

BROWN TROUT UPDATE LEES FERRY



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LIFE HISTORY

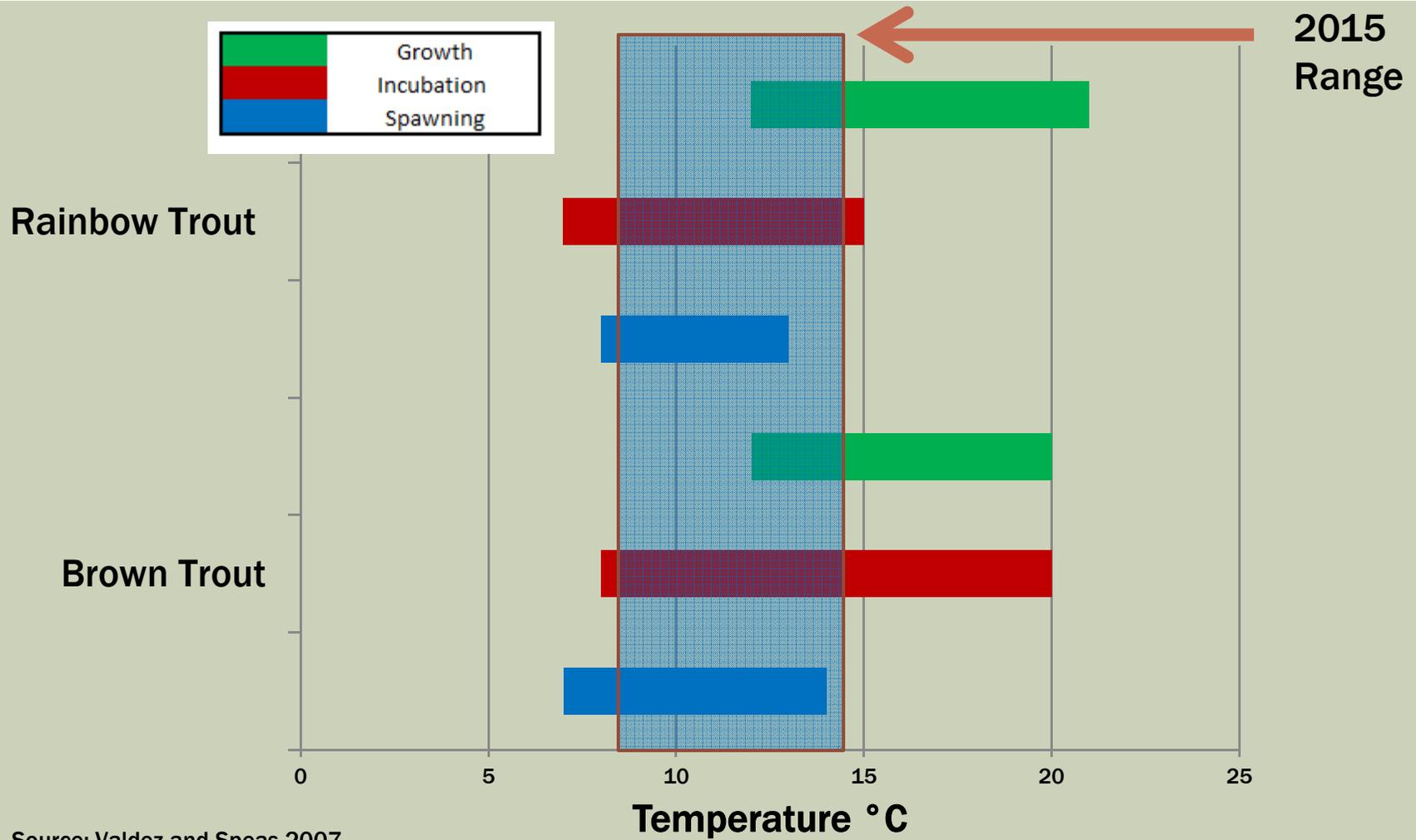
Brown Trout

- Spawn Nov-Dec
- Feed
- Aggressive piscivores
(70% Yard et al.)
- Move long distance to spawn
- Not susceptible to whirling disease

Rainbow Trout

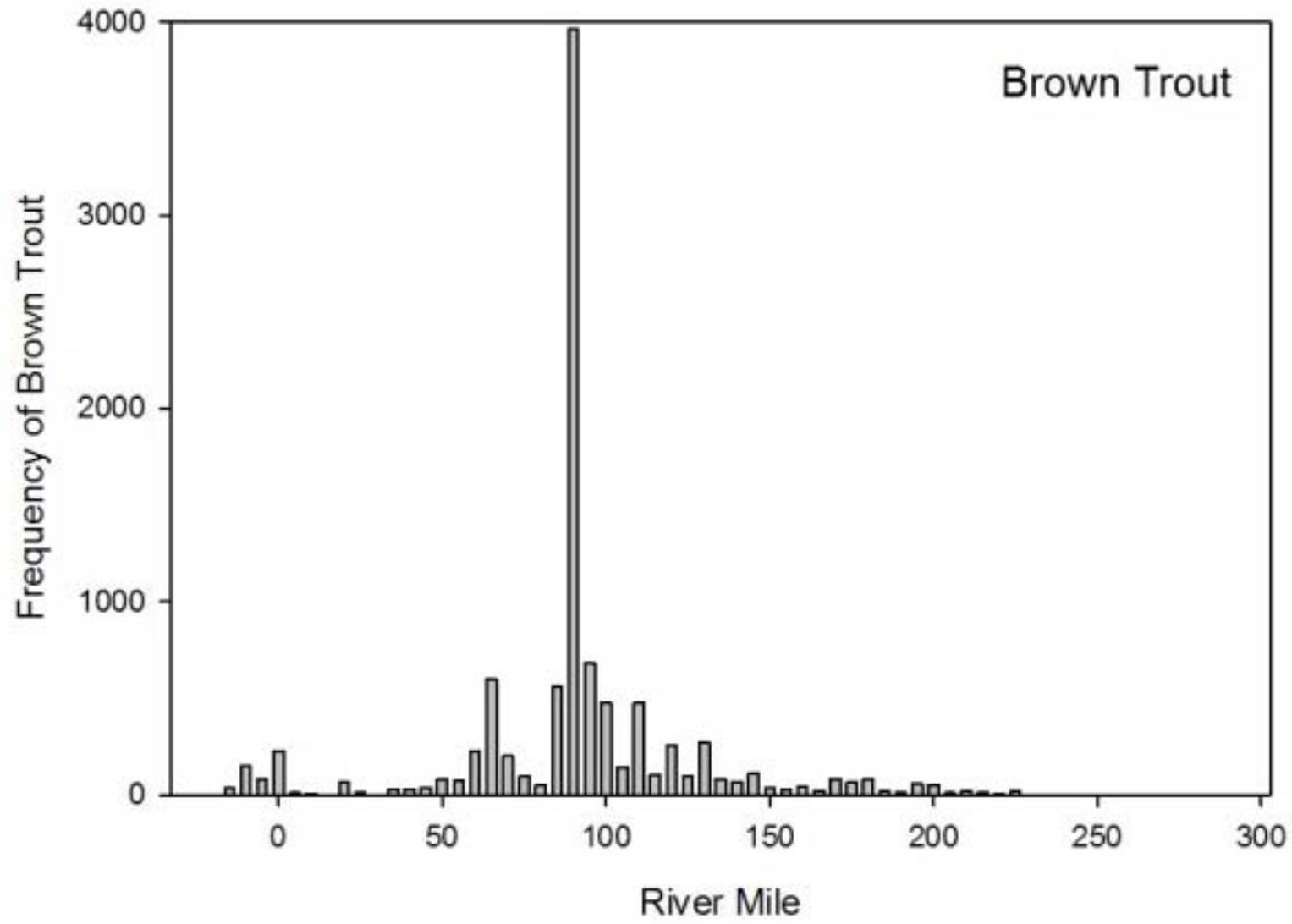
- Spawn Feb-April
- Predominately drift (sight) feeders (3.3% Yard et al.)
- Limited movement

TEMPERATURE PREFERENCE



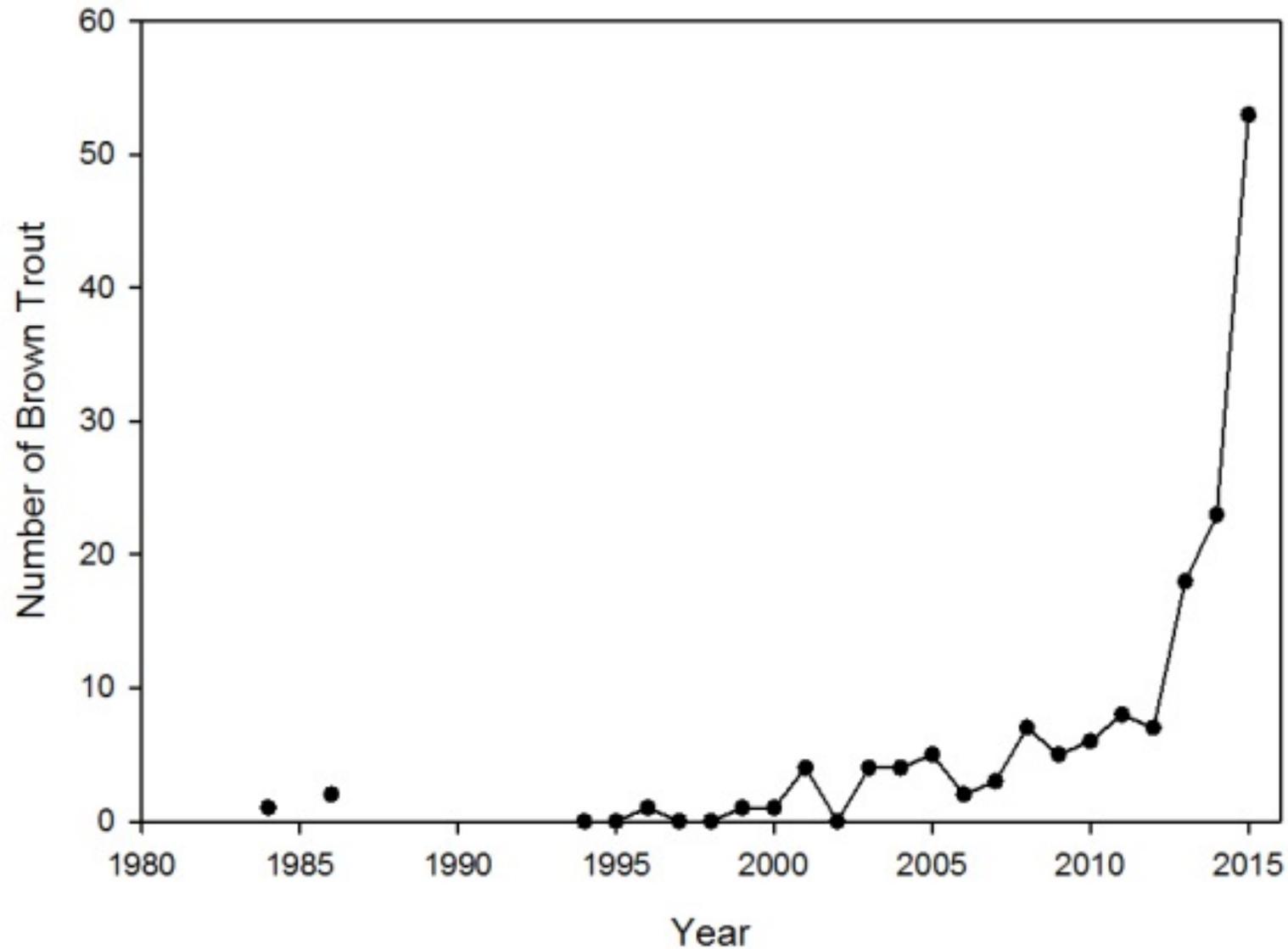
Source: Valdez and Speas 2007

Colorado River Distribution



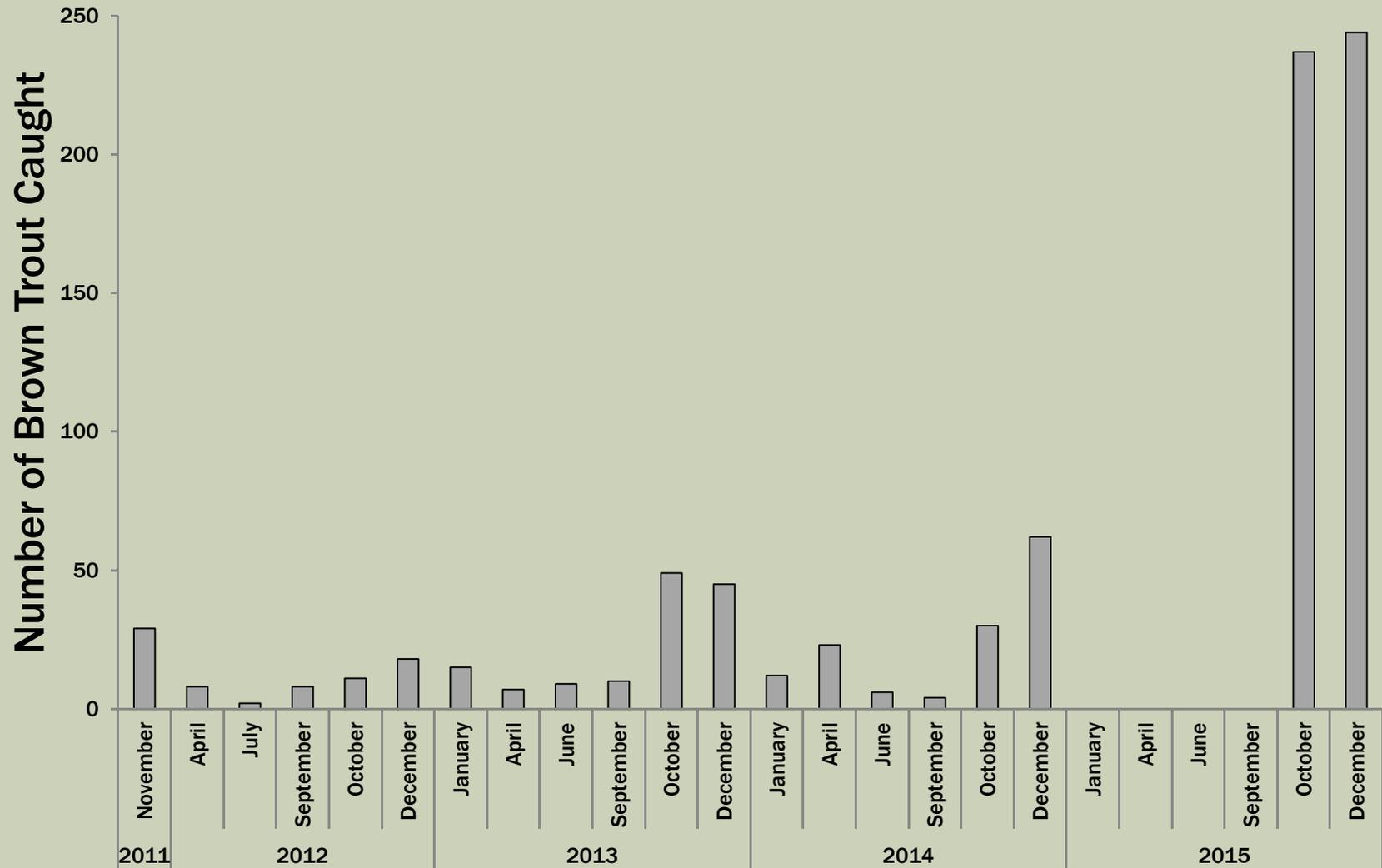
HISTORICAL COMPARISON

(AZGFD LONG TERM MONITORING)

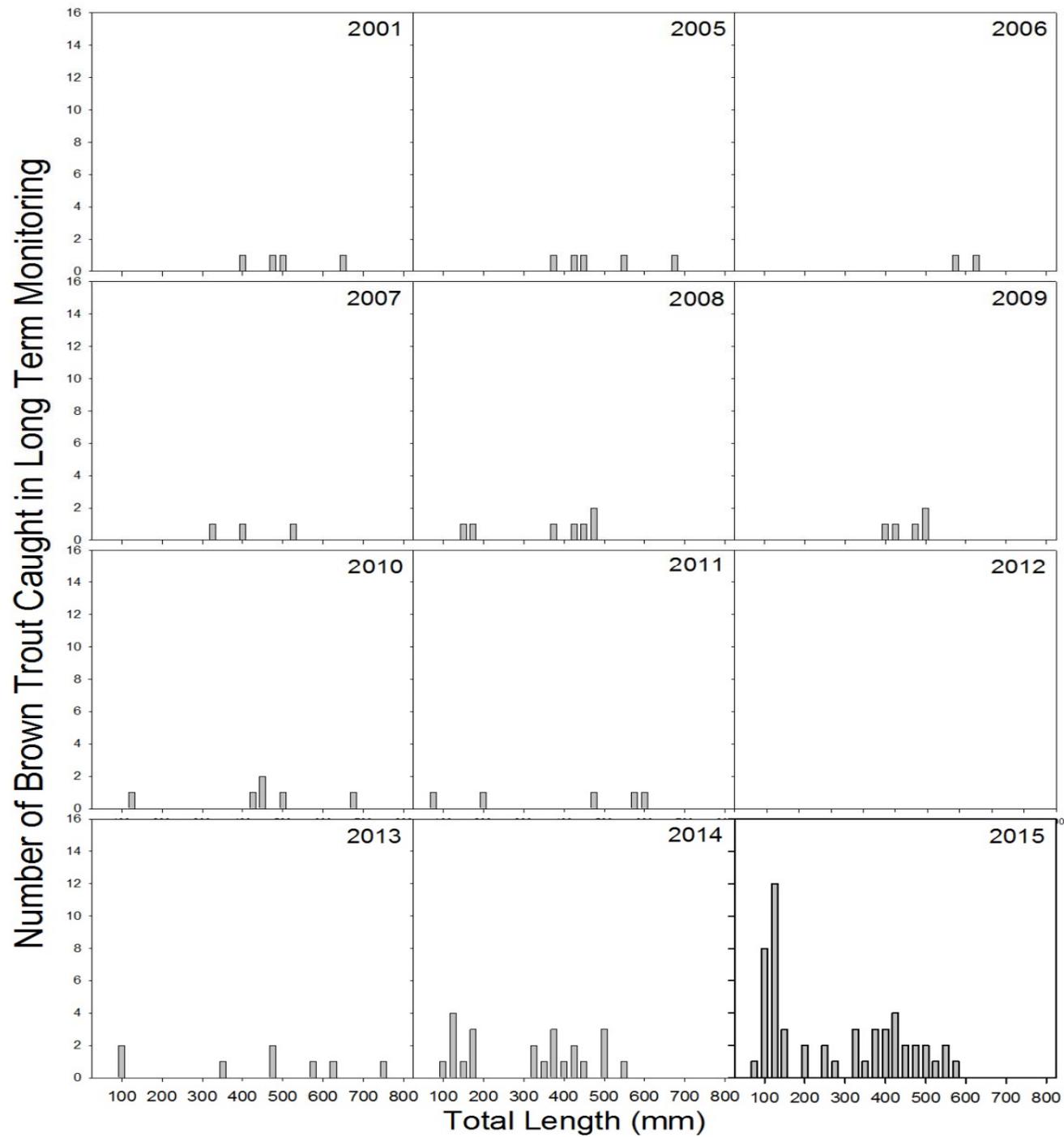


HISTORICAL COMPARISON

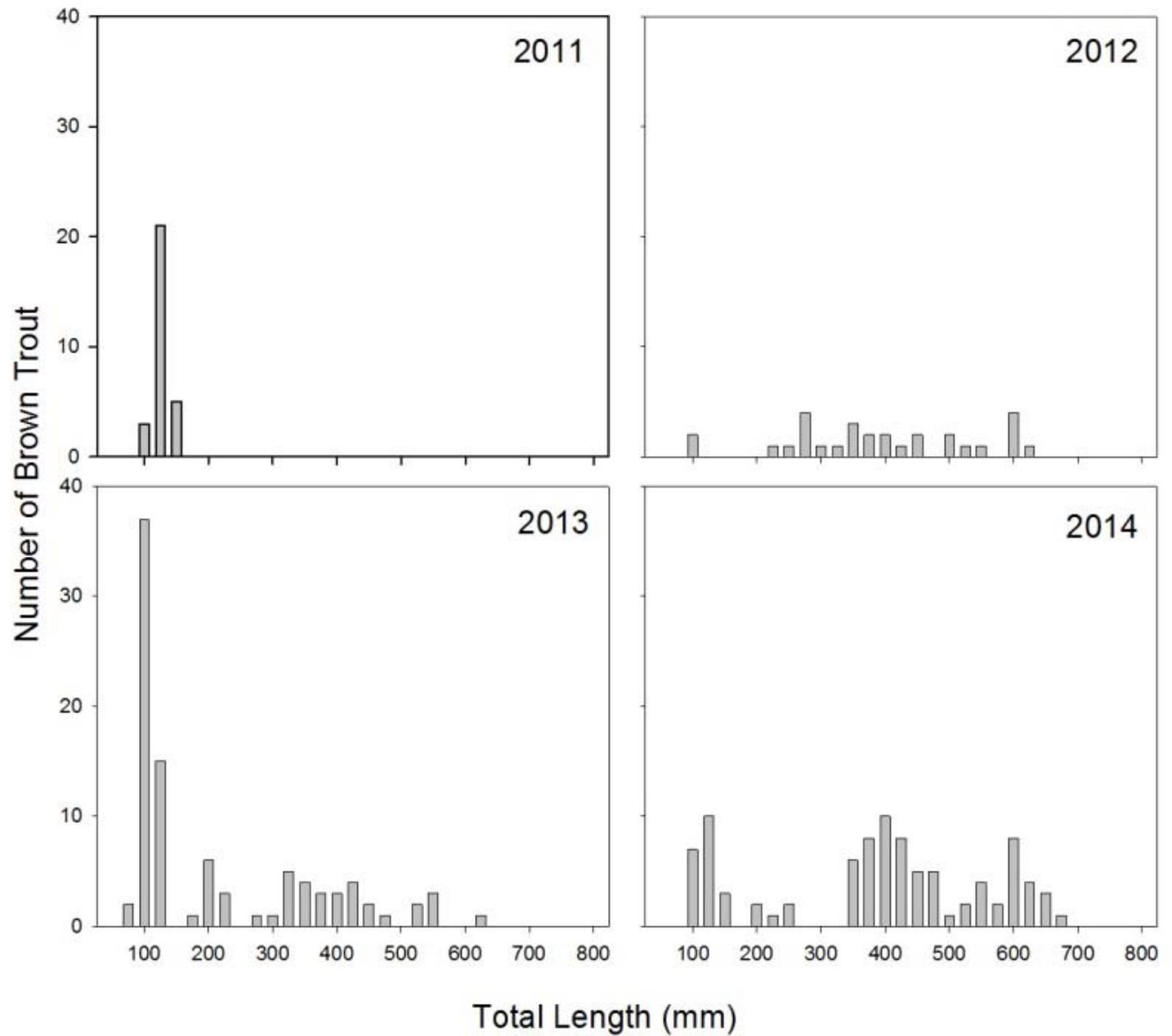
(NATAL ORIGINS LEES FERRY)



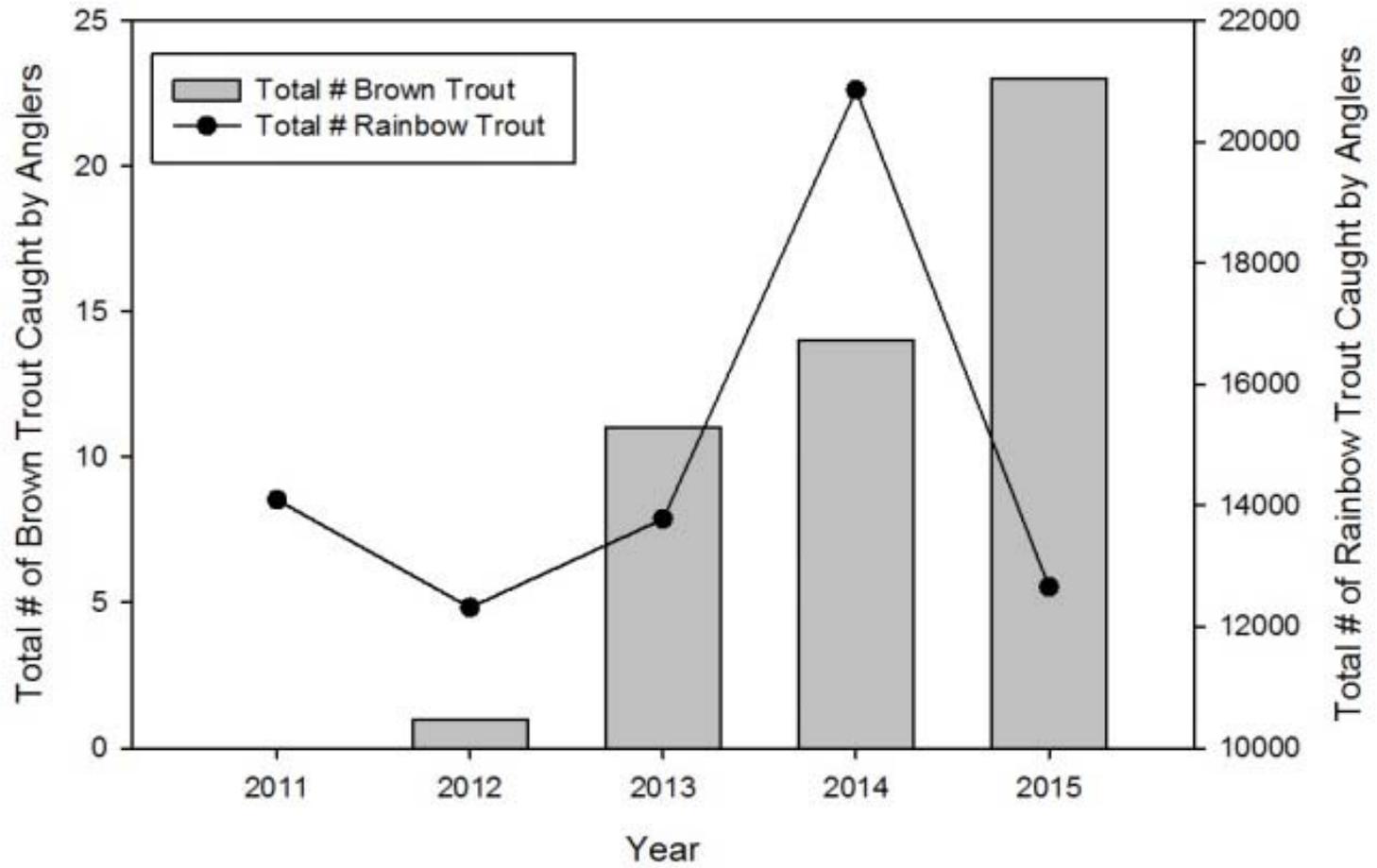
AZGFD Long Term Monitoring



Natal Origins (LF Fall Surveys)



Creel



FISHING REGULATIONS

- **From Glen Canyon Dam to the Paria riffle:**
 - **Limit 4 rainbow trout per day.**
 - **Rainbow trout >14 inches may not be possessed.**
 - **Artificial fly and lure only; Barbless hooks only.**
 - **Rainbow trout taken from this portion of the river shall be killed and retained as part of bag limit, or immediately released.**
 - **No limit on other sport fish species (all species of bass, catfish, other trout, and walleye).**

- **Why have Brown Trout populations remained so low?**
 - Unsuitable temperatures?
 - Competition from Rainbow Trout?
 - Limited spawning and rearing habitat?

- **Why have we seen an increase in Brown Trout at Lees Ferry?**
 - Temperatures seems to be within their range
 - Rainbow trout abundance has been high
 - Are fall HFEs creating spawning habitat for Brown Trout?

Questions

