

Columbia River Salmon Harvest

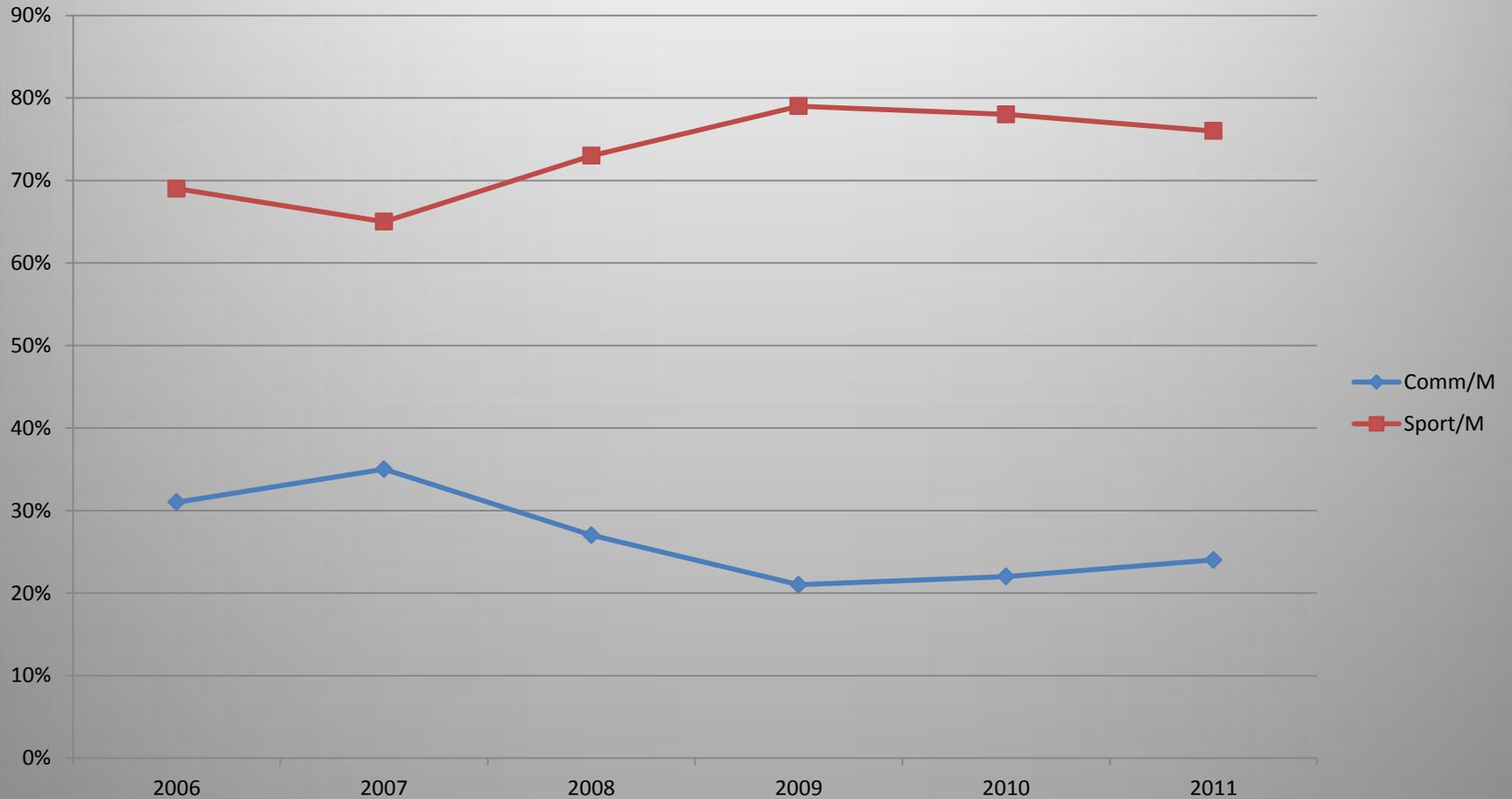
Sport and Commercial

Sharing Facts and Relationships

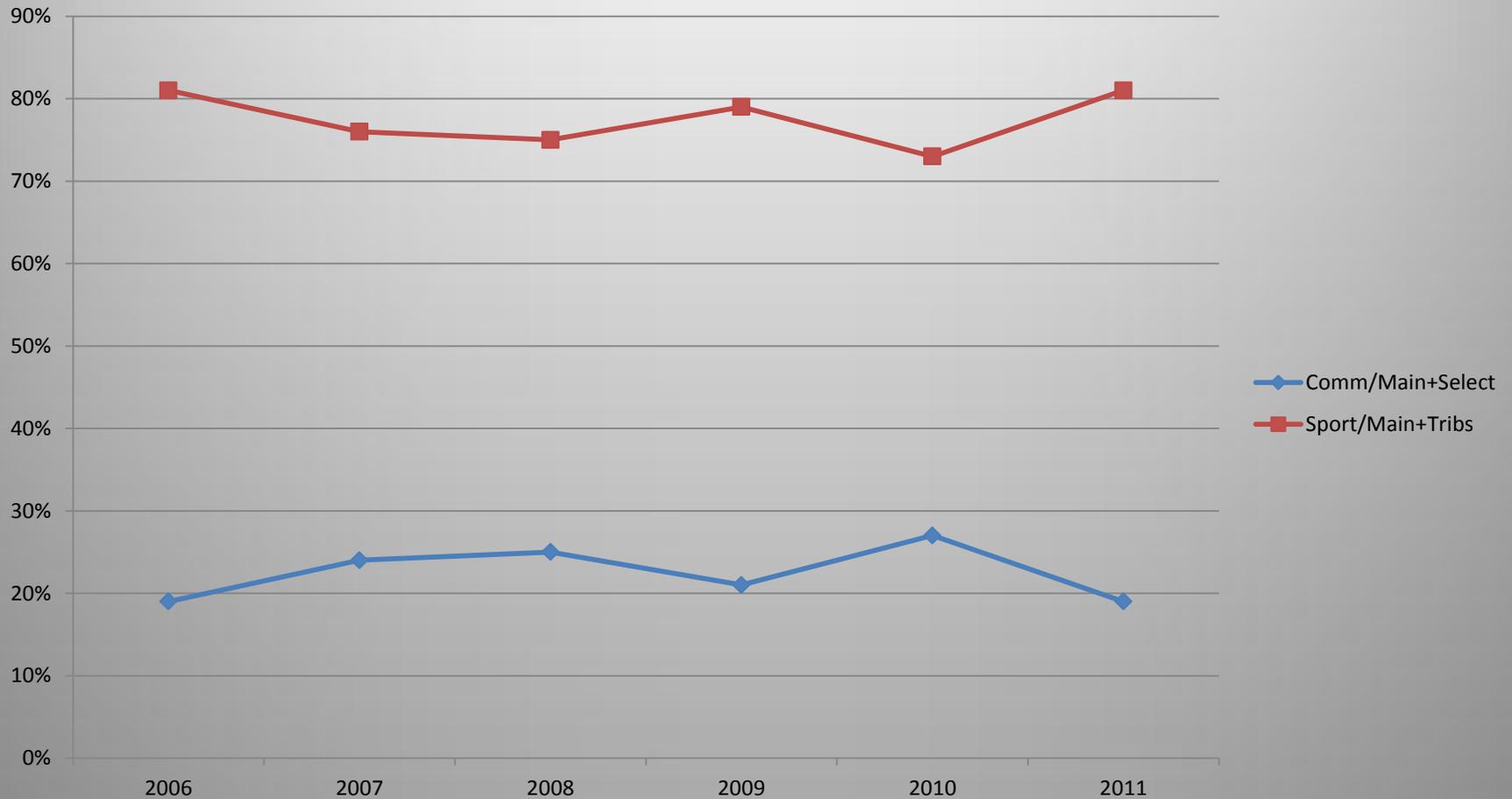
Sport/Comm Spring Harvest + Morts Mainstem below Bonn., 2006-2011

Year	Comm Catch	Comm Morts	Sport Catch	Sport Morts	Dam Morts
2006	4389	139	8205	83	6252
2007	2950	52	7819	64	2424
2008	5952	149	22,170	311	2380
2009	4168	92	17,207	227	3408
2010	9041	152	32,678	317	2208
2011	4539	180	14,002	182	4254

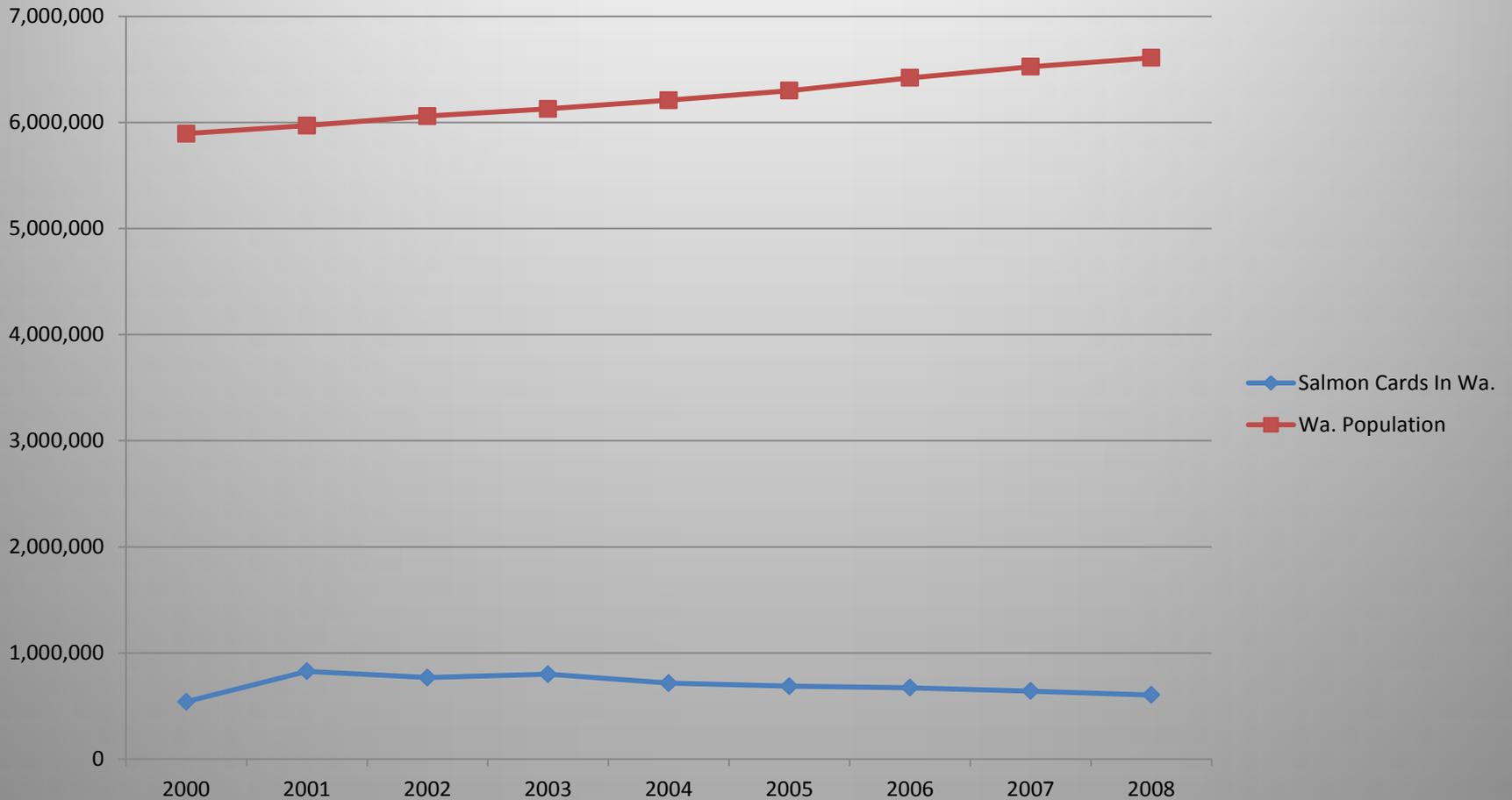
Sport/Comm Spring Chinook Sharing Ratios, Mainstem, 2006-2011



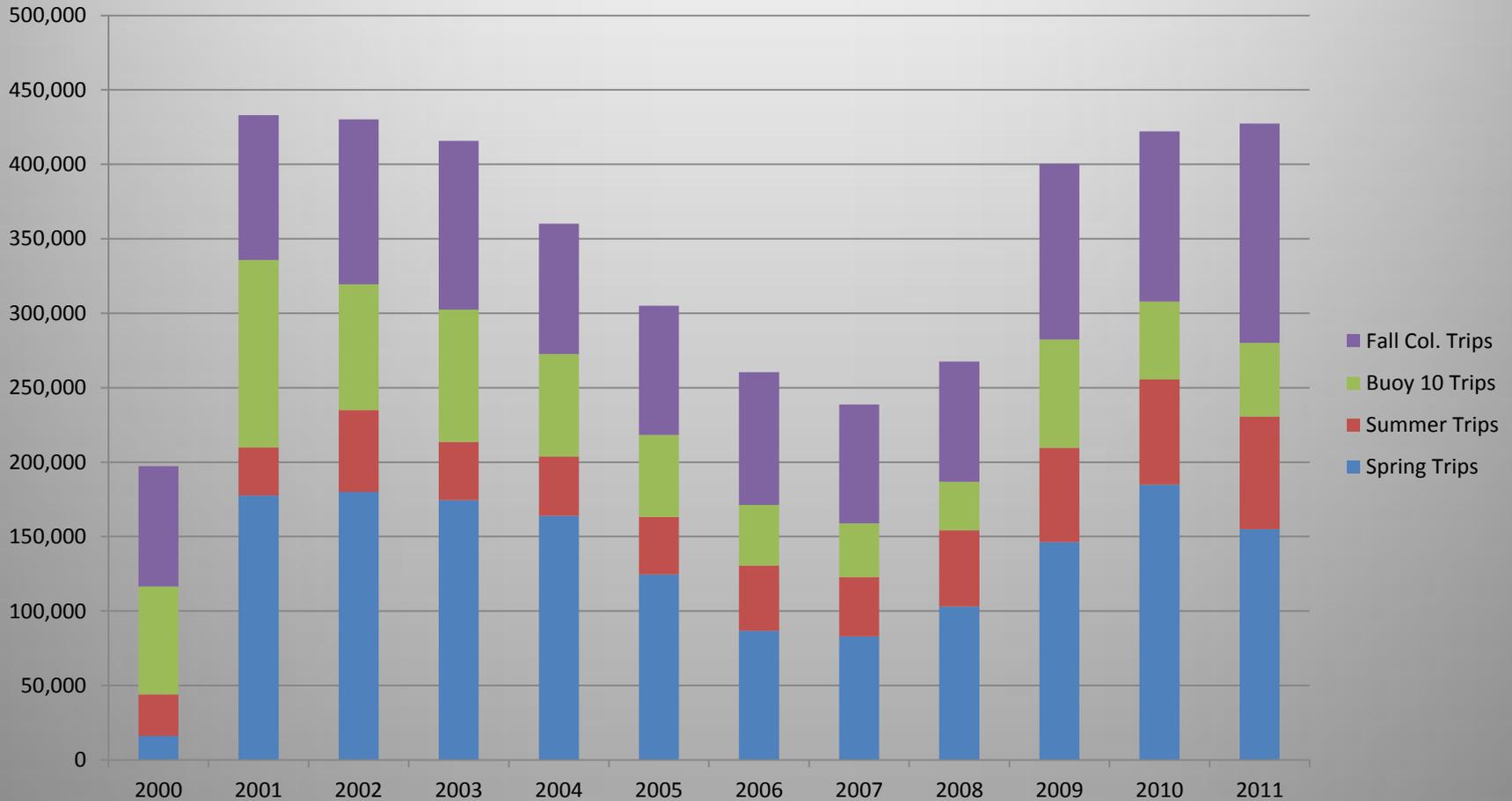
Sport/Comm Spring Chinook Sharing Mainstem +Tribes+Select, 2006-2011



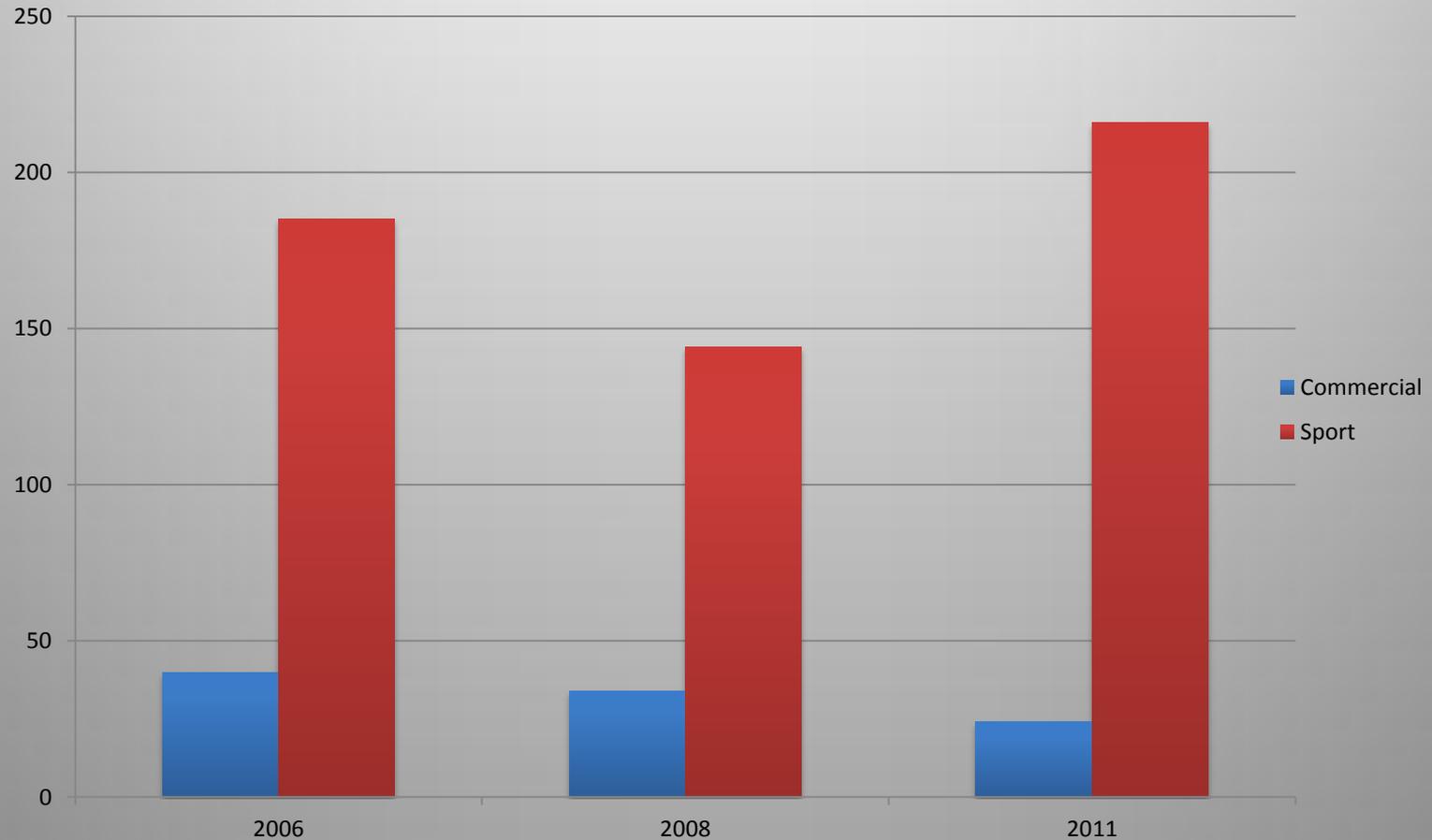
Wa. Sport Salmon Card Sales vs. Washington Population, 2000-2008



Sport Angler Trips Per Season 2000-2011



Sport vs Comm, Days Open March-October below Bonn, 2006, 2008, 2011



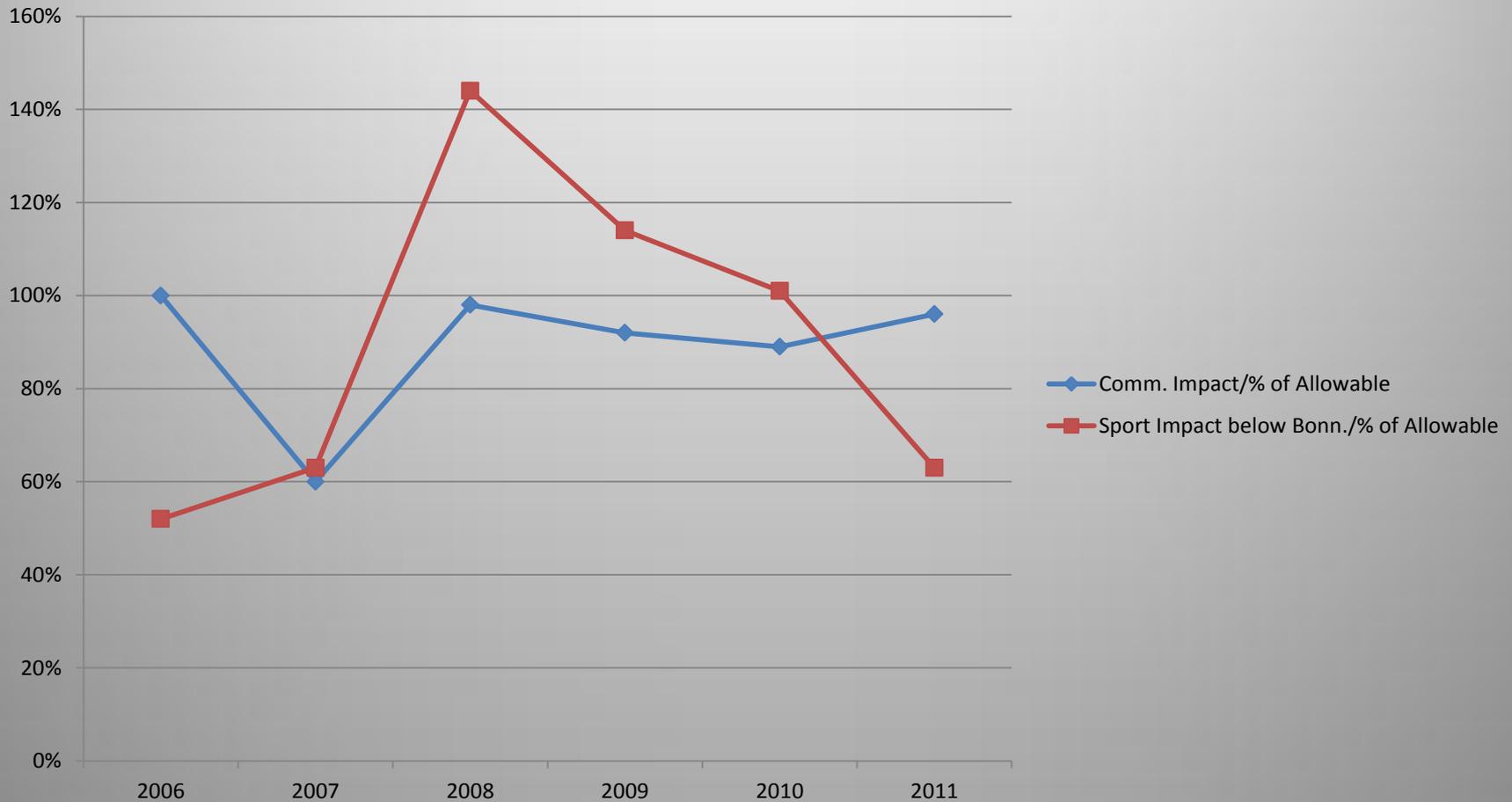
Value Summary, 2005-2011

- Spring Chinook – Mainstem average \$90.64/fish, Select \$65.24/fish – Mainstem spring Chinook were worth 39% more
- Fall Chinook – Mainstem average \$38.20/fish, Select \$24.91/fish – Mainstem fall Chinook were worth 53% more per fish
- Coho – Mainstem average \$14/fish, Select \$12.09/fish – Mainstem Coho were worth 16% more per fish
- The Mainstem harvest produced 58% of the ex-vessel value over those years, and 62.6% over 2009-2011

Kitzhaber Plan vs Reality on the River “Conservation”

- The plan says that gillnets are not compatible with conservation-based management.
- In reality, the gillnet harvest stays within its assigned quotas of ESA fish better than the lower river sport fishery does.
- The gillnet fishery meets the conservation guidelines established by NMFS in approving the fishery each year.

Use of Impacts, Sport vs. Comm. Mainstem below Bonn., 2006-2011



Kitzhaber Plan vs Reality on the River

“Enhanced Off-Channel Production”

- The plan states that an enhanced off-channel fishery will improve the economics of the commercial fishery.
- The majority of the value in the mainstem commercial harvest is high-value Chinook.
- Proposed off-channel enhancements will focus on Coho, which are lower value.
- A large increase in Coho harvest over a short return window will drive down prices.
- Proposed Chinook releases will be only slightly higher than past releases.

Kitzhaber Plan vs Reality on the River

“Sport Priority Would Increase Economic Value”

- The plan says shifting impacts to the sport fishery will increase opportunity and economic return.
- Overall angler participation hasn't increased in the last ten years, despite an increase in the general population.
- This correlates with relatively flat license sales over the same period.
- Part or all of the Columbia is open for sport fishing almost year round now.
- Staff has estimated in previous discussions that the entire commercial quota might add one week, at most, to the April spring Chinook sport fishery.

Facts for 2012

- The Columbia has been open for sport fishing somewhere in the mainstem continuously for salmon and/or steelhead between January 1st and September 15th, except for 4/23-6/15, for a total of 205 days.
- Between January 1st and September 15th, the commercial fleet has had 12 openings for salmon for a total of 107 hours.
- In that limited time, the commercial fleet has caught 31,441 Chinook in the mainstem, worth \$1.75 million just in ex-vessel value to lower Columbia communities. It also equates to 358,128# of fillets in the local marketplace, or 716,256 meals to NW families.
- That is an incredibly small carbon footprint for a substantial contribution to the production of local food.

Conclusions

- The sport fishery is already getting the seasons they are requesting in most years.
- The Columbia, or a major portion, is open for sport fishing almost year round now.
- Flat license sales and angler trips, despite increased fishing opportunities, suggest there will be no surge in new sport interest if commercial quotas are reallocated – just more fish for the same fishermen.
- Increased smolt production in the Select areas will not replace lost income from the mainstem.