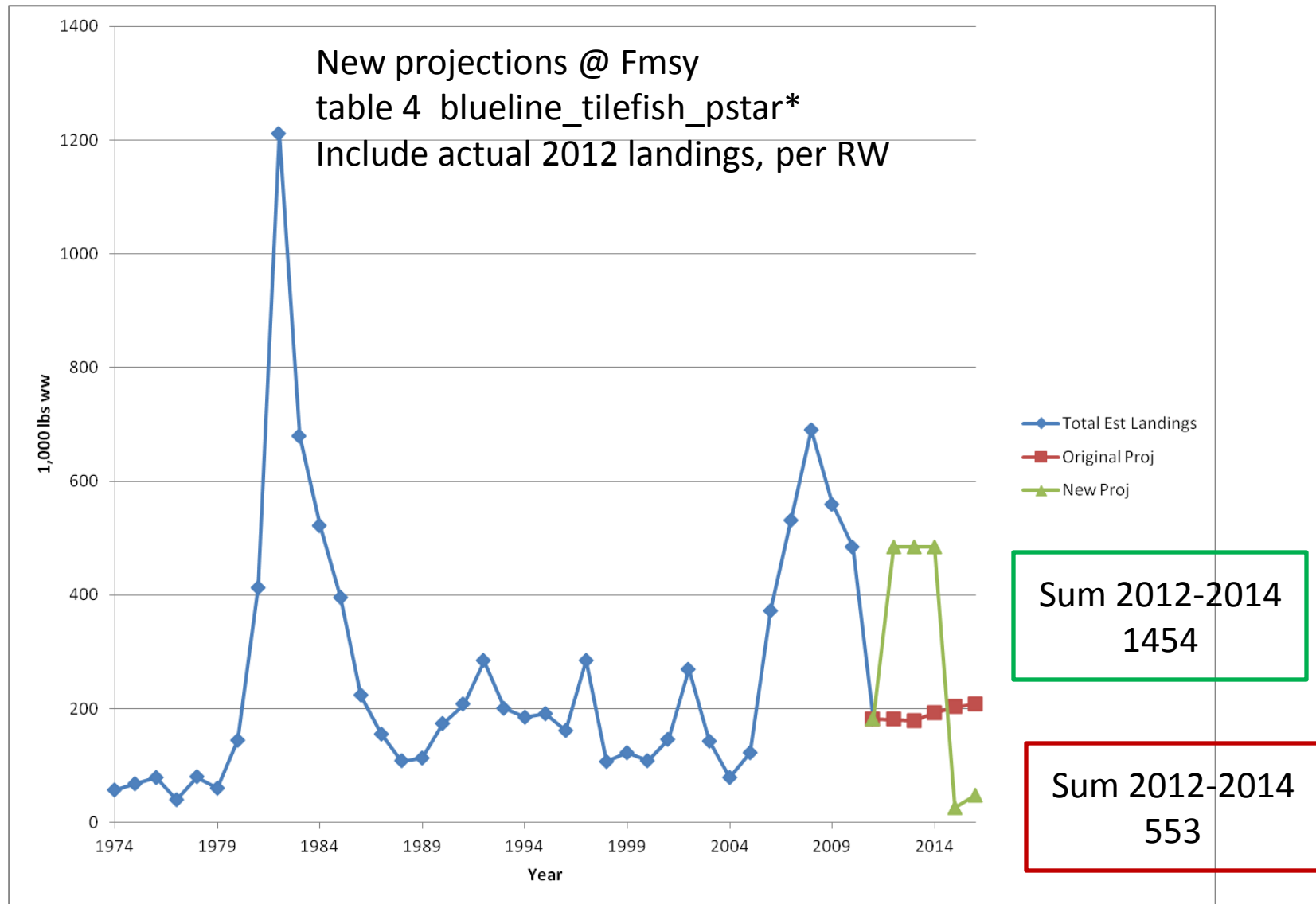
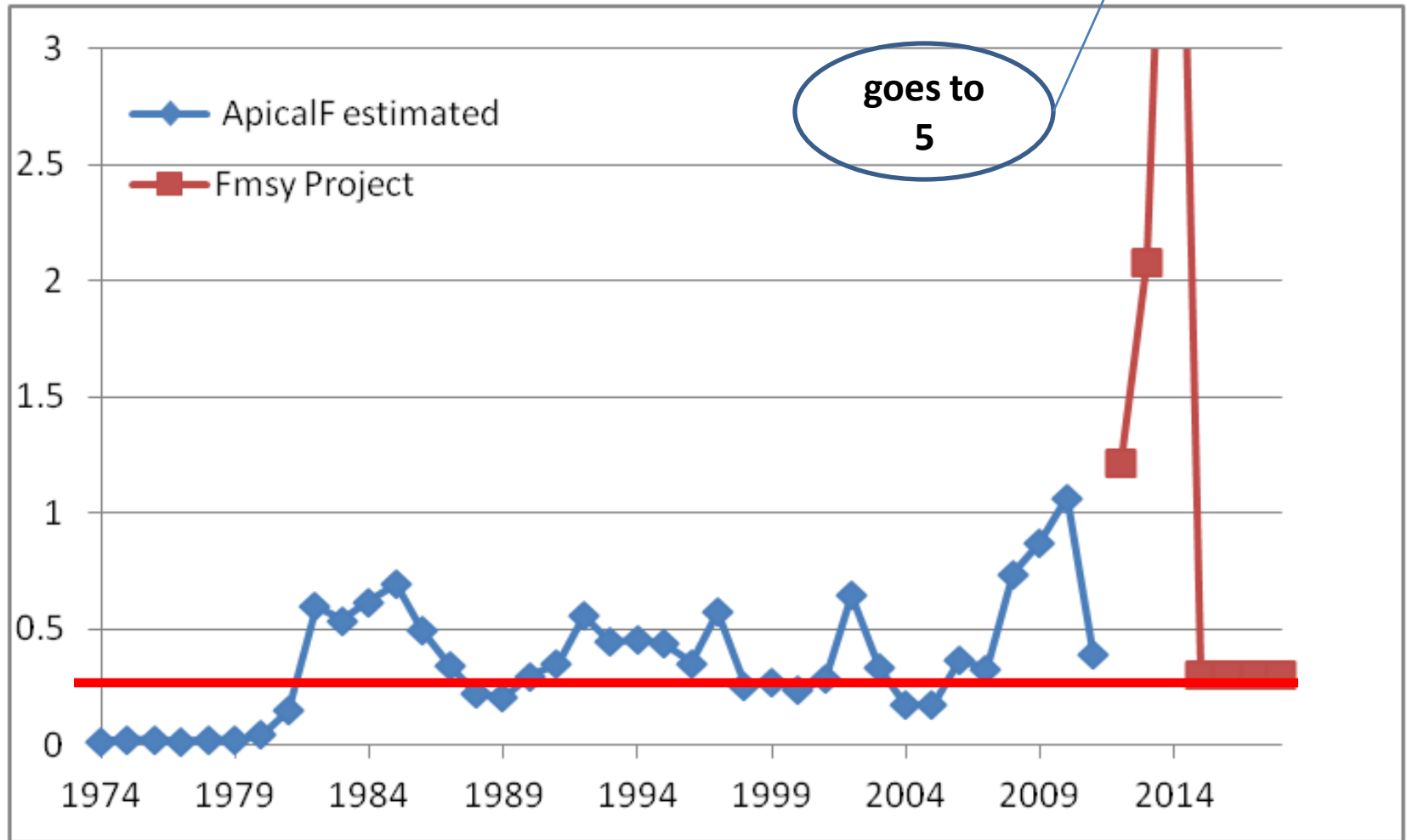


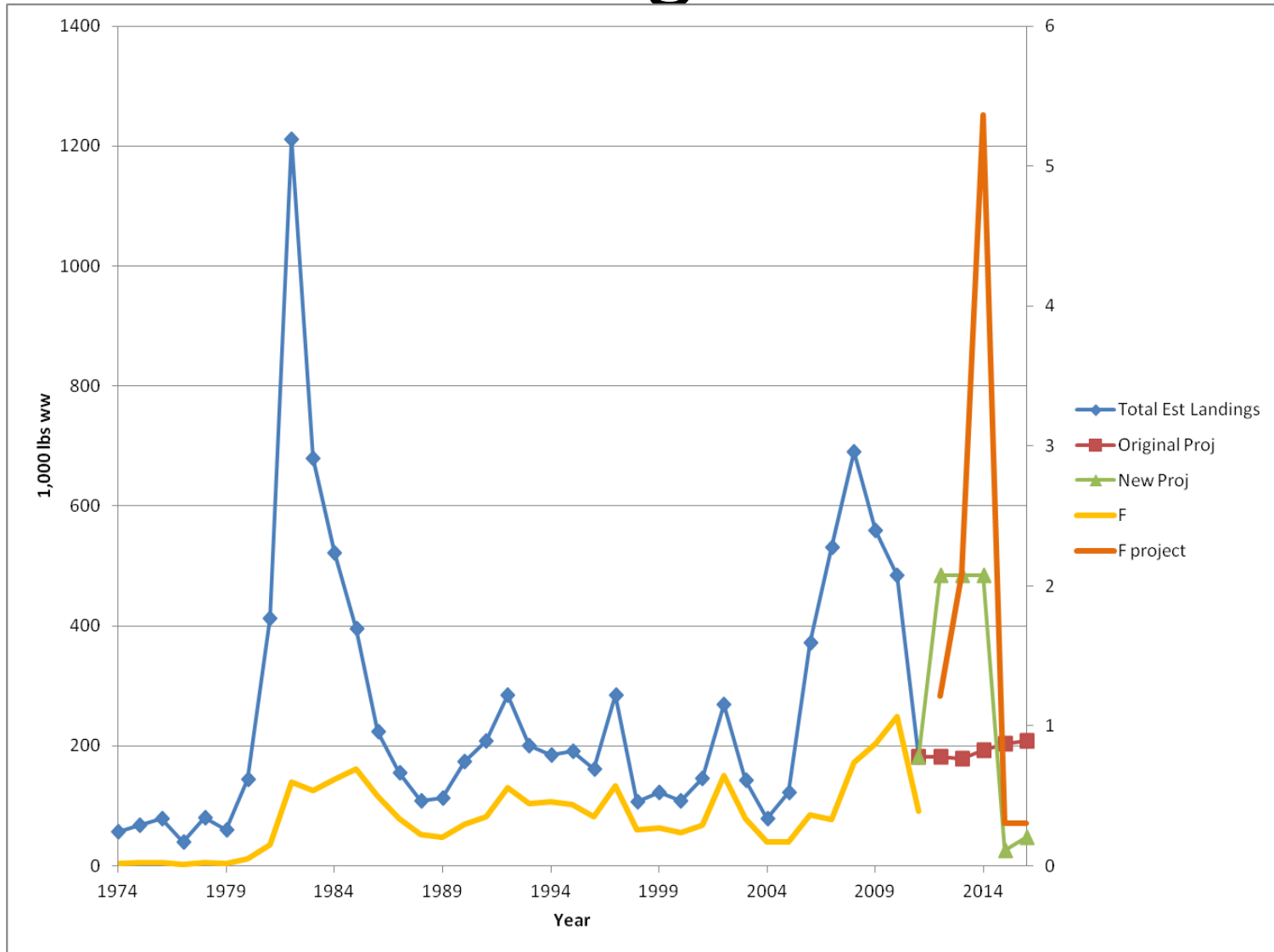
Blueline landings, past and future



Fishing Mortality



Both together



Landings, 2012 and 2013

2012 – Table 1 in projections

2013. Preliminary

Fishery	Removals
Com Handline landings	32,726
Com Longline landings	309,320
Com 'Other' landings	25,197
Com Discards	197
MRIP landings	91,421
MRIP discards	7,458
Headboat landings	18,462
Headboat discards	86
Total:	484,867

Commercial, ACL monitoring (SERO)
 Deepwater Complex = 268,921
 (as of today)

Recreational (MRIP), as of Wave 4
 (July/August), Type A + B1
 212,548 Pounds
 70,532 Fish

NOTE: landings used in assessment are typically greater than the basic MRIP query, due to adjustments for Monroe Co. and SEFSC weight estimation protocol. Years prior to 2004 differ due to MRIP:MRFSS conversion
 MRIP query for 2012 = 66,539 POUNDS

What's Wrong?

- Not the assessment
- Not the new projections – they reflect the current landings
- Nothing really – it is a “known unknown”
 - How many fish were born annually since 2008?
 - Recruitment ‘deviations’ (from MSY level) estimated through 2009 (2008 cohort)
 - Rec fishery selects age 3+ (80%), Longline 6+
 - No Fishery Independent Indices
 - Retrospective pattern shows difficulty estimating recruitment until a cohort reaches age 4 or older
- Higher recent landings may be supported by a good year class, but we have no information at hand to evaluate that, and ‘may’ carries a lot of risk.

What we know

- The Current ABC/ACL is about 3x the MSY
- If removals continue at the current rate, biomass will decline, future yield is at risk.
- If there was a good year class sometime since 2008, recent landings exceeding MSY may not have caused damage to the stock
- If there was NOT a good year class, recent landings have damaged the stock and jeopardized the fishery from 2015 – recovery.

What can we do

(besides taking 2 years to end overfishing)

- Immediately reduce ACL to the 75% FMSY level ?
--for 2014 if possible!
- Ask the SSC to review the latest projections
- Request an update to determine if there is a good year class, and to inform an ABC with reduced uncertainty for 2015, 2016
- Request updated projections with lower 2014 ACL (if the ACL is lowered)
- Request an evaluation of the age composition of the 2012 and 2013 catch – may show evidence of a good year class.