

# New or Routine HMS Management Measures for 2015-2016

(Agenda Item G.4.b.)

- Issues Council Adopted for Consideration:
  - HMSMT Report 1
- Recreational Fishery Management for Bluefin Tuna:
  - HMSMT Report 2 (& Supplemental Report 1)
- Drift Gillnet Fishery Addressed Separately

# Other Issues for Consideration

## VMS Ping Rates in the DGN Fishery

- Increase ping rate to 15 minutes for “gear types where setting/hauling is accomplished in under 55 minutes” for fisheries subject to closed areas
- Alternatives could range from no action (hourly) to 15 minutes
- Recommend this issue be included under Agenda Item J.1 (Groundfish Omnibus) as regulatory amendment

## Shallow-set Longline Outside the EEZ

- Establish a west coast fishery to allow fishing opportunity comparable to the Hawaii shallow-set longline fishery
- Consider whether to implement a limited entry program
- Without LE, this could be done as a framework/regulatory amendment; a LE program would require an FMP amendment
- Information from the Hawaii fleet useful to evaluate authorizing a fishery

# Other Issues for Consideration

## Authorize Pelagic Longline Gear Inside the EEZ

- Was considered when HMS FMP developed; those alternatives could be used as starting point for future consideration
- Objectives to substitute pelagic longline gear for DGN gear & allow a more viable fishery by reducing transit times to/from fishing grounds
- Requires an FMP amendment

## Federal Limited Entry Program for DGN

- Control date set (June 23, 2014), signaling intent for action
- Federal permit would be required to fish 3-200 miles
- 70 California DGN permits now; could set qualification criteria to reduce the number of Federal permit holders selected from pool of CA permits
- Requires an FMP amendment
- Consider including longline fisheries (outside and inside EEZ) and DGN fisheries under a single limited entry permit to facilitate gear transition; implementation could also be coordinated with EFPs for gear testing

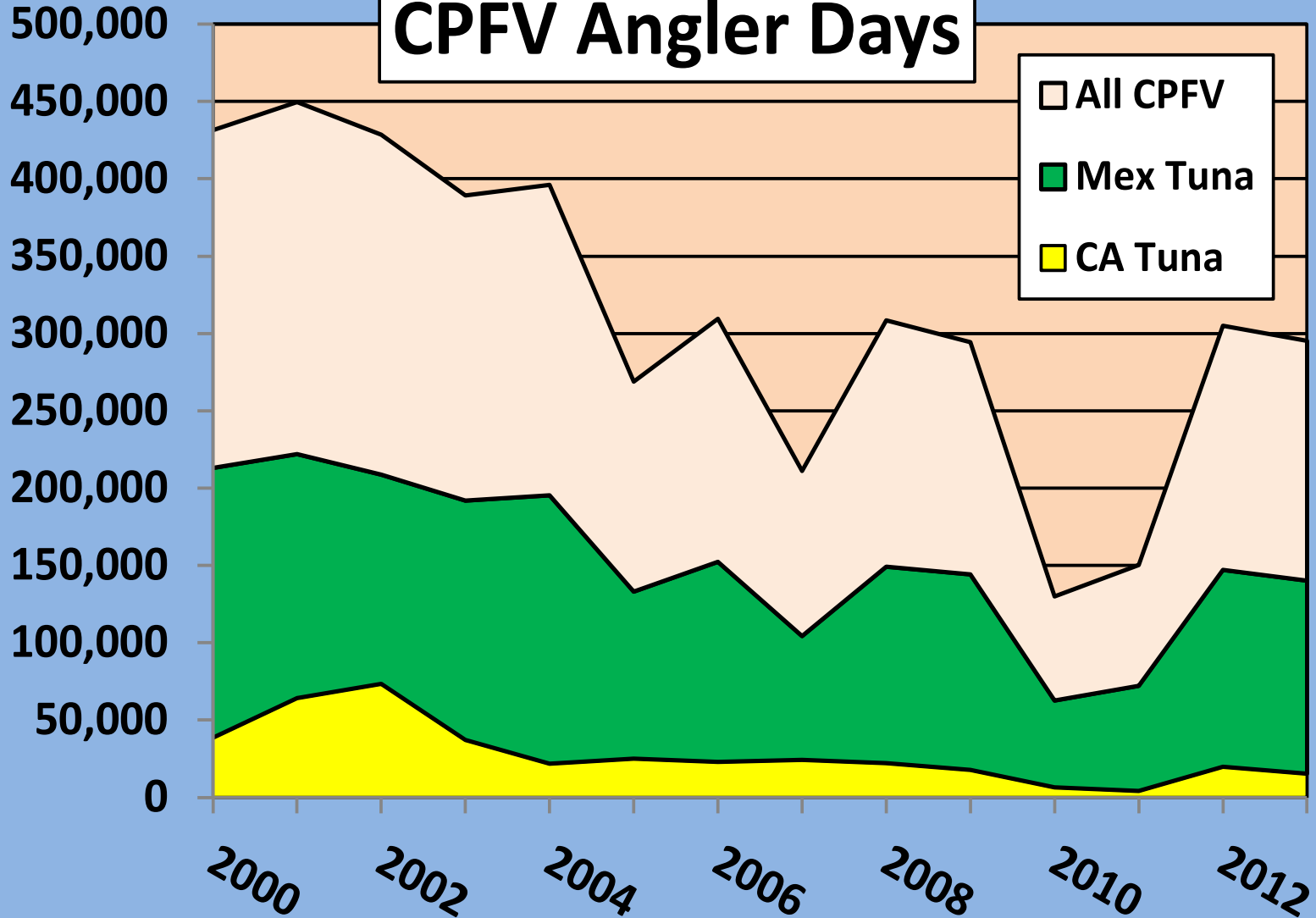
# Pacific Bluefin Tuna Conservation

- Overfished status & overfishing occurring
- Mexico closure of recreational fishery in July
- Northern Committee bluefin conservation recommendation: reduce catches of juveniles & total catch by 50% from 2002-2004 levels, and limit number of vessels
- IATTC scientific staff proposals: Set a recreational catch limit (~208 mt)
- CBD petition to prohibit bluefin harvest

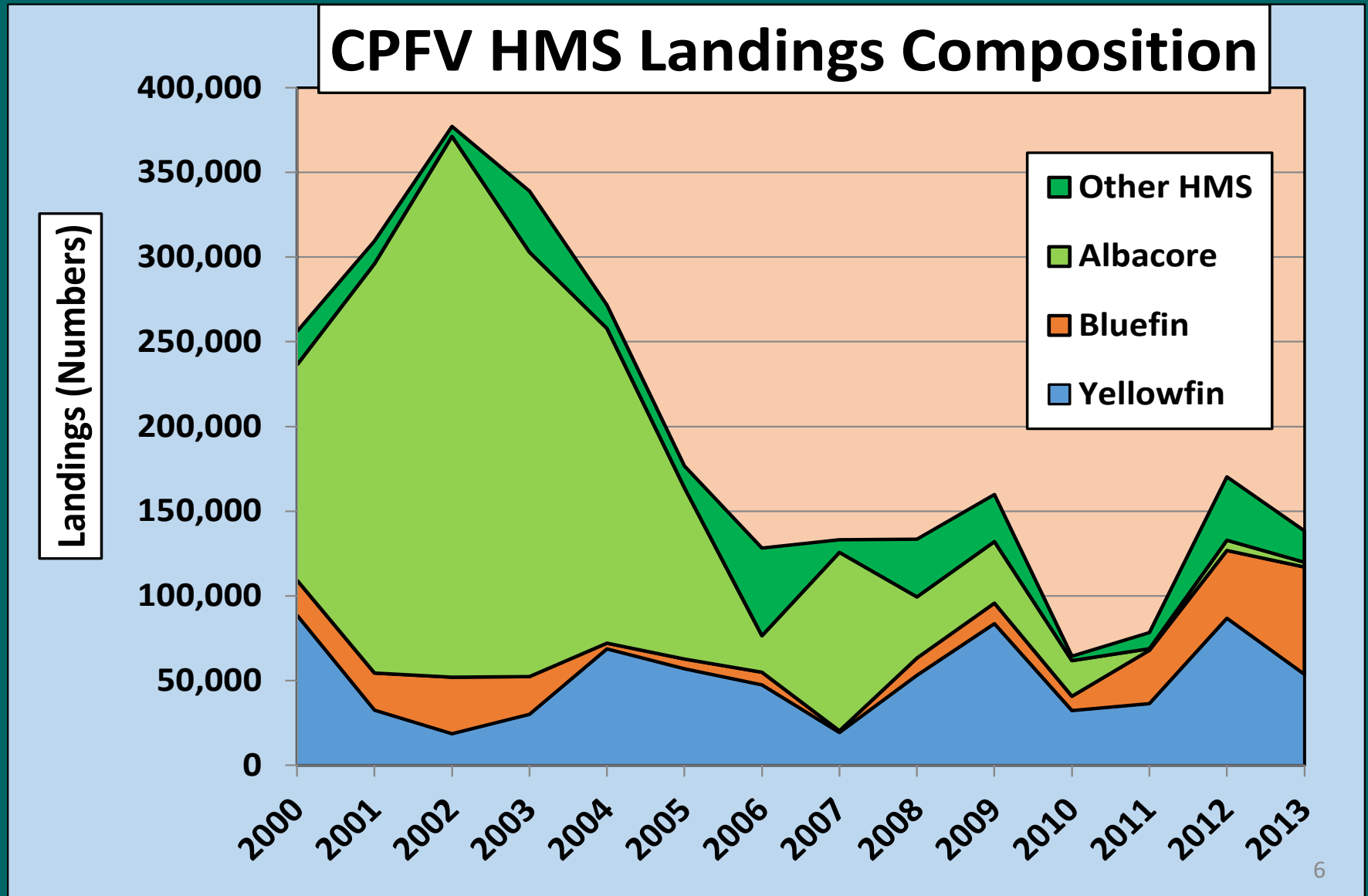
# Angler Effort Trends

## CPFV Angler Days

Number of CPFV Angler Days



# Importance of Bluefin (Numbers)



# Recreational Fishery Alternatives

No Action: 10 daily bag, 30 possession limit off CA

2. Harmonize with Mexico: 5 fish bag, 15 poss.

3. Reduce daily bag below 5 fish: 4, 3, 2, 1 & possession limits = 3 x bag limit

Suboption: Limit landings of Mexico-caught fish to respective possession limits in US or Mexico, whichever is lower.

4. Prohibit Retention

Same suboption as under Alt. 3

# CPFV Bag Limit Analysis

In general, percentage reductions in numbers of fish from current 10 fish bag limit:

Similar among years: 2008-2013 & 2013

Similar among areas: U.S. & Mexico waters

5-10% reduction to 4 fish

15% reduction to 3 fish

30% reduction to 2 fish

50% reduction to 1 fish



# Estimated Potential CPFV Catch Savings from Alternatives 2 and 3 (2013 fishery as baseline)

Potential Bag Reductions	US Waters		US & Mexico Waters Combined	
	Number of Fish	Metric Tons	Number of Fish	Metric Tons
10 fish to 5 fish	201	3	521	8
10 fish to 4 fish	571	9	3,889	60
10 fish to 3 fish	1,155	18	9,580	149
10 fish to 2 fish	2,073	32	18,818	292
10 fish to 1 fish	3,514	55	34,240	532

End