Initial Applications of Statistical Catch-at-Age Assessment Methodology to Atlantic redfish

Rebecca A. Rademeyer and Doug S. Butterworth

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Summary

Age structured production model assessments are explored for four redfish populations. The reason for introducing age-structure into the models is to allow a sounder reality check of the estimates of the survey catchability coefficients q that result when the models are fit to data. The data fitted are the survey abundance trends plus catch-at-length information from both surveys and the commercial catches. The catches-at-length are used to estimate selectivity-at-age relationships, though some assumptions are required, particularly for the commercial information which is not available in species disaggregated form. Only for S. fasciatus in Unit 3 is the survey trend compatible with the expected impact of past catches in terms of a simple density-dependent population model, and the associated assessment results could be used to inform reference point determination for this population. However for the other three populations considered (S. mentella and S. fasciatus in Units 1+2 and S. fasciatus in 2J3K) further assumptions are needed (e.g. regime shifts related to changes in productivity) to achieve compatibility between model output and survey trends, so that population model-based assessment of the current status of these populations is problematic. The most immediate concern for these three populations would seem to be whether or not current levels of catch are sustainable, and a suggestion is made as to how that might be addressed.

Introduction

To our knowledge, McAllister and Duplisea (2011) reports the first attempt to use population model based assessments of the redfish populations in Atlantic Canada's EEZ to inform the determination of reference points. Clearly, in principle, the choice of management reference points, such as biomass LRPs, is best made on basis of the fits of such population models to available data.

However it is also important, before the results from such approaches might be adopted, to check that the models used do provide acceptable fits to these data. The estimates from these models also need to be checked for plausibility through considering their reasonable compatibility with comparative results for redfish populations elsewhere, and general understanding of the population monitoring data (such as abundance indices from surveys) to which the models are fit.

This paper presents the results of some initial applications of Statistical Catch-at-Age methodology (SCAA – sometimes known as Age Structured Production Models, or ASPM) to data for:

- a) S. mentella in Units 1 + 2,
- b) *S. fasciatus* in Units 1 + 2,
- c) S. fasciatus in Divisions 2J3K, and
- d) S. fasciatus in Unit 3.

The particular intent of this exercise is to perform the checks indicated above:

- a) to examine whether models show consistency with trends in survey estimates of abundance (a diagnostic of particular importance in assessing the reliability of model results) for the simplest form of these models, or if not explore whether this consistency can be restored by admitting the possibility of simple changes over time in some model parameter; and
- b) given that survey data have been analysed on a swept area basis, to provide estimates of abundance in absolute terms, to check whether the estimates of the values of the constants of proportionality (q) relating these to the biomass estimates provided by the population model fits appear plausible.

The special reason for moving from the age-aggregated production model framework of McAllister and Duplisea (2011) to SCAA is to be able to address b). Production models incorporate a somewhat artificial construction for the "biomass" which they estimate, and these estimates can be considerably biased as measures of the actual underlying resource abundance. In contrast, SCAA in the form of ASPM (with a deterministic stock recruitment function) provides the simplest approach which can claim to reflect the actual age-structure of the biomass being modelled and estimated, and hence provide estimates of q that would be expected to be close to 1 if all fish are available to the gear, and there is no appreciable herding by the net or avoidance behaviour by the fish. (Indeed redfish are semi-pelagic, and Power and Mowbray (2000) estimate that some 20% would be too high in the water column to be available to the research trawl gear, which lowers the value close to 1 just mentioned for q to 0.8.) We note, for example the recent estimates of q provided by NAFO XSA (agestructure based) assessments of redfish in Division 3M which range from 1.22 to 1.98, averaging 1.69 with a standard deviation of 0.41 (R Alpoim, pers. commn). An immediate expectation is that q estimates for assessments of the four stocks above should not differ greatly from these values unless some cogent rationale can be offered for the case in question.

Data and Methodology

The catch and survey based data (including catch-at-length information) and some biological data are listed in Tables in Appendix A.

The details of the SCAA assessment methodology are provided in Appendix B.

Particular difficulties for these redfish assessments arise from the facts that the commercial catches, and also information on their length distributions (in contrast to the situation for the surveys), do not distinguish the two species *S. mentella* and *S. fasciatus*. Thus catch by species information input to our assessments rests on assumptions and is open to question, while the combined species length distribution information likely reflects more smaller fish than in the actual *S. mentella* distribution, and *vice versa* for *S. fasciatus* (D Power, pers. commn). Though some of the SCAA models are fitted to combined species commercial catch length distributions, the inevitable errors that this involves should not be seen as necessarily a major impediment to the approach. This is because in moving to an ASPM approach for greater realism, the intent is to achieve this through use of a commercial selectivity-atlength function which is "in the right ball-park", rather than requiring exactitude.

In any case, in conducting these ASPM assessments, sensitivity to variations of the estimated selectivity-at-length function is investigated. Furthermore, for one of the three *S. fasciatus* stocks considered (Divisions 2J3K), commercial catch at length information was not available, so that the selectivity-at-length function estimated for *S. fasciatus* in Units 1+2 was used as a fixed input to this other ASPM assessment.

The decision was made to assume constant selectivity-at-length (though differing by species, and amongst surveys and commercial catches) for these assessments, as it seems likely to be more realistic than to assume constant selectivity-at-age in generating expected length distributions from the population model to fit to observed length distributions. The approach used assumes distributions of length-at-age that are invariant over time, leading to the effective selectivities-at-age age that are used in accounting for effect of catches on the age-structured population dynamics, as elaborated in Section B.3 of Appendix B.

Stock- specific features of the assessments and associated sensitivities conducted are as follows.

S. mentella in Units 1+2

As the simplest time-invariant ASPMs are unable to reflect the downward trends in the survey indices, a change in the unexploited equilibrium spawning biomass (K) is introduced, with the time (1982) of the change being determined so as to achieve the best fit to the data. Note that allowing K to change is effectively equivalent to changing expected recruitment levels in transitions between presumably different regimes with differing levels of productivity. For the Base Case chosen, the selectivity-at-length estimated from fitting to the commercial catch-at-length distributions is shifted to the right to allow qualitatively for the *S. mentella* tending towards the larger end of the combined species length distribution data (D. Power, pers. commn). Other sensitivities include:

- the time series commencing with the resource at different fractions of K,
- forcing the survey multiplicative bias factor q to be less than 1,
- allowing for error in the splitting of catches between species, both as an absolute percentage fixed over time, and as a trend over time, and
- increasing the natural mortality by 50% to 0.15.

S. fasciatus in Units 1+2

As above for *S. mentella*, a change in *K*, here from 1981, is needed to allow the model to reflect the downward trend in the survey in Unit 1 in the early 1990's. The Base Case shifts the estimated selectivity-at-length for the commercial catch to the left because the lengths of this species in this catch tend to be lower (D. Power, pers. commn). A sensitivity examines restricting the survey q to be less than 1, while another increases the natural mortality by 50% to 0.1875.

S. fasciatus in Divisions 2J3K

The approach here is similar to that for Units 1+2, and fixing the commercial selectivity-atlength to be the same as for the assessment for that region. Survey trends are, however, not compatible with a single change only in K, but require the more complex behaviour of a decrease from 1960 to 1970, followed later by an increase from 1990 to 2000 and constancy thereafter. The choice of this form was made by first conducting an assessment that allowed for a random walk in K from year to year, and then choosing a parsimonious parameterization of the temporal pattern that emerged.

S. fasciatus in Unit 3

Here there is some indication in the survey data of an upward response to the cutback in catches that occurred in the mid-1970s. Sensitivities focus mainly on varying the value of q for the standard assessment model without any change in K over time.

Results

S. mentella in Units 1+2

The results of the ASPM variants explored are listed in Table 1, with corresponding spawning biomass trajectories plotted in Fig. 1. The commercial and survey selectivities estimated for Cases 1 (M&D K and θ), 2 (K estimated and θ =1), 3a (as 2 but commercial selectivity-at-length shifted to the right by 5 cm) and the Base Case (as 2 but commercial selectivity-at-length shifted to the right by 10 cm) assessments are plotted in Fig. 2. (Note: the Base Case is what we would tentatively offer as the best of the various options we investigate for each population. In this case the allowance for a rightward shift in the commercial selectivity compared to that estimated from the length distribution for catches from the two species combined is an attempt to allowed for the difference in the length distributions, if disaggregated by species, as advised by D. Power.)

Cases 6 and 7 allow for error in the splitting of catches between species and the resulting assumed catch series are shown in Fig. 3.

The fit of the Base Case to the survey indices and the commercial and survey CAL are shown in Figs 4 and 5 respectively.

S. fasciatus in Units 1+2

The results of the ASPM variants explored for *S. fasciatus* in Units 1+2 are listed in Table 2, with corresponding spawning biomass trajectories plotted in Fig. 6. The commercial and survey selectivities estimated for Cases 3 (change in K in 1982), 4a (as 3 but commercial selectivity-at-length shifted to the left by 2 cm) and the Base Case (as 3 but commercial selectivity-at-length shifted to the left by 5 cm) assessments are plotted in Fig. 7.

The fit of the Base Case to the survey indices and the commercial and survey CAL are shown in Figs 8 and 9 respectively.

S. fasciatus in Division 2J3K

The results of the ASPM variants explored for *S. fasciatus* in Division 2J3K are listed in Table 3, with corresponding spawning biomass trajectories plotted in Fig. 10. The Base Case includes changes in carrying capacity over time and the resulting trajectory is also plotted in Fig. 10. The commercial and survey selectivities for the Base Case assessment are plotted in Fig. 11.

The fit of the Base Case to the survey index and the survey CAL are shown in Figs 12 and 13 respectively.

S. fasciatus in Unit 3

The results of the ASPM variants explored for *S. fasciatus* in Unit 3 are listed in Table 4, with corresponding spawning biomass trajectories plotted in Fig. 14. The commercial and survey selectivities for the Base Case assessment are plotted in Fig. 15.

The fit of the Base Case to the survey index and the commercial and survey CAL are shown in Figs 16 and 17 respectively.

Discussion

S. mentella 1+2: the Base Case provides a fit to the surveys that is just about acceptable (if one considers the earliest Unit 1 value an outlier – see Fig. 4). Once a change in K is admitted, the present resource status changes from highly depleted to generally above K. This arises because initially there are more older fish than would be present under pristine equilibrium conditions for the new lower K, with consequential lower recruitment, and catches after the drop in K take time to reduce this "reserve" of older fish. Other sensitivities make little qualitative difference. For the Unit 2 survey, q marginally exceeds 1 for the Base Case (Table 1).

S. fasciatus 1+2: a change in K is essential here to try to reflect the downward trend in the Unit 1 survey in the early 1990s, but the resultant fit to the data remains inadequate. The associated assessment suggests that while the resource had dropped to well below the original value of K, it is now above the MSY biomass level for the new lower K. For the Unit 2 survey, q for the Base Case is well above 1 at 3; for lower values of this q, the fits to the survey data trends deteriorate appreciably (Table 2).

S fasciatus 2J3K: this is an important case because after dropping to very low levels, the survey results have recently shown some increase (Fig. 12). This is not the case for either *S*. *mentella* or *S*. fasciatus in Unit 1+2 where the most recent survey results remain low, which could in turn suggest that some Allee effect might be in operation. This 2J3K case confirms that these redfish resources *can* recover from low survey values, which suggests that an Allee effect is less likely to be in operation for these populations. Similarly to the previous case, the Base Case model estimates *q* to be about 3, with substantial deterioration of fits to these data for lower *q* values (Table 3). This arises because lower *q* values mean larger abundances in absolute terms, and the catches taken then become too small to impact abundance and hence survey trends to the extent evident from the survey data.

S fasciatus Unit 3: Here the survey data are compatible with the standard population model, and the q estimate of 0.62 would seem perfectly plausible (Table 4). However because the data are fairly noisy, this estimate of q is not that precise, with a likelihood profile indicating a 95% CI range of [0.42; 0.87].

Generally fits to survey CAL data seem reasonable in terms of random patterns in residuals (except perhaps for *S. fasciatus* in 2J3K). There are however systematic effects for the commercial CAL data, which suggest changes over time in the selectivity pattern, but these seem unlikely to be sufficiently large to invalidate the utility of the results.

Increasing natural mortality, M, leads to lower estimates of q, but not always to improved fits to the data.

Concluding remarks

Only for one of the four cases considered (*S. fasciatus* in Unit 3) do these analyses suggest the survey data trends to be consistent with the impact of catches on abundance trends that is to be expected for a standard density-dependent population model. In this case the model fitted might be used to provide estimates of reference points.

However for the other three cases, one has either to assume a systematic change in q over time (which then really leaves little basis to draw inferences about population trends and statuses), or assume a shift to a less productive regime (lower K and lower recruitment), with a later reverse shift in one case.

While there are some aspects of these population model analyses which more complex approaches might resolve, these fundamental problems seem likely to remain, which raises the question of how then best to proceed? The most important management question for these other three resources would then seem to be whether or not current levels of catch are sustainable. One way of addressing that could be to select a plausible range for *q* based on existing satisfactory results (e.g. perhaps those for *S. fasciatus* in Unit 3 from this study and the NAFO analysis for 3M mentioned above), and use that information to provide ranges for current biomass in the other three cases considered here. Yield-per-recruit analyses, or the *S. fasciatus* Unit 3 analysis above, can provide estimates of sustainable fishing mortality levels. Combining these last with the biomass ranges would provide numbers that could be compared with current catch levels to reach some conclusions concerning their likely sustainability.

Acknowledgements

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References

- McAllister M and Duplisea D. 2011. Production model fitting and projection for Atlantic redfish (*Sebastes fasciatus* and *Sebastes mentella*) to assess recovery potential and allowable harm.
- Power D and Mowbray F. 2000. The status of redfish in Unit 2. DFO CSAS Res. Doc. 2000/136.56pp.

Table 1: Results of fits of various SCAA variants for *S. mentella* in Units 1 + 2. Values fixed on input rather than estimated are shown in **bold**. Mass units are '000t. In cases where the value of the pre-exploitation spawning biomass *K* changes within the assessment period, the second column reports estimates for the latter period. M&D is McAllister and Duplisea (2011).

	Case 1	Case 2		Case 3a	C	ase 3b	Case	e 4a	Case	e 4b	Case	5a	Case	5b	Case	6a	Case	6b	Case	6c	Case	e 6d	Case	7a	Case	e 7b	Cas	se 8
	Initial as in M&D	Change in in 1982	K sł	Comm Sel hifted 5cm o the right	Co shift	se Case mm Sel ted 10cm the right	As Bo resid estim	uals	As 4a, <i>q</i> <		As Β <i>θ</i> =0.		As Β <i>θ</i> =0	С,	As BC, trend catc	d in	As BC - trenc catch	d in	As E +100 trend catcl)% I in	As BC, tren cato		As BC, in t propo of <i>mer</i>	ne rtion	in t propo	the ortion	As I M=0	
InL: overall	293.3	42.6	8	31.1	152	.0	94.9		114.6		165.7		176.5		145.3		157.5		141.3		182.3		151.4		152.6		144.0	
InL: survey	237.2	13.0		9.9	28	.0	11.1		27.7		37.1		44.1		23.2		31.7		14.2		48.4		27.5		28.3		24.2	
InL: survCAL	24.8	7.2	1	9.1	5	.3	12.9		3.7		5.9		6.9		5.6		5.5		13.7		7.8		5.3		5.4		8.2	
InL: comCAL	31.3	22.5	5	52.2	118	.6	102.0		115.3		122.7		125.4		116.3		120.2		113.4		126.1		118.5		118.8		111.6	
InL: RecRes	0	0		0		0	-31.0		-32.1		0.0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0	
h	0.67	0.67	c).67	0.6	57	0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67	
м	0.10	0.10	C	0.10	0.1	L O	0.10		0.10		0.10		0.10		0.10		0.10		0.10		0.10		0.10		0.10		0.15	
θ	0.81	1.00	1	.00	1.0	00	1.00		1.00		0.75		0.50		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
Ś	0.00	0.00	0	0.00	0.0	00	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	
K ^{sp}	1212	800 3	4	715 3	5 79	36 36	802	31	799	48	1049	55	1552	87	742	33	834	40	630	50	1245	76	930	43	647	29	822	54
B ^{sp} 2009	941	35		27	7	78	30		84		139		246		62		93		46		233		90		65		88	
В ^{sp} ₂₀₀₉ /К ^{sp}	0.78	0.04 1.0)1 (0.04 0.7	7 0.1	LO 2.14	0.04	0.99	0.10	1.72	0.13	2.54	0.16	2.82	0.08	1.87	0.11	2.35	0.07	0.92	0.19	3.08	0.10	2.12	0.10	2.19	0.11	1.65
MSYL ^{sp}	0.32	0.31	0).32	0.3	34	0.34		0.34		0.34		0.34		0.34		0.34		0.34		0.34		0.34		0.34		0.40	
B ^{sp} _{MSY}	384	11		11	1	2	10		17		19		30		11		14		17		26		15		10		22	
MSY	43	1		1		1	1		2		2		4		1		2		2		3		2		1		3	
Survey	q's σ _{surv}	q's σ _{su}	ırv	q's σ _{su}	rv q	's σ _{sur}	, q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}
Unit 1	0.07 (0.89)			.96 (0.50) 0.3	86 (0.56		(0.50)		(0.55)			0.13 (0.44		0.31		0.55			(0.61)				(0.56)	0.27	(0.55)
Unit 2	0.13 (0.41)	2.29 (0.2	D) 3	3.11 (0.20) 1.0	0.22 (0.22	2.68	(0.20)	1.00	(0.21)	0.59	(0.22)	0.34 (0.22)	1.28	(0.21)	0.87	(0.22)	1.73	0.21)	0.36	(0.22)	0.88	(0.22)	1.24	(0.22)	0.86	(0.21)
σ_R_out	0	0		0		0	0.19		0.16		0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0		0	

Table 2: Results of fits of various SCAA variants for *S. fasciatus* in Units 1 + 2. Values fixed on input rather than estimated are shown in **bold**. Mass units are '000t. In cases where the value of the pre-exploitation spawning biomass *K* changes within the assessment period, the second column reports estimates for the latter period. M&D is McAllister and Duplisea (2011).

	Case 1	Case	2	Cas	e 3	Case	e 4a	Case	e 4b	Cas	e 5	Cas	e 6
	Initial as i M&D (1+2+3LNo	K est, e	7=1	As 2, cl in <i>K</i> in		As 3, C Sel shit cm to let	fted 2 the	Base (As 3, C Sel shit cm to	omm fted 5	As BC q <		As E <i>M</i> =0.	· ·
-InL: overall	176	252.9		116.5		119.4		128.6		162.7		144.5	
-InL: survey	142	216.9		93.3		94.1		95.0		137.3		105.5	
-InL: survCAL	-1.21	-0.2		-3.3		-4.5		-5.8		-0.5		-5.8	
-InL: comCAL	34.7	36.2		26.6		29.8		39.5		25.9		44.8	
-InL: RecRes	0	0		0		0		0		0.0		0	
h	0.67	0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67		0.67	
М	0.125	0.125	(0.125		0.125		0.125		0.125		0.188	
θ	0.80	1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00		1.00	
5	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00	
K ^{sp}	3328	24343*		559	69	569	69	587	71	684	134	569	68
B ^{sp} 2009	3176	24229		39		40		40		119		54	
B ^{sp} 2009/K ^{sp}	0.95	1.00		0.07	0.57	0.07	0.57	0.07	0.56	0.17	0.89	0.09	0.79
MSYL ^{sp}	0.32	0.32		0.34		0.34		0.33		0.33		0.32	
B ^{sp} _{MSY}	1057	7725		24		23		23		44		22	
MSY	138	997		3		3		3		5		4	
Survey	q's σ_s	_{surv} q's	σ_{surv}	q's	$\sigma_{ m surv}$	q's	$\sigma_{ m surv}$	q's	$\sigma_{ m surv}$	q's	$\sigma_{ m surv}$	<i>q</i> 's	$\sigma_{ m surv}$
Unit 1	0.01 1.	00 0.00	0.99	0.69	0.69	0.67	0.70	0.64	0.70	0.24	0.81	0.43	0.73
Unit 2	0.04 0.	32 0.01	0.32	3.18	0.33	3.14	0.33	3.09	0.33	1.00	0.33	2.09	0.34
σ_R_{out}	0	0		0		0		0		0		0	

* Estimate is infinity – the fitting algorithm stops at this value

Table 3: Results of fits of various SCAA variants for *S. fasciatus* in Divisions 2J3K. Values fixed on input rather than estimated are shown in **bold**. Mass units are '000t. In cases where the value of the pre-exploitation spawning biomass *K* changes within the assessment period, the second column reports estimates for the middle period (1970-1990) and the third column for the end of the assessment period. M&D is McAllister and Duplisea (2011).

	Case 1	Case 2	C	Case 3			Case 4			Case 5	
	Initial as in M&D	<i>K</i> est, <i>θ</i> =1		se Case anges in <i>I</i>	ĸ	As BC	, with q	=1.0		BC, wi =0.187	
-InL: overall	1305.8	1186.1	335.1			492.7			342.7		
-InL: survey	1283.4	1156.5	288.8			436.8			301.4		
-InL: survCAL	22.4	29.6	46.3			55.8			41.3		
-InL: comCAL	0.0	0.0	0.0			0.0			0.0		
-InL: RecRes	0	0	0			0			0		
-InL: Kpen											
h	0.67	0.67	0.67			0.67			0.67		
М	0.125	0.125	0.125			0.125			0.188		
θ	0.91	1.00	1.00			1.00			1.00		
ζ	0.00	0.00	0.00			0.00			0.00		
K ^{sp}	151	24343*	187	3	123	223	3	349	238	3	62
B ^{sp} 2009	135	24333	6			24			9		
B ^{sp} 2009/K ^{sp}	0.89	1.00	0.03	1.58	0.05	0.11	6.64	0.07	0.04	2.43	0.15
MSYL ^{sp}	0.33	0.33	0.33			0.33			0.32		
B ^{sp} MSY	49	7954	40			114			20		
MSY	6	1001	5			14			4		
Survey	q's σ _{surv}	q's σ _{surv}	q's	σ_{surv}		q's	σ_{surv}		q's	σ_{surv}	
2J3K	0.15 (2.32)	0.001 (2.18)	3.58	(1.16)		1.00	(1.29)		2.82	(1.19)	
σ_R_{out}	0	0	0			0			0		

	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3a	Case 3b	Case 3c	Case 4
	Initial as in M&D	Base Case as 1, K est, θ =1	As BC, q =0.5	As BC, q =1.0	As BC, q =1.5	As BC, with <i>M</i> =0.1875
-InL: overall	95.2	78.5	79.2	82.7	93.1	68.3
-InL: survey	5.5	7.8	7.3	8.7	8.1	5.5
-InL: survCAL	47.4	34.5	35.7	34.8	39.0	28.5
-InL: comCAL	42.3	36.1	36.2	39.2	46.0	34.2
-InL: RecRes	0	0	0	0	0	0
h	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67	0.67
М	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.125	0.188
θ	0.82	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
ζ	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
K ^{sp}	3134	202	220	179	170	409
B ^{sp} 2009	3053	127	149	89	61	374
В ^{sp} ₂₀₀₉ /К ^{sp}	0.97	0.63	0.68	0.49	0.36	0.91
MSYL ^{sp}	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.29
B ^{sp} MSY	967	62	68	55	53	121
MSY	113	7	8	7	6	23
Survey	q's $\sigma_{ m surv}$	q's $\sigma_{ m surv}$	q's $\sigma_{ m surv}$	q's $\sigma_{ m sun}$, q's $\sigma_{ m sur}$	$_v$ q's σ_{surv}
Unit 3	0.02 (0.70)	0.62 (0.74)	0.50 (0.73)	1.00 (0.75)) 1.50 (0.74) 0.16 (0.70)
σ_R_{out}	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 4: Results of fits of various SCAA variants for *S. fasciatus* in Unit 3. Values fixed on input rather than estimated are shown in **bold**. Mass units are '000t. M&D is McAllister and Duplisea (2011).

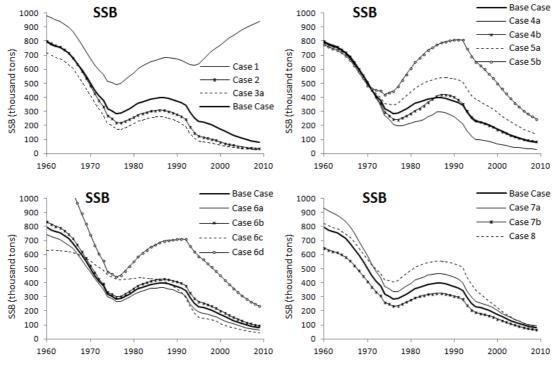


Figure 1: Spawning biomass trajectories in absolute terms for the different variants for *S. mentella* in Unit 1 + 2.

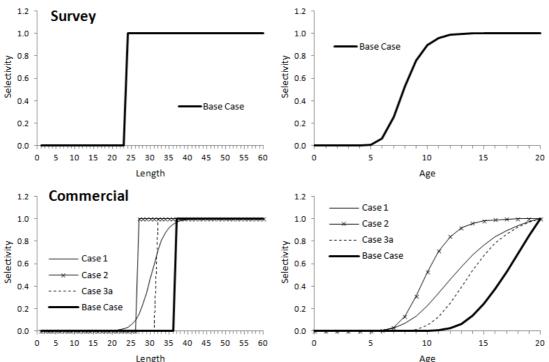


Figure 2: Survey and commercial fishing selectivities-at-length and consequent effective selectivities-at-age estimated for Cases 1, 2, 3a and the Base Case assessments for *S. mentella*, Units 1 + 2. The survey selectivities for all four cases are set to be the same as for the Base Case.

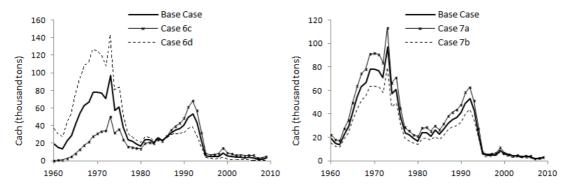


Figure 3: Total catch assumed for *S. mentella*, Units **1** + **2** for the Base Case assessment, Cases 6c, 6d (Cases 6a and 6b lie between these and the Base Case) and Cases 7a, 7b.

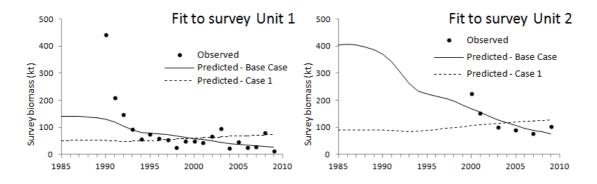


Figure 4: Fit to the survey abundance indices for the Base Case and Case 1 assessments for *S. mentella* in Unit 1 + 2.

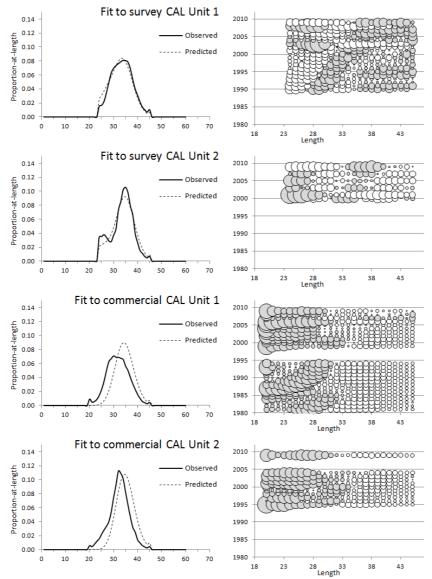


Figure 5: Fit of the Base Case assessment for *S. mentella* in Unit 1 + 2 to the survey and commercial catch-at-length data. The left side plots compare the observed and predicted CAL as averaged over all years for which data are available, while the right side plots show the standardised residuals, with the size (area) of the bubbles being proportional to the magnitude of the corresponding standardised residuals. For positive residuals, the bubbles are grey, whereas for negative residuals, the bubbles are white.

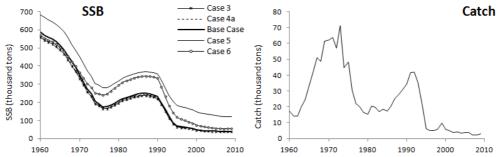


Figure 6: Spawning biomass trajectories in absolute terms for different variants of the assessment and total catch assumed for *S. fasciatus* in Unit 1 + 2.

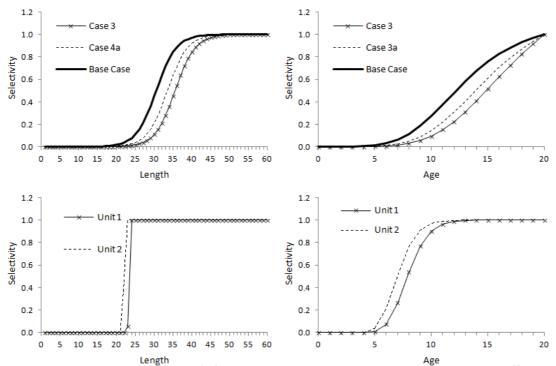


Figure 7: Commercial (top row) fishing selectivities-at-length and consequent effective selectivities-at-age estimated for Cases 3, 4a and the Base Case and survey (bottom row) fishing selectivities-at-length and at-age for the Base Case assessment for *S. fasciatus*, Units 1 + 2.

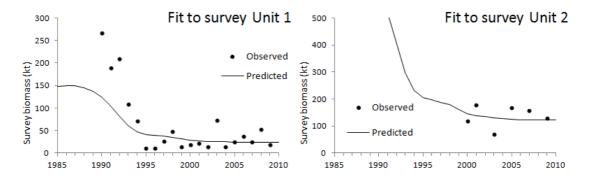


Figure 8: Fit to the survey abundance indices for the Base Case assessment for *S. fasciatus* in Unit 1 + 2.

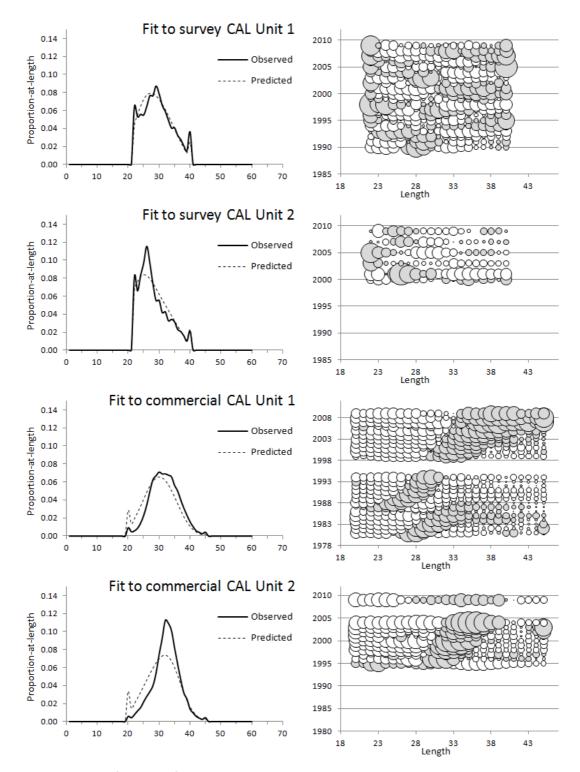


Figure 9: Fit of the *S. fasciatus* Unit **1** + **2** Base Case assessment to the survey and commercial catch-at-length data. The left side plots compare the observed and predicted CAL as averaged over all years for which data are available, while the right side plots show the standardised residuals, with the size (area) of the bubbles being proportional to the magnitude of the corresponding standardised residuals. For positive residuals, the bubbles are grey, whereas for negative residuals, the bubbles are white.

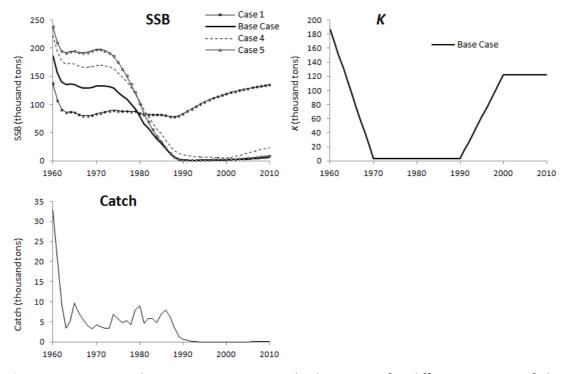


Figure 10: Spawning biomass trajectories in absolute terms for different variants of the assessment for *S. fasciatus* in Divisions 2J3K. The changes in carrying capacity for the Base Case are shown in the top right-hand plot. The total catch assumed is shown in the bottom plot.

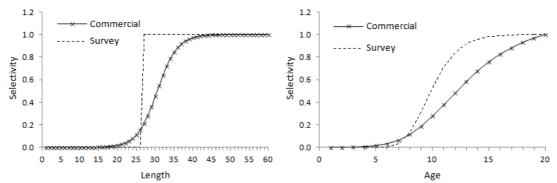


Figure 11: Commercial and survey fishing selectivities-at-length and consequent effective selectivities-at-age for the Base Case assessment for *S. fasciatus*, Divisions 2J3K.

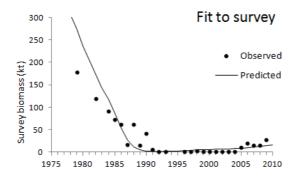


Figure 12: Fit to the survey abundance index for the Base Case assessment for *S. fasciatus* in Divisions 2J3K.

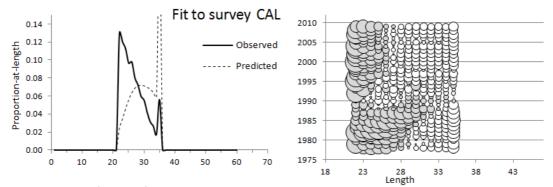


Figure 13: Fit of the *S. fasciatus* **Divisions 2J3K** Base Case assessment to the survey catch-atlength data. The left side plot compares the observed and predicted CAL as averaged over all years for which data are available, while the right side plot shows the standardised residuals, with the size (area) of the bubbles being proportional to the magnitude of the corresponding standardised residuals. For positive residuals, the bubbles are grey, whereas for negative residuals, the bubbles are white.

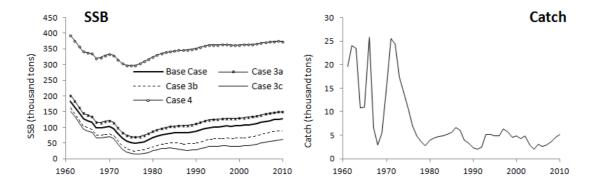


Figure 14: Spawning biomass trajectories in absolute terms for different variants of the assessment and total catch assumed for *S. fasciatus* in Unit 3.

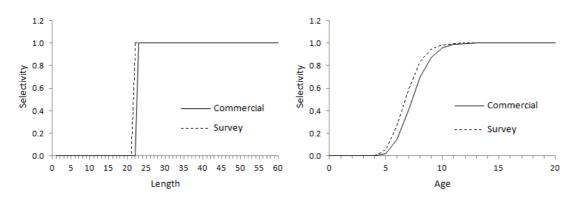


Figure 15: Commercial and survey selectivities-at-length and consequent effective selectivities-at-age estimated for the Base Case assessment for *S. fasciatus*, Units 1 + 2.

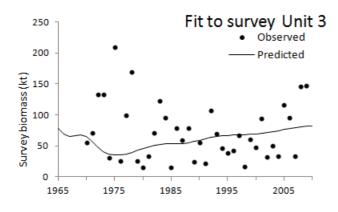


Figure 16: Fit to the survey abundance index for the Base Case assessment for *S. fasciatus* in Unit 3.

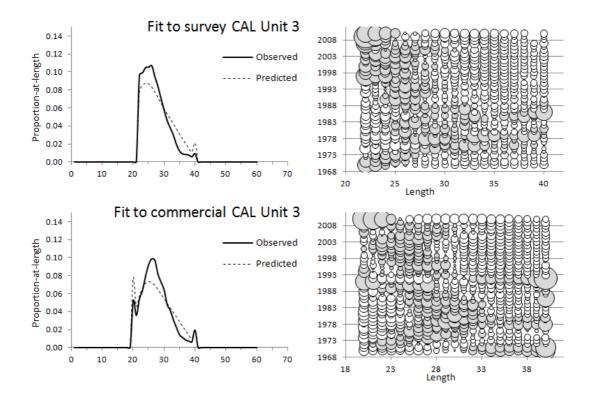


Figure 17: Fit of the *S. fasciatus* **Unit 3** Base Case assessment to the survey and commercial catch-at-length data. The left side plots compare the observed and predicted CAL as averaged over all years for which data are available, while the right side plots show the standardised residuals, with the size (area) of the bubbles being proportional to the magnitude of the corresponding standardised residuals. For positive residuals, the bubbles are grey, whereas for negative residuals, the bubbles are white.

APPENDIX A – Data

Note: Units are throughout cm for length and yr for time.

	S. mentella		S. fasciatus	
Year	unit 1 + 2	unit 1 + 2	2J3K	unit 3
1960	18.68	17.44	33.00	20.10
1961	15.28	14.11	20.03	19.60
1962	14.34	14.11	9.30	24.00
1963	23.00	20.11	3.36	23.50
1964	29.24	24.48	5.12	10.80
1965	41.97	32.69	9.60	11.00
1966	54.13	42.22	7.13	25.90
1967	63.00	51.08	5.54	6.60
1968	66.62	48.81	4.13	2.90
1969	77.17	61.42	3.17	5.40
1970	77.56	62.35	4.29	15.70
1971	76.73	63.66	3.71	25.60
1972	70.81	56.94	3.35	24.40
1973	96.60	71.33	3.35	17.30
1974	56.27	44.85	6.93	14.20
1974	60.14	48.38	5.67	14.20
1975	37.79	30.30	4.73	7.00
1970	23.80	22.02	5.37	4.80
1977	23.80	20.00	4.33	3.70
1978	18.70	16.49	8.01	2.80
1979	17.40		8.93	4.00
	23.48	15.27		
1981		20.32	4.66 5.88	4.40
1982	24.06	19.70		4.70
1983	21.33	17.12	5.76	4.90
1984	25.32	18.65	4.84	5.20
1985	22.42	17.41	7.00	5.60
1986	26.83	20.34	7.88	6.60
1987	32.22	25.18	6.32	6.10
1988	35.02	27.60	3.83	3.90
1989	36.84	31.03	1.40	3.30
1990	40.43	34.25	0.67	2.30
1991	49.21	41.53	0.49	2.00
1992	53.16	41.76	0.10	2.50
1993	43.15	35.37	0.05	5.20
1994	23.26	20.46	0.02	5.20
1995	5.96	6.34	0.01	4.80
1996	4.61	4.87	0.00	4.80
1997	4.85	5.13	0.00	6.40
1998	5.40	5.64	0.00	5.80
1999	9.31	9.69	0.01	4.50
2000	5.64	5.77	0.01	4.80
2001	4.74	4.84	0.01	4.30
2002	3.80	3.87	0.01	4.80
2003	3.99	4.31	0.01	3.00
2004	3.28	3.55	0.02	2.10
2005	3.50	3.89	0.03	3.10
2006	3.32	3.84	0.05	2.70
2007	1.74	2.11	0.07	2.90
2008	1.87	2.27	0.06	3.60
2009	2.55	3.18	0.05	4.60

Table A1: Catch in kt for *S. mentella* and *S. fasciatus* in the different management units.

		S. me	entella					S. fas	ciatus			
Year	Unit 1	CV	Unit 2	CV	Unit 1	CV	Unit 2	CV	2J3K	CV	Unit 3	CV
1970	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55	0.7
1971	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	71	0.7
1972	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	133	0.7
1973	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	133	0.7
1974	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31	0.7
1975	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	209	0.7
1976	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26	0.7
1977	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	0.7
1978	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	438	0.477	169	0.7
1979	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	178	1.032	26	0.7
1980	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	552	1.073	15	0.7
1981	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	711	0.49	34	0.7
1982	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	120	0.377	71	0.7
1983	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1064	0.421	123	0.7
1984	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	92	0.246	96	0.7
1985	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73	0.248	15	0.7
1986	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	0.586	79	0.7
1987	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	0.254	59	0.7
1988	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62	0.527	79	0.7
1989	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	0.526	25	0.7
1990	443.012	0.272	-	-	267.287	-	-	-	41	1.084	56	0.7
1991	208.702	0.209	-	-	188.551	-	-	-	6	0.35	22	0.7
1992	147.726	0.206	-	-	208.862	-	-	-	1	0.384	107	0.7
1993	93.656	0.370	-	-	108.936	-	-	-	1	0.106	69	0.7
1994	55.785	0.185	-	-	70.997	-	-	-	0	0.201	47	0.7
1995	73.626	0.112	-	-	11.269	-	-	-	0	0.086	38	0.7
1996	59.242	0.175	-	-	10.183	-	-	-	2	0.208	42	0.7
1997	52.723	0.131	-	-	26.261	-	-	-	1	0.915	67	0.7
1998	26.391	0.186	-	-	47.989	-	-	-	3	0.309	17	0.7
1999	47.859	0.235	-	-	13.266	-	-	-	2	0.166	61	0.7
2000	49.549	0.122	223.464	0.233	19.033	-	119.324	0.498	1	0.217	48	0.7
2001	43.549	0.139	151.356	0.140	21.572	-	177.111	0.7	2	0.179	94	0.7
2002	67.468	0.797	-	-	13.495	-	-	-	1	0.665	32	0.7
2003	95.821	0.609	100.795	0.196	71.947	-	69.214	0.144	1	0.105	50	0.7
2004	23.963	0.219	-	-	14.234	-	-	-	2	0.941	33	0.7
2005	46.166	0.106	90.993	0.118	24.429	-	168.187	0.277	11	0.287	116	0.7
2006	25.042	0.125	-	-	37.737	-	-	-	20	0.685	96	0.7
2007	28.034	0.094	76.633	0.185	24.09	-	158.346	0.145	15	0.223	33	0.7
2008	79.371	0.462	-	-	52.778	-	-	-	16	0.214	146	0.7
2009	11.550	0.147	103.860	0.164	18.683	-	127.709	0.694	28	0.277	147	0.7

Table A2: Swept area mature (i.e. >24cm for *S. mentella*, and >22cm for *S. fasciatus*) biomass estimates (in kt) and coefficients of variation (CVs) for *S. mentella* in Units 1 and 2, from MacAllister and Duplisea (2011), table 4.

Length	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
10-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 0	0	0	0	0 0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0 0
13 14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	0	0	0	25	9	5	34	24	4	18	5	20	69	8	3	0	1	2	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
16	0	5	12	78	15	85	23	11	4	33	56	108	1455	39	5	0	2	6	4	4	1	0	0	0	0
17	0	0	1	60	47	64	173	24	2	37	82	102	561	28	10	1	4	9	6	5	3	0	0	0	3
18	3	1	10	42	41	175	356	71	8	41	50	205	504	38	8	1	1	10	7	11	5	4	0	1	1
19	24	7	1	70	60	169	786	72	5	45	65	307	309	30	10	1	1	4	3	11	7	9	0	3	4
20	75	30	26	272	121	400	1378	189	30	22	50	313	227	46	14	3	7	5	4	14	10	28	0	1	6
21 22	157 170	73 87	78 103	429 372	330 365	790 843	2306 3988	518 1700	75 569	45 79	113 154	278 336	461 264	34 58	20 17	3 4	11 11	14 19	10 13	7 4	10 13	46 37	0	0 1	7
22	228	272	258	395	786	1232	5177	4603	1815	433	349	438	475	105	21	5	11	26	18	10	13	35	0	2	3
24	981	434	546	437	1354	2300		10401	6025	1530	957	902	487	215	16	10	21	30	21	16	13	35	0	3	7
25	2987	1212	769	810	1620	3337		15548		5457	2220	1965	923	461	21	11	16	60	42	29	17	32	0	6	10
26	6335	2301	1338	1394	1600	4632	3519	14592	19007	15571	6771	6198	2684	949	24	15	25	50	35	31	22	80	0	5	27
27	10618	6007	2480	2286	1760	5415	3505			24636		14648	6809	2001	37	21	47	60	42	37	42	103	0	8	29
28		10642	5281	3829	2646	5341	3770					22907		3773	51	27	69	66	47	58	45	128	1	16	36
29		12281	8692	5891	3651	5150	4037	3825		18290			19200	6063	86	74	102	50	35	38	40	106	2	18	55
30 31	4720 2534	10130 6544	9495 8512	9479 9733	5878 6747	6821 7889	4835 6239	4659 6345	6613 6501			21442 14932		6834 5340	192 216	129 196	167 225	69 132	49 93	56 94	63 69	144 121	1 2	27 34	52 51
32	2214	3939	6083	8760	7413	8111	7989	7396	7119	7951		10861	7465	3946	282	283	258	185	130	111	88	102	4	36	60
33	2007	2778	3635	6919	6577	7587	8202	8843	7559	6839	7437	9490	5367	2901	252	304	270	227	160	140	122	92	10	37	60
34	1553	2045	2325	5168	5137	5996	8427	8570	6990	7107	7268	9020	4971	2314	244	221	265	256	180	180	139	99	13	48	74
35	950	1620	1803	3842	3473	4298	6745	7105	5347	5561	5970	7577	4405	2248	171	220	211	218	153	184	164	68	9	56	82
36	1154	1392	1437	3176	2524	3129	4972	4947	3997	4212	4080	6475	3481	1804	135	163	198	202	142	160	155	71	17	57	68
37	894	1286	1330	2531	1998	2182	3622	3794	2921	3020	3277	5148	3301	1070	93	103	114	141	100	136	145	57	19	53	54
38 39	743 640	632 445	910 580	2134 1723	1783 1057	1859 1475	2974 2051	2754 2014	2053 1465	2087 1627	2367 1746	3942 3015	2529 2124	814 634	70 48	73 49	75 36	100 67	71 47	80 63	114 86	42 25	15 15	47 39	67 46
40	622	338	403	1119	822	815	1489	1420	1004	988	1123	1977	1361	486	35	26	30	54	38	40	58	19	8	28	37
41	524	239	212	535	445	537	879	896	769	518	708	1334	810	173	20	25	9	39	27	18	33	11	6	23	27
42	120	133	100	367	353	356	663	561	439	275	390	951	551	118	11	9	3	18	12	10	22	4	4	14	12
43	25	81	83	114	219	198	323	363	271	200	224	534	295	45	5	13	3	14	10	8	13	3	5	7	7
44	2	84	46	66	188	127	168	249	119	100	108	320	155	29	2	8	2	9	6	8	10	2	1	7	8
45	8	72	25	59	58	44	77	91	47	38	73	128	122	12	1	5	1	3	2	1	3	3	2	7	3
46 47	0 8	54 89	37 51	28 12	23 20	53 26	47 28	43 26	27 9	15 15	33 12	76 29	49 13	8 5	0	3 1	1 0	1 2	1	2	2	1 1	1 1	2 5	3 1
48	1	81	31	7	11	20	23	26	1	2	2	15	3	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	1
49	1	67	43	10	16	4	1	6	5	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	Ō	1	1	ō	ō	0	0	2	0
50	0	95	13	14	14	2	6	1	0	16	0	6	8	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55+	0	U	U	U	U	U	0	U	0	0	0	0	U	U	0	0	0	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	0

Table A3a: Commercial catch-at-length (number) for Atlantic redfish (all species combined) in Unit 1 (Daniel Duplisea, pers. commn)

200	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	Length
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10-
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	15
	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	13	16
1	0	6	0	3	1	2	8	0	0	45	17
2	15	10	2	5	4	0	0	0	0	148	18
3	6	12	4	13	6	4	17	0	0	389	19
3	0	31	15	47	5	3	0	0	1	458	20
5	31	69	43	41	3	2	18	111	2	521	21
2	52	100	65	101	9	14	17	259	1	1104	22
5	119	142	98	136	17	25	38	444	3	1489	23
14	156	232	129	356	14	50	49	628	5	1123	24
24	187	342	178	521	15	97	157	924	3	1279	25
51	264	445	236	745	17	132	273	483	3	1708	26
66	330	530	344	640	31	156	346	667	55	1966	27
92	267	531	343	643	78	226	487	739	323	2592	28
94	302	543	298	565	212	593	1059	1059	1266	3191	29
106	376	636	454	576	425	1127	1793	1366	2321	3364	30
100	473	787	529	751	731	1918	2471	1435	2756	3434	31
108	882	1098	632	914	1138	2455	2886	1995	2817	2746	32
100	1168	1299	730	1063	1244	2234	2562	1779	2106	1733	33
108	1405	1414	657	998	1100	2113	1958	1780	1421	1282	34
81	1330	1257	501	879	851	1414	1599	1527	1199	842	35
72	1184	1053	475	704	592	924	1036	1063	855	649	36
57	888	842	328	467	359	619	831	852	676	410	37
40	561	499	196	296	306	467	672	543	515	281	38
39	405	300	130	214	219	384	462	652	428	212	39
17	116	170	94	155	129	252	342	268	320	198	40
10	93	106	55	90	75	179	198	324	214	106	41
3	33	83	51	94	53	93	107	131	141	66	42
1	22	79	40	41	24	63	73	106	90	41	43
	9	58	31	30	18	38	32	82	41	34	44
	5	55	26	23	3	20	16	38	25	18	45
	6	39	18	11	4	6	7	35	6	13	46
	2	34	19	8	1	1	3	0	8	8	47
	0	23	8	0	0	0	2	1	2	0	48
	0	14	4	5	0	0	0	1	0	0	49
	0	14	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	7	50
	0	6	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	51
	0	10	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	52
	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	53
	0	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	54
	0	4	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	55+

Table A3b: Commercial catch-at-length (numbers) for Atlantic redfish (all species combined) for Unit 2 (Don Power, pers. commn)

	1070					1075	1070		1070					1005		1005	1005	1005	1005	1000						1005															
Length			1972	1973	1974	1975	1976		1978	1979		1981							1988					1993							2000 2					2005	2006				2010
10-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	30	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	5	0	0	0
14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39	19	57	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	21	5	0	0	0	1
15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	50	78	24	0	0	2	4	0	3	0	12	30	11	11	5	0	24
16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	27	0	0	61	0	18	111	146	49	10	15	9	2	0	19	2	14	69	22	12	9	3	88
17	0	0	18	144	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	11	18	2	23	0	245	0	63	314	197	74	13	27	3	14	0	36	0	20	134	97	42	33	42	190
18	0	25	0	96	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	13	62	6	0	75	33	294	0	69	501	261	97	72	147	51	61		117	47	20	235	260	91	74	138	777
19	24	0	87	776	0	0	17	0	0	15	8	31	18	7	5	26	150	135	85	72	68	453	0	304	565	381	173	176	204	151	277	1	270	98	51	176	259	249	291		2537
20	50	-	703		191	41	17	87	0	46	23	86	104	23	9	114	232	221	89	244	71	563	0	379	660	655	275	654	303	519	705	-	814	304	205	166		374		1030	
21	386			2278	667	53	94	211	25	60	35	165	117	53	35	123	387	663	73	478	165		6	289	703	638			630	588	813				354	244			754		
22					2911		583	414	48	30	106	453		241		102	419	898			216	508		874										1162					787		
23					3716			690		147	123	560		228		248		1123		1202	534	575					868						1696			873			1152		
24	1011										226	742		633			625				855	357					1129							1146					1133		
25					4828						363		994			1624				1174							1771							1263					1269		
26					4984							1266									973	416					2143							1096					1072		
27					6449				812											1110		451					2009			1285			1413			1221			1002		616
28	1182								534	867		1162							670	528	529	413					1750			1075	990		959	520		1186	758	946	992		538
29	1128							972	590		840					1782			653		310	353					1545				1002		776	443	444	872		710	944		448
30	1258				2854		987	855	620	873		1746							809	298	181	272	200	960	846	850			1022	857	982		782	327	257	657	508	637	626	887	341
31	1425							858	486	482	883	710				1116		953	396	403	226	168	190	678	498	463		556	594	424	464	_	424		134	298	463	531	455	693	315
32	1681				1299		364	443	426	422	671	821			1119	882	752	842	555				241	638	467	448	319	528	533	295	397				125	169	356	426	416	532	371
33	1443						388	405		170	436	289		501			514	449	473	268	158	176	302	670	278	273	200	428		291	259		189	125	68	72	258	261	284	362	237
34	1835		519	835	919	427	358	261	258	61	361	239	141	328	408	354	262	247	391	150	83	178	270	387	248	158	128	296	301	208	214	0	96	97	42	38	199	95	152	232	184
35	1732		304	431	600	153	134	242	202	47	231	65	76	161		182	152	163	273	40	24	72	222	120	167	107	78	207	253	136	144	0	58	65	28	27	122	77	72	129	82
36		2064	292	409	398	76	139	198	282	29	204	8	95	102	54	29	104	141	121	11	22	66	189	103	108	83	27	203	131	121	134	0	49	67	17	24	104	31	43	71	42
37	1050		156	275	259	53	165	35	236	12	163	6	28	90	23	6	123	64	92	8	6	14	176	153	137	73		190	126	105	114	0	26	56	21	5	47	20	13	23	27
38		1383	96	214	135	0	161	17	158	0	183	7	22	45	18	2	260	4	110	7	5	13	180	108	76	63	18	134	89	70	71	0	16	56	14	4	19	2	9	22	23
39	959		65	40	110	0	93		141	1	93	4	5	16	10	2	169	9	109	3	2	0	285	79	47	39	10	88	80	67	65	0	12	44	8	4	18	5	1	19	9
40	898		55	105	18	0	66	0	17	0	100	2	4	6	5	0	222	0	130	4	0	0	349	24	46	40	7	112	59	65	51	0	9	35	6	2	3	2	6	14	4
41	890		77	0	18	0	36	0	145	0	34	0	1	2	2	0		0	67	1	0	0	163	0	35	13	3	60	31	38	31	0	7	22	5	1	0	0	1	8	2
42		1021	63	0	0	0	4	0	21	0	/	0	1	1	0	0	245	0	40	2	0	0	84	0	31	11	3	70	28	26	33	0	8	24	6	2	3	1	1	6	0
43		732	18	0	0	0	0	0	60	0	22	0	0	3	0	0	116	0	22	1	0	0	33	1	33	5	2	73	21	19	16	0	3	18	3	1	1	0	0	2	1
44	194	466		0	0	0	0	0	39	0	11	0	0	1		0	193	0	16	0	0	0	3	0	23	2	0	58	24	14	17	0	1	14	2	1	0	0	0	1	0
45	101	60	4	0	U	0	0	0	49	0	25	0	0	0	0	0	205	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	5	2	0	50	17	10	4	0	1	12	1	1	2	0	0	3	0
46		119	0	0	U	0	0	0	23	0		U	0	0	0	0	103	0	14	0	0	0	U	U	15	1	0	24	17		3	0	U	6	0	1	U	U	0	1	0
47	0	0	U	0	U	0	0	0	11	U	11	U	0	0	0	0	90	0	12	0	0	U	U	0	7	U	U	16	/	1	0	0	U	4	0	U	U	U	0	0	U
48	11	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	4	U	0	0	0	0	13	0	5	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	U	5	3	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
49	0	0	U	0	U	0	0	0	0	U	0	U	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	5	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
51	0	0	U	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0
52	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
53	0	0	U	0	U	0	0	0	0	U	0	U	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	U	0	U	0	0	0	0	U	0	0	U
54	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table A3c: Commercial catch-at-length (in thousands) for Atlantic redfish (assumed to be all S. fasciatus) for Unit 3 (Peter Comeau, pers. commn)

	Unit 1																					Unit 2					
Length	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2000	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009
1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
3	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
4	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.015	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
5	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.012	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.028	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
7	0.573	0.165	0.140	0.017	0.000	0.019	0.056	0.015	0.058	0.006	0.030	0.011	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.715	0.002	0.002	0.006	0.000	0.002	0.004	0.000	0.054	0.378	0.032	0.092
8	23.080	1.628	0.195	0.043	0.000	0.159	0.266	0.025	0.458	0.108	0.634	0.143	0.012	0.031	0.000	2.852	0.006	0.047	0.035	0.011	0.020	0.000	0.778	0.266	7.180	0.073	0.237
9		2.569	0.682	0.345	0.007	0.541	1.229	0.196	0.957	0.582	1.715	0.353	0.154	0.176	0.020	12.212	0.030	0.229	0.143	0.009	0.027	0.000	3.738	0.301	15.815	0.059	0.430
	21.101	19.418	0.556	0.190	0.019	0.251	0.812	0.246	1.556	0.644	0.627	0.343	0.322	0.371	0.072	10.155	0.502	0.489	0.099	0.009	0.023	0.292	17.513	0.147	9.910	0.182	0.280
11 12	0.658	65.248 118.381	1.751 7.019	0.138	0.141 0.545	0.026	0.261 0.481	0.256 0.576	0.344 0.228	0.554 1.261	0.160	0.090	0.296 0.584	0.143 0.207	0.036	1.753 0.132	3.453 8.219	0.043	0.049 0.109	0.005 0.064	0.024 0.078	0.255	19.679 4.630	0.235	2.382 1.761	0.017 0.415	0.580
12	1.185	62.509	13.365	1.065	1.043	0.067	0.481	0.576	0.228	2.870	1.714	1.148	0.584	1.229	0.083	0.132	8.219 5.164	3,995	0.109	0.064	0.078	0.497	4.630 8.134	1.412	1.013	2.720	2.416
13	1.888	6.927	13.987	0.888	0.961	0.282	0.517	1.080	0.565	2.434	2.182	0.894	0.295	2.152	0.219	0.173	0.733	14.497	0.070	0.130	0.081	1.042	8.960	2.873	1.137	16.205	5.122
15	3.282	1.927	6.140	1.593	1.005	0.462	0.171	0.676	0.809	1.013	1.661	0.373	0.235	1.610	0.178	0.163	0.036	35.305	0.112	0.056	0.191	2.248	8.492	3.155	0.975	56.719	5.859
16	4.975	2.194	0.709	2.040	1.373	0.680	0.220	0.456	0.787	0.452	1.378	0.693	0.395	0.909	0.302	0.250	0.030	37.413	0.247	0.053	0.250	3.409	12.158	2.596	2.309	26.708	3.381
17	7.019	2.617	0.573	1.827	1.360	1.200	0.365	0.605	0.664	0.478	2.115	0.939	0.663	0.722	0.880	0.267	0.066	13.978	0.606	0.090	0.385	4.677	19.240	2.388	5.351	11.535	3.682
18	5.372	2.274	0.786	0.564	0.886	0.905	0.349	0.531	0.633	0.392	1.844	0.688	0.409	0.346	1.154	0.338	0.117	1.862	0.731	0.106	0.296	6.096	22.243	1.538	9.410	3.591	5.453
19 20	1.721 0.650	1.547 0.747	0.683 0.553	0.375 0.169	0.609 0.341	0.724 0.625	0.555 0.660	0.349 0.243	0.439 0.301	0.375 0.240	0.697 0.396	0.766 0.692	0.471 0.409	0.365	0.816 0.474	0.393 0.530	0.176 0.188	0.131 0.163	0.334 0.284	0.112 0.140	0.370 0.360	8.379 5.508	17.505 13.945	1.480 2.193	13.214 14.337	1.267 1.743	4.837 3.793
20	0.592	0.747	0.555	0.169	0.341	0.825	0.554	0.245	0.301	0.240	0.390	0.092	0.359	0.529	0.474	0.550	0.188	0.103	0.204	0.140	0.500	3.593	15.945	1.757	14.557	1.623	1.843
22	0.844	0.505	0.694	0.244	0.120	0.254	0.481	0.219	0.185	0.287	0.258	0.391	0.352	0.432	0.204	0.750	0.121	0.273	0.406	0.060	0.512	2.328	11.980	2.543	9.456	1.450	0.487
23	1.023	0.558	1.201	0.211	0.140	0.193	0.362	0.252	0.128	0.205	0.250	0.184	0.290	0.483	0.207	0.491	0.186	0.244	0.752	0.032	1.460	1.694	9.932	2.767	6.705	2.069	0.394
24	2.176	0.790	1.582	0.155	0.159	0.194	0.211	0.168	0.080	0.148	0.202	0.046	0.240	1.572	0.218	0.381	0.085	0.215	2.186	0.016	1.415	2.376	12.382	2.641	4.664	1.911	0.650
25	5.389	1.281	1.701	0.220	0.224	0.037	0.150	0.160	0.096	0.140	0.216	0.110	0.187	1.431	0.220	0.251	0.109	0.194	2.819	0.029	2.994	3.038	12.137	2.793	3.870	2.733	0.484
26	11.972	2.455	2.594	0.419	0.387	0.134	0.093	0.159	0.157	0.110	0.165	0.133	0.089	3.019	0.148	0.223	0.092	0.178	3.627	0.063	3.644	3.232	12.542	2.001	4.293	3.559	0.847
27 28	22.362 35.122	6.029 11.062	5.490 9.966	0.929 2.799	0.676 0.876	0.220	0.230 0.366	0.073 0.275	0.102 0.085	0.166 0.129	0.172 0.188	0.164	0.083	4.367 7.265	0.237 0.278	0.319 0.268	0.095 0.043	0.220	5.616 5.095	0.044 0.034	4.270 5.037	2.786 2.553	9.966 8.449	2.590 1.702	3.557 3.018	3.331 2.863	0.953
28 29	33.783	14.903	9.966	4.878	1.973	2.104	0.366	0.275	0.085	0.129	0.188	0.200	0.069	7.265 8.706	0.278	0.268	0.043	0.273	5.095 4.996	0.034	5.037	4.528	8.449	1.646	2.446	2.863	1.172
30	22.904	13.858	10.435	7.867	3.053	3.476	1.790	1.240	0.360	0.578	0.382	0.258	0.422	5.650	0.212	0.264	0.062	0.192	3.299	0.093	4.712	7.217	8.155	2.714	3.262	2.289	2.841
31	14.262	10.580	7.241	9.038	2.916	4.024	2.549	2.487	0.777	1.202	0.815	0.430	0.632	2.227	0.304	0.390	0.118	0.228	0.920	0.143	1.917	12.009	9.136	3.365	3.871	2.502	3.326
32	8.846	6.101	5.660	5.922	2.569	3.325	3.001	2.601	1.366	1.700	1.089	1.001	1.517	2.620	0.305	0.776	0.151	0.224	0.555	0.137	0.825	21.620	10.624	6.370	6.253	4.080	4.728
33	6.960	4.691	3.312	4.114	1.609	2.736	2.632	2.840	1.261	2.074	1.870	1.188	2.970	1.256	0.407	0.944	0.382	0.368	0.759	0.188	0.612	24.614	12.358	7.278	6.460	4.929	6.776
34	8.007	3.947	3.245	3.038	1.585	1.873	2.272	1.966	0.993	2.406	1.636	1.625	3.792	1.118	0.571	1.381	0.480	0.509	1.423	0.236	1.482	26.932	13.032	9.733	7.937	6.387	8.410
35 36	9.197 10.800	4.035 4.164	2.971 2.213	2.090 1.833	1.398 1.263	1.872 2.000	1.618 1.233	1.731 1.364	1.109 0.674	1.753 1.455	2.084 1.796	1.785 1.678	2.915 2.795	1.391 1.714	0.705 0.681	1.600 1.429	0.641 0.882	0.606 0.781	1.418 1.677	0.276 0.415	0.577	24.998 17.598	11.736 10.802	9.642 9.371	8.816 8.053	6.568 7.368	10.620 10.420
30	7.912	4.164 3.444	2.213	1.833	1.263	1.223	1.233	1.364	0.674	1.455	1.796	1.678	2.795	1.714	0.681	1.631	0.882	0.781	1.598	0.415	0.695	17.598	7.875	9.371 7.194	8.053 7.006	6.275	9,500
38	7.113	3.141	1.378	1.139	0.910	1.174	0.950	0.805	0.545	0.709	1.016	1.011	1.218	1.324	0.550	1.133	0.754	0.730	1.482	0.244	0.305	9.737	5.179	5.932	5.377	5.458	9.018
39	6.422	1.940	1.064	0.707	0./4/	0.760	0.627	0.725	0.299	0.459	0.801	0.639	0.950	1.241	0.326	0.851	0.557	0.564	0.986	0.266	0.421	4.607	3.090	3.289	3.134	3.411	6.115
40	2.982	1.797	0.821	0.391	0.508	0.734	0.766	0.388	0.152	0.485	0.688	0.455	0.450	0.963	0.267	0.708	0.424	0.560	0.707	0.207	0.248	3.602	2.641	2.315	1.960	2.353	3.537
41	3.632	1.595	0.642	0.191	0.279	0.466	0.349	0.263	0.142	0.170	0.417	0.361	0.411	0.592	0.321	0.466	0.271	0.473	0.456	0.105	0.294	2.073	1.998	1.384	1.303	1.047	1.944
42	1.361	0.839	0.349	0.131	0.204	0.263	0.270	0.221	0.099	0.295	0.173	0.247	0.282	0.200	0.186	0.281	0.211	0.244	0.347	0.092	0.237	2.025	1.222	1.293	0.617	0.723	1.435
43 44	0.871 0.885	0.603 0.391	0.226	0.087 0.116	0.250 0.150	0.115 0.130	0.200 0.162	0.113 0.075	0.102 0.059	0.193 0.108	0.190 0.287	0.131 0.110	0.102	0.186 0.119	0.094 0.078	0.176 0.149	0.151 0.089	0.191 0.081	0.200 0.152	0.092 0.050	0.148 0.098	2.025	0.747 0.499	0.576 0.559	0.369	0.341 0.205	0.732
44	0.885	0.391	0.089	0.041	0.150	0.130	0.162	0.075	0.039	0.108	0.287	0.068	0.068	0.119	0.078	0.149	0.089	0.081	0.152	0.030	0.098	0.762	0.499	0.359	0.308	0.205	0.388
46	0.069	0.177	0.069	0.041	0.010	0.088	0.040	0.052	0.005	0.027	0.026	0.055	0.036	0.021	0.031	0.038	0.047	0.040	0.040	0.014	0.020	0.413	0.141	0.197	0.052	0.063	0.100
47	0.020	0.117	0.030	0.000	0.036	0.053	0.012	0.005	0.000	0.028	0.038	0.012	0.058	0.021	0.022	0.055	0.011	0.037	0.028	0.000	0.059	0.360	0.066	0.109	0.061	0.052	0.116
48	0.024	0.012	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.019	0.000	0.025	0.027	0.014	0.057	0.025	0.027	0.003	0.009	0.072	0.011	0.011	0.000	0.002	0.026	0.259	0.084	0.074	0.057	0.015	0.034
49	0.002	0.105	0.003	0.000	0.005	0.000	0.000	0.017	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.039	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.046	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.002	0.000	0.104	0.041	0.068	0.009	0.000	0.017
50	0.013	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.005	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.019	0.022	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.094	0.038	0.054	0.000	0.000	0.014
51	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.007	0.009	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.021	0.026	0.043	0.000	0.000	0.013
52 53	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.015	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.017 0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.021	0.057	0.040 0.024	0.000	0.000	0.000
54	0.007	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.023	0.024	0.000	0.000	0.000
55	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.000	0.000	0.000
56	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.012	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.000	0.029	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
57	0.000	0.007	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
58	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
59	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.029	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Table A4a: Survey catch-at-length (numbers) for *S. mentella* for Unit 1 and Unit 2 (Daniel Duplisea, pers. commn)

							· ·				-							•			•	<i>,</i> ,		,			
	Unit 1																					Unit 2					
Length	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2000	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009
1	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
3	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
4	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.013	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
5	0.011	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.017	0.132	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
6 7	0.020	0.033	0.061 0.600	0.000 0.075	0.000	0.017 0.275	0.019 0.360	0.000	0.219 3.187	0.007 0.053	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000 0.027	0.028 0.174	0.009	0.000	0.310 0.125	0.036 0.479	0.014 0.745	0.000 0.192	0.000	0.000	0.000 0.010	0.187 3.499	0.000	0.000
	4.208	4,755	0.668	0.205	0.000	0.275	1.093		12.224	0.053	3.789	1.488	0.010	0.027		126.070	0.010	4.052	1.702	5,668	1.338	0.080	0.000	0.391	3.499 61.827	0.152	0.080
	289.666	9.383	1.123	0.205	0.018	2.150	1.650	0.835	8.141	1.212	7.785	6.190	0.328	0.412		552.076	1.819	42.487	2.351	10.414	2.482	0.072	1.470		140.467	0.911	0.767
	63.496	66.314	1.364	0.354	0.294	0.781	1.085	1.174	3.517	2.777	4.015	11.232	1.152	0.533		192.448	9.015	11.445	3.149	6.285	2.596	0.331	6.210	0.169	74.066	1.102	0.746
11	1.562	206.499	6.053	0.320	0.380	0.276	0.808	2.295	1.831	5.628	1.740	4.151	1.990	1.009	0.549	11.096	24.348	0.766	6.376	0.846	3.757	0.820	6.069	0.232	12.727	0.435	0.788
12	1.377	355.845	21.390	0.518	0.912	0.435	0.796	2.851	1.701	7.587	3.656	1.563	3.618	2.620	1.198	0.933	119.218	3.765	28.003	1.256	9.753	0.839	1.842	0.997	6.901	9.796	1.784
13	2.370	179.842	41.364	0.955	0.998	0.529	0.855	2.277	2.011	6.309	6.902	2.235	6.596	4.293	1.737	1.055	176.801	29.879	16.814	2.390	10.983	0.985	2.900	1.598	5.992	59.957	4.698
14	3.969	20.317	42.606	2.461	1.192	0.589	0.526	1.549	2.186	4.678	10.968	2.063	5.311	8.878	2.322	2.119		81.378	6.749	3.625	5.390	1.714	3.256	2.563		182.403	9.255
15	7.191	7.285	19.065	5.797	2.055	0.766	0.517	0.958	2.961	3.155	10.896	1.818	1.586	10.177	3.291	1.777		130.437	5.685	5.789	2.875	3.055	4.895	3.844		240.143	14.248
16	9.977	7.241 7.989	1.347	8.428	2.467	0.698	0.427	0.616	2.381	2.369	4.770	2.364	1.000	8.084 4.784	3.315	1.793		70.727	10.320	6.111	2.951	3.437	6.823	4.002		120.990	16.145 46.546
17 18	14.364	7.989	1.262	6.582 2.453	2.539	0.927	0.462	0.450	1.327	1.755	3.346 2.710	2.148	1.181	4.784 2.218	3.530 3.640	1.420	0.552	19.580 3.256	10.806	2.572	2.959	5.827	10.228	4.435		37.332	46.546
19	3.876	4.305	1.217	0.856	0.893	0.552	0.694	0.469	0.846	0.778	1.246	1.011	0.840	1.465	2.174	2.044	1.229	1.907	3.692	3.360	2.487	9.533	11.138	6.331	50.166		83.373
20	1.582	2.148	1.120	0.600	0.440	0.500	0.560	0.450	1.636	0.401	1.009	0.694	0.879	1.103	1.263	2.018	1.348	1.752	1.369	2.338	2.149	9.798	10.626	8.022	50.734		59.069
21	1.222	1.963	1.313	0.813	0.185	0.367	0.630	0.366	1.406	0.346	0.390	0.559	0.697	0.964	0.596	1.365	1.422	2.194	0.635	1.716	1.516	8.069	10.094	10.871	37.204		29.014
22	1.524	1.307	1.810	2.039	0.219	0.356	0.376	0.352	4.929	0.328	0.582	0.582	0.685	1.039	0.563	1.006	1.468	1.044	0.521	1.205	1.321	6.802	7.924	13.986	27.164	11.562	11.604
23	1.753	1.631	3.170	4.818	0.389	0.264	0.239	0.251	3.871	0.447	0.310	0.336	0.407	0.965	0.612	0.594	2.151	0.776	0.544	0.664	0.862	6.001	10.150	10.622	19.816	12.633	5.769
24	3.181	2.298	4.075	8.224	0.603	0.250	0.185	0.347	5.376	0.381	0.440	0.333	0.350	1.454	0.781	0.453	1.629	0.802	0.823	0.448	0.418	7.882	25.295	9.675	18.605		15.870
25	6.559	3.464	4.070	7.765	0.764	0.346	0.130	0.264	3.136	0.336	0.321	0.307	0.556	1.779	0.813	0.453	2.209	0.480	0.915	0.536	0.374	9.976	37.601	8.813	16.561		20.152
26	13.683	5.013	5.560	7.992	1.508	0.299	0.183	0.284	2.974	0.374	0.221	0.376	0.286	2.750	0.930	0.658	2.851	0.287	1.383	0.746	0.660	11.383	65.737	10.033	15.436		17.919
27 28	22.599	9.103 13.078	9.703 14.215	9.571 7.937	2.167 1.545	0.237	0.152	0.343	2.477 1.298	0.487	0.278	0.294	0.500	3.749 5.810	0.984	0.764	2.432	0.507 0.431	1.244	0.675	0.739	10.200	47.704	8.738 7.496	12.501 8.120		16.557 14.291
28	28.886	13.078	14.215	7.937 5.745	2.436	0.233	0.159 0.406	0.703	1.298	0.424	0.213 0.346	0.202	0.383	7.156	0.628	0.582	1.638	0.431	1.260 1.489	0.626 0.773	0.807	7.236	32.294 23.948	7.496	4.922	7,557	14.291
30	13.174	12.140	14.714	6.036	3.072	0.345	0.408	1.216	2.401	0.437	0.346	0.295	0.398	5.158	0.565	0.582	1.038	0.341	2.175	0.610	0.387	7.494	25.948	6.663	5.574	8.138	9.081
31	7.520	8.361	9.134	4.958	2.319	0.348	0.404	1.464	1.920	0.276	0.446	0.665	0.370	1.908	0.505	0.558	0.856	0.265	1.915	0.624	0.496	7.481	10.925	5.396	4.168	6.666	8.268
32	4.622	5.607	8.374	2.606	2.708	0.258	0.380	1.212	0.572	0.307	0.510	0.826	0.463	2.306	0.219	0.573		0.255	2.491	0.485	0.397	8.830	9.416	4.748	5.852	7.385	7.008
33	3.425	3.643	4.935	1.636	2.397	0.195	0.310	1.084	0.666	0.358	0.661	0.885	0.258	0.802	0.156	0.511	0.538	0.335	2.395	0.386	0.214	7.006	3.172	2.908	5.949	7.342	5.370
34	4.006	2.716	3.766	0.963	1.866	0.230	0.196	0.887	0.484	0.373	0.505	0.695	0.311	0.685	0.051	0.450	0.439	0.351	1.154	0.319	0.379	7.938	2.791	3.133	6.746	6.537	5.569
35	3.331	2.503	3.208	0.620	1.478	0.280	0.220	0.821	0.808	0.313	0.465	0.700	0.342	0.459	0.105	0.509	0.284	0.381	1.572	0.204	0.578	8.769	1.635	2.809	6.516	4.566	5.133
36	3.614	2.241	1.655	0.342	1.425	0.206	0.175	0.418	0.291	0.283	0.524	0.476	0.311	0.522	0.032	0.284	0.330	0.424	1.044	0.198	0.507	5.125	1.509	2.184	5.120	3.688	4.370
37	2.555	1.655 1.749	2.130	0.312	1.180	0.172	0.137	0.198	0.228	0.290	0.363	0.591	0.202	0.469	0.091	0.289	0.341	0.318	0.748	0.238	0.436	5.039 3.786	1.077	1.522	4.309 3.195	3.297	4.452
38 39	2.357	1.749	0.907 1.056	0.162	0.771	0.200	0.134 0.097	0.110 0.124	0.196	0.092 0.101	0.351 0.182	0.310 0.165	0.132	0.677 0.527	0.047 0.027	0.281	0.279	0.281	0.497 0.429	0.145 0.157	0.197	2,300	0.376 0.244	1.311 0.943	3.195	2.842 1.846	3.351 2.361
40	1.165	0.970	0.675	0.054	0.414	0.100	0.074	0.124	0.091	0.079	0.152	0.158	0.055	0.409	0.023	0.178	0.169	0.148	0.417	0.135	0.141	1.961	0.244	0.640	1.219	1.615	1.535
41	1.051	0.717	0.278	0.041	0.183	0.098	0.042	0.029	0.054	0.049	0.116	0.114	0.057	0.151	0.036	0.137	0.112	0.103	0.250	0.091	0.226	0.867	0.122	0.383	0.603	0.715	0.805
42	0.500	0.381	0.180	0.041	0.084	0.065	0.027	0.035	0.041	0.031	0.067	0.045	0.025	0.113	0.067	0.064	0.086	0.074	0.110	0.061	0.091	1.301	0.089	0.278	0.581	0.619	0.427
43	0.322	0.224	0.105	0.008	0.096	0.018	0.020	0.045	0.029	0.021	0.056	0.048	0.006	0.026	0.028	0.032	0.052	0.046	0.108	0.054	0.056	1.047	0.037	0.162	0.223	0.302	0.268
44	0.242	0.190	0.055	0.016	0.038	0.029	0.012	0.017	0.027	0.013	0.037	0.005	0.007	0.033	0.006	0.082	0.016	0.021	0.037	0.019	0.027	0.790	0.038	0.135	0.154	0.187	0.168
45	0.095	0.116	0.021	0.001	0.017	0.007	0.002	0.014	0.013	0.022	0.018	0.029	0.008	0.024	0.017	0.037	0.012	0.121	0.020	0.012	0.012	0.357	0.005	0.107	0.092	0.083	0.122
46	0.037	0.054	0.029	0.000	0.013	0.008	0.000	0.002	0.000	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.000	0.004	0.004	0.017	0.050	0.019	0.024	0.008	0.012	0.072	0.009	0.059	0.015	0.075	0.038
47	0.011	0.026	0.012	0.000	0.004	0.002	0.008	0.000	0.007	0.001	0.006	0.005	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.049	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.014	0.073	0.006	0.042	0.032	0.022	0.041
48 49	0.006	0.006	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000 0.013	0.006	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.000	0.027	0.002	0.139	0.016	0.003	0.000	0.002	0.011 0.009	0.141 0.033	0.010 0.009	0.043	0.021	0.008	0.071 0.006
49 50	0.007	0.020	0.001	0.000	0.007	0.000	0.000	0.015	0.008	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.045	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.005	0.009	0.000	0.009	0.033	0.007	0.000	0.000
51	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.049	0.000	0.007	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.007	0.032	0.000	0.010	0.011
52	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.039	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.024	0.002	0.016	0.000	0.000	0.000
53	0.015	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.007	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.000	0.000	0.000
54	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.019	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.013	0.000	0.000	0.000
55	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000
56	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.010	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
57	0.000	0.015	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
58	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
59	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Table A4b: Survey catch-at-length (numbers) for *S. fasciatus* for Unit 1 and Unit 2 (Daniel Duplisea, pers. commn)

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1 1	Length	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
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9 973.8.8 953.7 724.8.8 693.7 724.8.8 603.7 724.8.8 603.7 724.8.8 603.7 724.8.8 603.7 724.8.8 603.7 724.8.8 603.7 724.8.8 603.7 724.8.8 603.7 724.8 603.7 724.8 603.7 724.8<	37	13829.90	9965.56	53799.37	23879.25	3938.74	10627.69	2502.53	1576.10	1436.86	545.91	2299.66	818.39	2382.46	82.54	8.14	2.84	8.46	0.05	1.05	12.70	135.88	1.18	0.08	2.92	0.23	6.37	48.77	115.68	627.77	117.15	5.73	208.83
h h	38	14578.64	6875.11	44909.14	14644.98	3942.33			1408.72	2597.85	516.62	2145.44	640.43	1776.32	57.74	4.23	3.32	6.01	0.05	6.35	0.57	57.80	32.93	0.00	17.92	0.05	0.12	5.38	0.39	67.22	103.04	8.82	96.69
41 312.22 155.297 1162.44 372.895 63.50 175.73 590.31 663.34 617.2 197.06 1247.6 247.07 1247.68 521.04 123.15 444.07 124.15 446.03 0.00 <td< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></td<>																																	
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48 1315.0 482.4 2014.61 485.15 165.87 640.29 312.67 140.70 155.5 50.67 3.38 9.07 3.89 0.01 1.02 0.00<	46	2250.65	1759.59	2753.48	980.75	340.95	649.70	319.30	208.26	278.51	17.00	103.06	66.21	89.72	2.40	0.72	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.40	0.00	1.53	0.00
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	57	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
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Unit 3			
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4 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 0 0 0 6207 0 0 0 0 0		137539
5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 197323 13965 0 6207 6572 0 0 0 0	0 20236 9576 0 0 0 0 160035 204359 2029251 644007 76116 470751 407073 1193689 111795 19373 944654 1263906 5	533424
6 0 0 75505 0 0 0 0 0 0	0 0 0 466876 0 0 0 0 23001 0 174032 0		487392
7 0 0 81712 0 0 0 0 0 11518	0 0 47538 877224 7199 128932 0 68332 148637 49898 279094 110350		721976
8 0 9598 196928 39592 6062 0 0 0 48743 9 0 0 223842 19196 11526 0 39182 0 60244 67		1058007 6745 1371337 428579 172062 463133 213366 1615985 267643 97285 104401 3506090 2150781 2155824 1928727 524331 587636 105572 1276710 11 905499 93068 255475 793665 315407 1030674 216842 966810 1305871 42709 227885 3152966 904488 464988 550753 814543 293816 19369 1462760 2	
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	27519 90591 0 322115 3283671 898235 34713 941518 812804 2059182 2179730 732296 1		759888
	27312 42636 0 338580 2071165 1181626 312472 758952 131973 5740587 2961668 745376 1		
		1708445 192340 1478006 9678941 1402691 5198744 844546 1827293 2641555 1944967 711385 1063189 20615978 3119036 6940186 3272361 391456 580367 4399730 27	
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44 64787 19724 0 0 80857 566583 0 144640 78894	0 0 185231 45079 27660 24654 67195 239257 26842 0 31753 0		44076
45 43192 19724 0 0 16171 450238 5759 80315 0	0 0 10969 30053 0 0 0 0 0 0 31753 0		22038
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56 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 57 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			0
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59+ 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			0

Table A4d: Survey catch-at-length (numbers) for S. fasciatus for Unit 3 (Peter Comeau, pers. commn)

S. mentella				
М	0.1			MacAllister and Duplisea (2011)
h	0.67			MacAllister and Duplisea (2011)
Age-at-maturity	10			Knife-edged, Don Power, pers. commn
Fraction of M that occurs before spawning (M^{s})	0.25			
	L inf	κ	t ₀	
Length-at-age	45.23	0.0698	-1.64	$L_{a}=L_{ ext{inf}}ig(\!\!1-e^{-\kappa(a-\!t_{0})}ig)$, Don Power, pers. commn
	α	β		
Weight-at-age	0.00944	3.107		$W_a=lphaig(L_aig)^eta$, MacAllister and Duplisea (2011)
S. fasciatus				
М	0.125			MacAllister and Duplisea (2011)
h	0.67			MacAllister and Duplisea (2011)
Age-at-maturity	9			Knife-edged, Don Power, pers. commn
Fraction of M that occurs before spawning (M^{s})	0.25			
	L inf	κ	t _o	
Length-at-age	45.23	0.0698	-1.64	$L_a = L_{ ext{inf}}ig(\!\!1\!-\!e^{-\kappa(a\!-\!\!t_0)}ig)$, Don Power, pers. comm
	α	β		
Weight-at-age	0.01106	3.08		$W_a = lpha (L_a)^{eta}$, MacAllister and Duplisea (2011)

Table A5: Life history parameters assumed for *S. mentella* and *S. fasciatus*.

Appendix B - The Age-Structured Production Model

The model used for these assessments is an Age-Structured Production Model (ASPM) (e.g. Hilborn, 1990). Models of this type fall within the more general class of Statistical Catch-at-Age Analyses. The approach used in an ASPM assessment involves the construction of an age-structured model of the population dynamics and fitting it to the available abundance indices by maximising the likelihood function. The general specifications of the model and its equations are described below, followed by details of the contributions to the (penalised) log-likelihood function from the different sources of data available and assumptions concerning the stock-recruitment relationship. Quasi-Newton minimization is used to minimize the total negative log-likelihood function (the package AD Model Builder[™], Otter Research, Ltd is used for this purpose).

B.1. Population dynamics

B.1.1 Numbers-at-age

The resource dynamics are modelled by the following set of population dynamics equations:

$$N_{y+1,0} = R_{y+1}$$
(B1)

$$N_{y+1,a+1} = \left(N_{y,a} e^{-M_a/2} - C_{y,a}\right) e^{-M_a/2} \qquad \text{for } 0 \le a \le m-2 \tag{B2}$$

$$N_{y+1,m} = \left(N_{y,m-1} e^{-M_{m-1}/2} - C_{y,m-1}\right) e^{-M_{m-1}/2} + \left(N_{y,m} e^{-M_m/2} - C_{y,m}\right) e^{-M_m/2}$$
(B3)

where

 $N_{y,a}$ is the number of fish of age *a* at the start of year *y* (which refers to a calendar year),

 R_y is the recruitment (number of 0-year-old fish) at the start of year y,

- M_a denotes the natural mortality rate for fish of age a,
- $C_{y,a}$ is the predicted number of fish of age *a* caught in year *y*, and
- *m* is the maximum age considered (taken to be a plus-group), *m*=20.

These equations reflect Pope's form of the catch equation (Pope, 1972) (the catches are assumed to be taken as a pulse in the middle of the year) rather than the more customary Baranov form (Baranov, 1918) (for which catches are incorporated under the assumption of steady continuous fishing mortality). Pope's form has been used in order to simplify computations. As long as mortality rates are not too high, the differences between the Baranov and Pope formulations will be minimal.

B.1.2. Recruitment

The number of recruits at the start of year y is assumed to be related to the spawning stock size (i.e. the biomass of mature fish) by a Beverton-Holt stock-recruitment relationship (Beverton and Holt, 1957), parameterised in terms of the "steepness" of the stock-recruitment relationship, h, and the pre-exploitation equilibrium spawning biomass, K^{sp} ,

and recruitment, R_0 and allowing for annual fluctuation about the deterministic relationship:

$$R_{y} = \frac{4hR_{0}B_{y}^{sp}}{K^{sp}(1-h) + (5h-1)B_{y}^{sp}}e^{(\varsigma_{y} - \sigma_{R}^{2}/2)}$$
(B4)

where

- ς_y reflects fluctuation about the expected recruitment for year y, which is assumed to be normally distributed with standard deviation σ_R (which is input in the applications considered here); these residuals are treated as estimable parameters in the model fitting process.
- B_{y}^{sp} is the spawning biomass at the start of year y, computed as:

$$B_{y}^{sp} = \sum_{a=1}^{m} f_{y,a} w_{y,a}^{strt} N_{y,a} e^{-M_{a}M^{s}}$$
(B5)

where

 $w_{y,a}^{strt}$ is the mass of fish of age *a* during spawning,

 $f_{y,a}$ is the proportion of fish of age *a* that are mature

 M^{s} . is the fraction of mortality that occurs before spawning (Table A5).

In the fitting procedure, K^{sp} is estimated while *h* has thus far been fixed at 0.67 for consistency with McAllister and Duplisea (2011).

B.1.3. Total catch and catches-at-age

The catch by mass in year y is given by:

$$C_{y} = \sum_{a=1}^{m} w_{a}^{mid} C_{y,a} = \sum_{a=1}^{m} w_{a}^{mid} N_{y,a} e^{-M_{a}/2} S_{a} F_{y}$$
(B6)

where

 w_a^{mid} denotes the mass of fish of age a+1/2,

 $C_{y,a}$ is the catch-at-age, i.e. the number of fish of age *a*, caught in year *y*,

- S_a is the commercial selectivity (i.e. combination of availability and vulnerability to fishing gear) at age *a*; when S_a = 1, the age-class *a* is said to be fully selected, and
- F_{v} is the proportion of a fully selected age class that is fished.

The model estimate of the mid-year exploitable ("available") component of biomass is calculated by converting the numbers-at-age into mid-year mass-at-age (using the individual weights of the landed fish) and applying natural and fishing mortality for half the year:

$$B_{y}^{ex} = \sum_{a=1}^{m} w_{a}^{mid} S_{a} N_{y,a} e^{-M_{a}/2} (1 - S_{a} F_{y}/2)$$
(B7)

whereas for survey estimates of biomass:

$$B_{y}^{surv,i} = \sum_{a=1}^{m} w_{a}^{mid} S_{a}^{surv,i} N_{y,a} e^{-M_{a} \frac{m^{surv,i}}{12}} \left(1 - S_{a} F_{y} \frac{m^{surv,i}}{12} \right)$$
(B8)

where

 $S_a^{surv,i}$ is the survey selectivity for age *a* for survey *i*, and

 $m^{surv,i}$ is the month in which survey *i* takes place, see Table below.

Survey	Month (m ^{surv})
Unit 1	8
Unit 2	8
Division 2J3K	9
Unit 3	7

B.1.4. Initial conditions

For the first year (y_0) considered in the model therefore, the stock is assumed to be at a fraction (θ) of its pre-exploitation biomass, i.e.:

$$B_{y_0}^{sp} = \theta \cdot K^{sp} \tag{B9}$$

with the starting age structure:

$$N_{y_0,a} = R_{start} N_{start,a} \qquad \qquad \text{for } 0 \le a \le m \tag{B10}$$

where

$$N_{start.0} = 1 \tag{B11}$$

$$N_{start,a} = N_{start,a-1} e^{-M_{a-1}} (1 - \phi S_{a-1}) \qquad \text{for } 1 \le a \le m - 1 \tag{B12}$$

$$N_{start,m} = N_{start,m-1} e^{-M_{m-1}} (1 - \phi S_{m-1}) / (1 - e^{-M_m} (1 - \phi S_m))$$
(B13)

where ϕ characterises the average fishing proportion over the years immediately preceding y_0 .

Unless indicated otherwise though, the stock is assumed to be at pristine equilibrium in 1960, i.e. $\theta = 1$ and $\phi = 0$ for the results reported here.

B.2. The (penalised) likelihood function

The model can be fit to (a subset of) CPUE and survey abundance indices, and commercial and survey catch-at-age data to estimate model parameters (which may include residuals about the stock-recruitment function, the fishing selectivities, the annual catches or natural mortality, facilitated through the incorporation of penalty functions described below). Contributions by each of these to the negative of the (penalised) log-likelihood (- ℓnL) are as follows.

B.2.1. Survey abundance data

The likelihood is calculated assuming that the observed survey index is log-normally distributed about its expected value:

$$I_{y}^{i} = \hat{I}_{y}^{i} \exp\left(\varepsilon_{y}^{i}\right) \quad \text{or} \quad \varepsilon_{y}^{i} = \ell n\left(I_{y}^{i}\right) - \ell n\left(\hat{I}_{y}^{i}\right) \tag{B14}$$

where

 I_{y}^{i} is the survey biomass index for year y and survey i,

 $\hat{I}_{y}^{i} = \hat{q}^{i} \hat{B}_{y}^{surv,i}$ is the corresponding model estimate, where $\hat{B}_{y}^{surv,i}$ is the model estimate of survey biomass, given by equation (B8),

 \hat{q}^i is the constant of proportionality (catchability) for survey series *i*, and

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{y}^{i}$$
 from $N\left(0,\left(\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{y}^{i}\right)^{2}\right)$.

The contribution of the survey biomass data to the negative of the log-likelihood function (after removal of constants) is then given by:

$$-\ln L^{surv} = \sum_{i} \sum_{y} \left[\ln \left(\sigma_{y}^{i} \right) + \left(\varepsilon_{y}^{i} \right)^{2} / 2 \left(\sigma_{y}^{i} \right)^{2} \right]$$
(B15)

where

 σ_{y}^{i} is the standard deviation of the residuals for the logarithm of survey index *i* in year *y*.

The catchability coefficient q^i for survey index *i* is estimated by its maximum likelihood value:

$$\ell n \, \hat{q}^{i} = 1/n_{i} \sum_{y} \left(\ln I_{y}^{i} - \ln \hat{B}_{y}^{surv,i} \right) \tag{B16}$$

B.2.2. Commercial catches-at-length

The contribution of the catch-at-length data to the negative of the log-likelihood function under the assumption of an "adjusted" lognormal error distribution is given by:

$$-\ln L^{CAL} = W^{CAL} \sum_{y} \sum_{l} \left[\ln \left(\sigma_{com} / \sqrt{p_{y,l}} \right) + p_{y,l} \left(\ln p_{y,l} - \ln \hat{p}_{y,l} \right)^2 / 2 \left(\sigma_{com} \right)^2 \right]$$
(B17)

where

 $p_{y,l} = C_{y,l} / \sum_{l'} C_{y,l'}$ is the observed proportion of fish caught in year y that are of length l,

 $\hat{p}_{y,l} = \hat{C}_{y,l} / \sum_{l'} \hat{C}_{y,l'}$ is the model-predicted proportion of fish caught in year y that are of length *I*,

where

$$\hat{C}_{y,l} = \sum_{a} \hat{C}_{y,a} A_{a,l}$$
(B18)

where

$$\hat{C}_{y,a} = N_{y,a} \ e^{-M_a/2} \ S_a \ F_y \ (1 - S_y F_y \ / \ 2) \tag{B19}$$

and

 $A_{a,l}$ is the proportion of fish of age a that fall in the length group *l* (i.e. $\sum A_{a,l} = 1$ for all

ages a)

The matrix A is calculated under the assumption that length-at-age is normally distributed about a mean given the von Bertalanffy equation, i.e.:

$$L_a \sim N \left[L_{\infty} \left(1 - e^{-\kappa(a - t_0)} \right); \theta_a^2 \right]$$
(B20)

where

N is the normal distribution, and

 θ_a is the standard deviation of length-at-age *a*, which is modelled to be proportional to the expected length at age *a*, i.e.:

$$\theta_a = \beta L_{\infty} \left(1 - e^{-\kappa(a - t_0)} \right) \tag{B21}$$

with β = 0.1.

 σ_{com} is the standard deviation associated with the catch-at-length data, which is estimated in the fitting procedure by:

$$\hat{\sigma}_{com} = \sqrt{\sum_{y} \sum_{l} p_{y,l} (\ln p_{y,l} - \ln \hat{p}_{y,l})^2 / \sum_{y} \sum_{l} 1}$$
(B22)

The log-normal error distribution underlying equation (B17) is chosen on the grounds that (assuming no ageing error) variability is likely dominated by a combination of interannual variation in the distribution of fishing effort, and fluctuations (partly as a consequence of such variations) in selectivity-at-age, which suggests that the assumption of a constant coefficient of variation is appropriate. However, for ages poorly represented in the sample, sampling variability considerations must at some stage start to dominate the variance. To take this into account in a simple manner, motivated by binomial distribution properties, the observed proportions are used for weighting so that undue importance is not attached to data based upon a few samples only.

Commercial catches-at-length are incorporated in the likelihood function using equation (B17), for which the summation over age *I* is taken from length I_{minus} (considered as a minus group) to I_{plus} (a plus group), see Table B1.

B.2.3. Survey catches-at-length

The survey catches-at-age are incorporated into the negative of the log-likelihood in an analogous manner to the commercial catches-at-age, assuming an adjusted log-normal error distribution (equation (B17)) where:

 $p_{y,l}^{i} = C_{y,l}^{surv,i} / \sum_{l'} C_{y,l'}^{surv,i}$ is the observed proportion of fish of length *l* in year *y* for survey series *i*,

 $\hat{p}_{y,l}^{i}$ is the expected proportion of fish of length *l* in year *y* in the survey *i*, given by:

 $\hat{p}_{y,l}^{i} = \hat{C}_{y,l}^{i} / \sum_{l'} \hat{C}_{y,l'}^{i}$ is the model-predicted proportion of fish caught in year y and survey i that are of length *l*,

where

$$\hat{C}_{y,l}^{i} = \sum_{a} \hat{C}_{a,l}^{i} A_{a,l}$$
(B23)

where

$$\hat{C}_{y,a}^{i} = N_{y,a} S_{a}^{surv,i} e^{-M_{a} \frac{m^{surv,i}}{12}} (1 - S_{a} F_{y} \frac{m^{surv,i}}{12})$$
(B24)

Survey catches-at-length are incorporated in the likelihood function using equation (B17), for which the summation over age I is taken from length I_{min} (not considered as a minus group) to I_{plus} (a plus group), see Table B1.

B.2.4. Stock-recruitment function residuals

The stock-recruitment residuals are assumed to be log-normally distributed. Thus, the contribution of the recruitment residuals to the negative of the (now penalised) log-likelihood function is given by:

$$-\ell n L^{SRpen} = \sum_{y=y1}^{y2} \left[\varepsilon_y^2 / 2\sigma_R^2 \right]$$
(B25)

where

 ε_y from $N(0, (\sigma_R)^2)$, which is estimated for year y1 to y2 (see equation (B4)), and

 $\sigma_{\scriptscriptstyle R}$ is the standard deviation of the log-residuals, which is input ($\sigma_{\scriptscriptstyle R}=0.5$)

Table B1: Minus and plus length groups (in cm) for the commercial and survey CAL. Note: I_{min} for the surveys is not taken as a minus group.

	S. mentella		S. fasciatus	
	Units 1+2	Units 1+2	Division 2J3K	Unit 3
Commercial CAL:				
I _{minus}	20	20	no comm.	20
I plus	45	45	CAL	40
Survey CAL:				
l _{min}	24	22	22	22
I plus	45	40	35	40

B.3. Model parameters

B.4.1. Fishing selectivity-at-length:

The commercial and survey fishing selectivity-at-length, S_l and $S_l^{surv,i}$ are estimated in terms of a logistic curve:

$$S_{l} = \left[1 + \exp\left(-\left(l - l_{c}\right)/\delta\right)\right]^{-1}$$
(B26)

where

 l_c^f cms is the length-at-50% selectivity,

 $\delta^{\scriptscriptstyle f}\,$ cm⁻¹ defines the steepness of the ascending limb of the selectivity curve.

The selectivities-at-length are then converted to an effective selectivity at age $\,\widetilde{S}_{\scriptscriptstyle a}^{}$:

$$\widetilde{S}_{a} = \widetilde{w}_{a}^{mid} / w_{a}^{mid}$$
(B27)

with

$$\widetilde{w}_{a}^{mid} = \sum_{l} S_{l} w_{l} A_{a+1/2,l}$$
(B28)

 \widetilde{w}_{a}^{mid} is the selectivity-weighted mid-year weight-at-age a, and

 w_l is the weight of fish of length *l*;

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