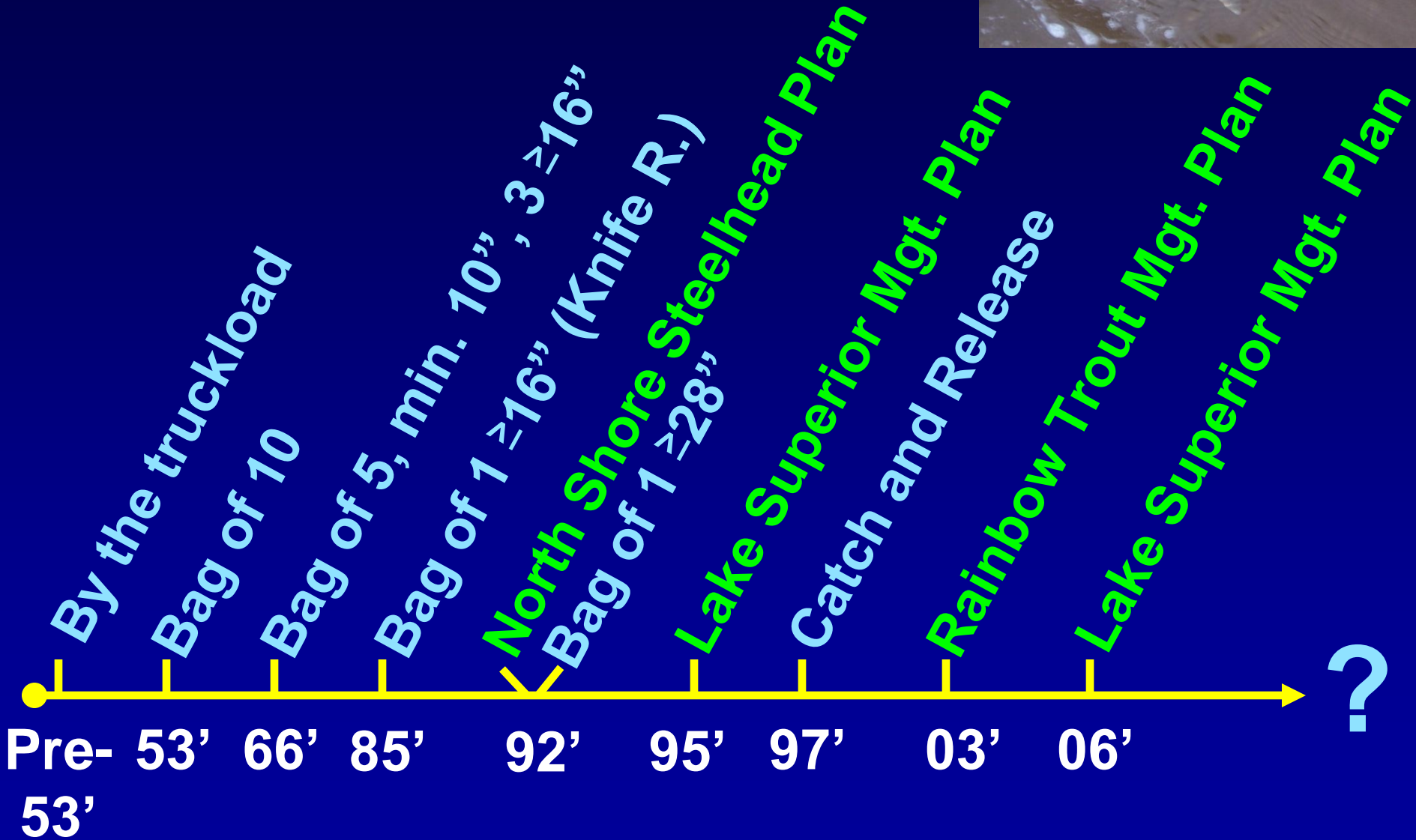


# Steelhead Regulations in Minnesota



**What's Next?**

# Regulation History



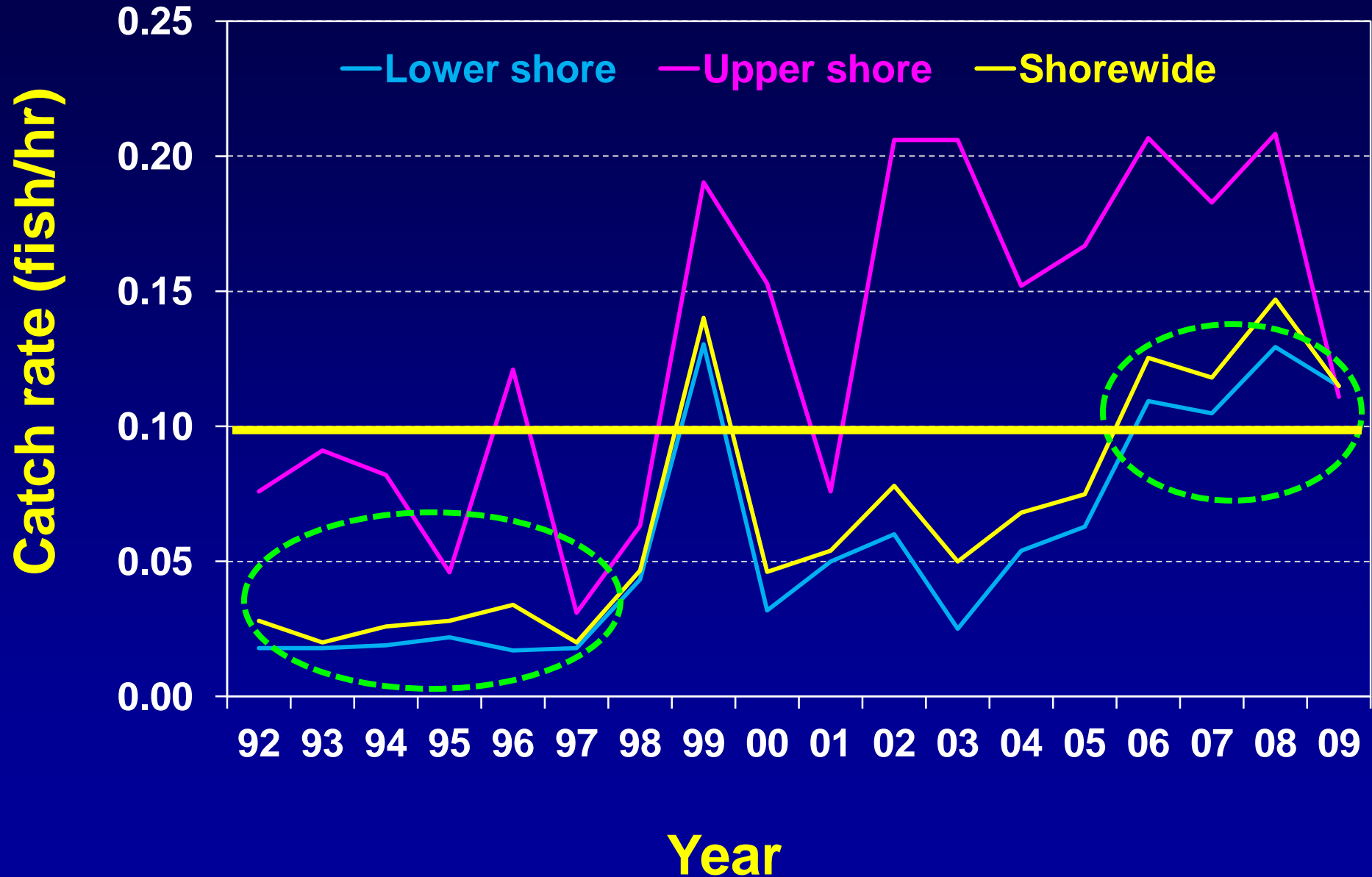
# What was stated



## •2006 Lake Superior Management Plan:

**“...if wild steelhead rehabilitation progresses and the angler catch rate for steelhead 16 inches or greater from the spring creel exceeds 0.10 fish per angler hour for 3 consecutive years shorewide, the MNDNR will meet with interested citizens to develop appropriate harvest regulations...”**

# Steelhead Catch Rate



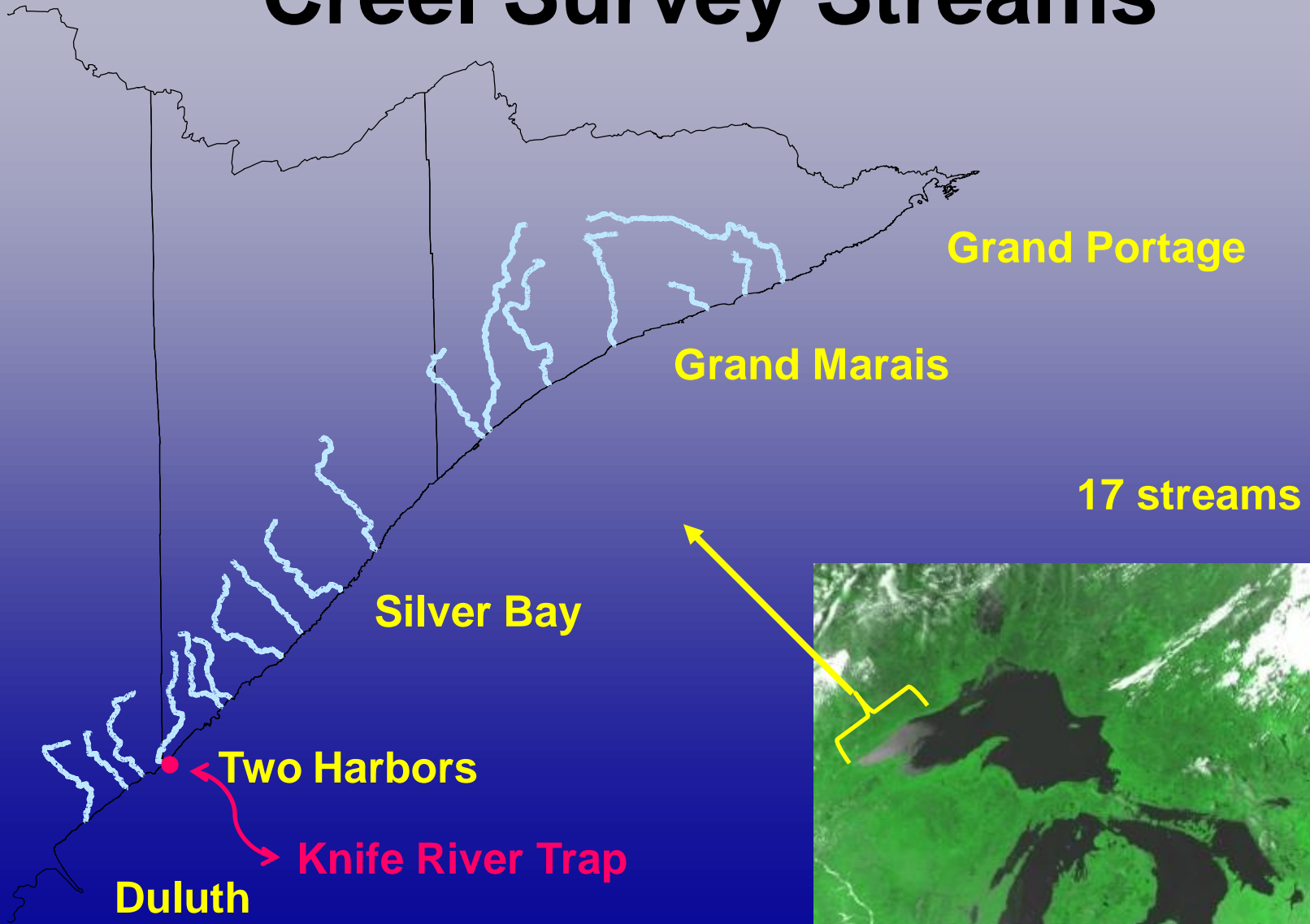
# Steelhead Regulations

What should future steelhead regulations be?

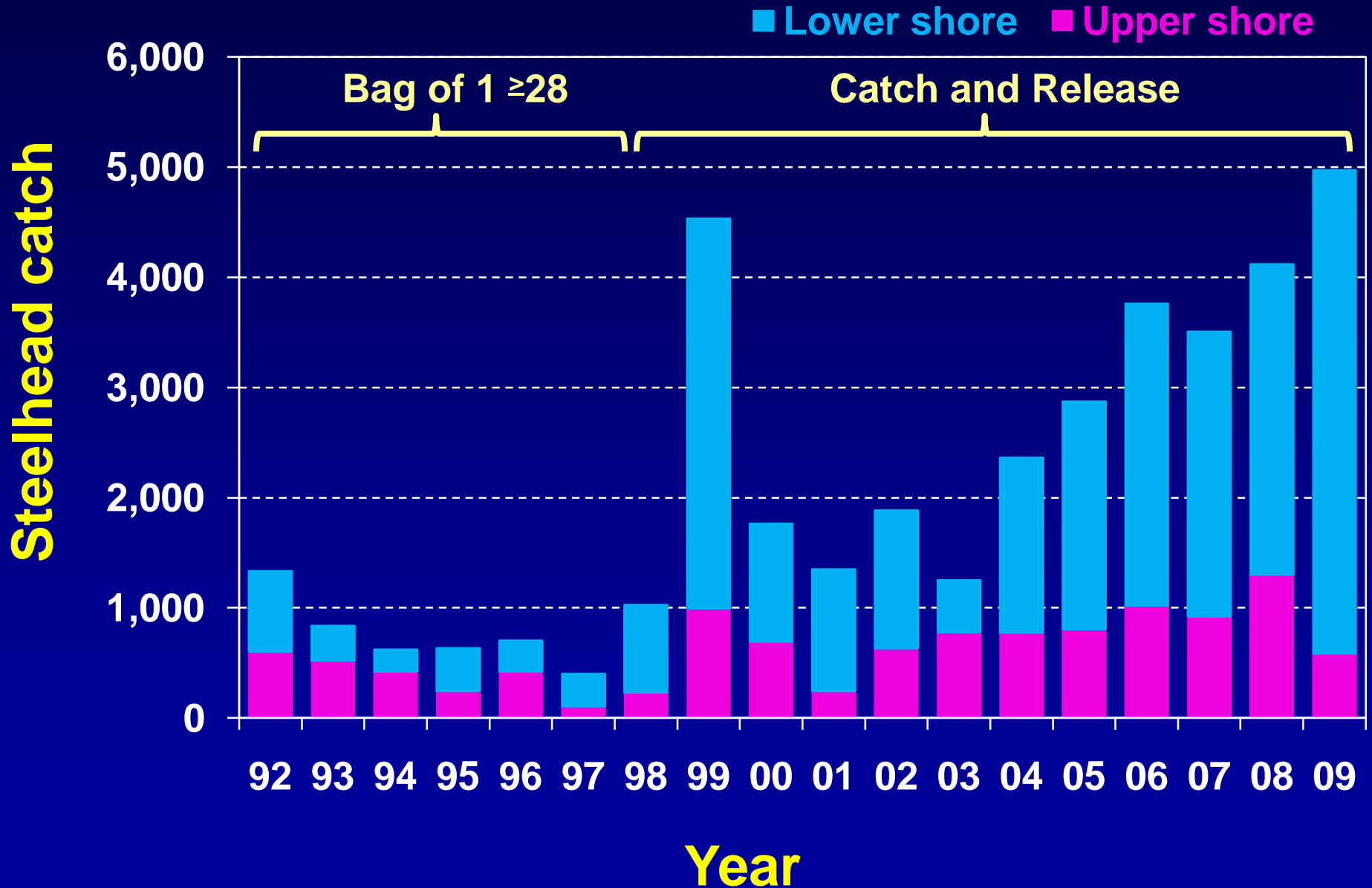
What does the data say?



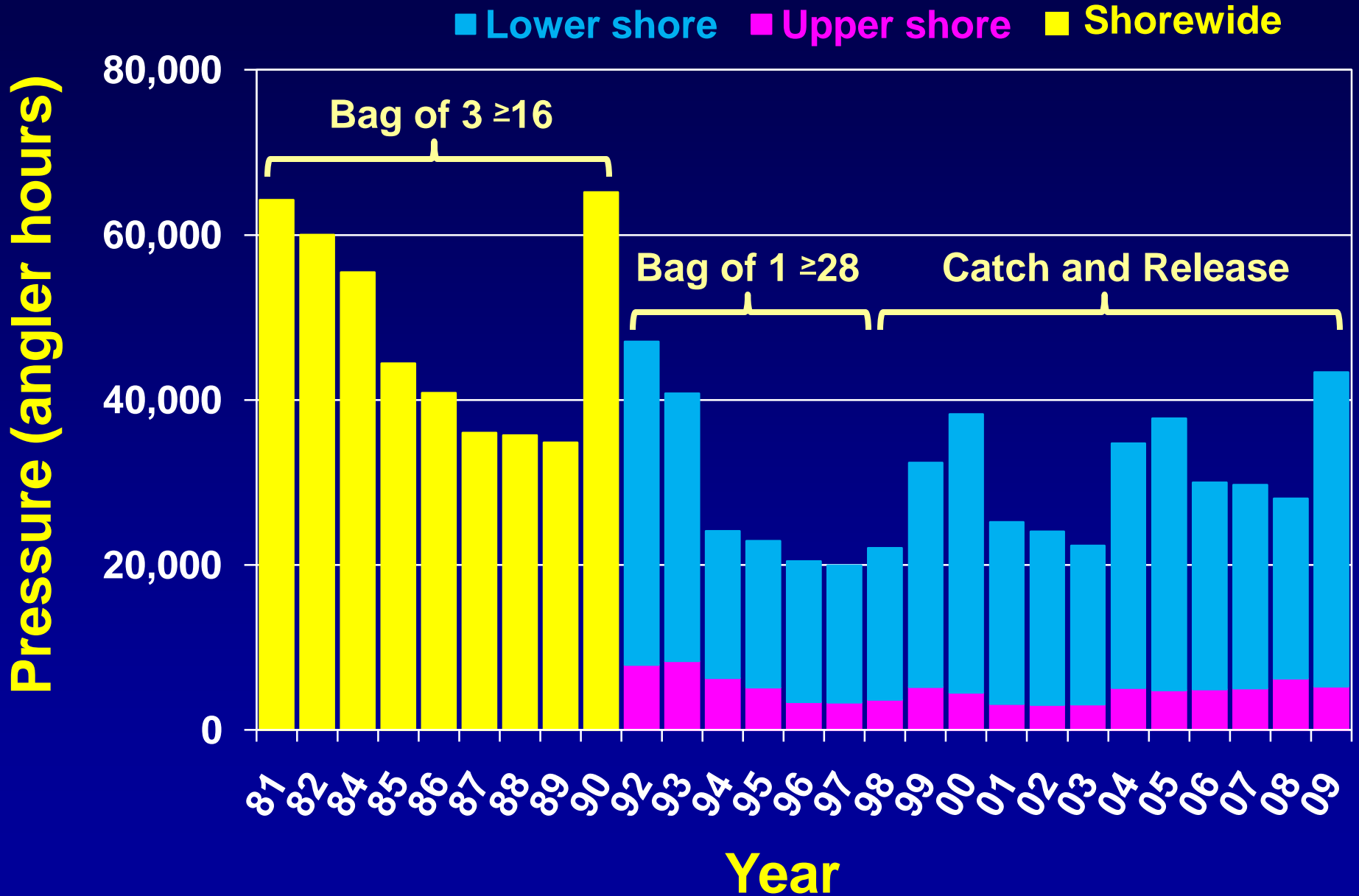
# Creel Survey Streams



# Steelhead Catch

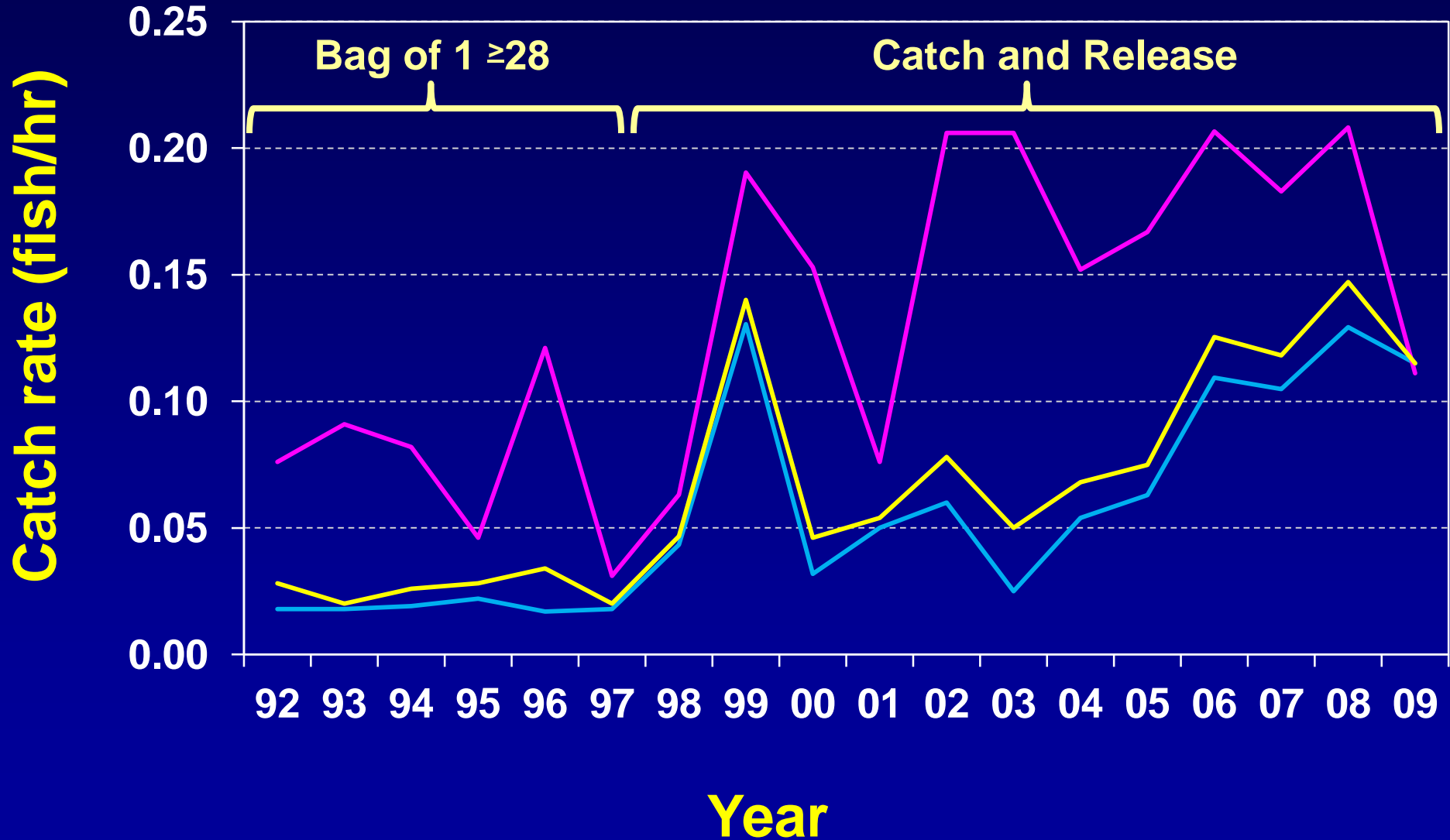


# Spring Creel Pressure

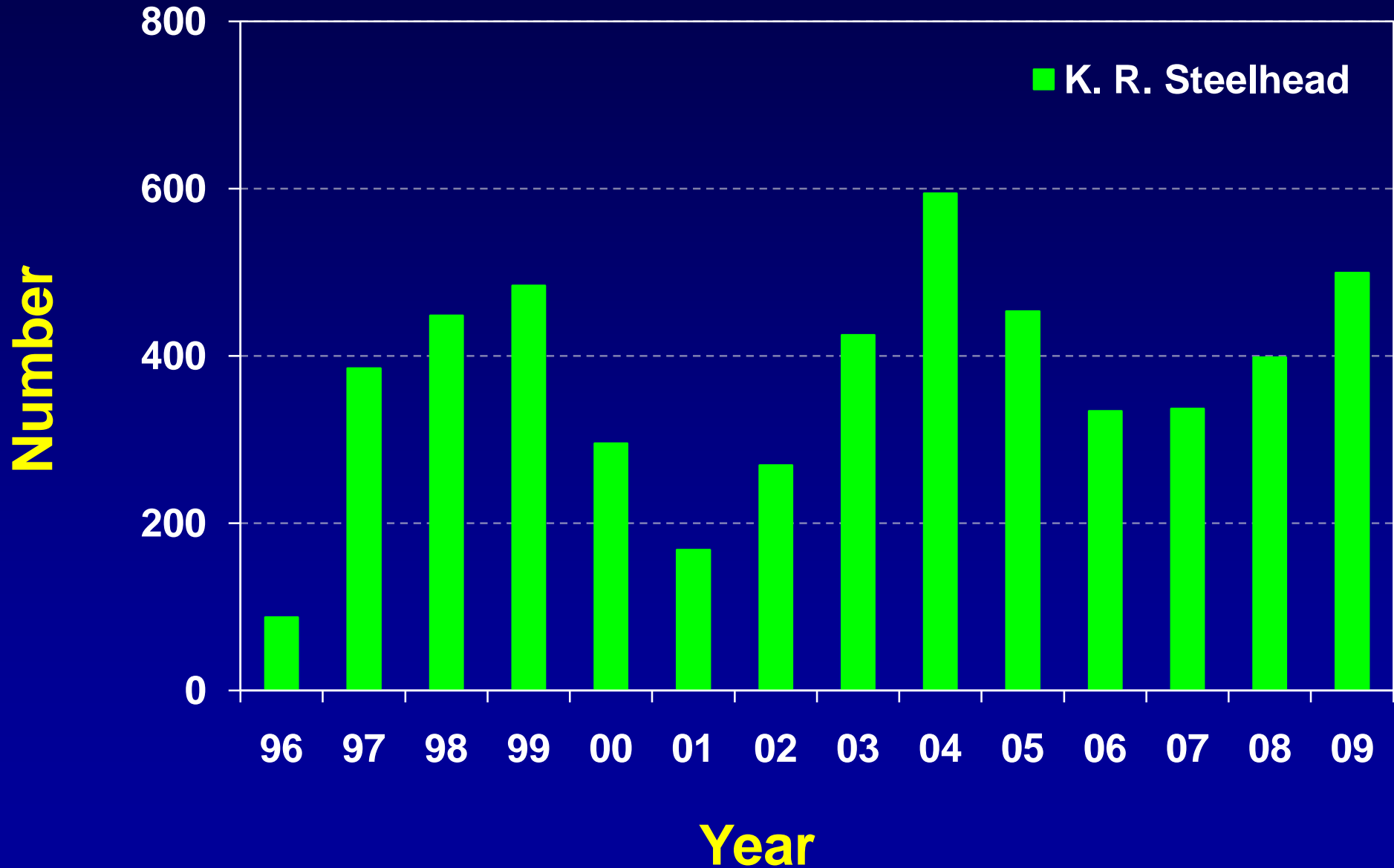


# Steelhead Catch Rate

— Lower shore — Upper shore — Shorewide

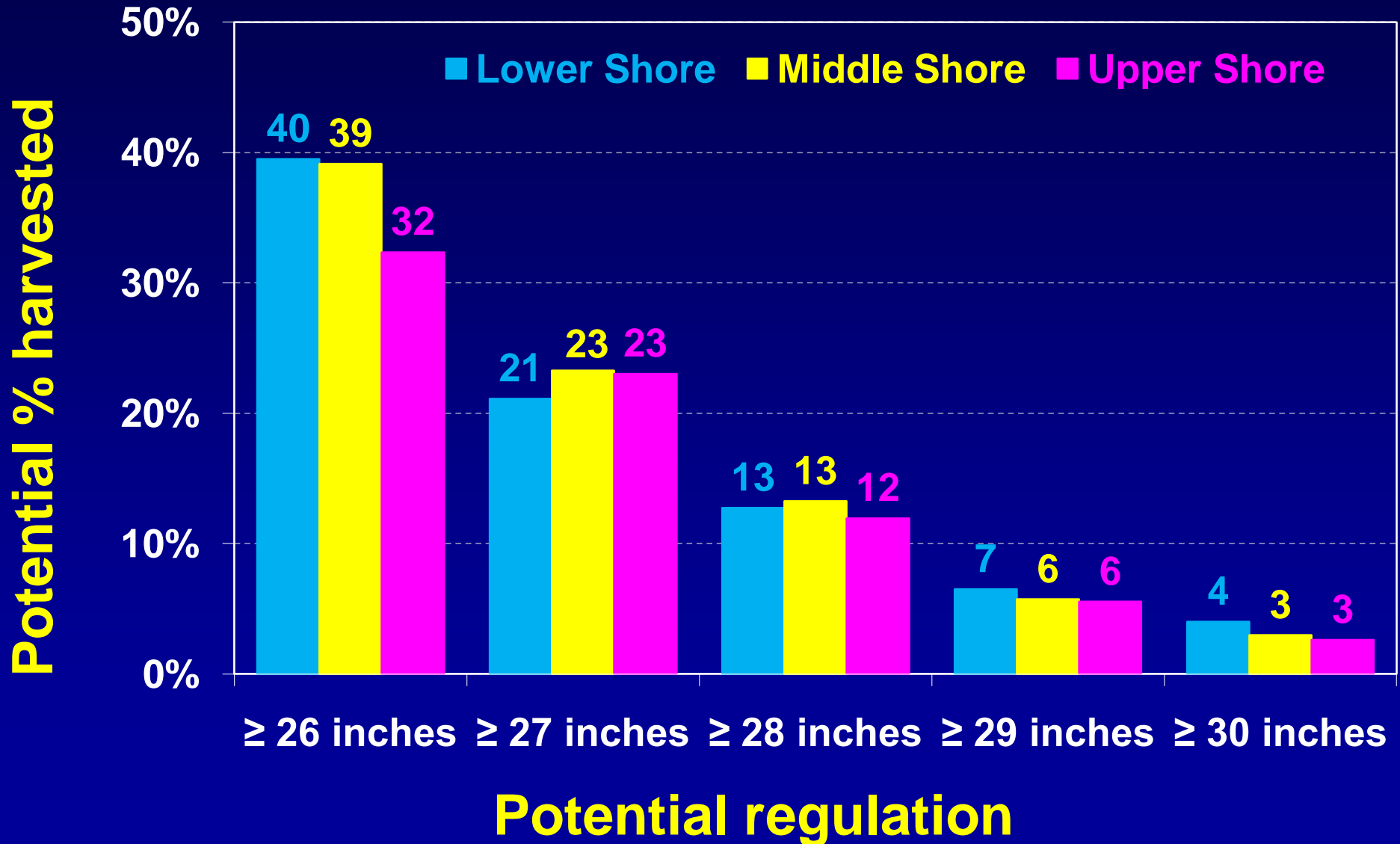


# Knife River Steelhead



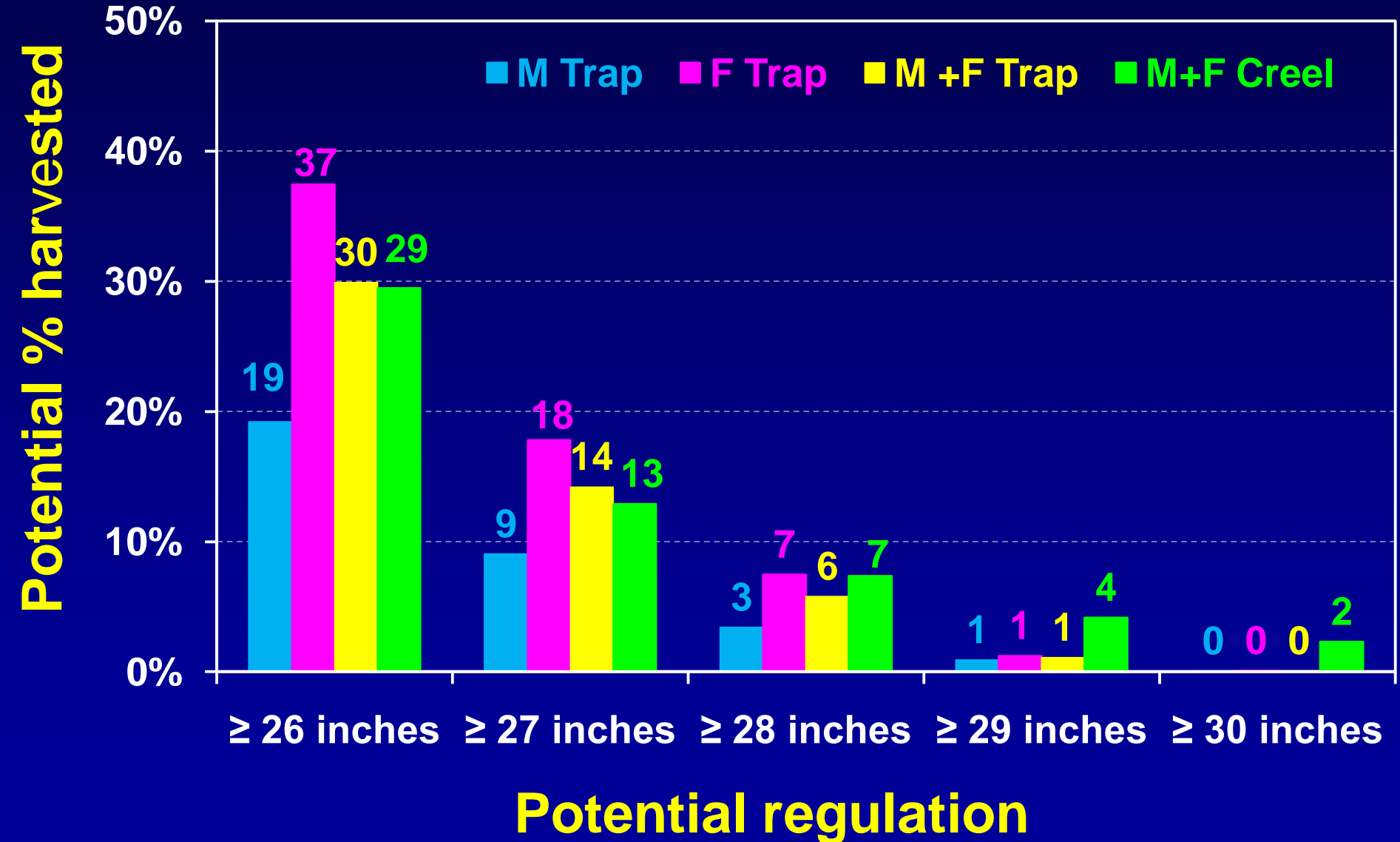
# Percent Available for Harvest

Spring Creel 98-09

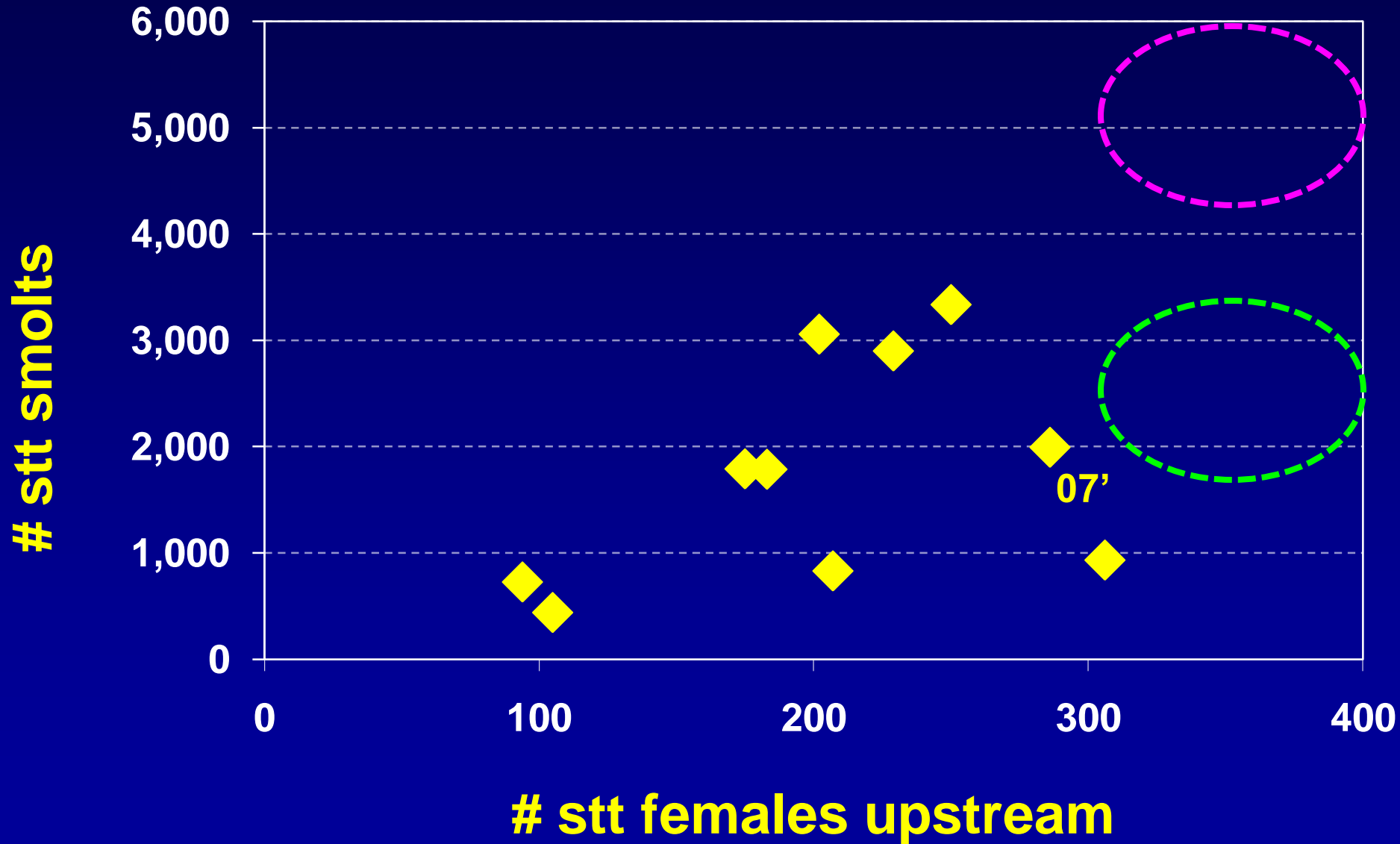


# Percent Available for Harvest

Knife River 98-09

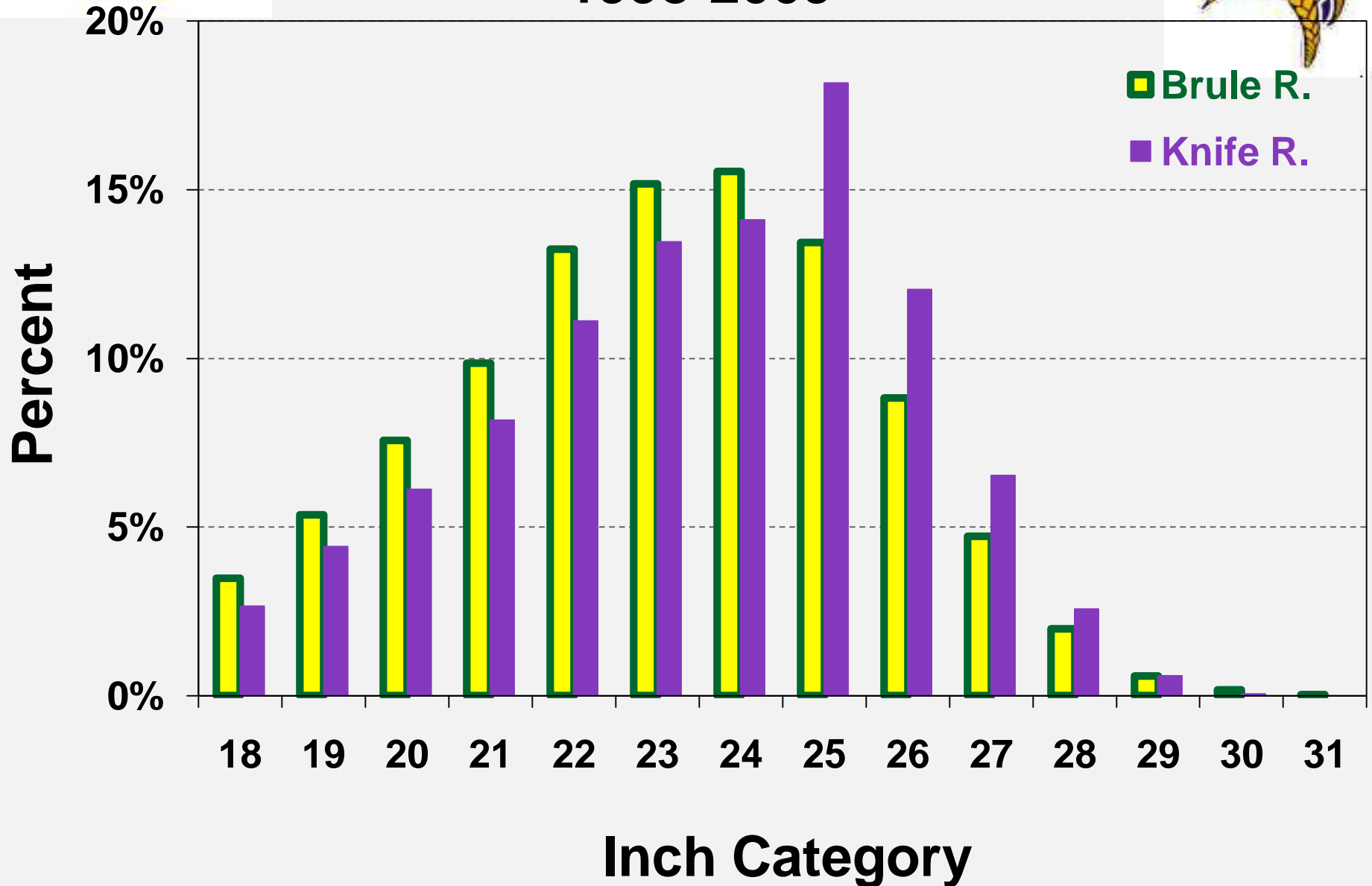


# Steelhead Carrying Capacity?





# $\geq 26''$ or C&R 1998-2009



# Concerns with harvest



- **What affects recruitment?**

  - Severe environmental conditions**

  - Lake trout predation**

  - Increased Harvest = Increased Handling**

  - Cormorant predation**

  - Lamprey control**

  - Kamloops straying**

  - Disease - VHS**

  - Loss of genetic/behavioral diversity**

# What are trends?

- **Catch shorewide is increasing (5x)**
- **Catch rate shorewide is increasing (3x)**
- **Knife River adults, cyclical and increasing**
- **Pressure has remained relatively stable**



# Questions?



# Contact Information



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Lake Superior Area Fisheries**

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**Duluth, MN 55804**

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**218-525-0853 ex-222**



# Charter captains request

- ~40 charter captains
- 10 tags/year = 400 harvested/yr
- 5 tags/boat/month = 1,000 harvested/yr
- MN steelhead population ranges between 2,000 and 4,000 adults



# Steelhead catch

## Summer Creel and Charter Captains

