
Skate possession limit options

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Based on Documents #3 and #4

Skate ACL framework

	Current	Updated
ABC/ACL	30,643	41,080
ACT	22,982	30,810
TAL	9,427	12,638
Skate Wing TAL	6,269	8,404
Skate Bait TAL	3,158	4,234

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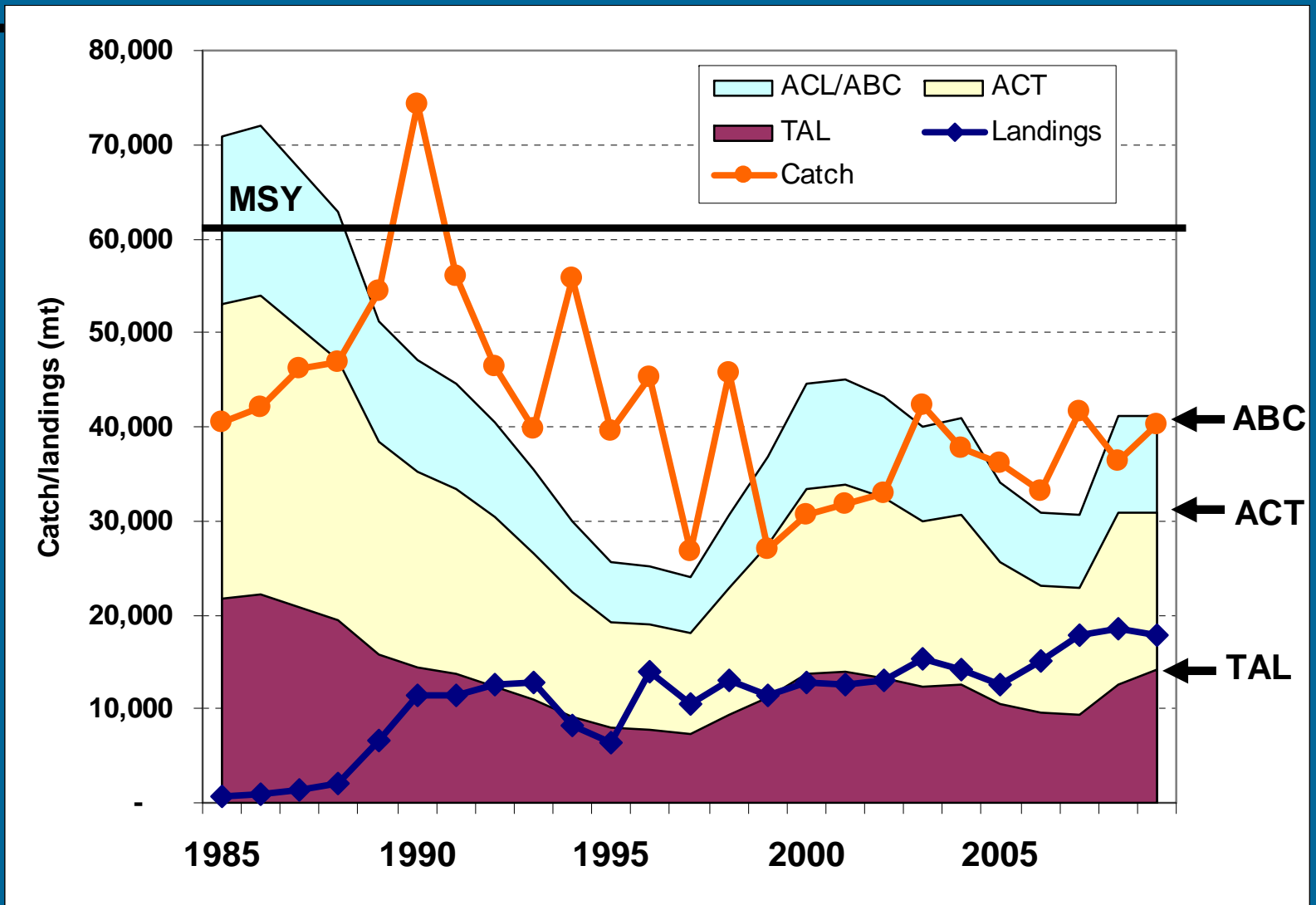
Effect of landings and discard rate on aggregate skate total allowable landings (TAL) with a Skate ABC of 41,080 mt.

Years	Average landings	Average dead discards	Discard rate	TAL
2005-2007 ^[1]	15,170	21,697	58.9%	12,638
2006-2008	17,200	19,918	53.7%	14,277
2007-2009 ^[2]	18,104	21,399	54.2%	14,120

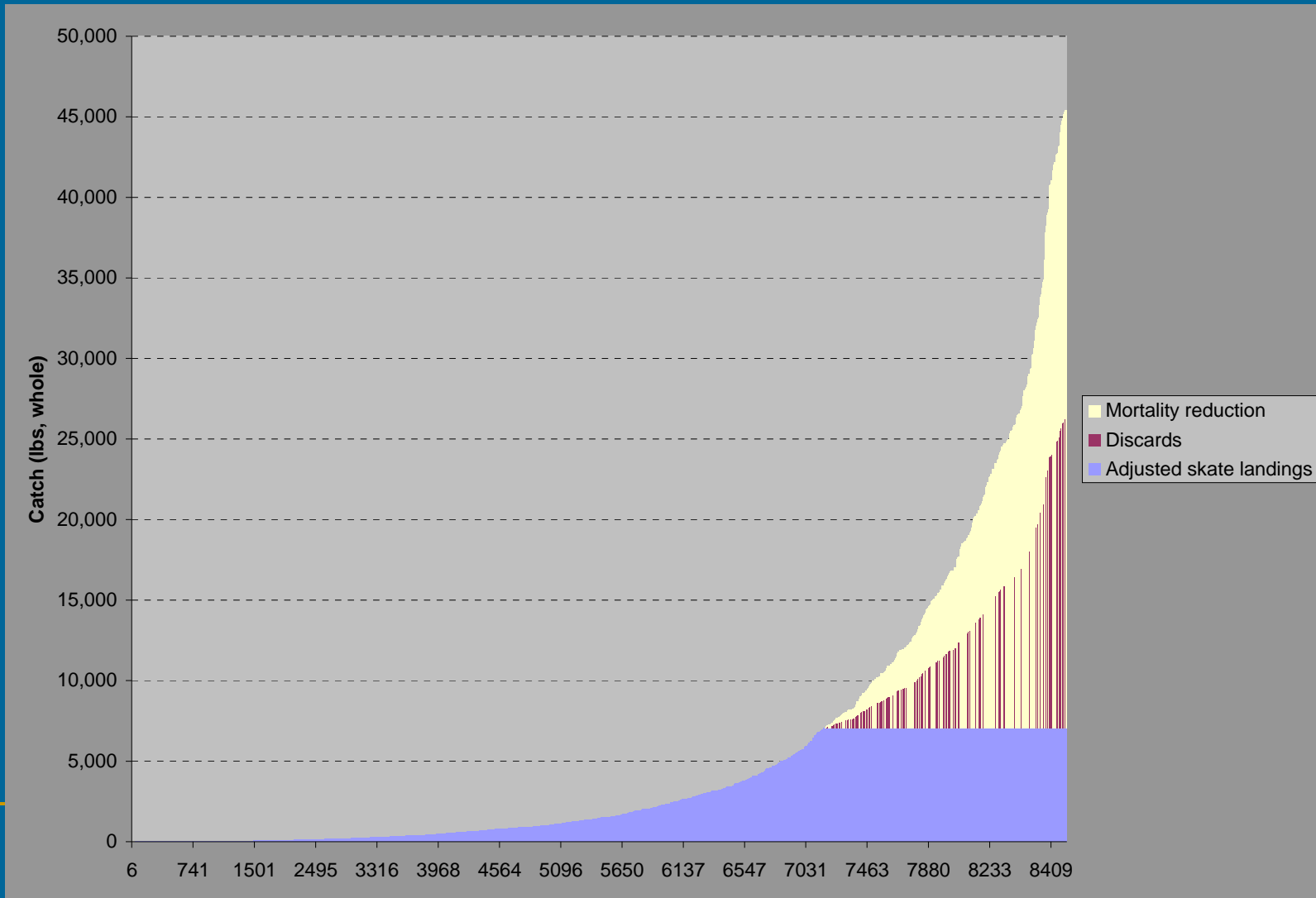
^[1] Discard rate used in Final Amendment 3.

^[2] 2009 data are preliminary, do not include December 2009 observed discards, and the discard estimate is not stratified by region.

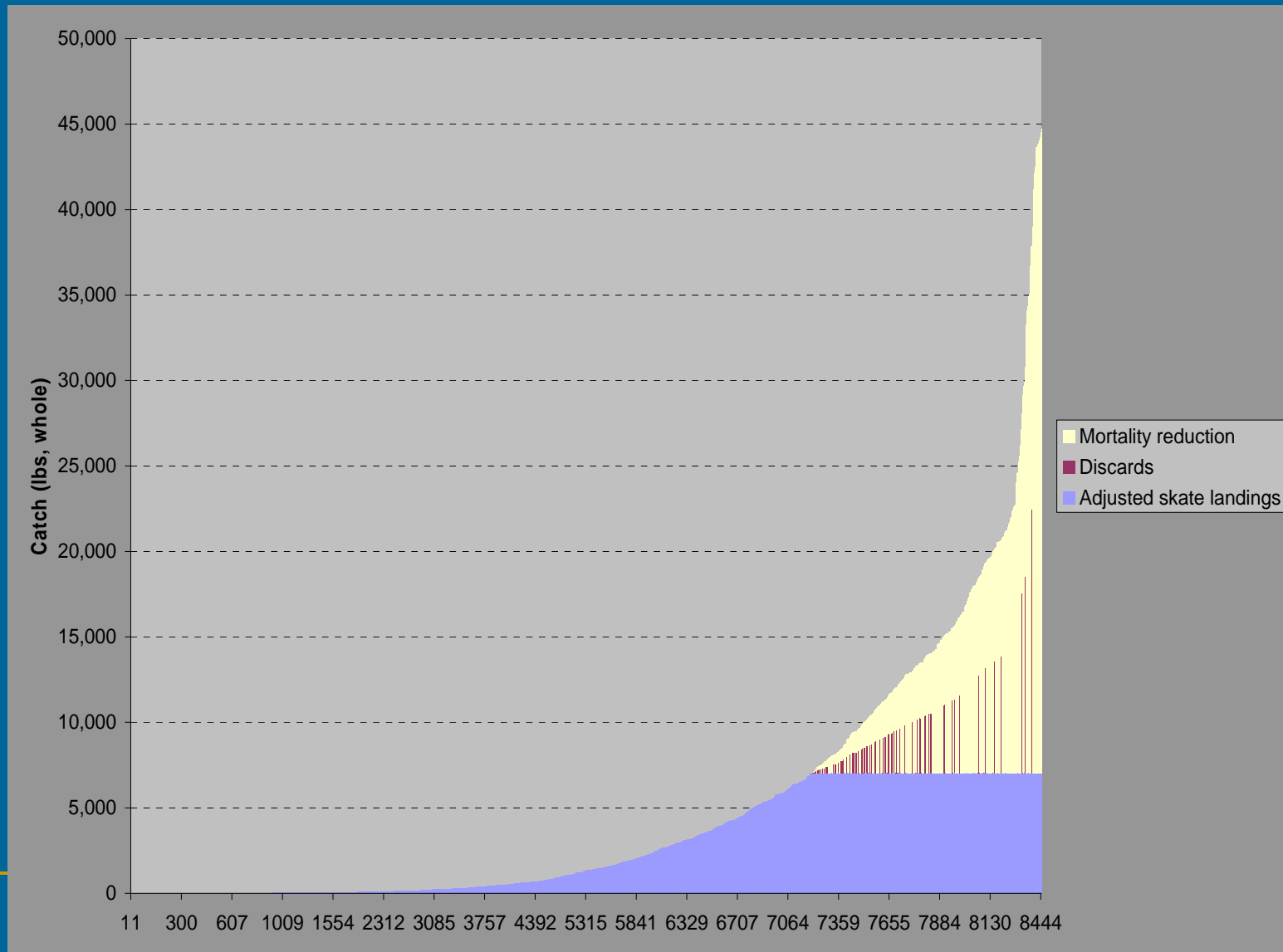
ABC vs. Trends in Skate Landings and Dead Discards



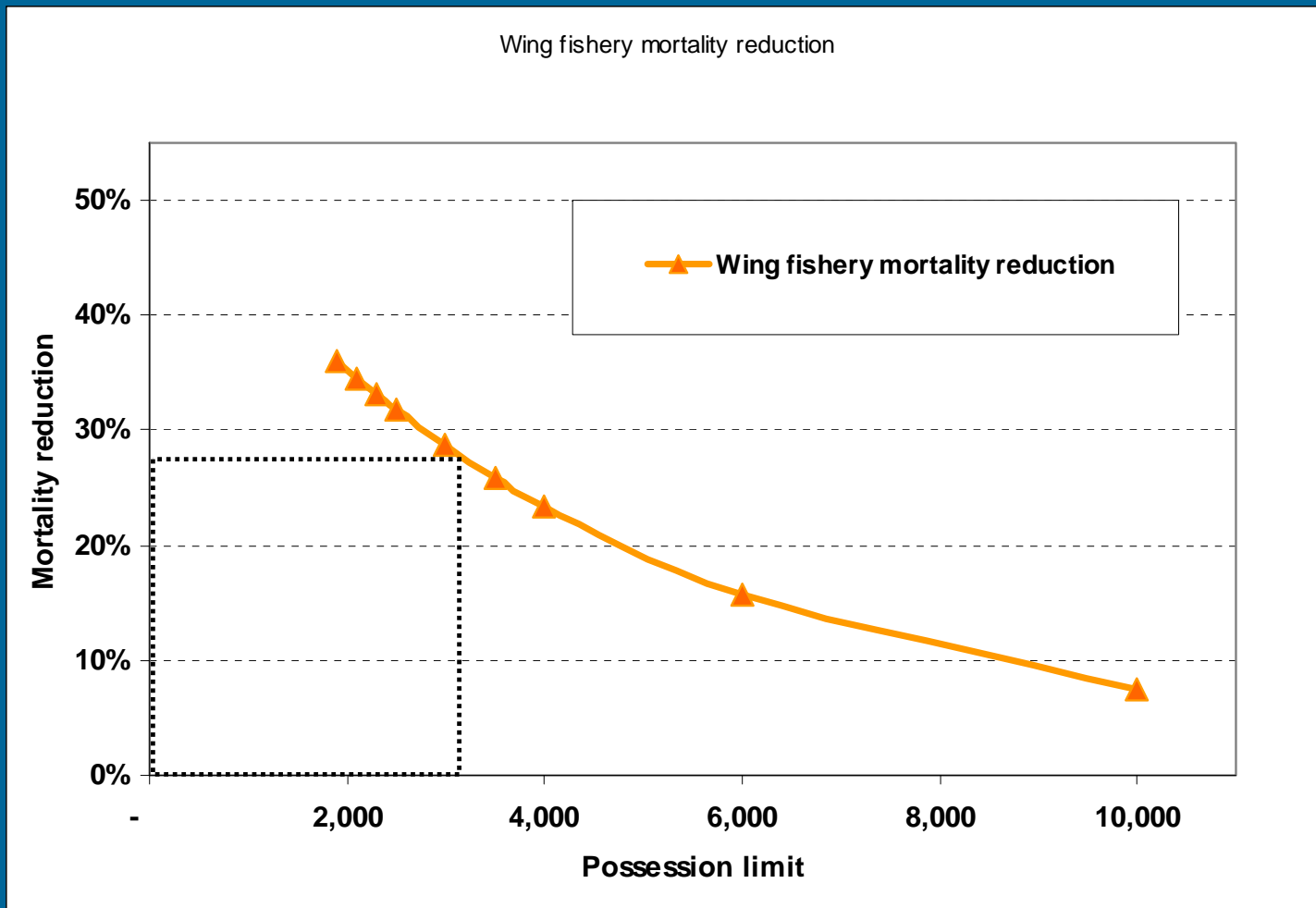
Otter trawls landing skates in MA during 2009



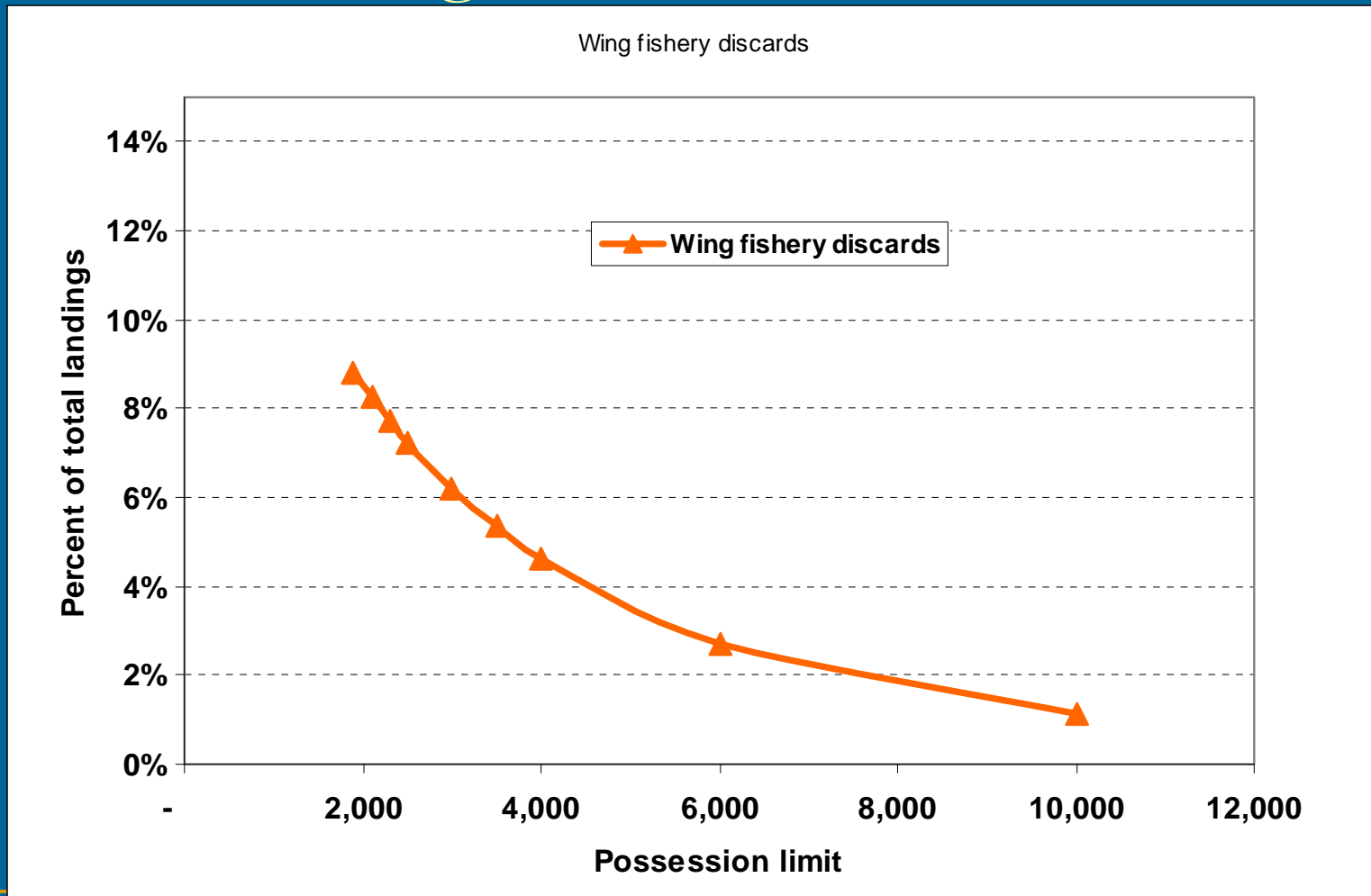
Gillnet trips landing skates in MA during 2009



Reduction in landed mortality



Estimated increase in discards as a percent of 2009 landings



Affected number of vessels and trips landing skates with total revenue at various skate wing possession limit options

Skate wing possession limit option	Percent morality reduction	Additional discard rate (% total catch)	Number of vessels	Trips	Gross annual revenue (millions)	Net revenue (millions)	Gross annual revenue from skate wings (millions)
500	50.7%	7.0%	288	2,831	\$23.5	\$16.5	\$0.9
1,900	36.0%	4.1%	178	1,360	\$32.6	\$22.6	\$2.1
2,200	33.8%	3.7%	167	1,237	\$33.5	\$23.3	\$2.2
2,500	31.7%	3.4%	154	1,120	\$34.3	\$23.8	\$2.4
3,200	27.5%	2.7%	130	930	\$35.8	\$24.8	\$2.7
3,600	25.4%	2.4%	124	837	\$36.5	\$25.3	\$2.8
4,100	23.0%	2.1%	116	756	\$37.3	\$25.8	\$3.0
6,000	15.6%	1.3%	80	477	\$39.1	\$27.1	\$3.5
10,000	7.5%	0.5%	42	179	\$40.9	\$28.3	\$4.0
All skate trips			465	7,933	\$41.9	\$29.0	\$4.4

Possession limit options

Pros and cons listed in Doc 4, Table 2

1. **2,200 to 2,400 lbs.** – calculated to account for additional discard mortality within the 20%% TAL buffer
2. **3,200 lbs.** – uses Amendment 3 procedure and accounts for additional mortality caused by the possession limit
3. **4,100 lbs.** – calculated to reach 100% of the TAL, but additional discards are recognized in future TAL specifications
4. **4,500 to 5,000 lbs.** – high likelihood of reaching the TAL

Potential actions

- **Request Emergency Action to take effect ASAP**
 - Adjustment to ABC, TALs, seasonal bait quotas, and/or skate wing possession limit for 2010 (360 days)
- **Initiate an ad hoc specification process for June approval**
 - Adjustment to ABC, TALs, seasonal bait quotas, and/or skate wing possession limit for 2011 and 2012
- **Initiate framework adjustment for Sept approval**
 - Consideration of a greater range alternatives for 2011 and 2012