

Size and abundance of resident salmon in the Salish Sea: Insights from a culturally unique recreational fishery

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Disclaimer

I take full responsibility for this analysis

Questions

Has size or catch rate changed over the decades?

Do any changes mirror patterns in size or abundance of Puget Sound Chinook salmon as a whole?

Temporal trends in derby harvest

Catch per unit effort

Things we know:

- Total number of days the derby was open
- Total number of participants
- Total number of fish caught

Catch per unit effort

Things we know:

- Total number of days the derby was open
- Total number of participants
- Total number of fish caught

Things we don't know:

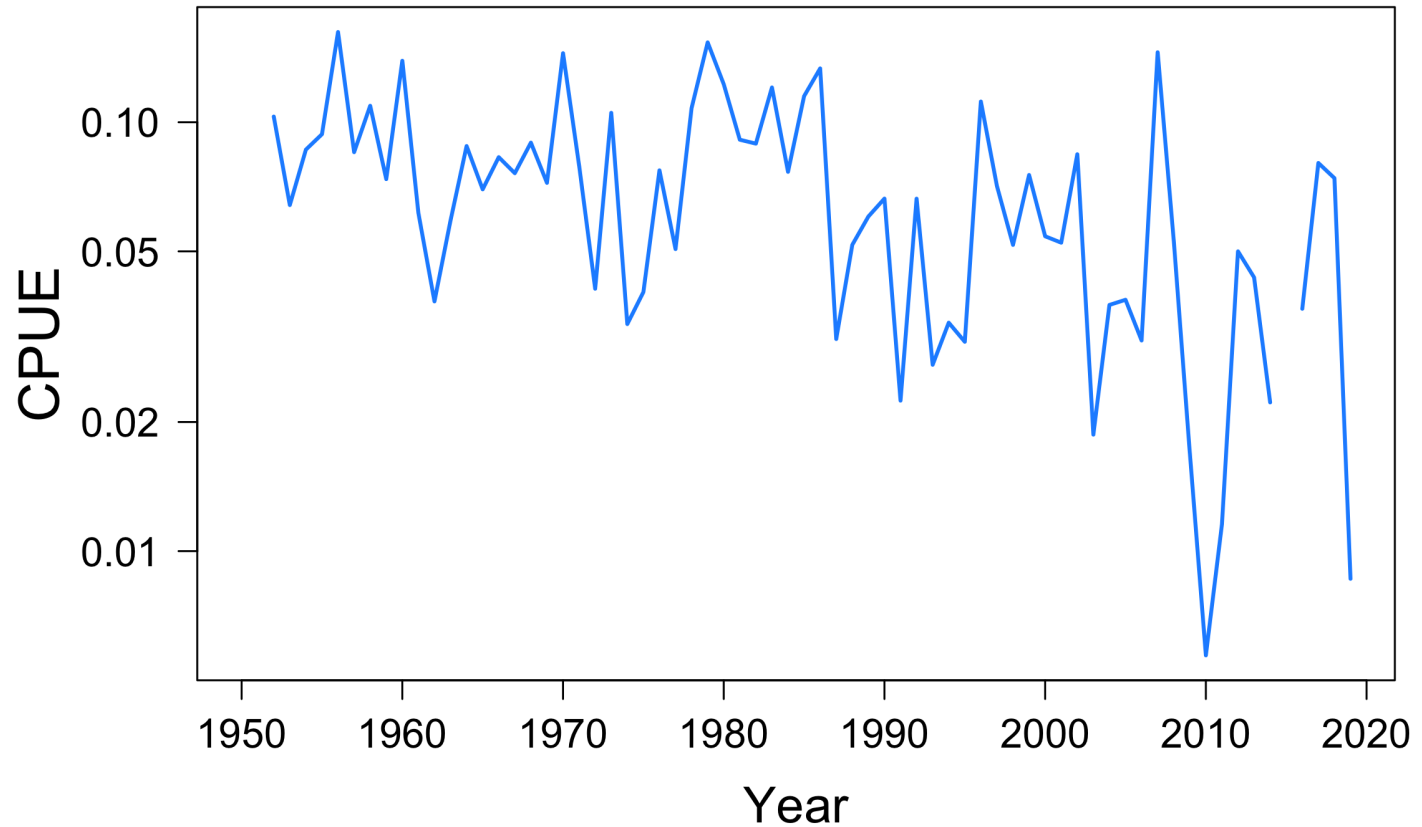
- Total number of days that *each* angler fished

Catch per unit effort

Thus, we assumed that each angler fished every day the derby was open

$$\text{CPUE} = \frac{\text{fish caught}}{\text{days} \times \text{anglers}}$$

Time series of CPUE



Possible state models

Random walk

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + w_t$$

where x_t is the log(CPUE) at time t

Possible state models

Random walk

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + w_t$$

Biased random walk

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + u + w_t$$

Observation model

Imperfect accounting of effort means we are unsure of the true CPUE

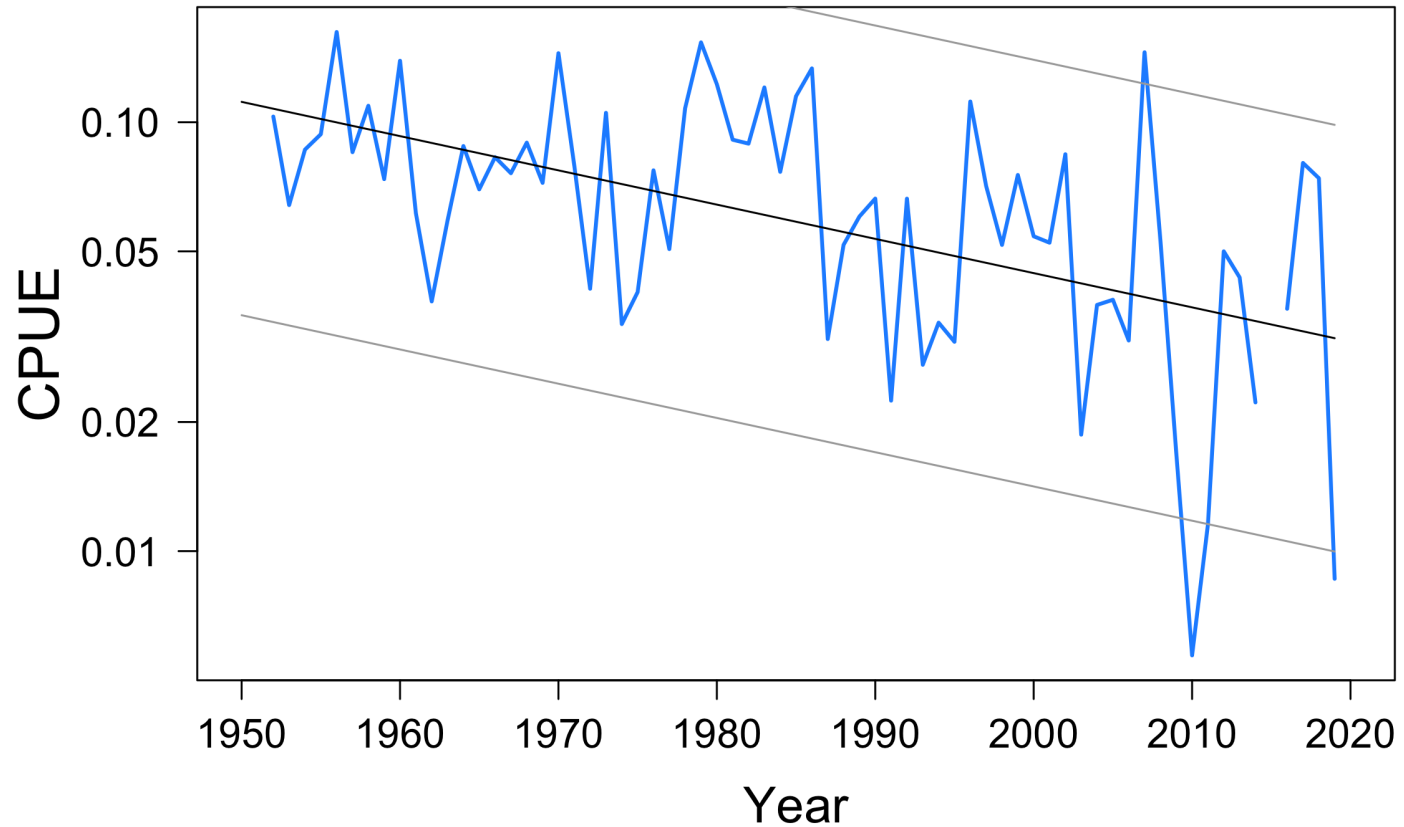
$$y_t = x_t + v_t$$

Model fitting

MARSS package for R (Holmes, Ward & Scheuerell 2020)

<https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=MARSS>

CPUE has decreased by ~2% per year



Temporal trends in derby size

Three metrics of fish size

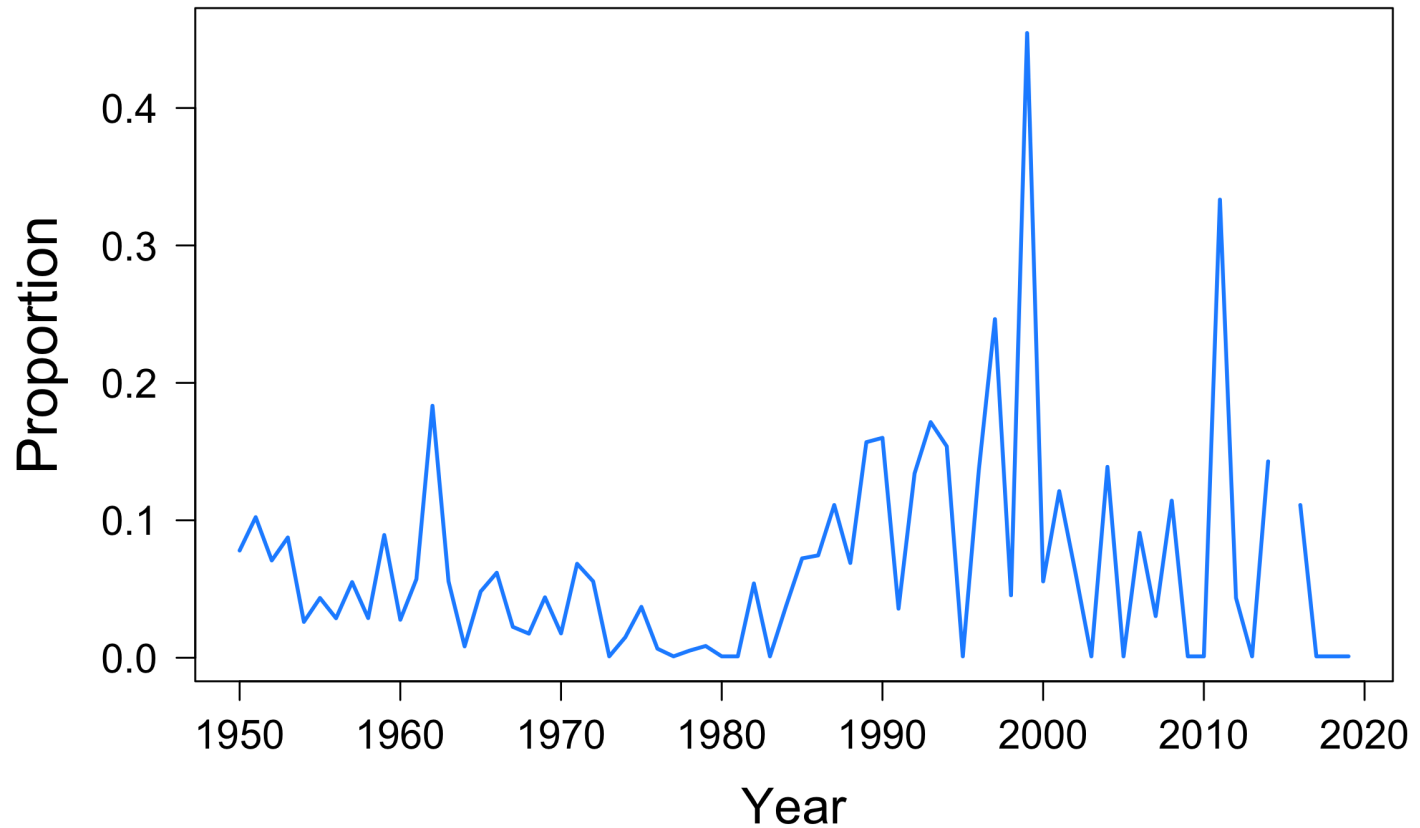
- 1) The weight of each of the top five Chinook salmon*
- 2) The number over 10 pounds
- 3) The number over 5 pounds

*In *most* years

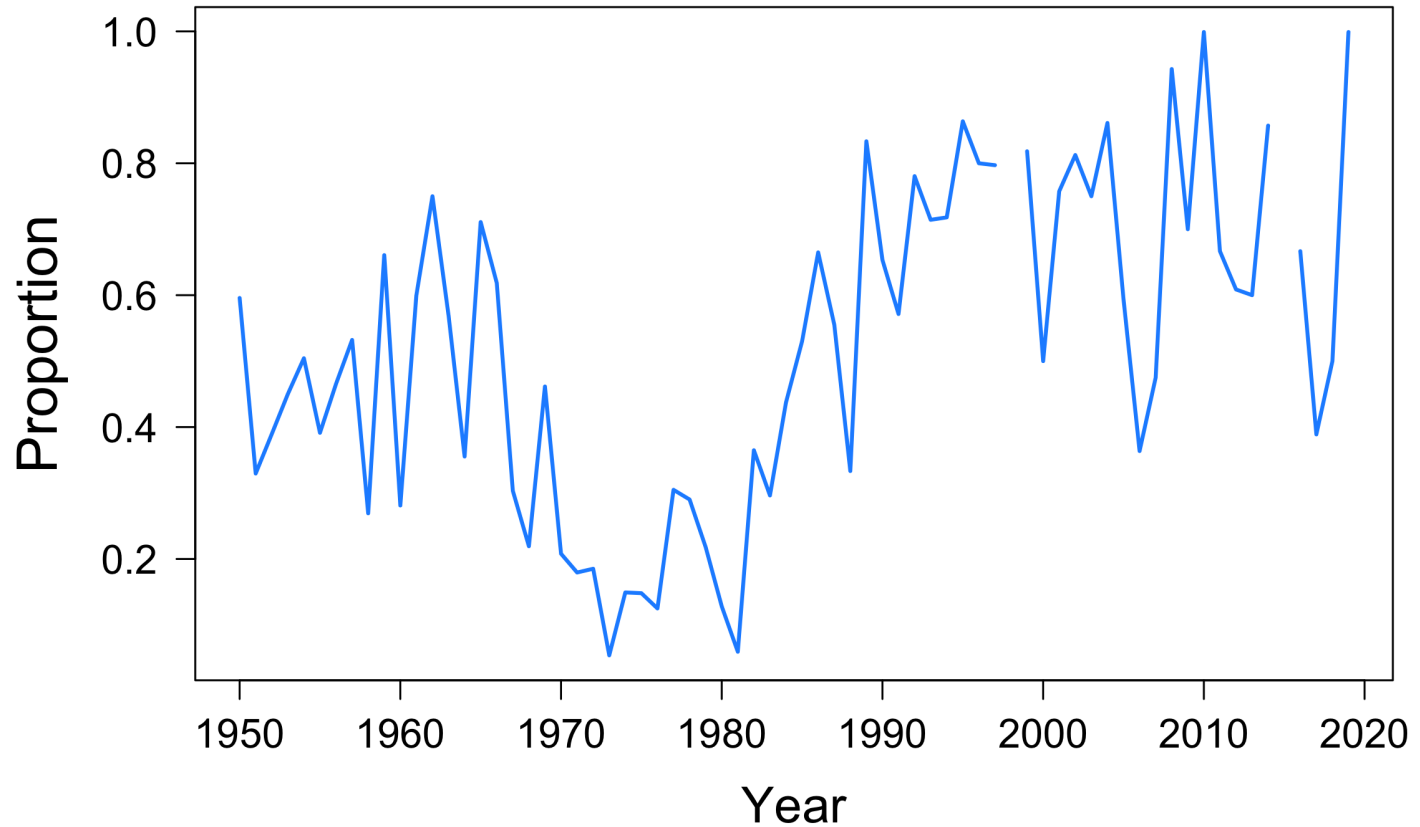
Three metrics of fish size

- 1) The weight of each of the top five Chinook salmon
- 2) The number over 10 pounds
- 3) The number over 5 pounds

Proportion of fish over 10 pounds



Proportion of fish over 5 pounds



Possible state models

Random walk

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + w_t$$

Biased random walk

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + u + w_t$$

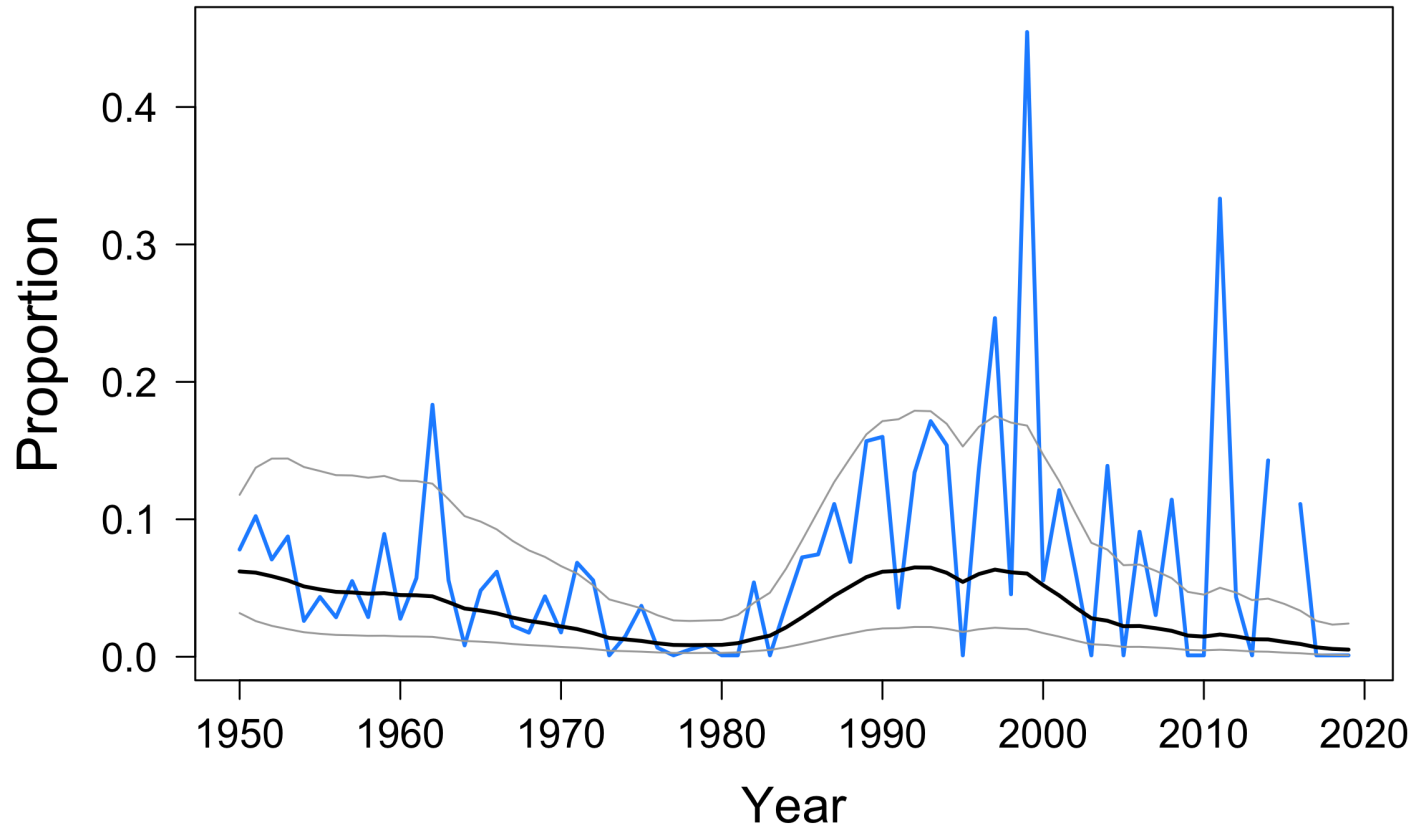
where $x_t = \text{logit}(p_t)$

Observation model

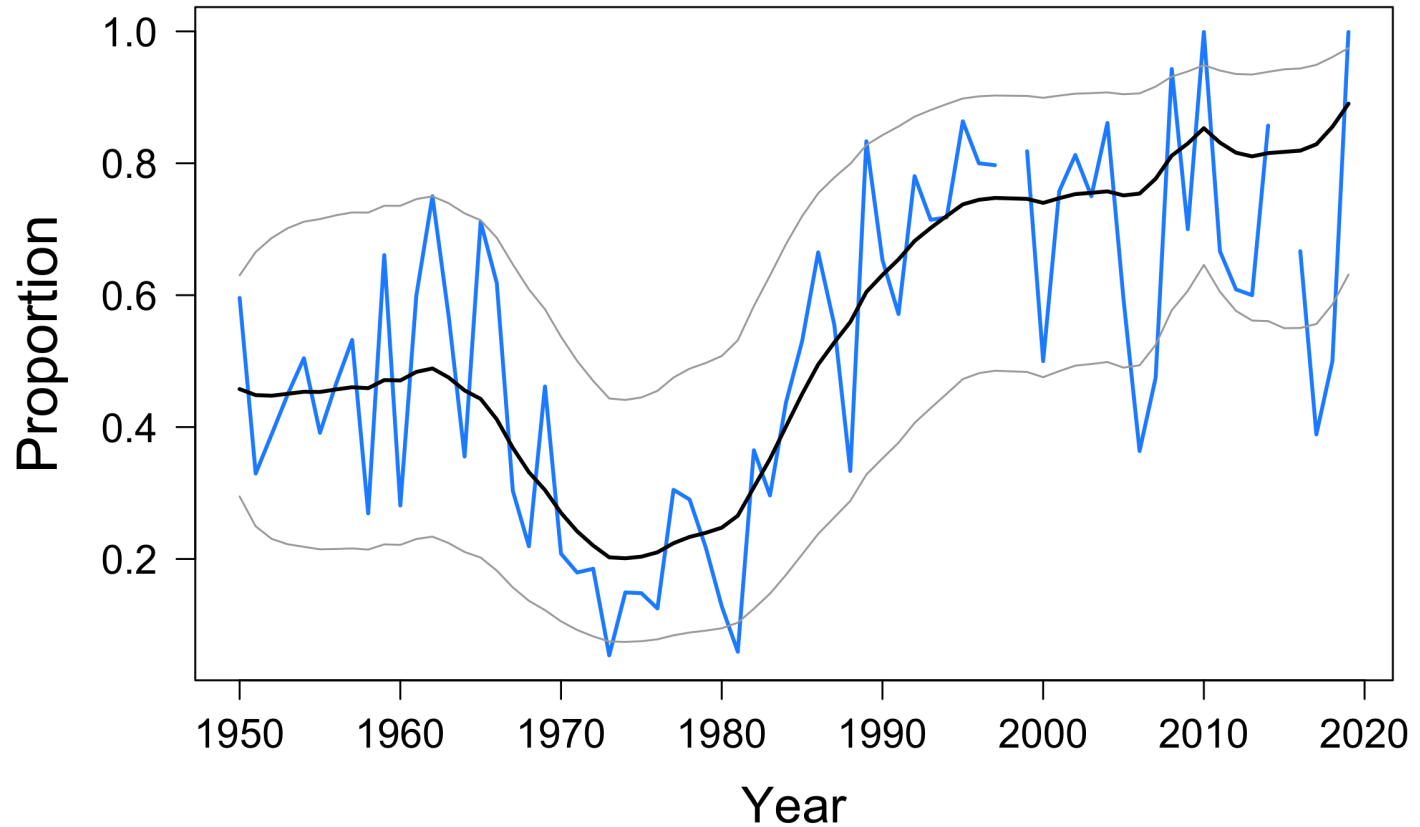
Imperfect sampling means we are unsure of the true size

$$y_t = x_t + v_t$$

Proportion of fish over 10 pounds

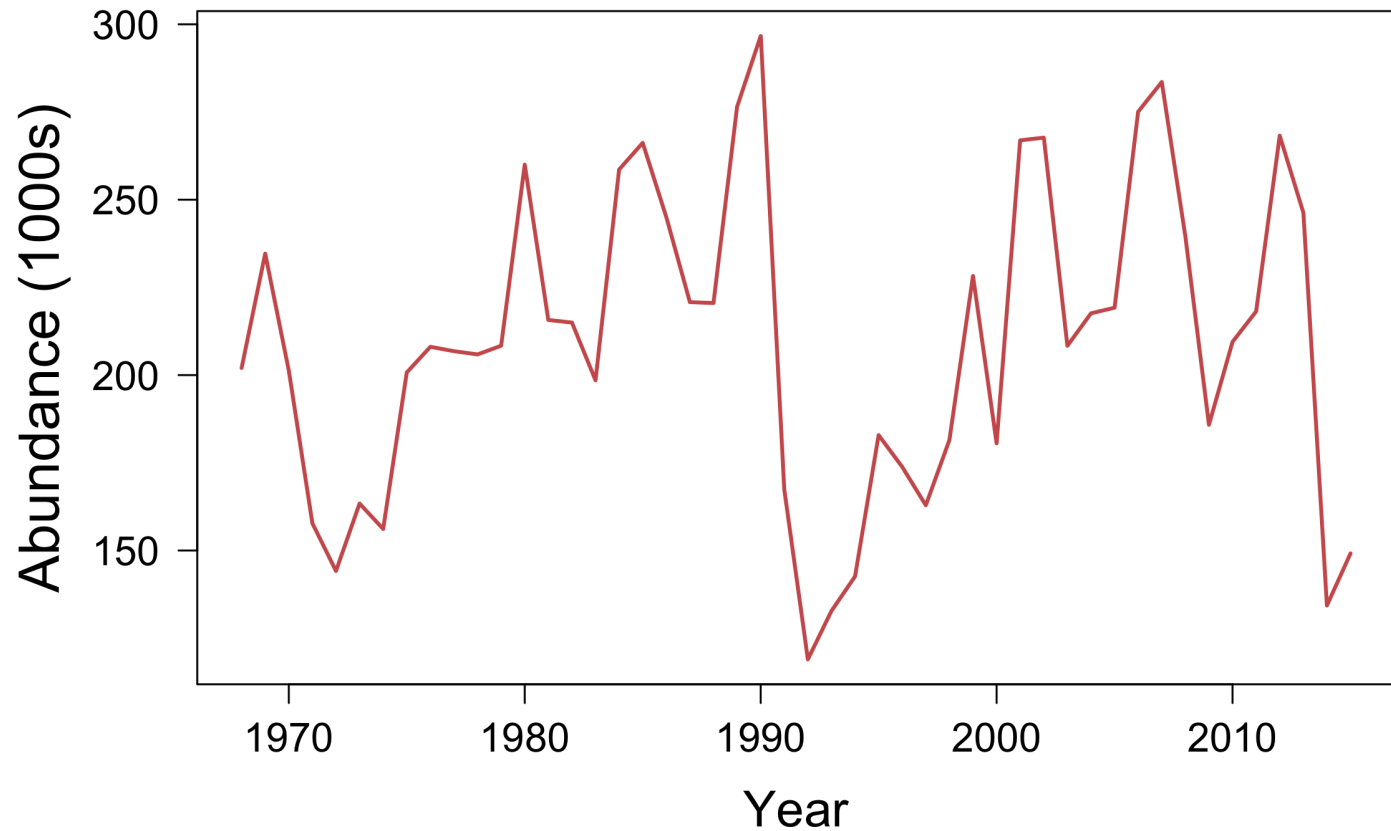


Proportion of fish over 5 pounds



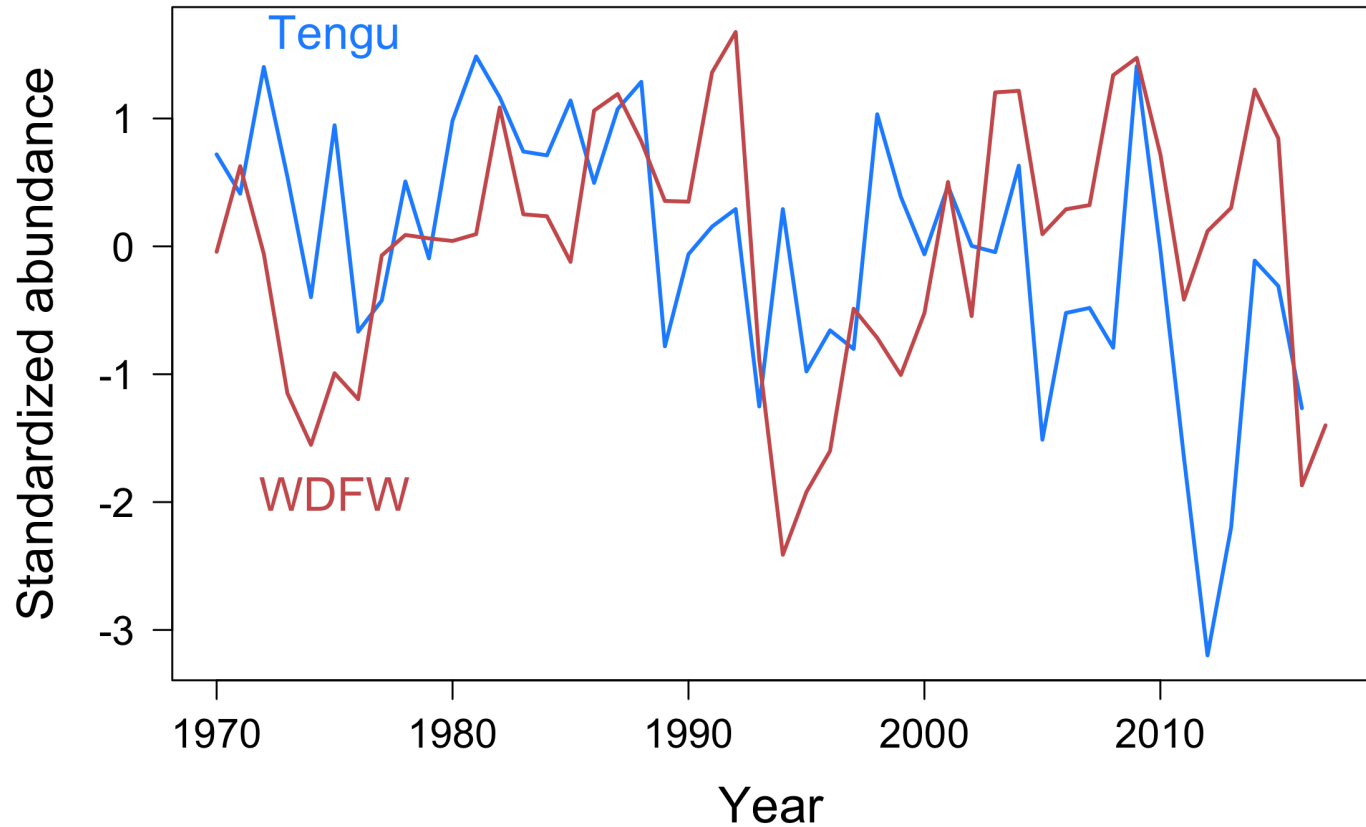
Comparison of derby & survey catch data

WDFW survey data



Losee et al (2019) *Fish & Fisheries*

Time series of both catch indices



Model forms

One common state

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_{\text{Tengu}} \\ y_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_t + \begin{bmatrix} a_{\text{Tengu}} \\ a_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_{\text{Tengu}} \\ v_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t$$

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + u + w_t$$

Model forms

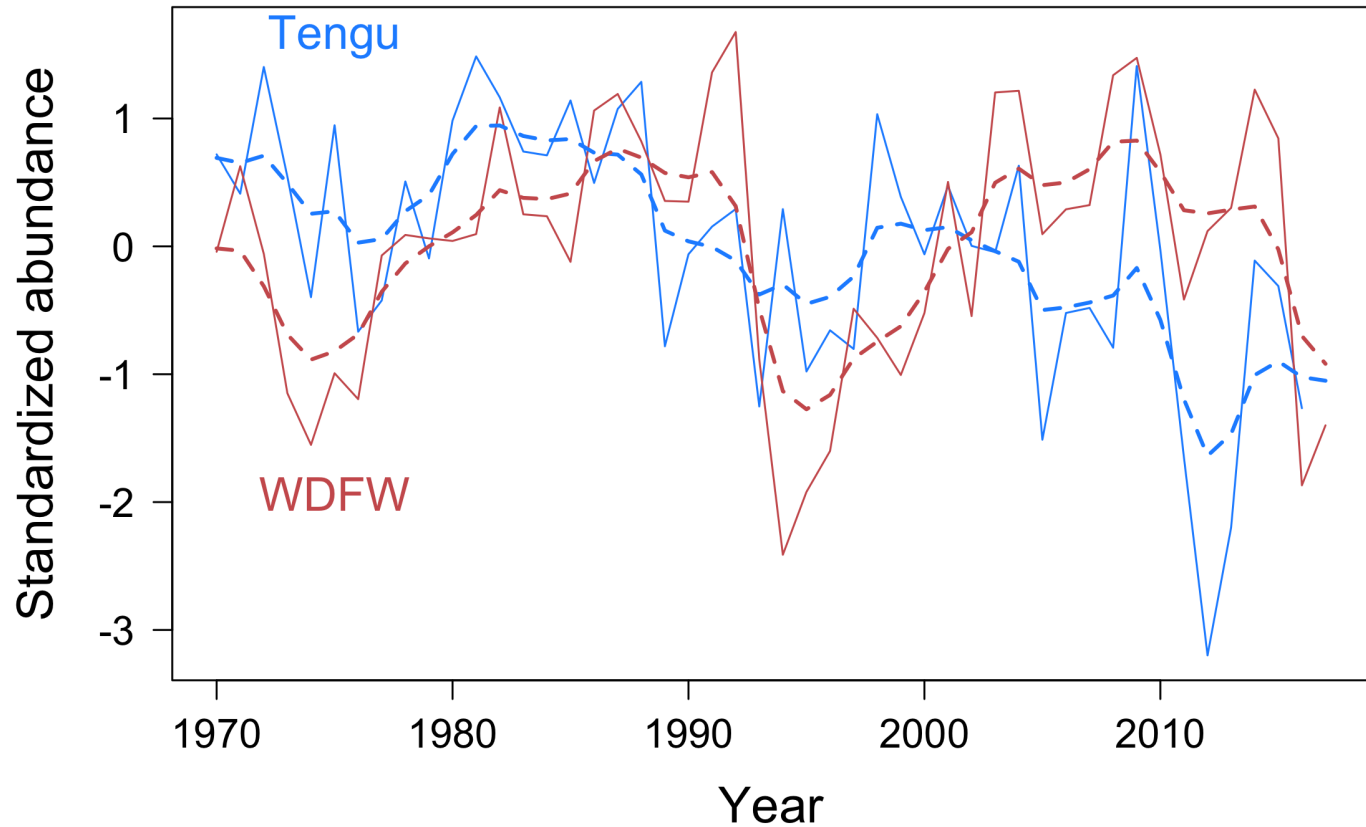
Two unique states

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_{\text{Tengu}} \\ y_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{\text{Tengu}} \\ x_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t + \begin{bmatrix} a_{\text{Tengu}} \\ a_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_{\text{Tengu}} \\ v_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{\text{Tengu}} \\ x_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} x_{\text{Tengu}} \\ x_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_{t-1} + \begin{bmatrix} u_{\text{Tengu}} \\ u_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} w_{\text{Tengu}} \\ w_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t$$

The data support two unique states with a common decline of $\sim 2.5\%$ per year

Model fits and data



Comparison of derby & survey size data

Three metrics of fish size

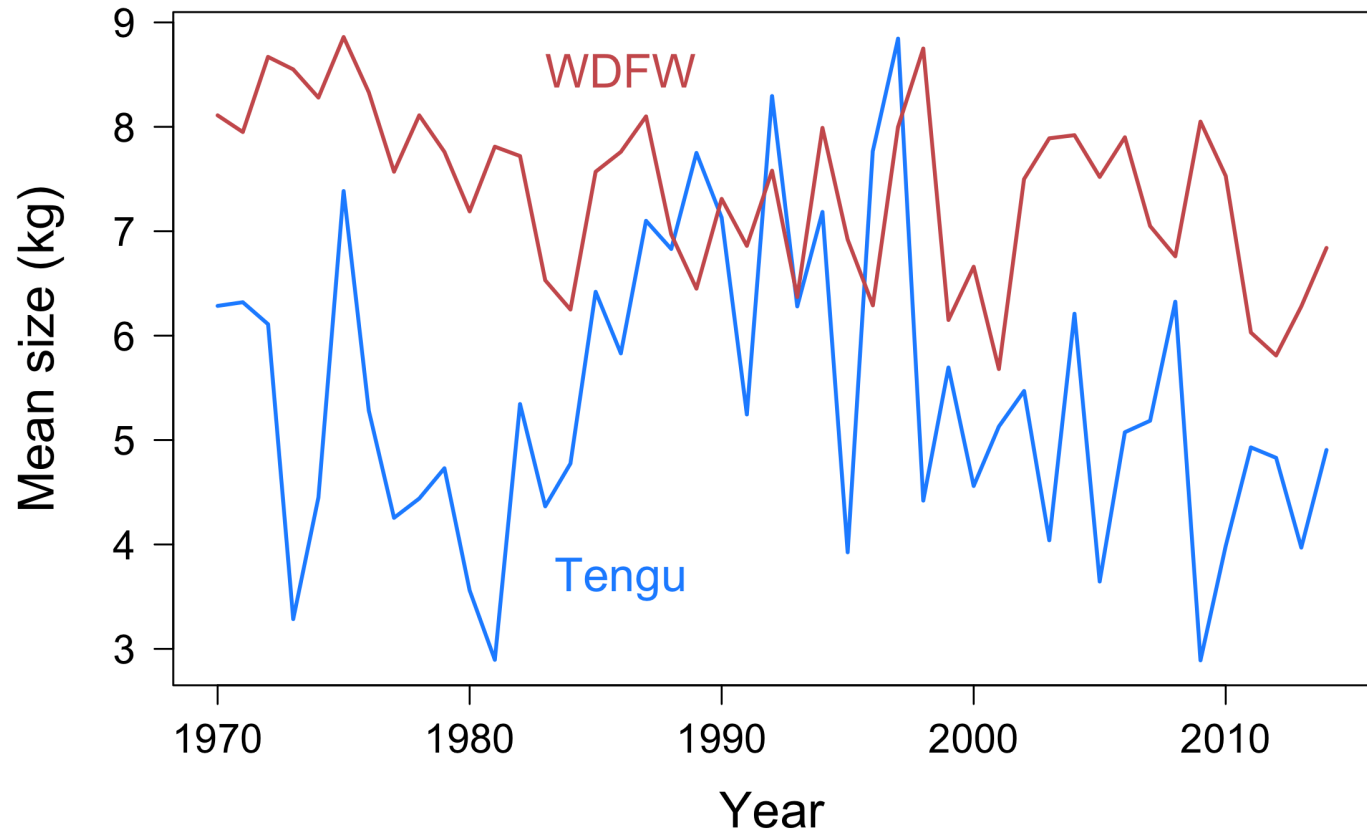
- 1) The weight of each of the top five Chinook salmon*
- 2) The number over 10 pounds
- 3) The number over 5 pounds

*In *most* years

Three metrics of fish size

- 1) The mean weight of the *top two* Chinook salmon
- 2) The number over 10 pounds
- 3) The number over 5 pounds

Time series of size



Model forms

One common state

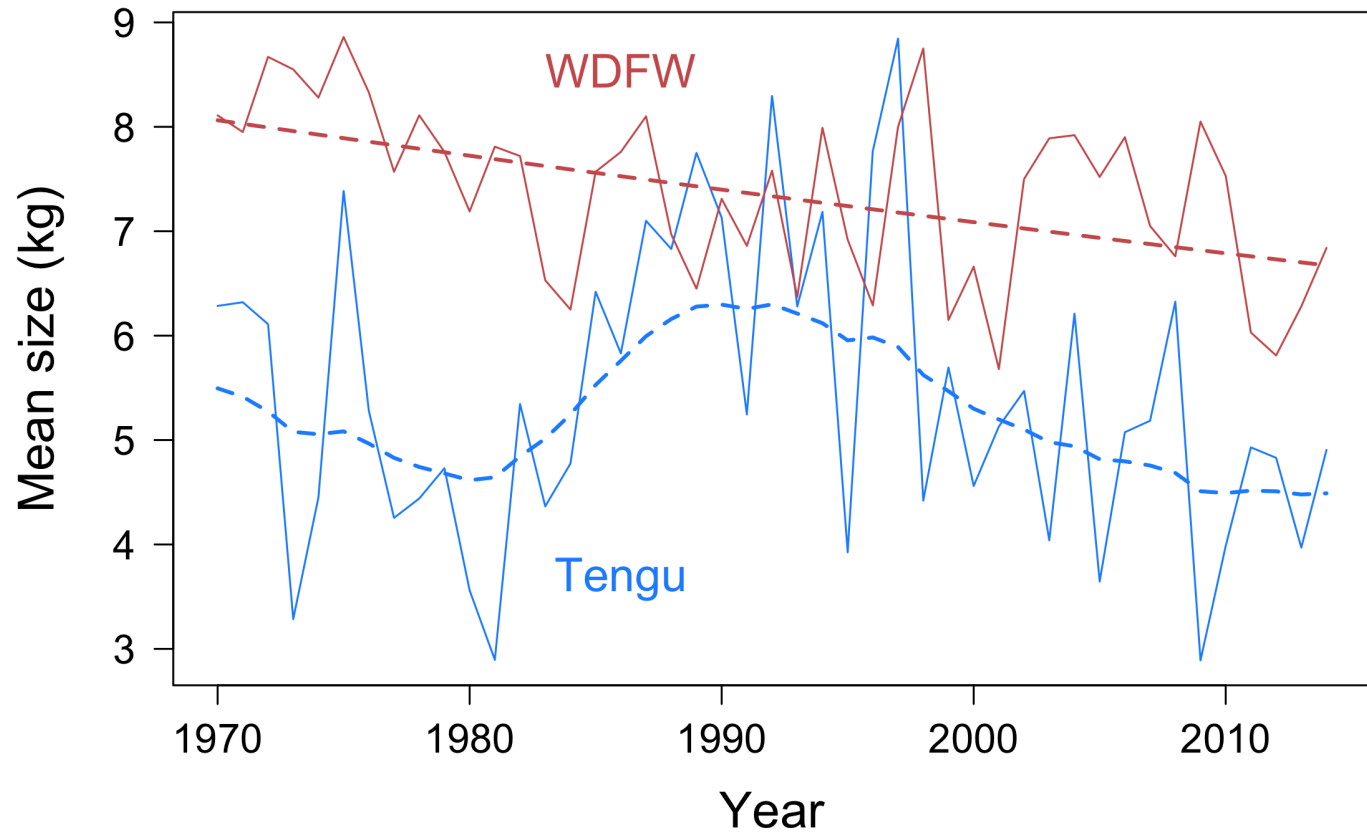
$$\begin{bmatrix} y_{\text{Tengu}} \\ y_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_t + \begin{bmatrix} a_{\text{Tengu}} \\ a_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_{\text{Tengu}} \\ v_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t$$
$$x_t = x_{t-1} + u + w_t$$

Two unique states

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_{\text{Tengu}} \\ y_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{\text{Tengu}} \\ x_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t + \begin{bmatrix} a_{\text{Tengu}} \\ a_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} v_{\text{Tengu}} \\ v_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{\text{Tengu}} \\ x_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} x_{\text{Tengu}} \\ x_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_{t-1} + \begin{bmatrix} u_{\text{Tengu}} \\ u_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} w_{\text{Tengu}} \\ w_{\text{WDFW}} \end{bmatrix}_t$$

The data support two unique states with a common decline of $\sim 0.4\%$ per year

Model fits and data



Conclusions

Tengu anglers and WDFW surveys seem to be sampling different groups of fish

Both data sources showed evidence for declining abundance and size over time

The Tengu data are an amazing source of information