

# Reef Fish AP Meeting

Interim Analyses

# Gag Grouper

- Last assessed in SEDAR 72, with data through 2019
  - Overfished, undergoing overfishing
  - RF56 creates rebuilding plan, changes SDC, changes allocation and catch limits, shifts rec season opening date
- IA uses G-FISHER combined video index
  - Combo of Panama City (shallow water, ages 0-3), Pascagoula (deeper water, ages 3+), and FWRI (WFL Shelf, ages 0+) video surveys
  - Panama City and Pascagoula surveys useful for IA process
  - Surveys updated through 2021 (data processing lag)
  - Age-0 index updated through 2022

# Gag Grouper: Panama City Survey

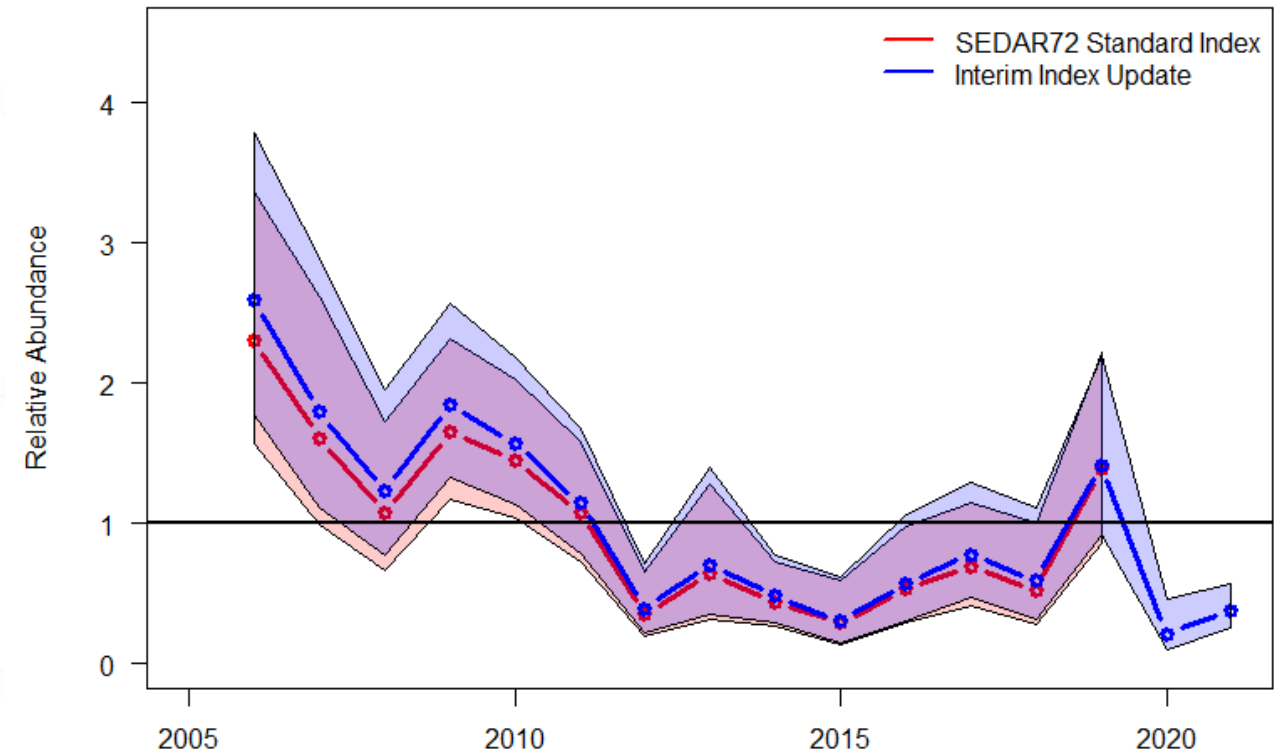
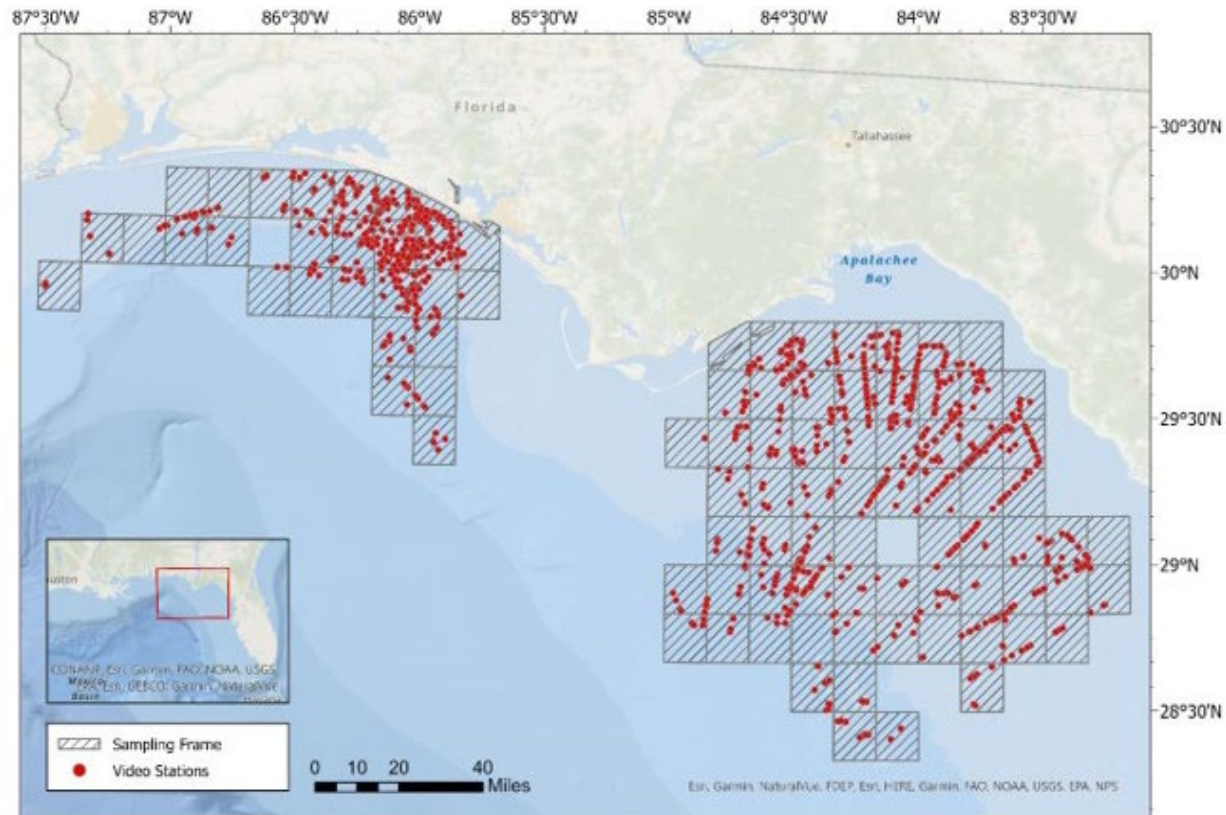
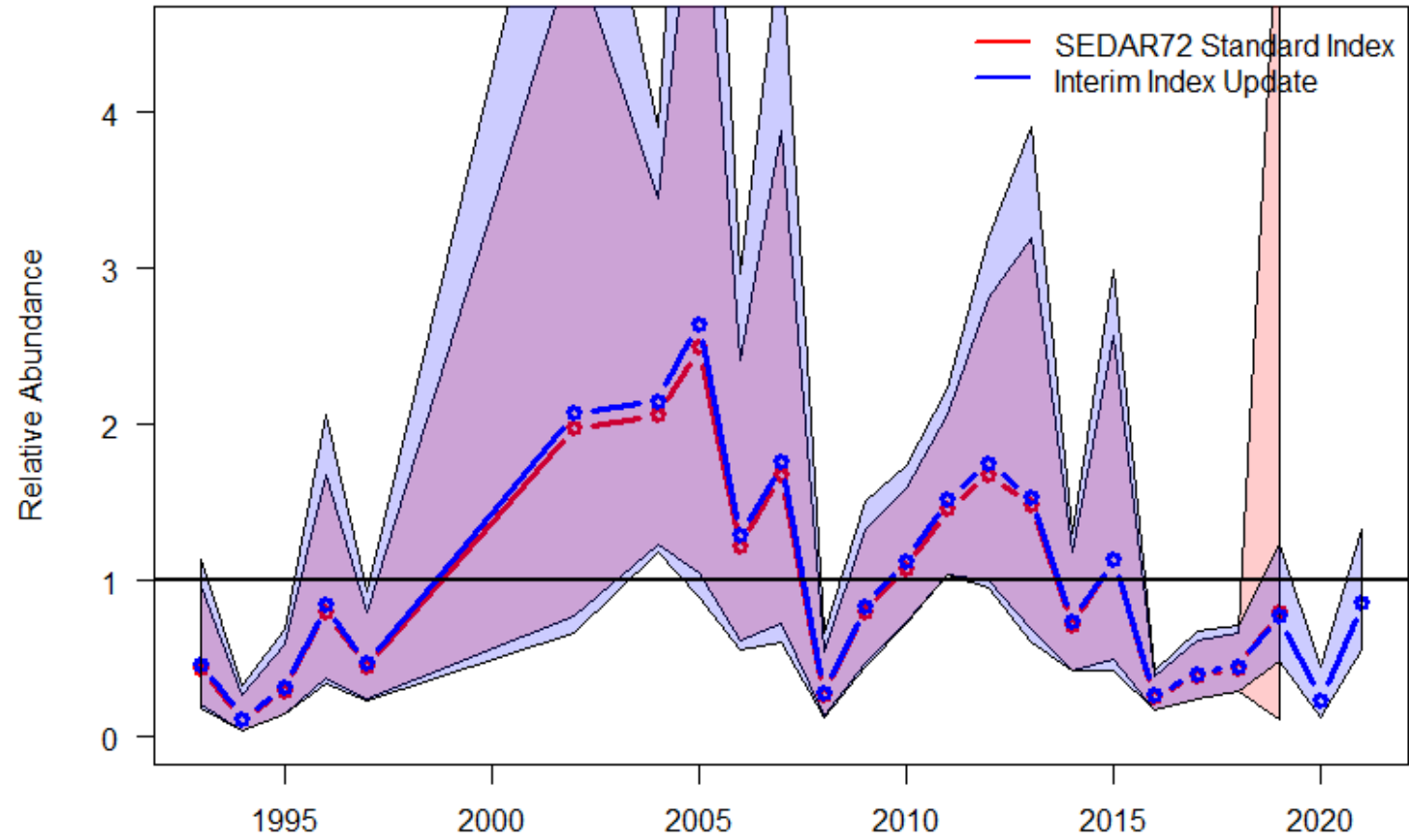
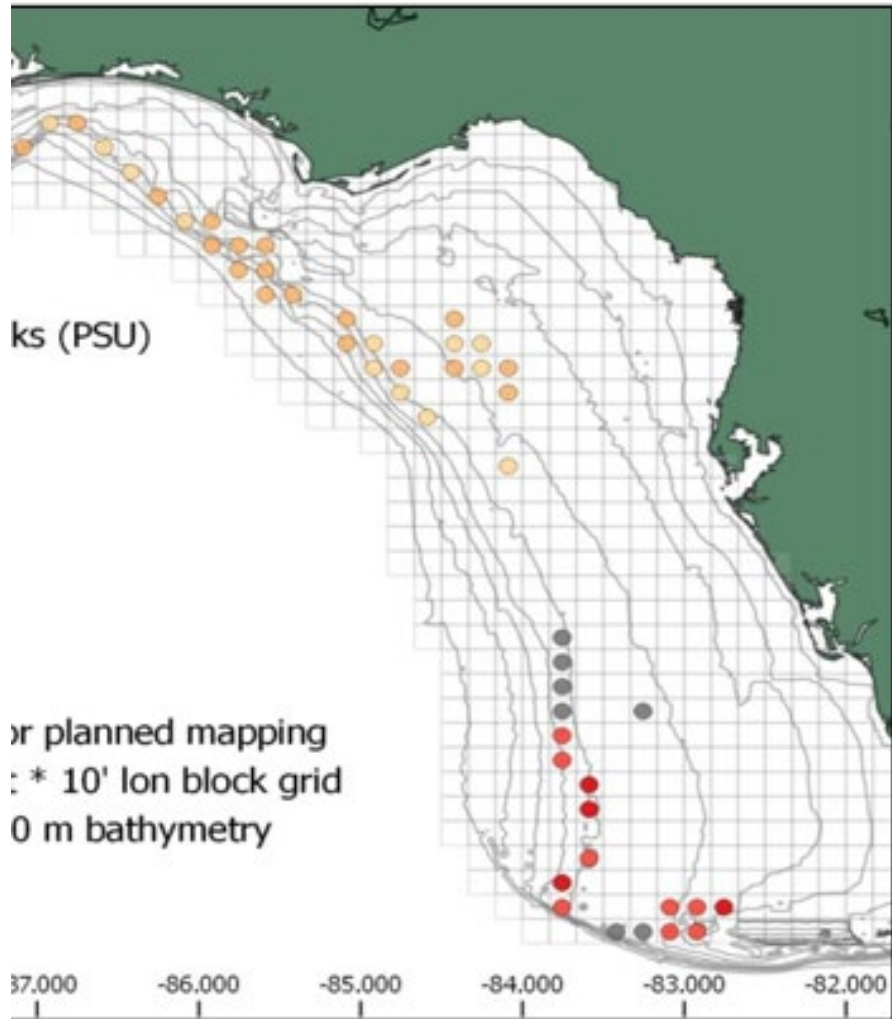


Figure 1. Video sampling locations 2005 - 2021. |

# Gag Grouper: Pascagoula Survey



# Gag Grouper: Age-0

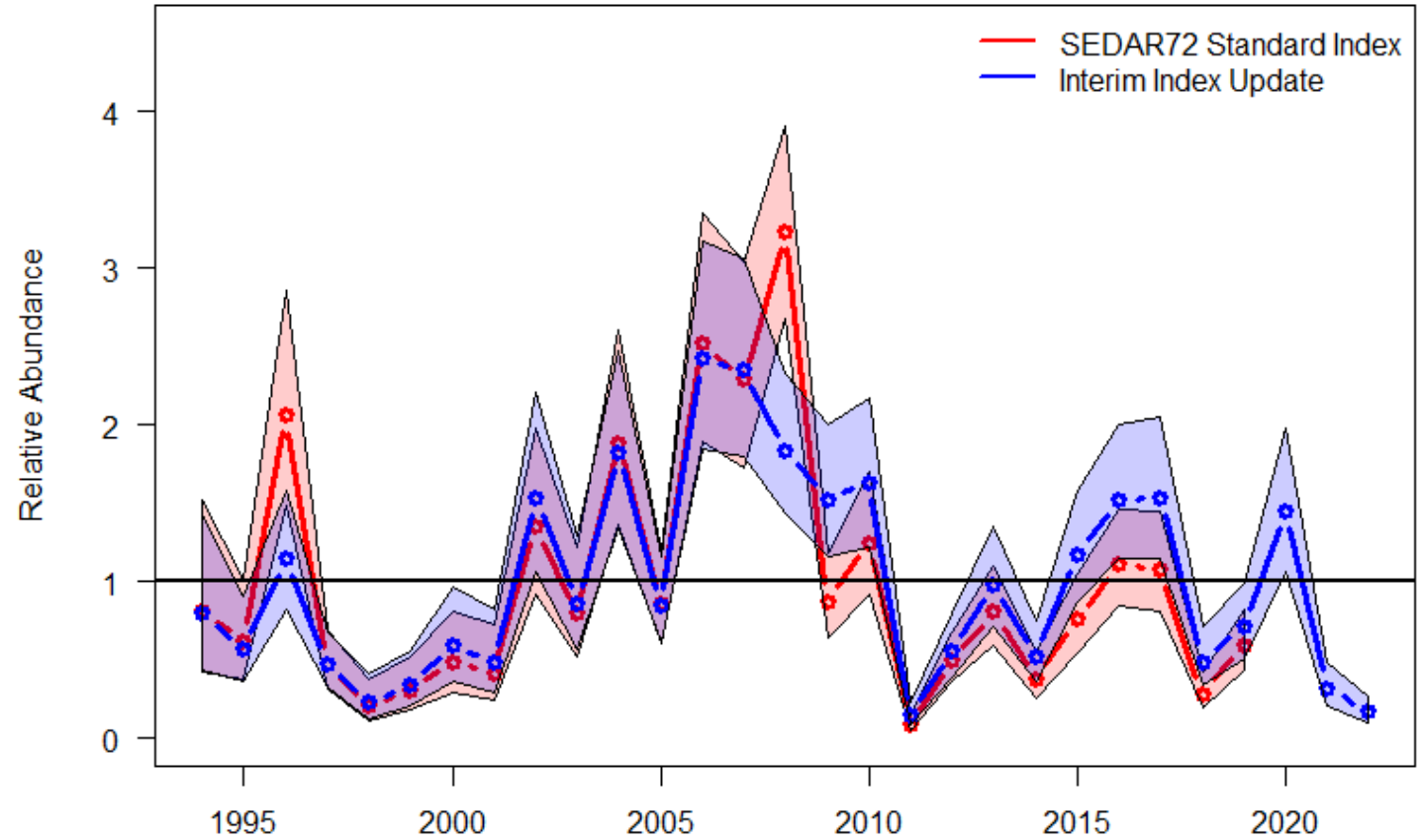


Figure 1.1. Nine sampling regions used in this study. The green areas indicate seagrass coverage between 0 and 6 feet of water depth. Seagrass coverage in acres for each region is listed.

# Gag Grouper: Changes in indices over time

<b>Year</b>	<b>PC Index</b>	<b>% difference from 2019</b>	<b>SEAMAP Index</b>	<b>% difference from 2019</b>	<b>Age-0 Index</b>	<b>% difference from 2019</b>
2019	1.41	0	0.77	0	0.71	0
2020	0.21	-85	0.24	-69	1.45	103
2021	0.38	-73	0.86	11	0.32	-55
2022					0.17	-77

# Gag Grouper: SSC Recommendations

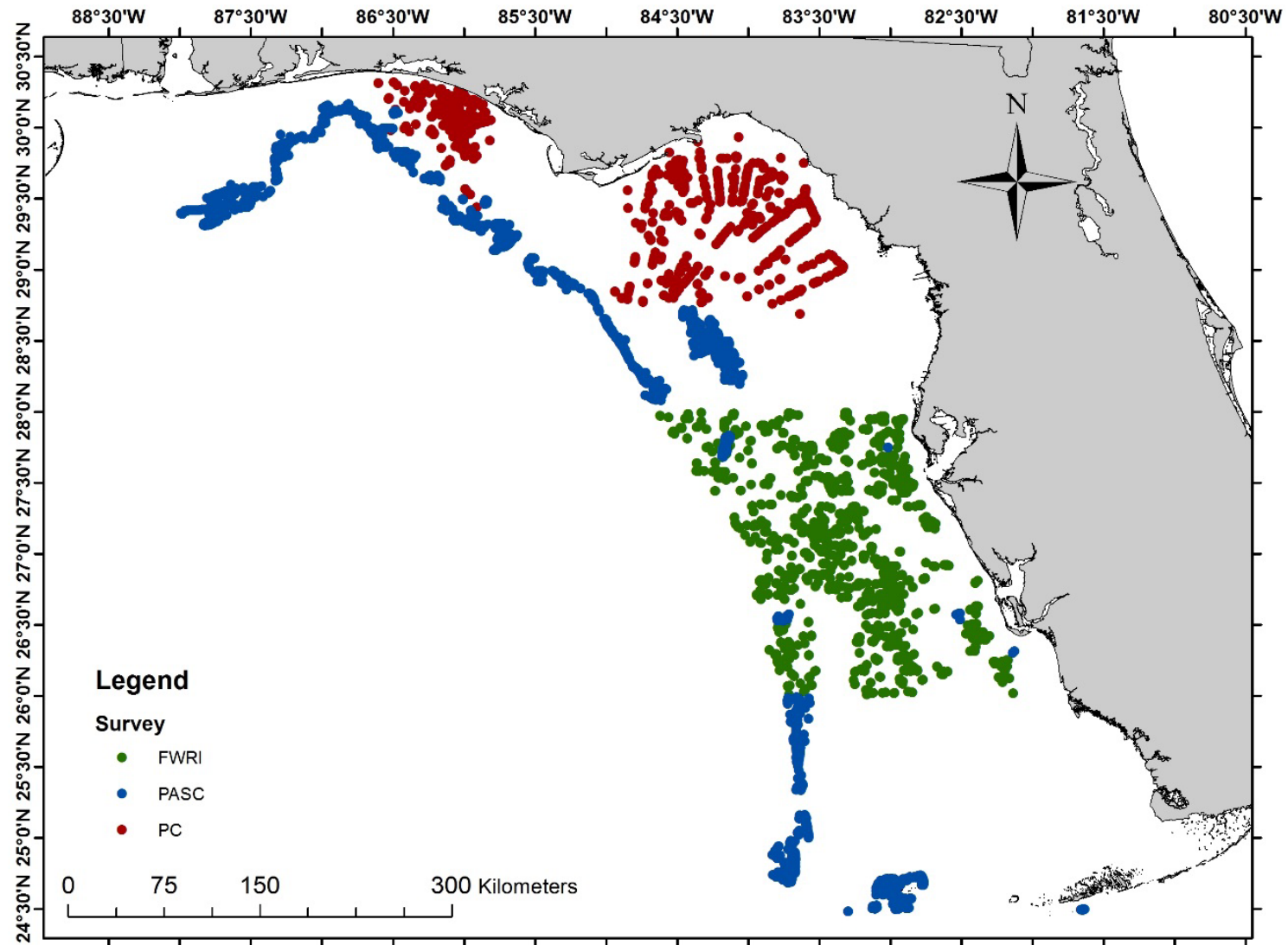
- Encouraged continued monitoring of gag stock
- Requested consideration of FWRI video index for next gag IA
- Encouraged Council to work with SEFSC and FWC on timing of the next IA to lessen gap between last year of data and time of review
  - Ability to process video data dependent on available staff time, which can vary throughout the year

# Vermilion Snapper

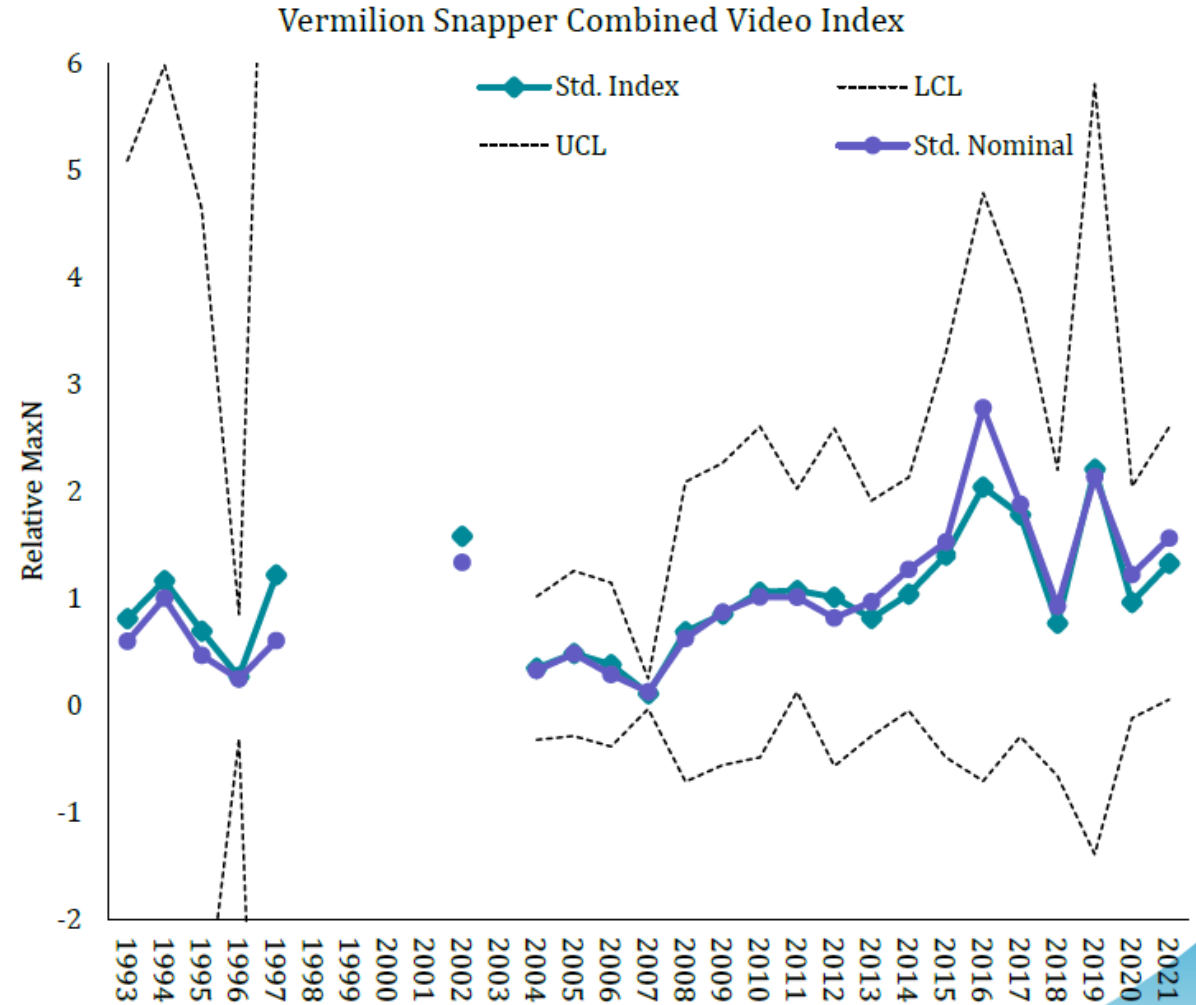
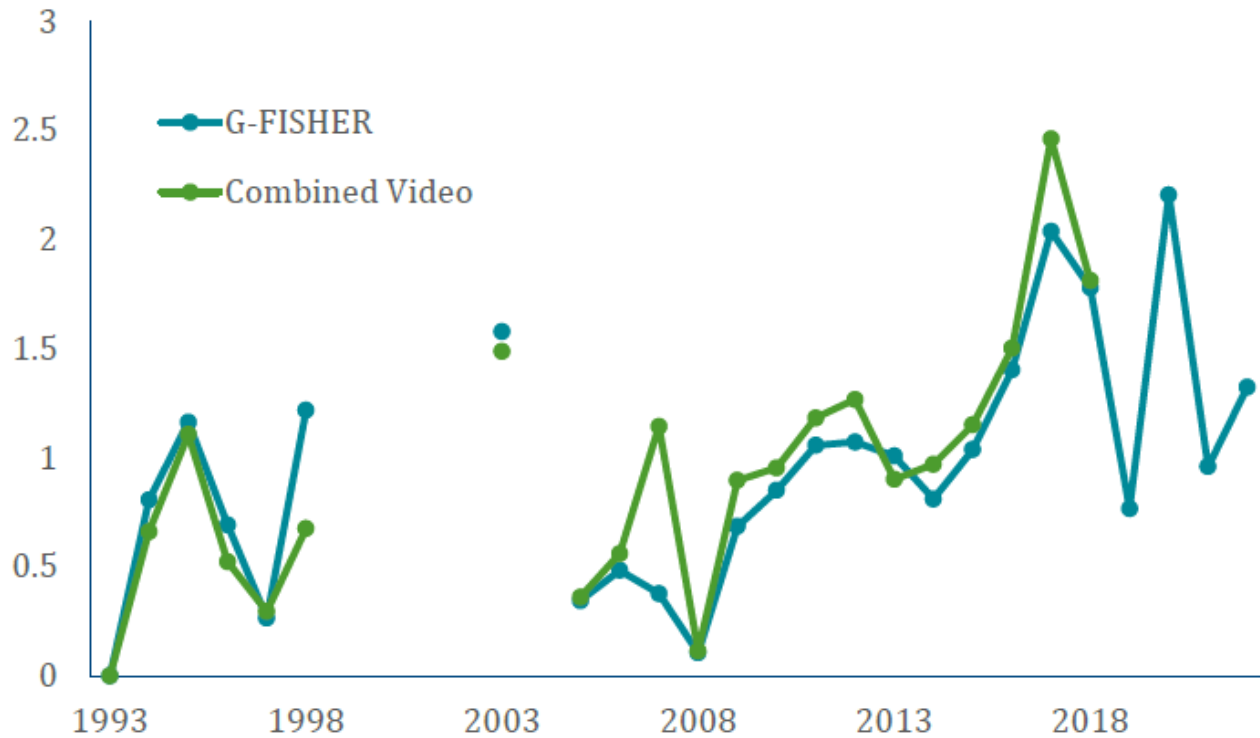
- Last assessed in SEDAR 67, with data through 2017
  - Healthy
  - ACL for 2023+ = 6.615 mp ww in FES
- IA uses G-FISHER combined video index
  - Combo of Panama City (shallow water), Pascagoula (deep water), and FWRI (WFL Shelf) video surveys
  - Survey coverage varies by survey, but combined, covers from offshore of Mobile Bay to west of Dry Tortugas



# G-FISHER



# Vermilion Snapper



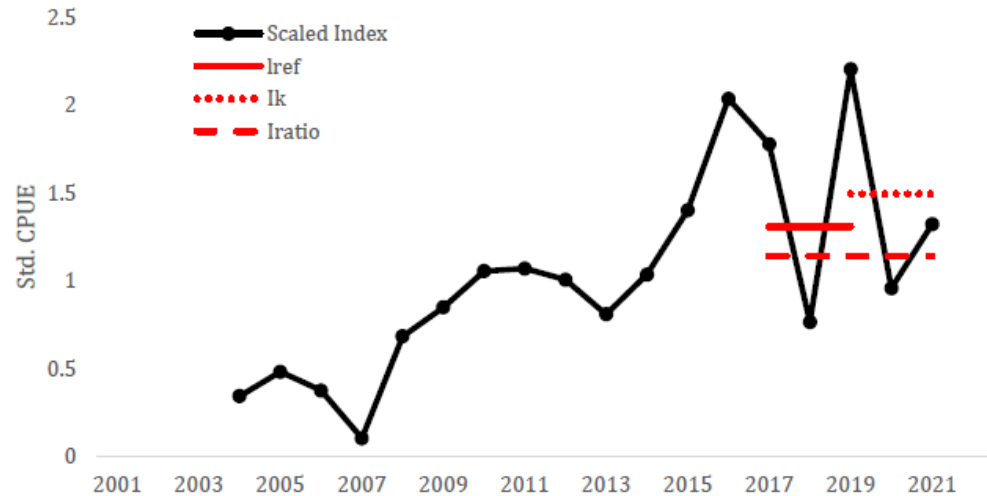
# Vermilion Snapper

## Adjust ABC

3 yr. moving avg:

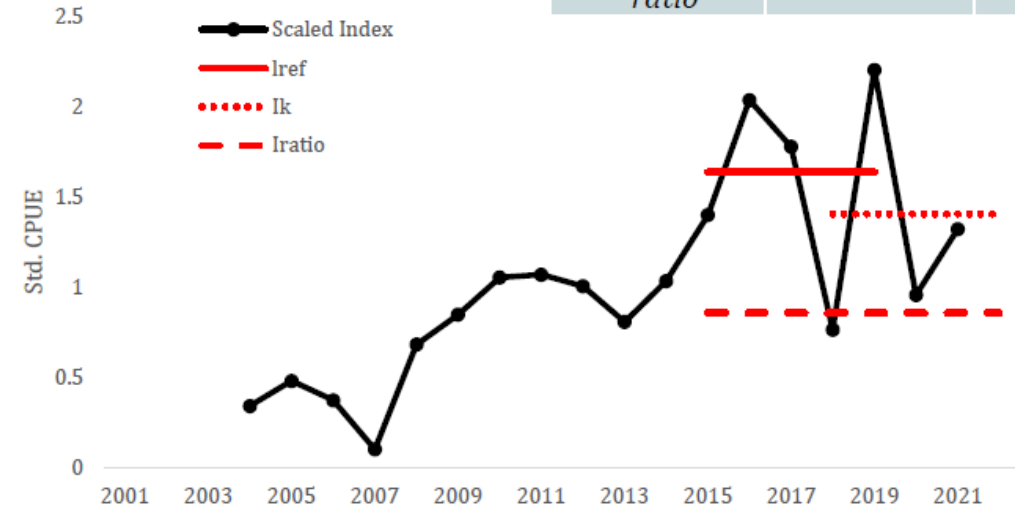
5 yr. moving avg:

G-FISHER



\* $C_{ref}$  = 5.88 million pounds whole weight (FES)  
 = 3.11 million pounds whole weight (CHTS)

G-FiSHER



\* $C_{ref}$  = 5.88 million pounds whole weight (FES)  
 = 3.11 million pounds whole weight (CHTS)

Value	3 yr avg	5 yr avg
$I_{ref}$	1.309	1.637
$I_k$	1.495	1.406
$I_{ratio}$	1.142	0.859

$C_{ref}$  3-yr adjust = 6.712 million pounds ww (FES)     $C_{ref}$  5-yr adjust = 5.049 million pounds ww (FES)

# Vermilion Snapper: SSC Recommendations

- **Motion: The SSC accepts the 2023 vermilion snapper interim analysis as consistent with the best scientific information available. The SSC recommends the OFL at the estimated 5-year average in FES units at 5.805 million pounds whole weight and the ABC at the estimated 5-year average in FES units at 5.049 million pounds in whole weight.**
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- *Motion failed 4 – 16, with 4 absent.*

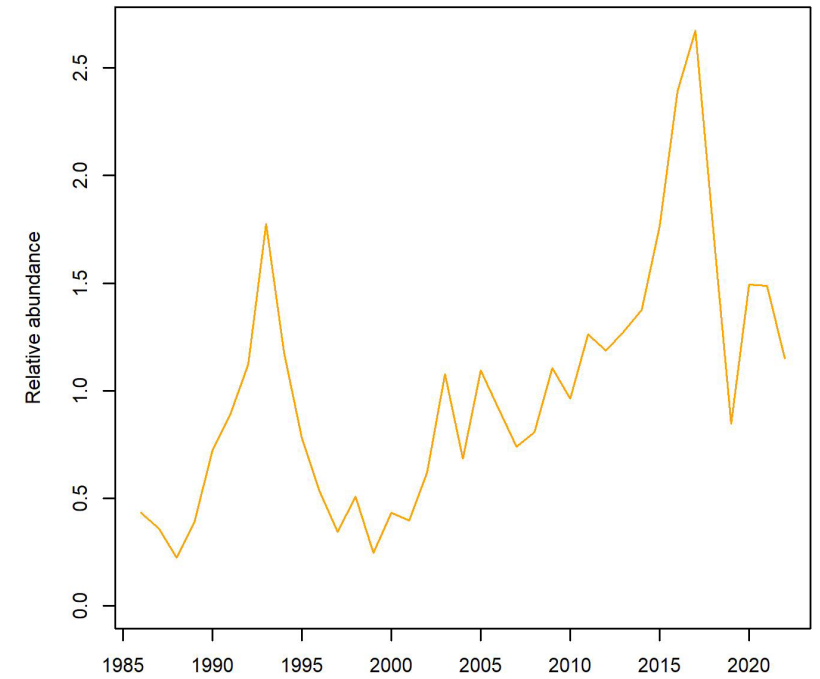
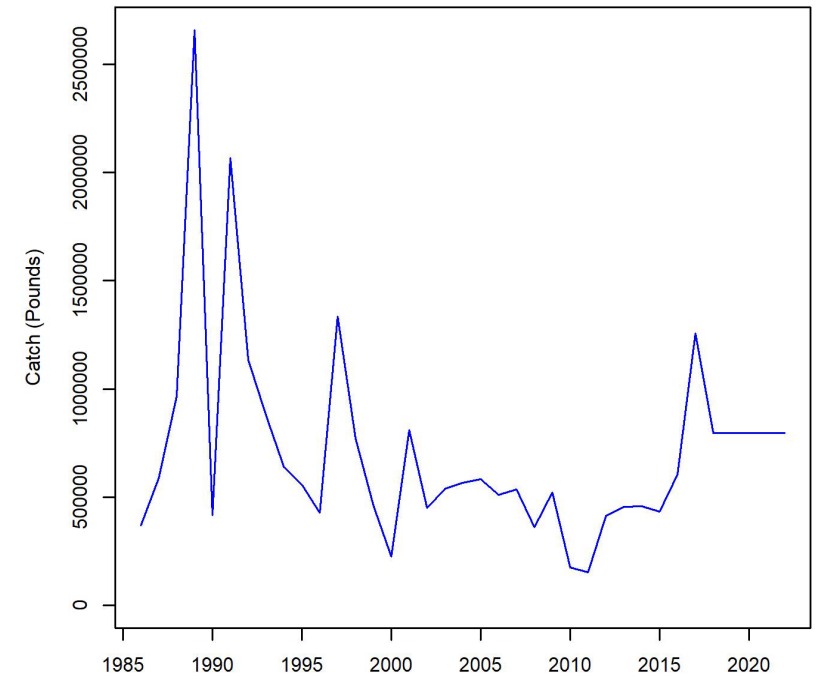
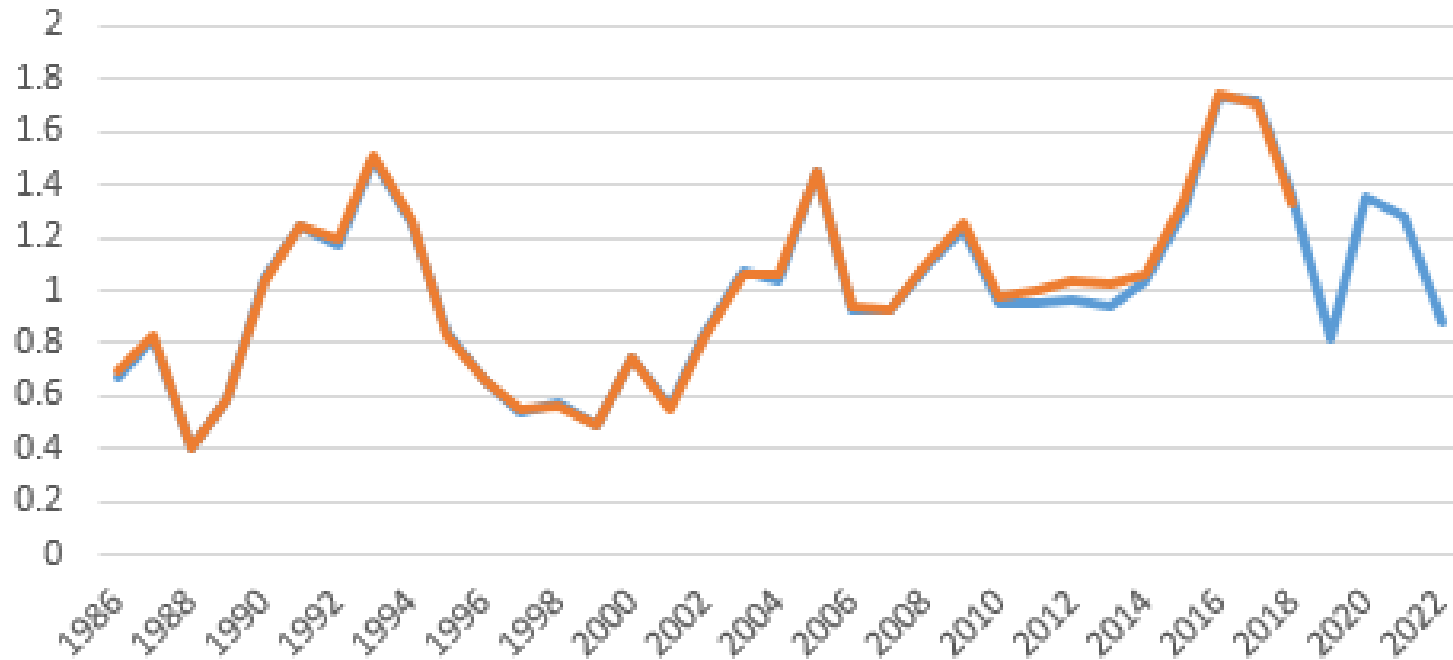
# Lane Snapper

- Last assessed in SEDAR 49, with data through 2014
  - Uses NOAA Data Limited Toolkit
  - Catch advice twice updated using this method
- Uses Headboat Catch-Per-Unit-Effort (CPUE) index
  - Terminal year of 2022
  - Tracks headboat landings relative to effort

# Lane Snapper

SRHS Index - Gulf lane snapper

S49\_Interim\_2023 S49\_Update\_2020



# Lane Snapper: Changes in index over time

	<b>ABC</b>		<b>OFL</b>	<b>SD</b>	<b>SE</b>	<b>CV</b>
	30%	40%				
<b>2023</b>	1,088,873	1,102,732	1,116,331	51,819	518	0.046
<b>2020</b>	1,028,973	1,041,873	1,053,834	50,102	501	0.046

- Index trend is relatively flat
- CPUE may not track total population trends
- Lane snapper landings have increased in recent years
- Headboats have reported increasing abundance since 2018

# Lane Snapper: SSC Recommendations

- **Motion: The SSC recommends to update catch advice for lane snapper using the 2023 SEDAR 49 interim analysis. The OFL is 1.116 mp ww (in MRIP-FES data units). The ABC is 1.088 mp ww (in MRIP-FES data units).**
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- Motion carried with one opposed.