

2019

Bighorn River and Reservoir Update

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THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

**Dennis Fischer, Bighorn Alliance
Kline's Channel Project**



Before Feb 2012

After May 2017



Melissa Foster USBOR 2019 Evaluate overall project to inform future opportunities

FWP Fisheries Tools



Bighorn River Electrofishing

- Bighorn FAS (Upper) Spring
- Mallards FAS (Lower) Fall

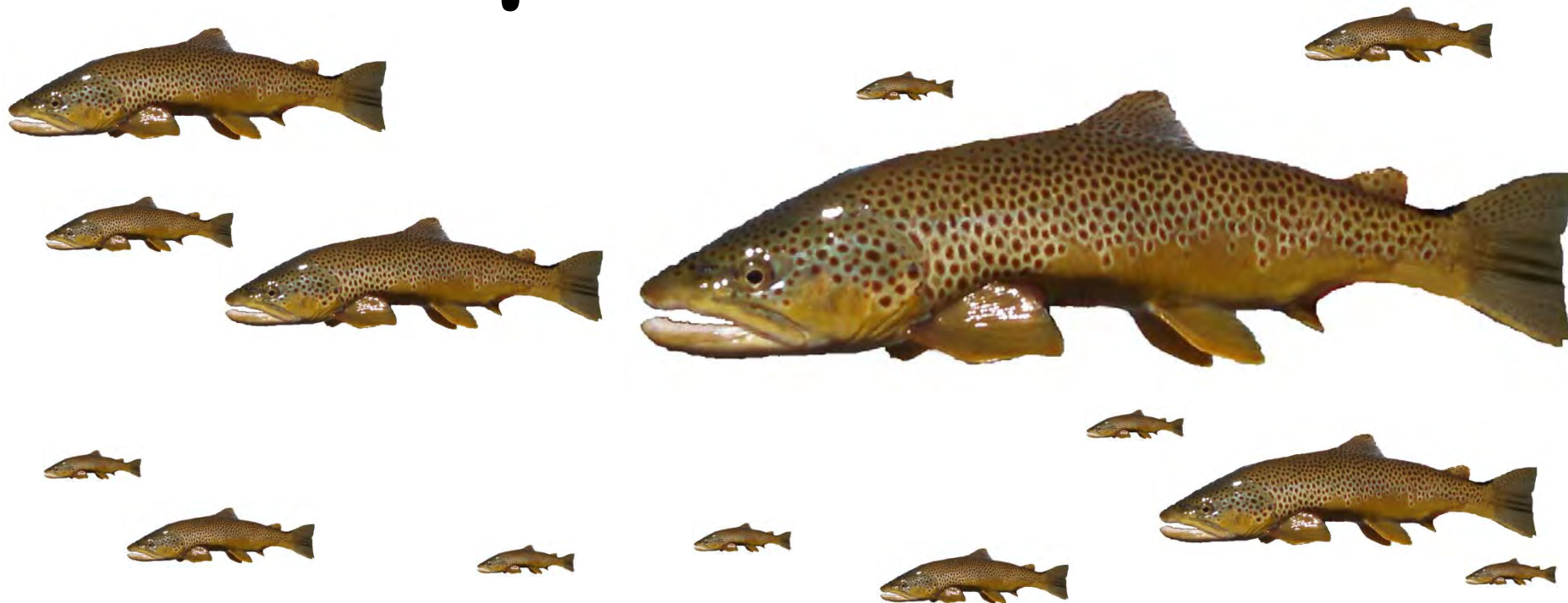


Products

- Fish per mile (abundance)
- Size Structure (recruitment)
- Body Condition
- Fish health



River Population Estimates

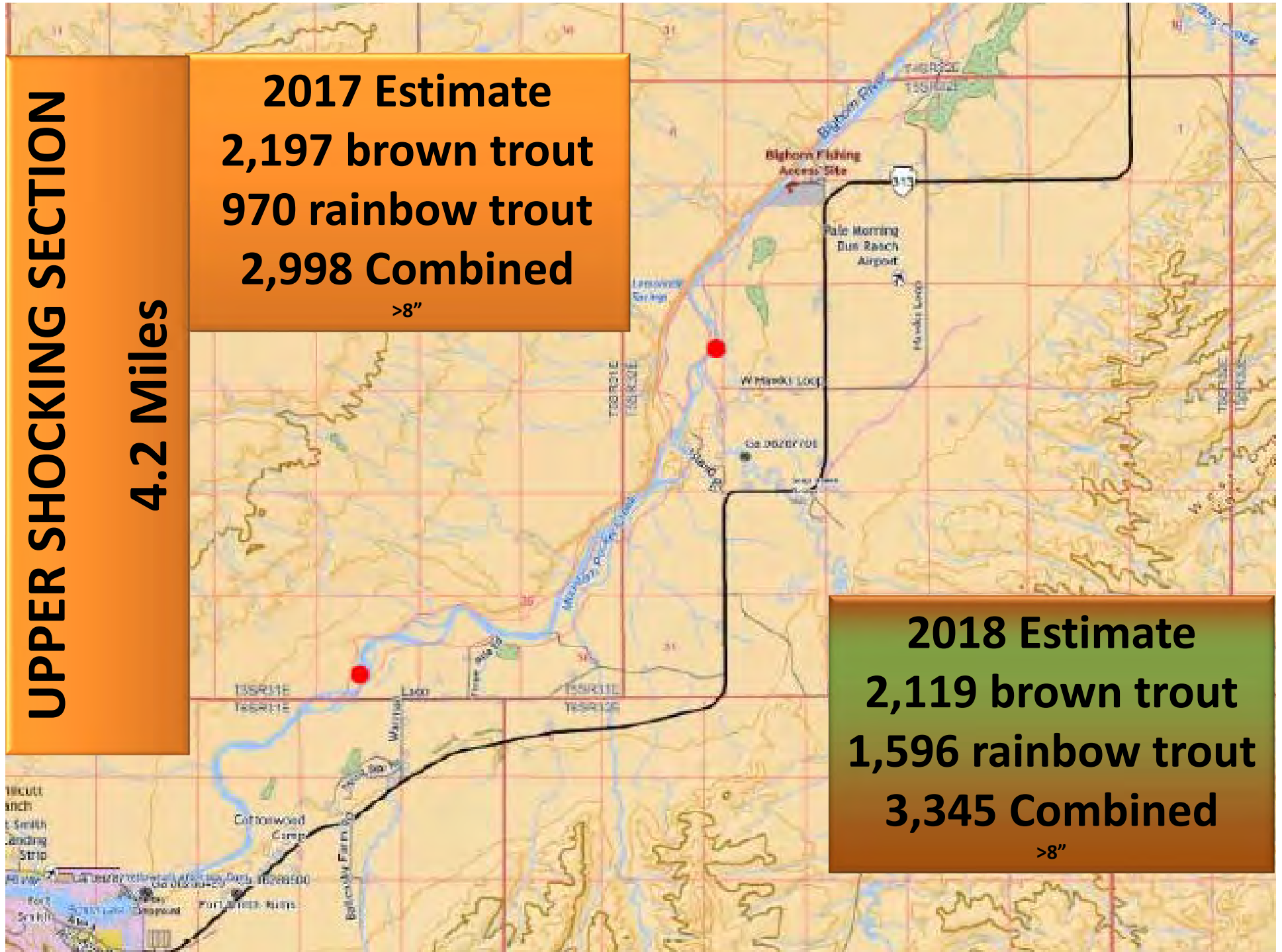


UPPER SHOCKING SECTION

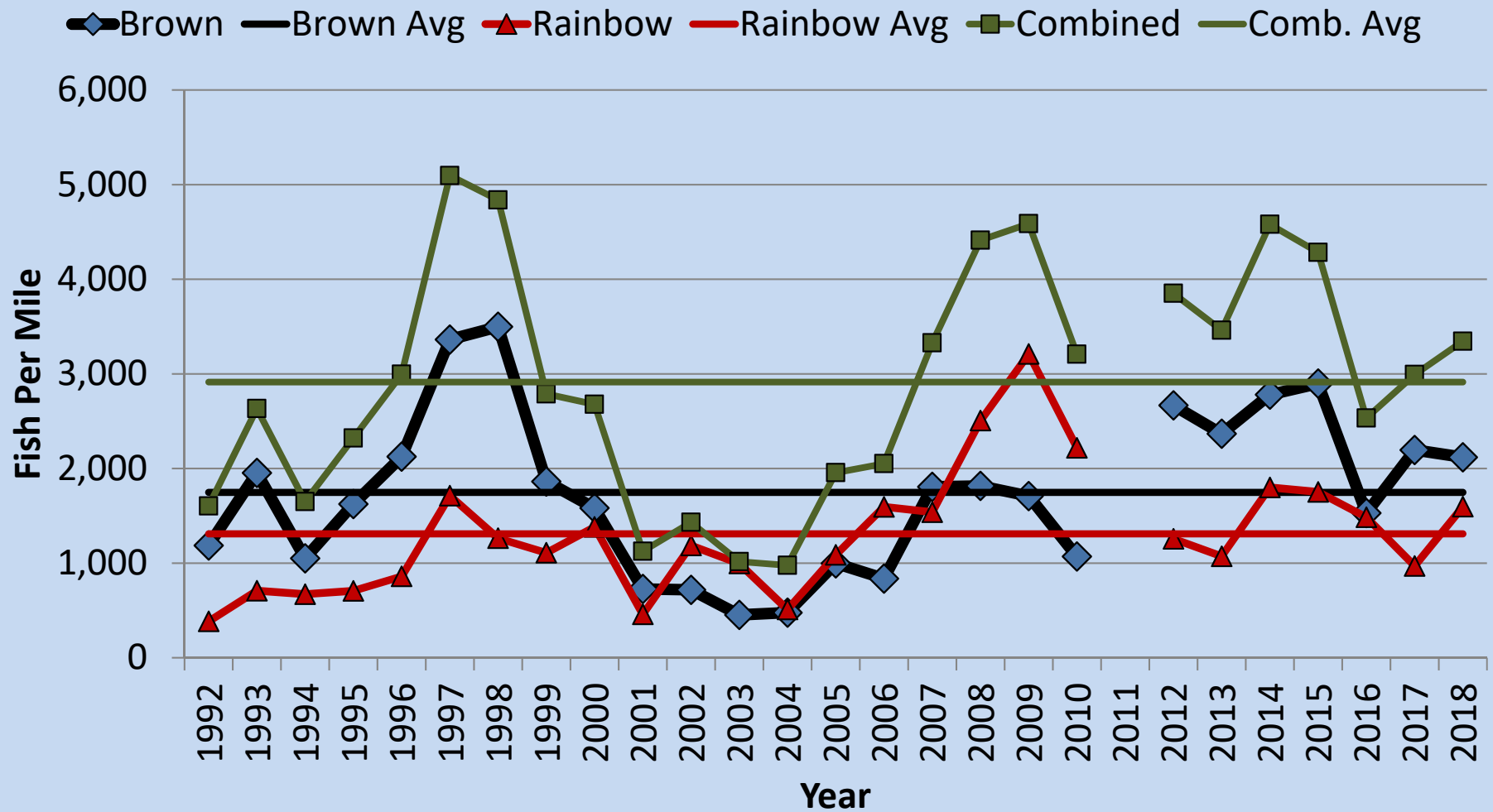
4.2 Miles

2017 Estimate
2,197 brown trout
970 rainbow trout
2,998 Combined
>8"

2018 Estimate
2,119 brown trout
1,596 rainbow trout
3,345 Combined
>8"



Bighorn River **Upper** Trout Section Population Estimate for Trout Greater Than Eight Inches



Lower/Mallard Section

4.0 Miles

Mallards
Landing Fishing
Access Site

Mallard Landing Rd

Horn Rd

Horn Rd

Mission Loop

Beauvais
Loop

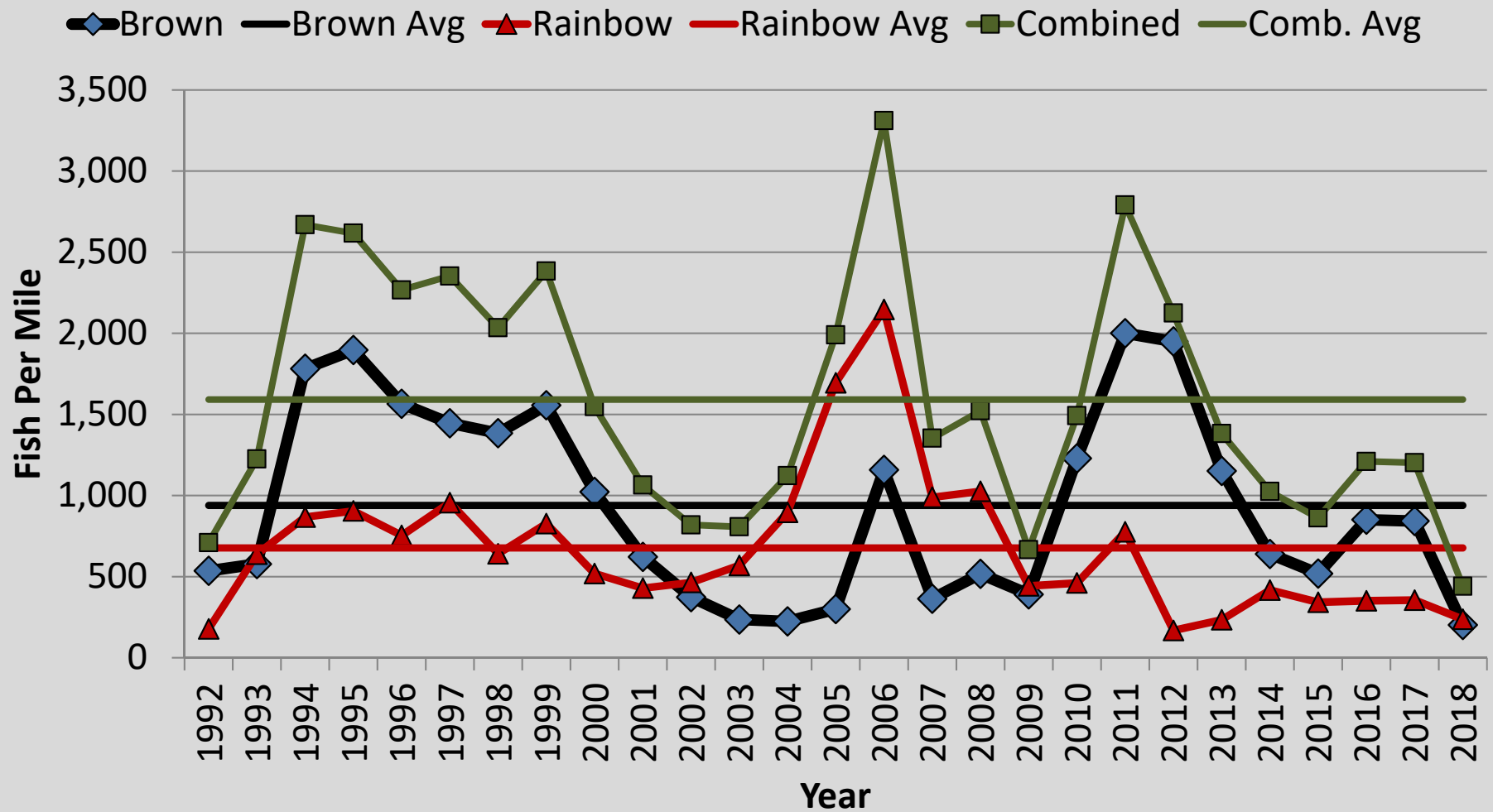
Saint Xavier
Catholic Mission
Cemetery

Ga:06287800

2017 Estimate
843 brown trout
355 rainbow trout
1,202 Combined
> 8"

2018 Estimate
202 brown trout
237 rainbow trout
441 Combined
> 8"

Bighorn River **Mallards** Trout Section Population Estimate for Trout Greater Than Eight Inches

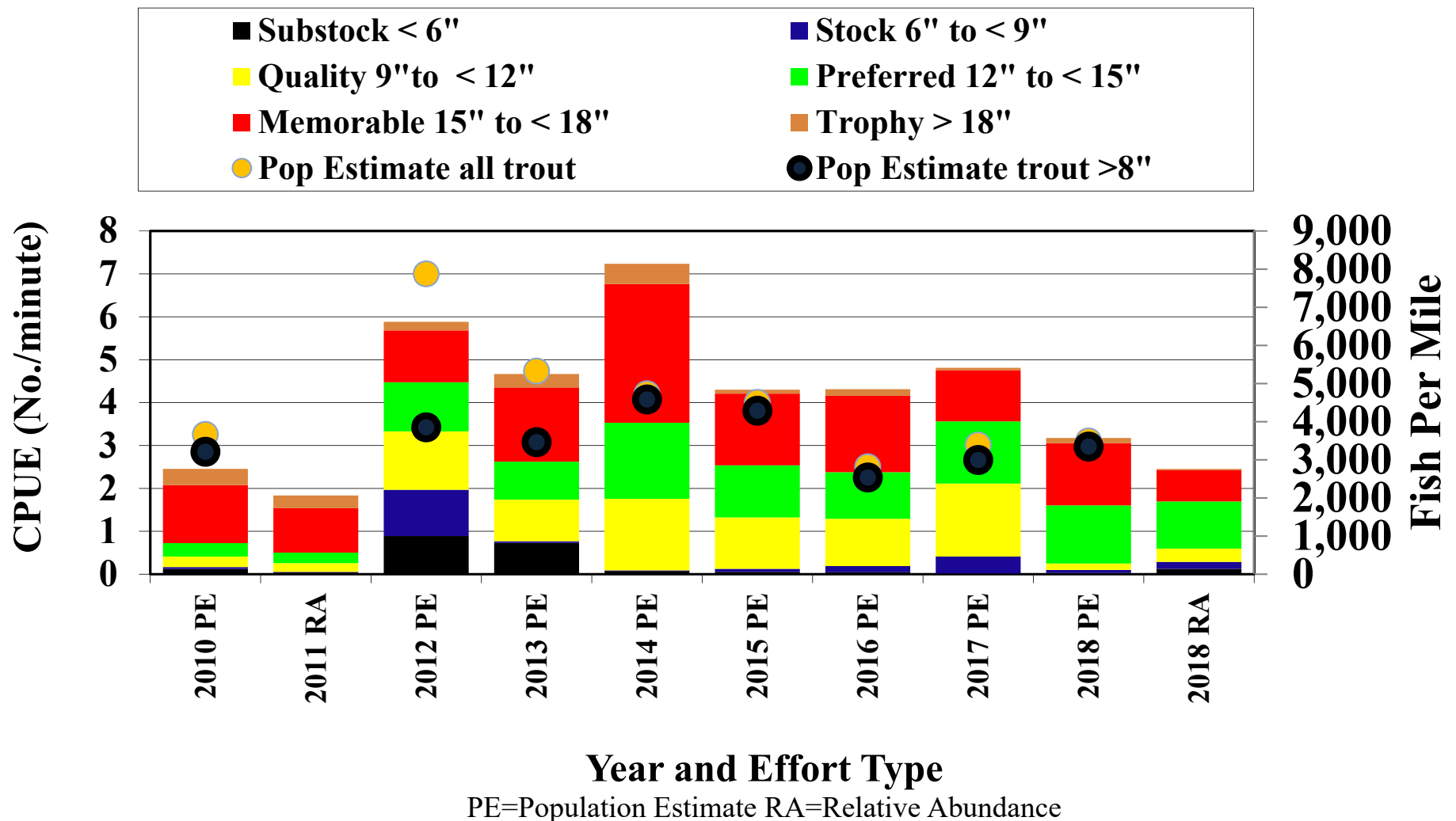




**No fish?
Warm Water
Dirty Water**

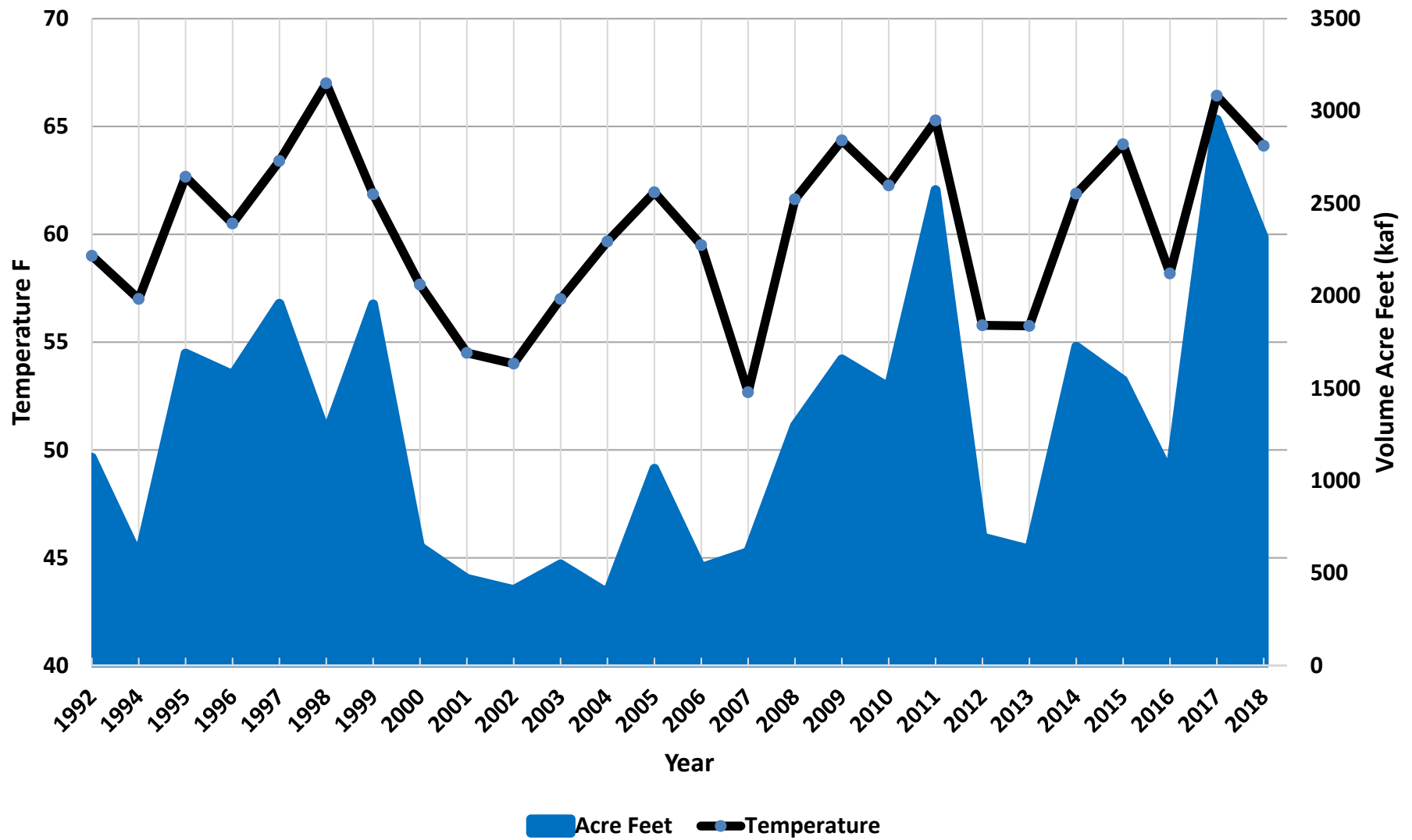
Bighorn River Upper Section

Rainbow Trout and Brown Trout Relative Abundance and Size Structure*



*Size structure categories modified to match brown trout categories, a deviation of literature standards.

Bighorn River Lower Section (Mallards) Water Temperature (August/September) Compared to April Through July Inflow Volume





Bighorn Reservoir Fishery

FWP Fisheries Tools



Bighorn Reservoir Electrofishing and Netting

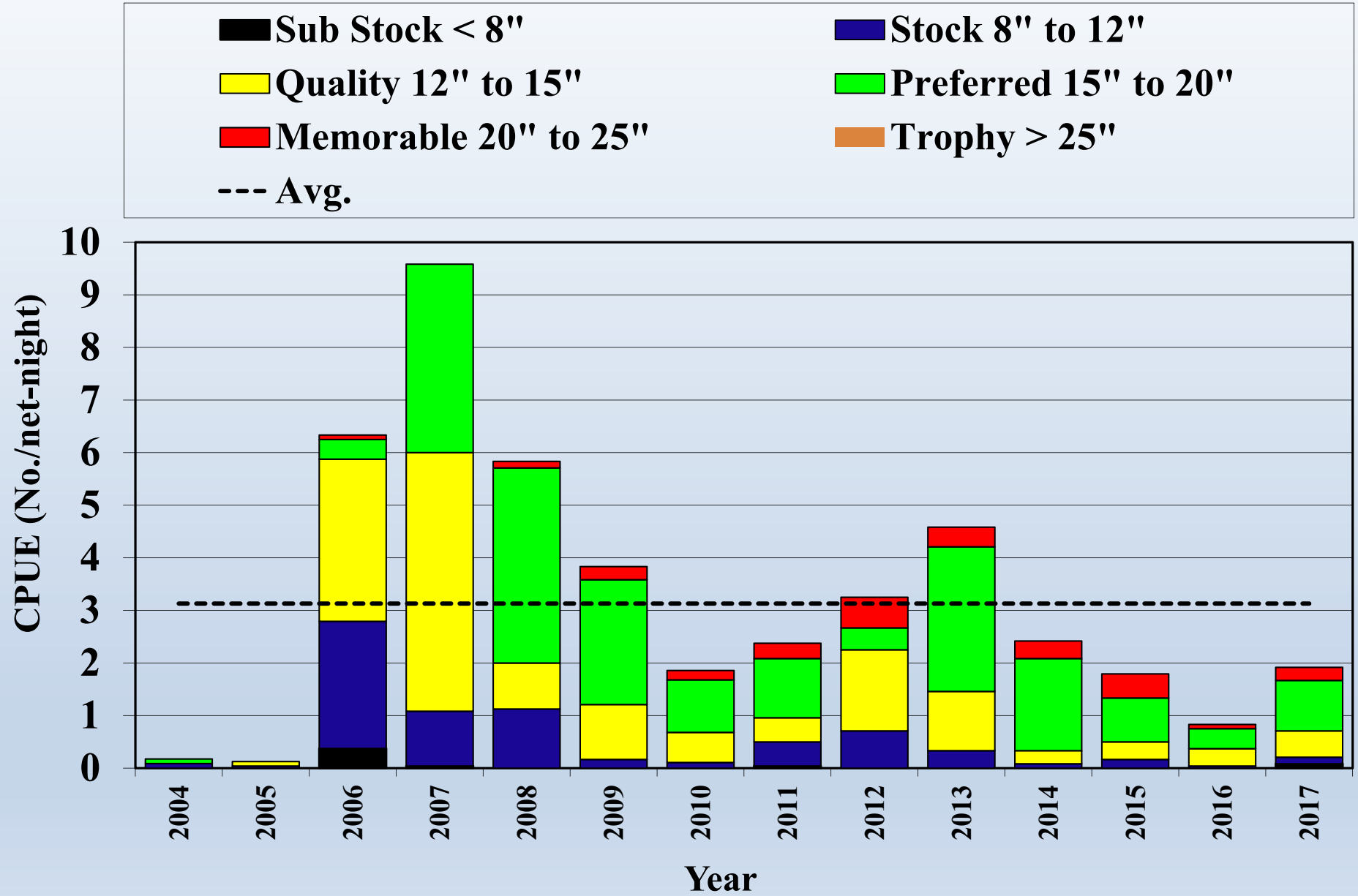
- Ok-A-Beh spring walleye sampling
- Reservoir-wide gill netting



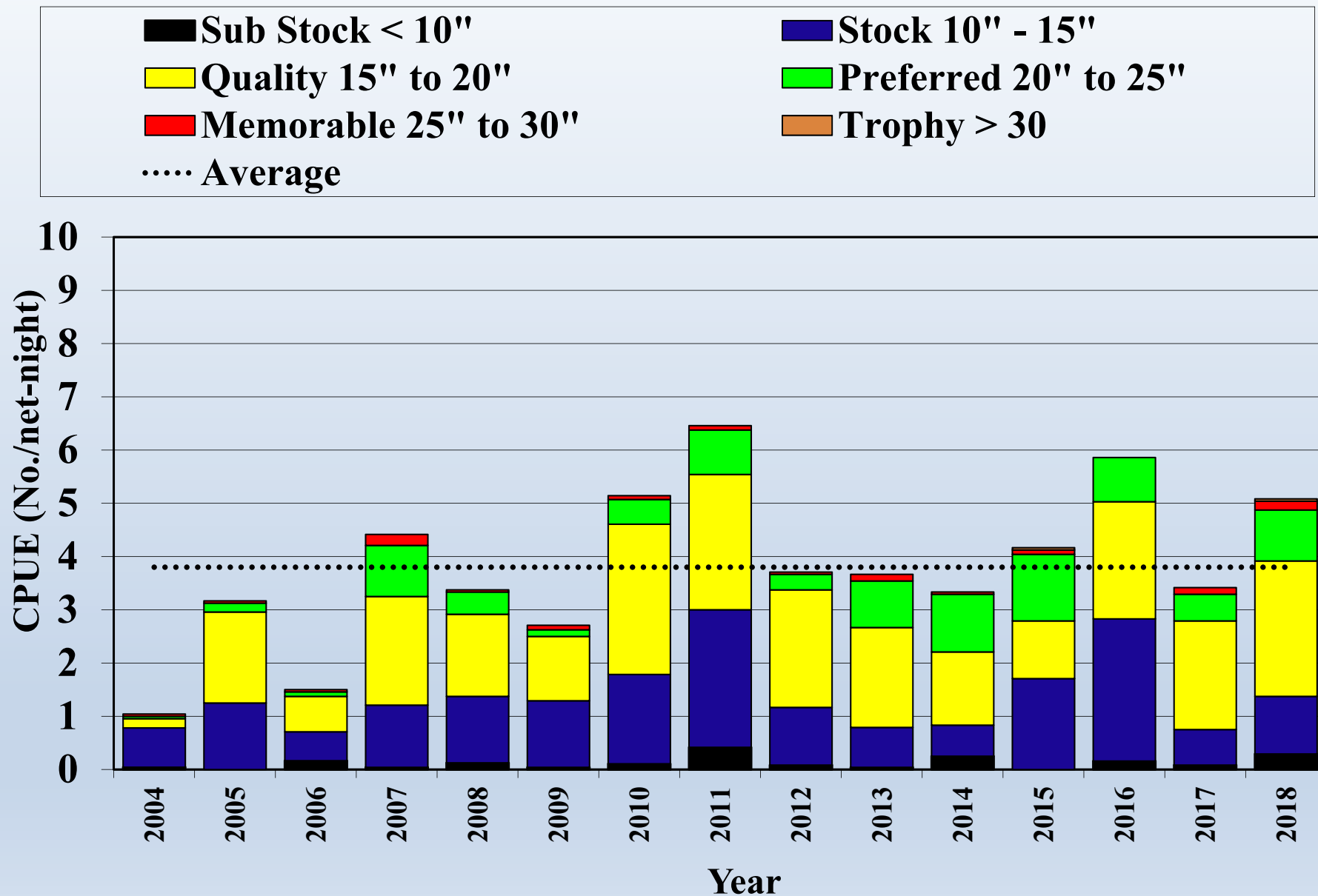
Products

- Fish per net (abundance)
- Size Structure (recruitment)
- Body Condition
- Fish health

Sauger Catch Rate by Size Category



Walleye Catch Rate by Size Category





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Thank-you
Happy Fishing