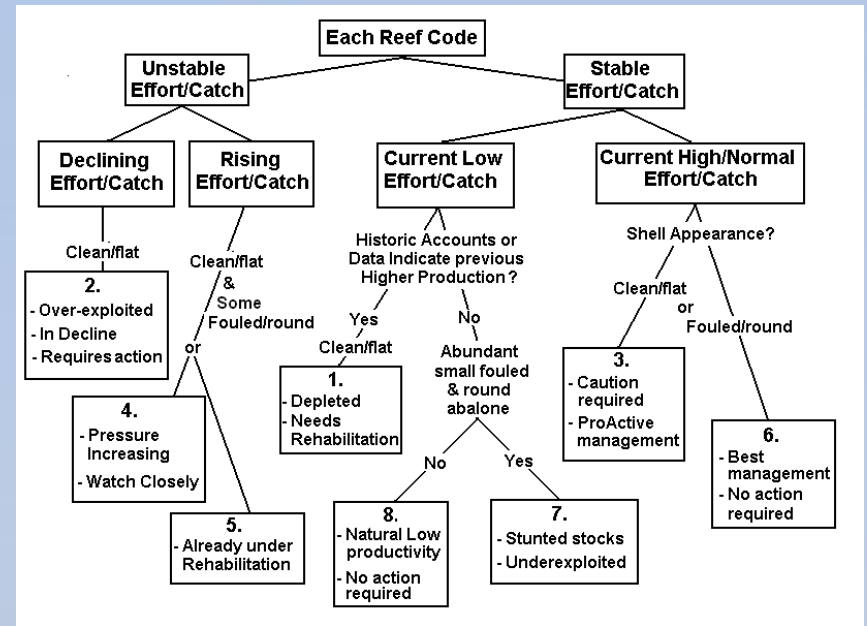


A Presentation to the California
Department of Fish and Wildlife
Feb 4, 2016



Shellogy

- **Sub-adults grow mainly in length, shells are thin, flat and oval.**
- **Abalone take several years to completely mature and should be allowed several years of breeding with full adult potential.**
- **Fully mature abalone are thick, round, and bowl-like, with well developed scars.**
- **Harvested abalone should be rounded and domed regardless of size.**
- **Catches comprised mainly of flat, clean oval shells indicate insufficient breeding to sustain future production.**

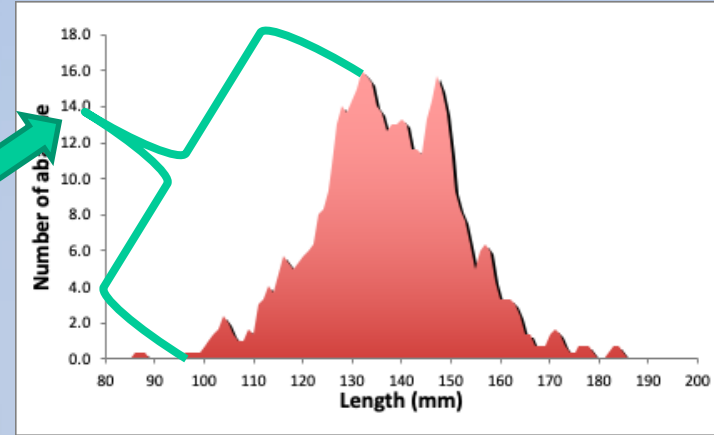


Rapid Assessment & Micro-Management



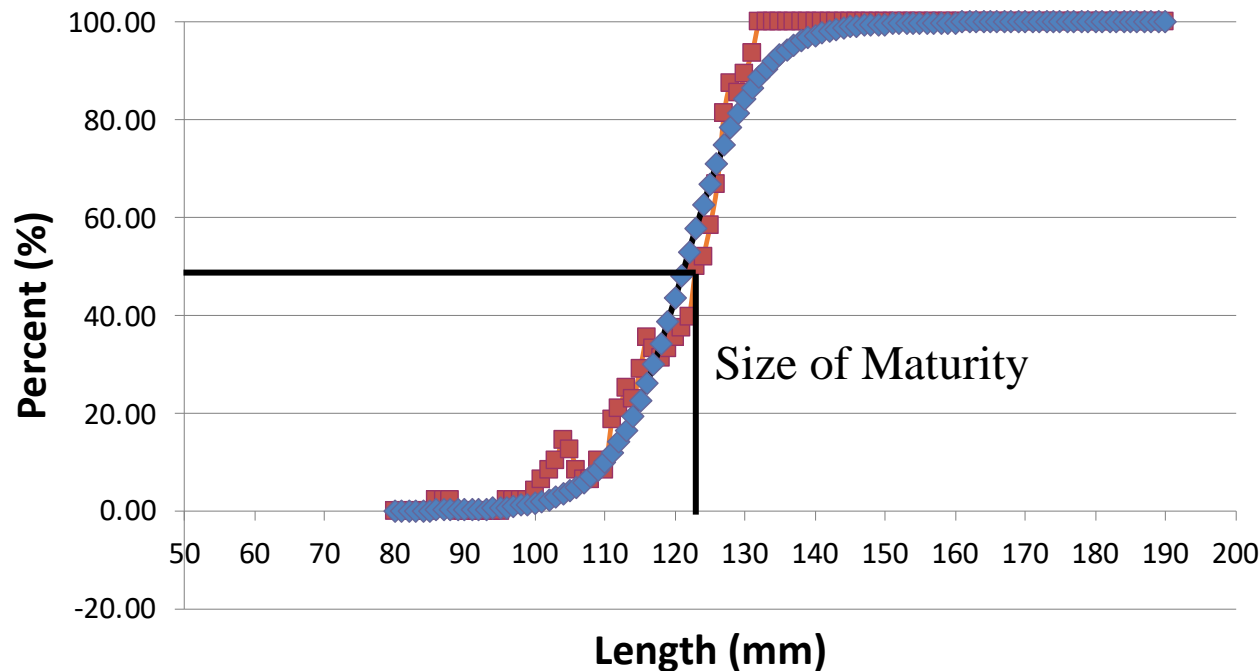
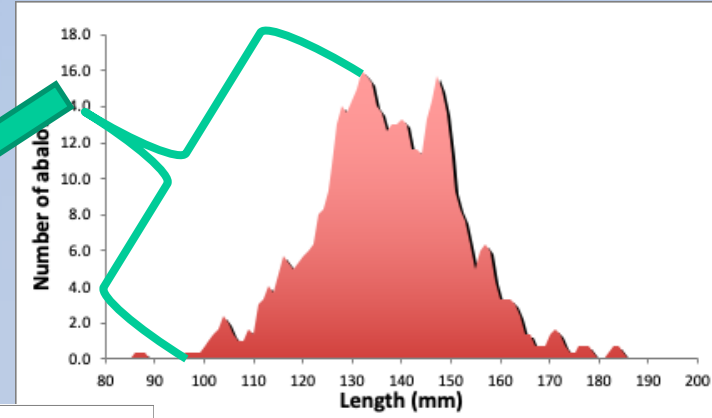
Estimating Maturity from Size of Emergence

The Average Size of Clean Flat Shells Indicates Size of Maturity



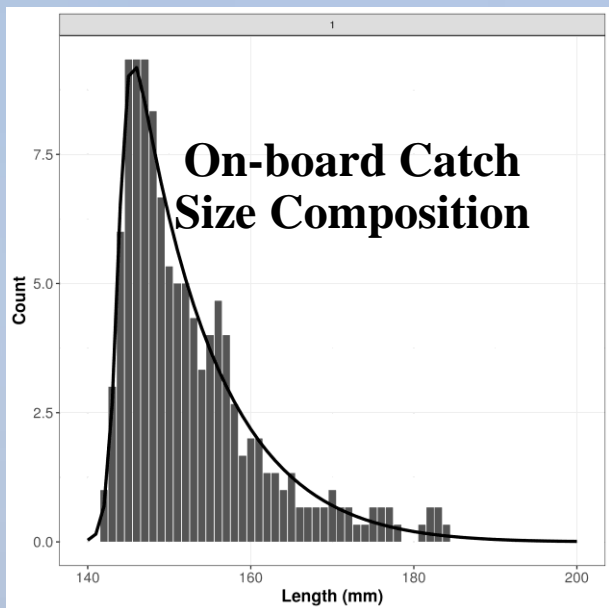
Estimating Maturity from Size of Emergence

Size of Maturity
estimated from Size
of Emergence



SPR Assessment

L_{50} / L_{∞}
0.6



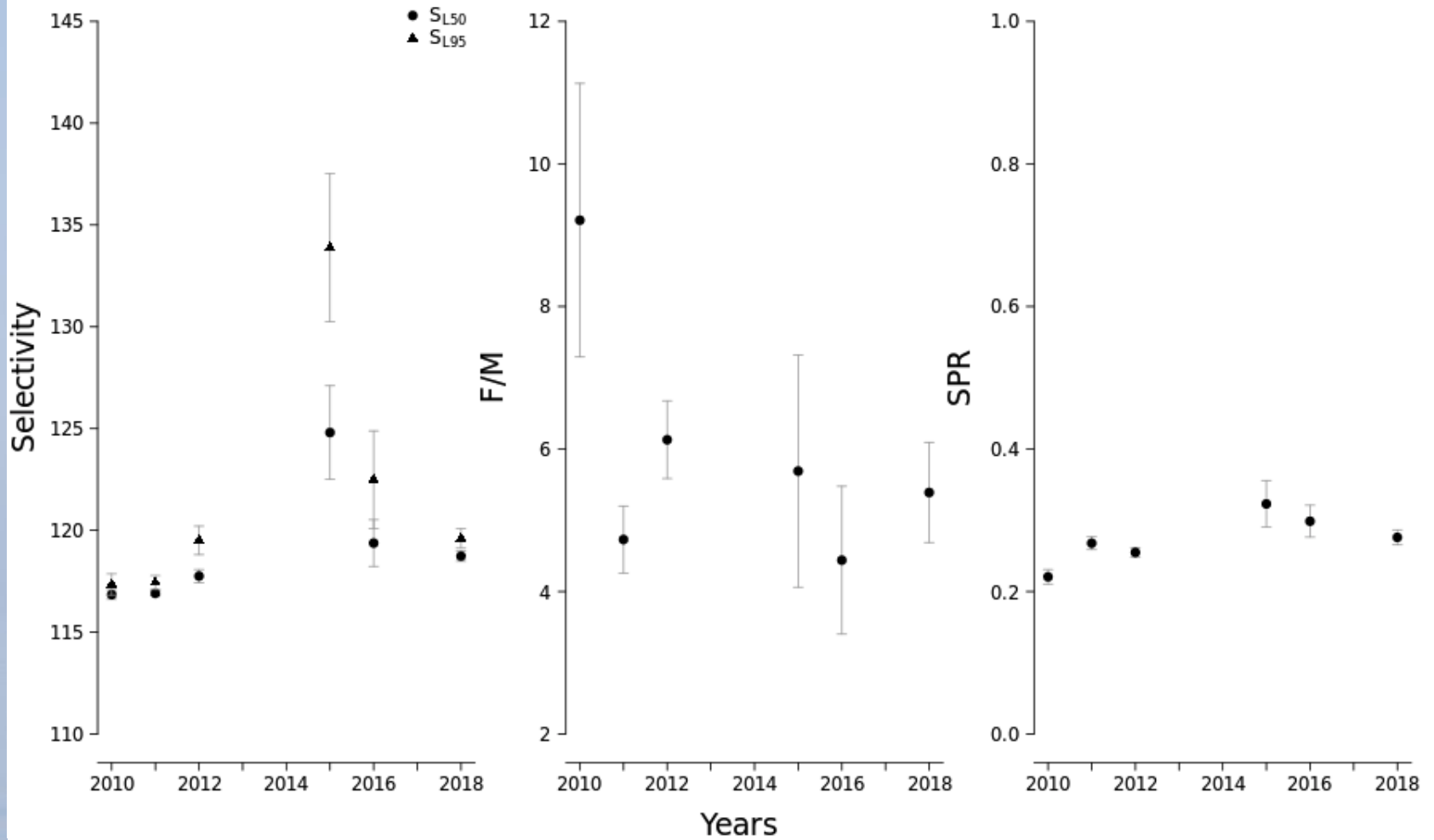
Sample	L50 (mm)	SPR 20%	L_{∞} (mm)	SPR
1	121	146	202	0.22
2	124	149	207	0.18
3	126	151	210	0.17
4	128	154	213	0.18
5	131	157	218	0.15
6	132	158	220	0.16
7	137	164	228	0.12



Hordyk, A., Ono, K., Valencia, S.V., Loneragan, N., Prince, J.D. 2015. A novel length-based estimation method of spawning potential ratio (SPR), and tests of its performance, for small-scale, data-poor fisheries. *ICES J. Mar. Sci.* 72, 217–231. doi:10.1093/icesjms/fsu004

Prince J.D. and Hordyk, A. (2018). What to do when you have almost nothing: a simple quantitative prescription for managing extremely data-poor fisheries. *Fish & Fisheries*. 20, 224-238. DOI: 10.1111/faf.12335

Disaster Bay



Harford, W.J., Natalie A. Dowling, N.A., Prince, J.D., Hurd, F., Bellquist, L., Likins, j., Wilson, J.R., (2018). An indicator-based decision framework for the northern California red abalone fishery, *Ecosphere* 10(1):e02533. [10.1002/ecs2.2533](https://doi.org/10.1002/ecs2.2533)

Hordyk, A., Loneragan, N., Prince, J.D. 2015. An evaluation of an iterative harvest strategy for data-poor fisheries using the length-based spawning potential ratio assessment methodology. *Fish. Res.* 171: 20-32. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.fishres.2014.12.018>



The End