

State and Development of European Fish Stocks

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Public Hearing of the European Parliament, Committee of Fisheries

State and Development of the Biomass of Fish Stocks Managed by the CFP

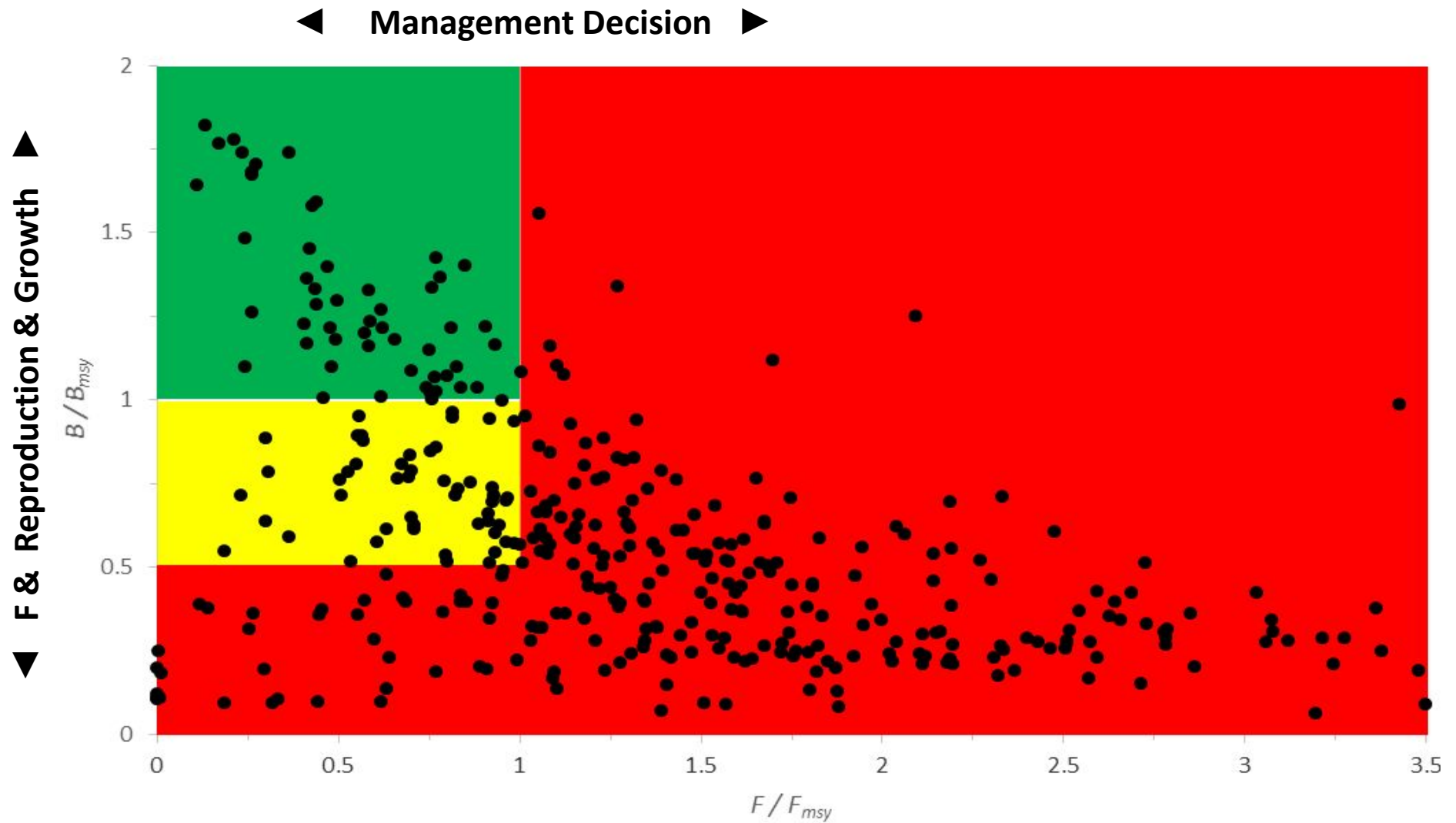
Brussels, Belgium, 27 February 2017, European Parliament

Reminder of Symbols and Terms

- MSY is the maximum sustainable yield, the maximum long-term catch
- B_{msy} is the smallest biomass that can produce MSY
- F is the fishing mortality rate, the proportion of fish killed by fishing
- F_{msy} is the fishing mortality rate resulting eventually in B_{msy} and MSY
- B_{pa} is the border of safe biological limits, the biomass below which recruitment may be impaired

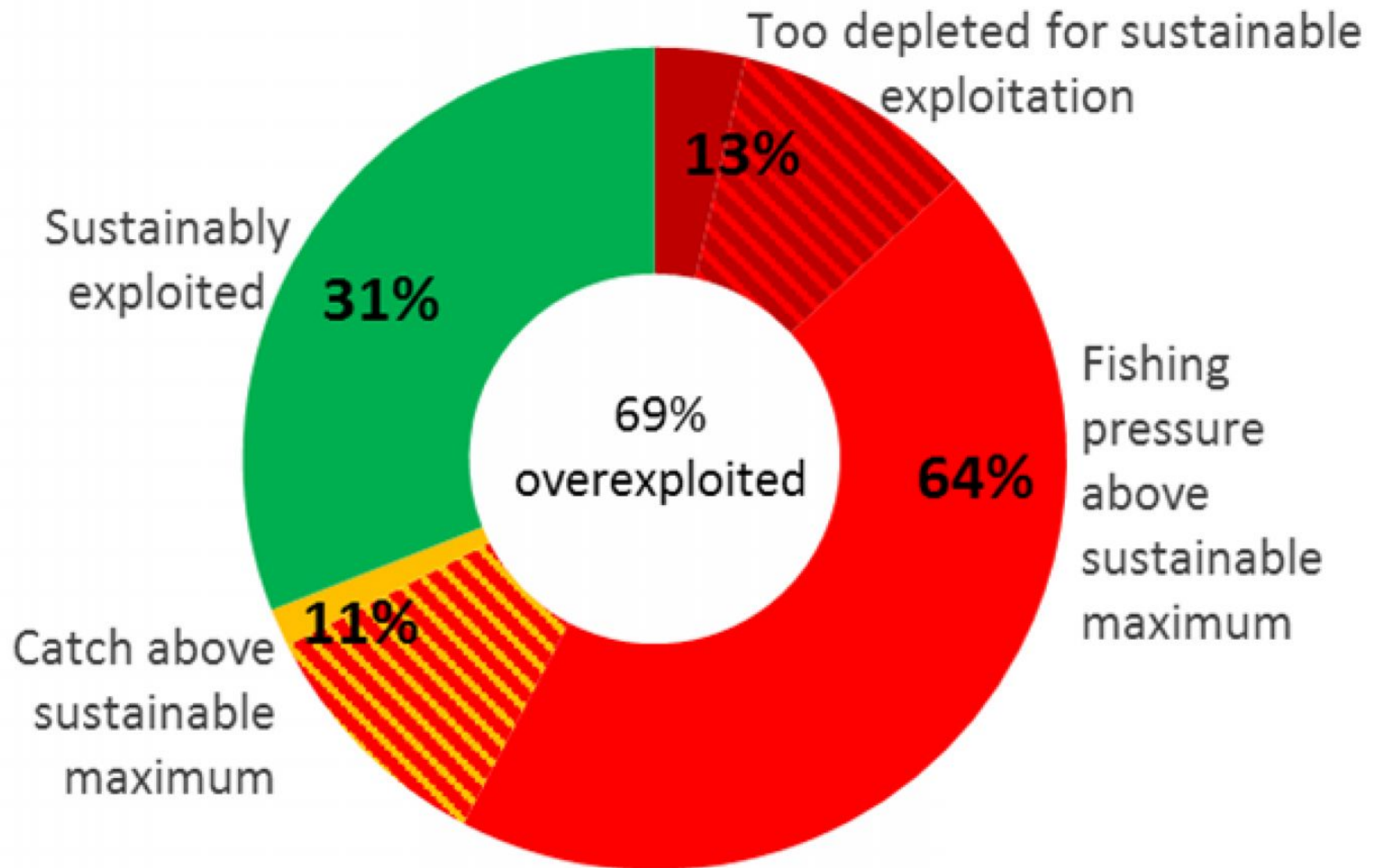
State of the Stocks

European Stocks in 2013-2015



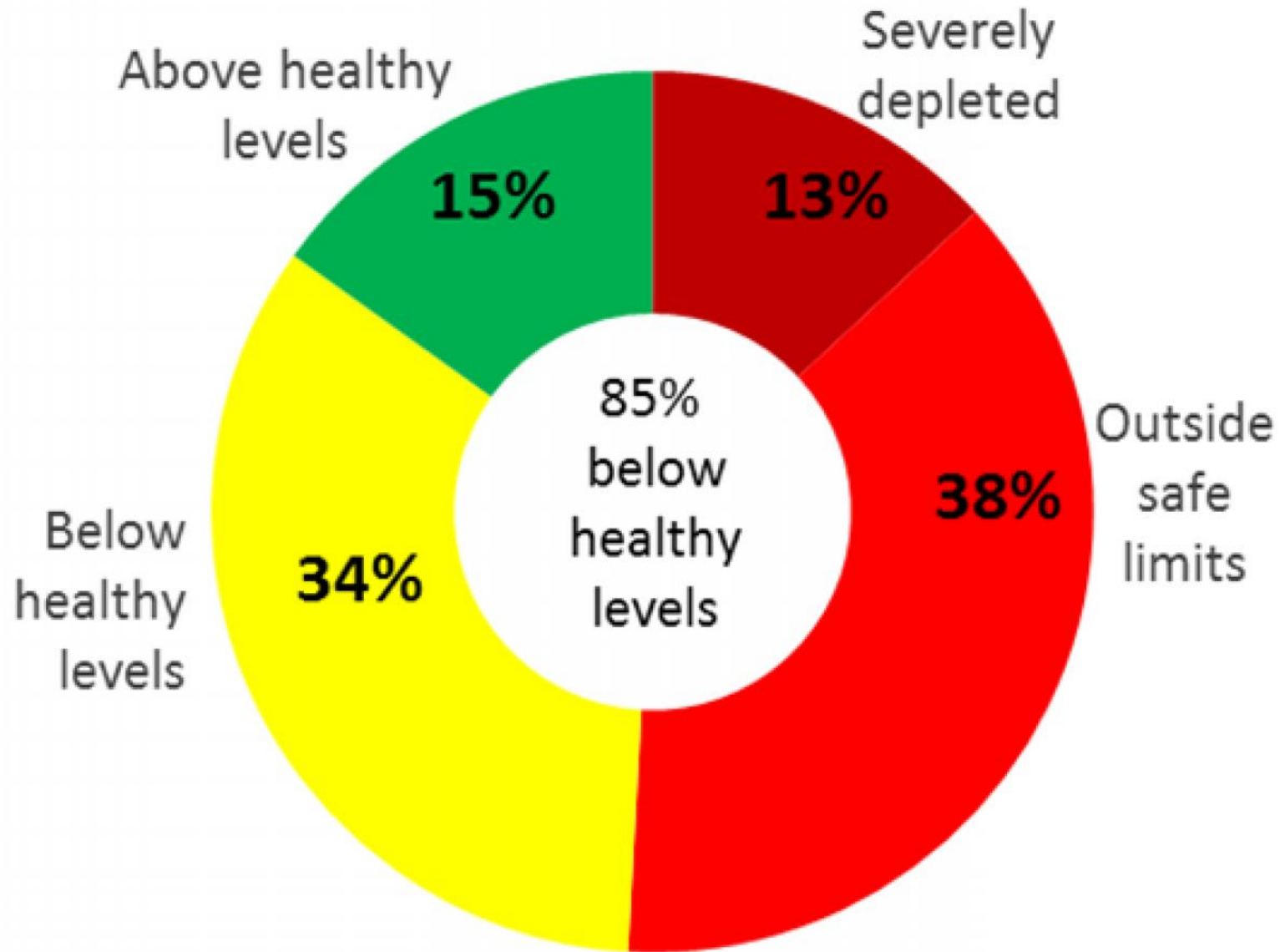
Analysis of 397 stocks in European Seas and adjacent waters. Froese et al. 2016.

Exploitation 2013-2015



Exploitation of 397 stocks in European Seas in 2013-2015. Note overlapping of different types of overexploitation, and therefore the numbers do not add up to 100%. Froese et al. 2016

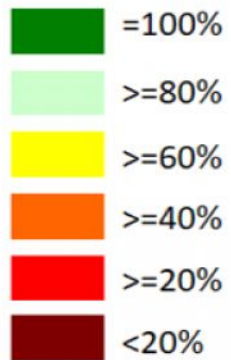
Stock Status



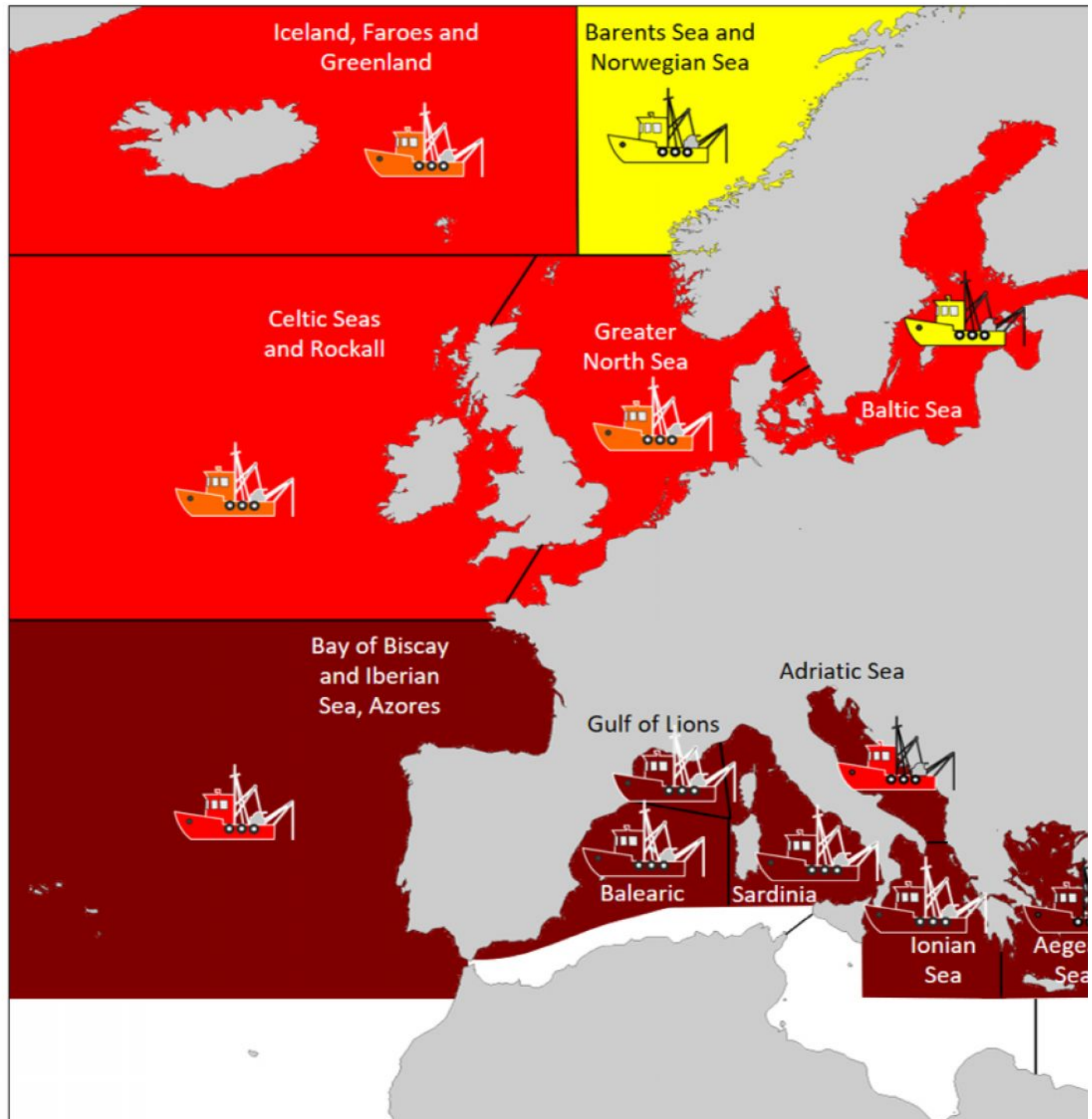
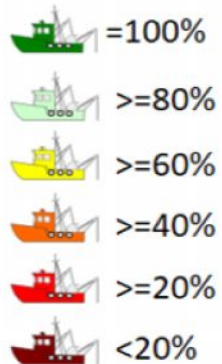
CFP compliance by Ecoregion 2013-2015

Froese et al. 2016

Stocks capable of MSY

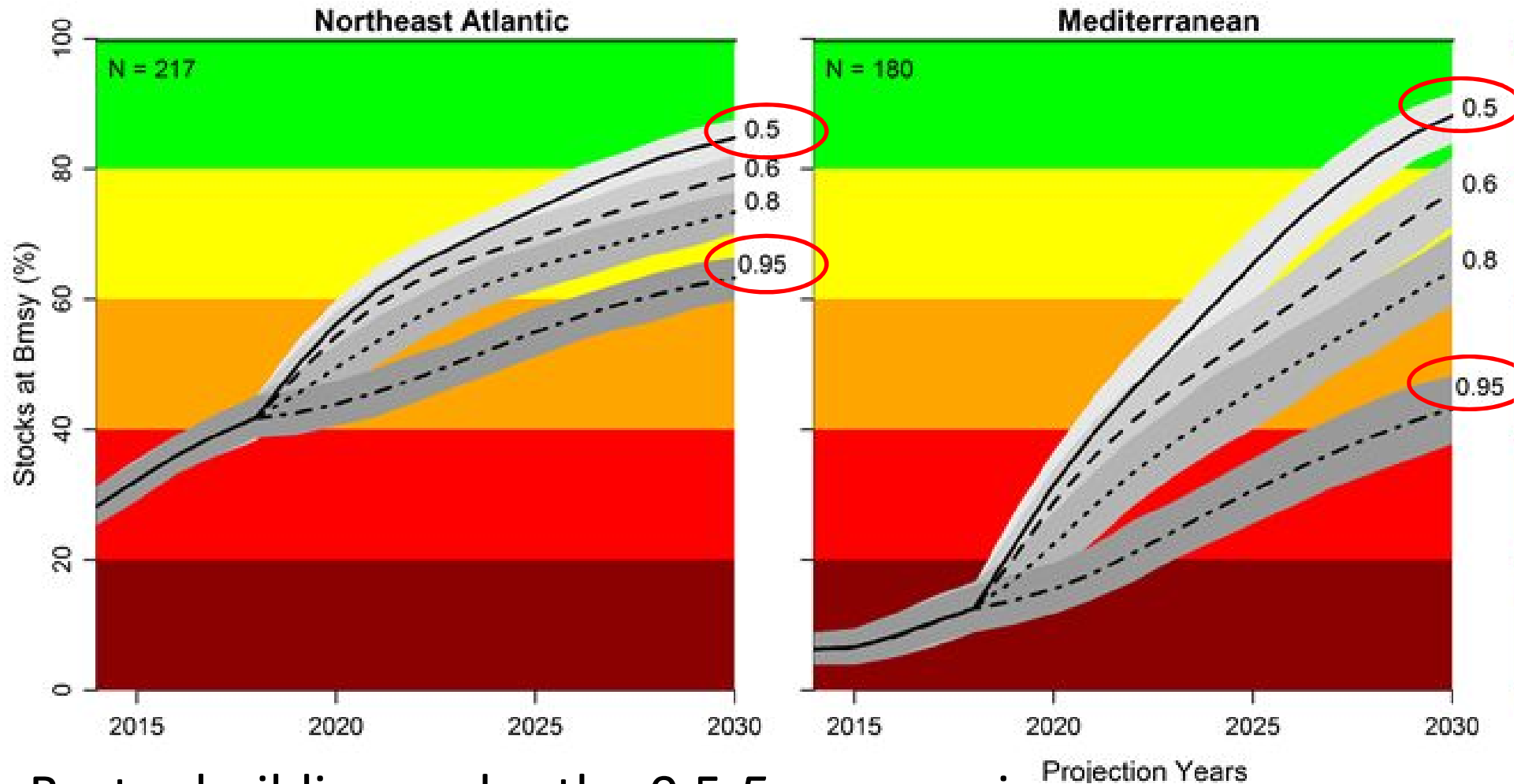


Sustainably exploited stocks



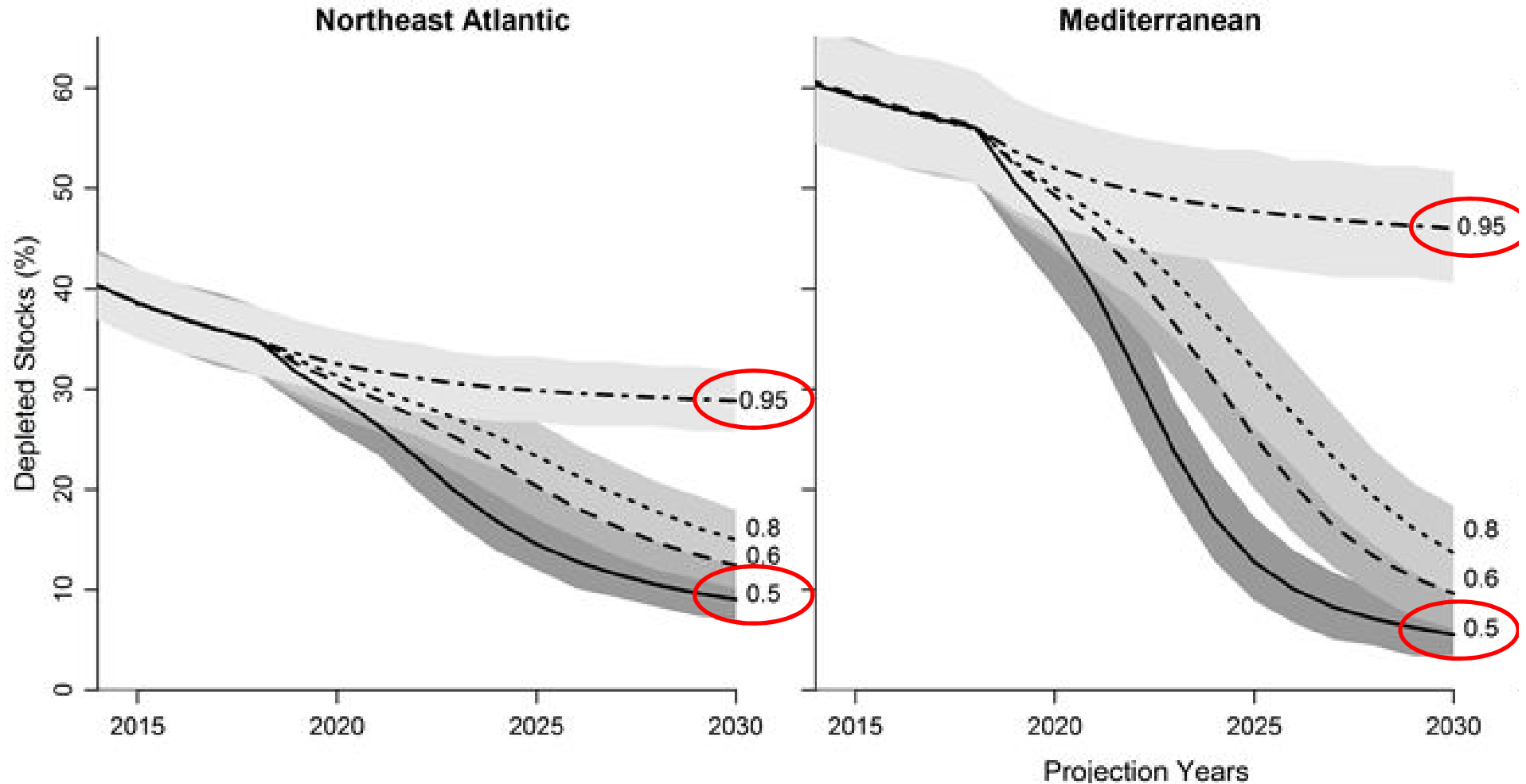
Development of the Stocks

Percentage of Stocks at or above B_{msy}



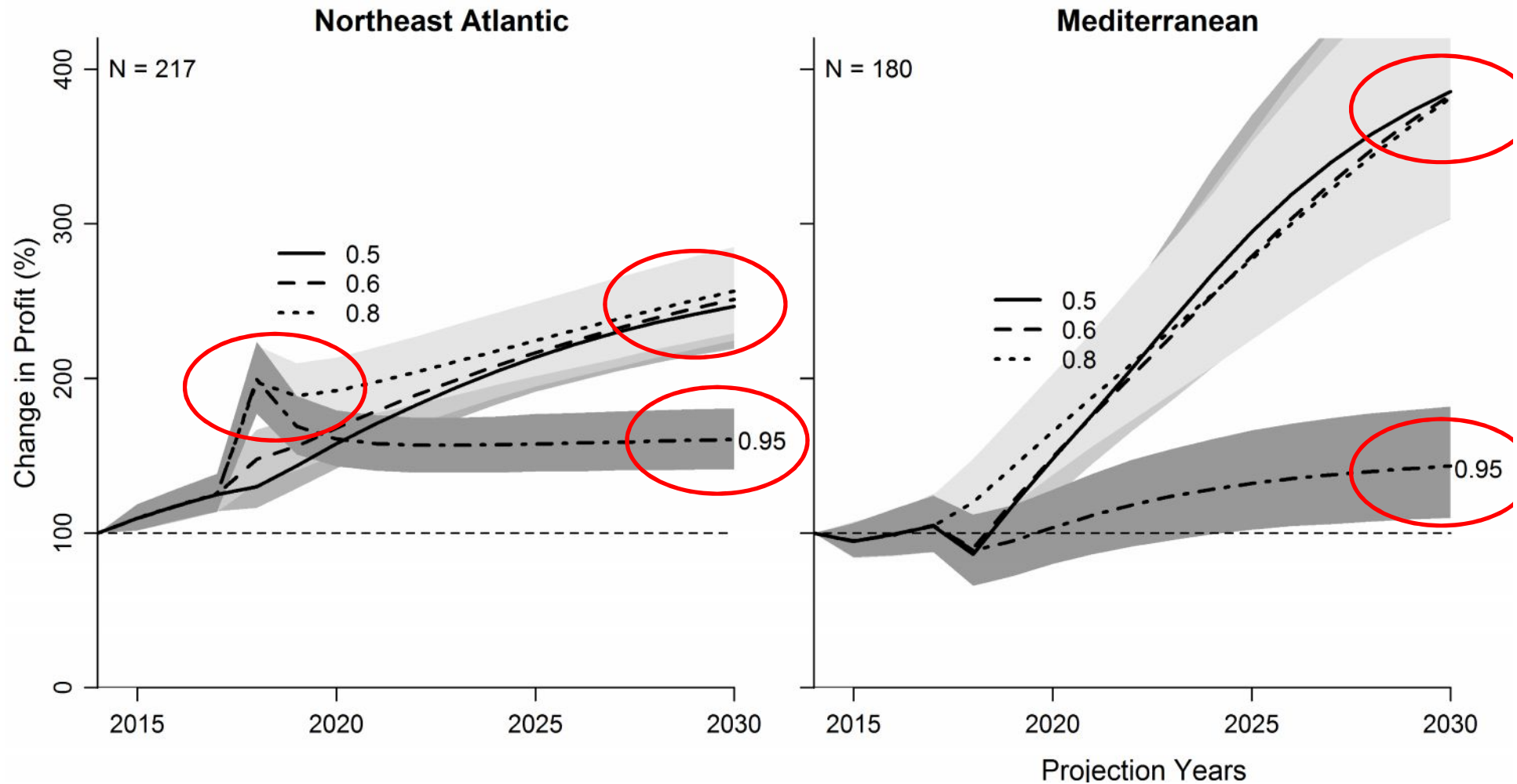
Best rebuilding under the $0.5 F_{msy}$ scenario,
worst under the $0.95 F_{msy}$ scenario

Percentage of Depleted Stocks



Best rebuilding under the 0.5 F_{msy} scenario,
worst under the 0.95 F_{msy} scenario

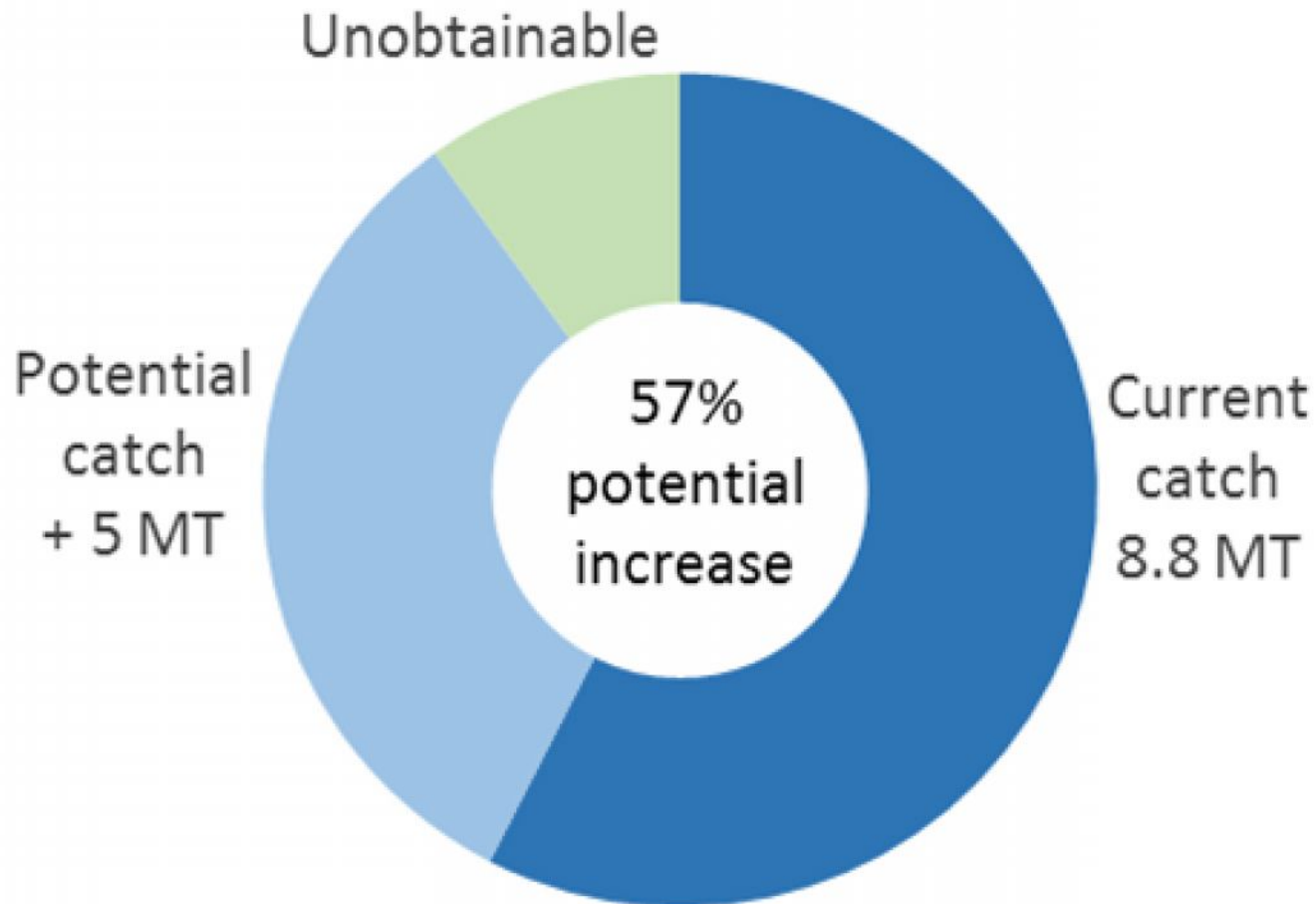
Profitability



Good profits for the 0.5 – 0.8 F_{msy} scenarios

Low profit for the 0.95 F_{msy} scenario

Maximum Sustainable Catch



Analysis of current (2013 -2015) and potential catches for 397 stocks in European Seas. Because of trophic interactions, all stocks cannot support maximum yields simultaneously. Froese et al.

Conclusions

- Sustainable exploitation by 2015 has been achieved for only 1/3 of the stocks
- In 2015, biomass was above the *MSY* level in only 15% of the stocks
- Fastest rebuilding is achieved with $F = 0.5 F_{msy}$
- High profitability is achieved with $F = 0.5 - 0.8 F_{msy}$
- $F = 0.95 F_{msy}$ fails to rebuild depleted stocks and results in lowest profitability
- Sustainable catches can be 5 MT (> 50%) higher if stocks are rebuilt above *MSY* levels

Acknowledgements

- Stock status and exploitation were based on a study commissioned by Fundacion **OCEANA**: Froese, R., Garilao, C., Winker, H., Coro, G., Demirel, N., Tsikliras, A., Dimarchopoulou, D., Scarcella, G., Sampang-Reyes, A. (2016) Exploitation and Status of European Stocks. World Wide Web electronic publication, <http://oceanrep.geomar.de/34476/>
- Predictions for rebuilding of biomass, catch and profitability were based on Froese et al. (2017) Rebuilding European Fisheries, (in prep.), contact rfroese@geomar.de for more information.

Thank You