

Cabezon Sportfishing Regulations



(Scorpaenichthys marmoratus)

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Fish Program

Presentation Outline

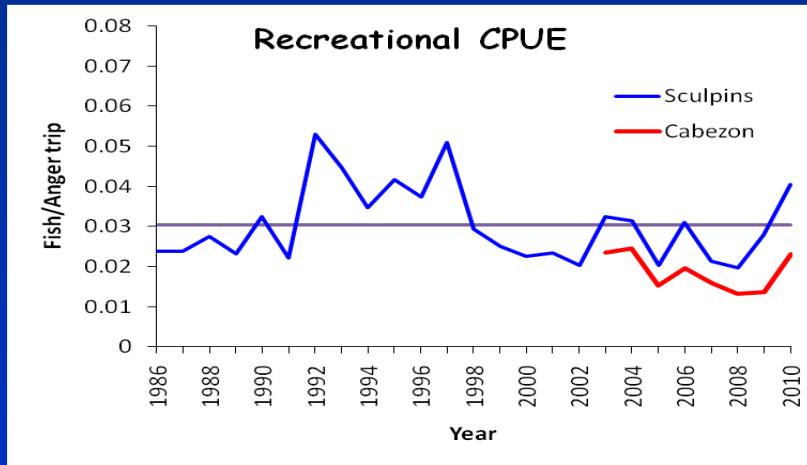
- Biology and actions taken
- Process and schedule review
- Management options
- Comments received to date
- Commission questions, discussion
- Public hearing
- Commission action

Biology

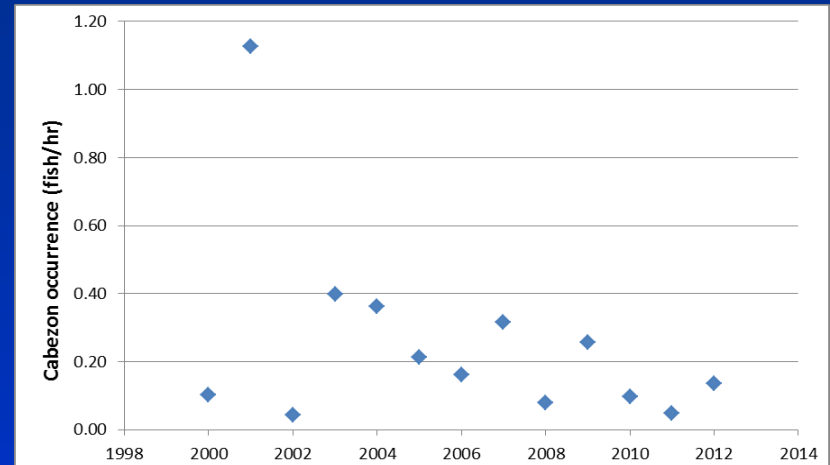
- British Columbia to southern California
- Inhabit rocky areas of Puget Sound
- Length to 30 inches and weight 25 pounds
- Maximum age 13 years

Biology

- Cabezon at low but stable numbers in Puget Sound



Recreational CPUE in Puget Sound
(source WDFW)



Trend in the Sound-wide
standardized count (fish/hr. bottom
time) of cabezon since 2000
excluding Edmonds Underwater Park
(source REEF)

Management Actions Taken

- Management actions taken
 - Closed commercial bottomfish fishing
 - 120-foot depth restrictions
 - Minimum size 18 inches
 - One fish daily limit

Process and Schedule

2013-2014 Sportfishing rule proposals

- September-January Public comment on proposals
- January Brief Commission
- February Public hearing
- March Commission action

Additional public input on cabezon season

- April- May Public comment
- June Commission action

Management Options

- Option 1: Reduce season
 - Reduce cabezon season in Marine Areas 4-11 and 13 to May 1 through June 15
- Option 2: Status quo:
 - Maintain current cabezon season of year-round in Marine Area 4 and May 1 through November 30 in Marine Areas 5-11 and 13

Comments Received (over 200)

- 10 % Support Option 1: Reduced season
 - Improve the stock status of long-lived bottom fish species and create future sustainable fisheries
 - Reduce encounters with rockfish
- 90% Oppose Option 1:
 - Loss of opportunity without justification
 - Need more scientific data to back up proposal
- Additional Comments:
 - Do not support the 1 fish daily limit

Questions



Public Hearing

