



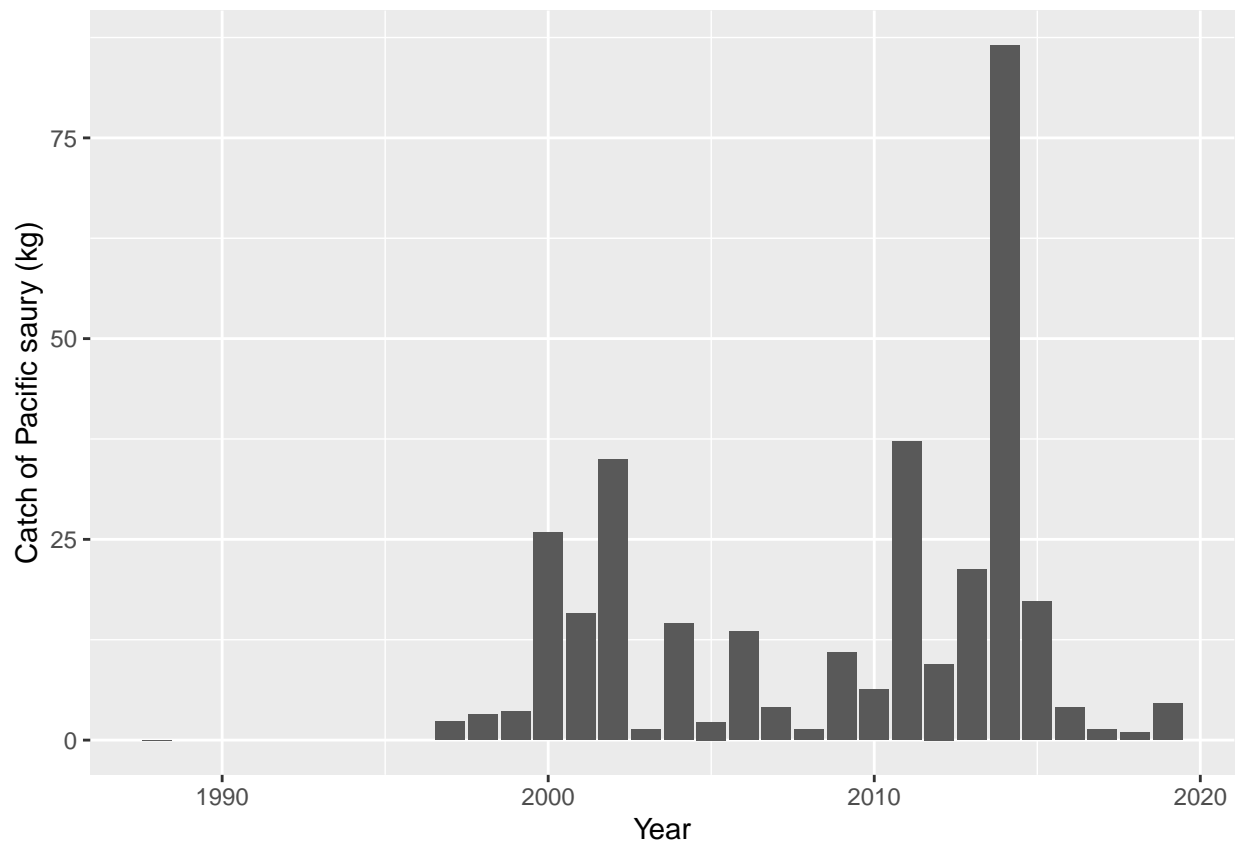
## Saury Catch in Canada (updated for 2021)

ChrisRooper

2022-07-28

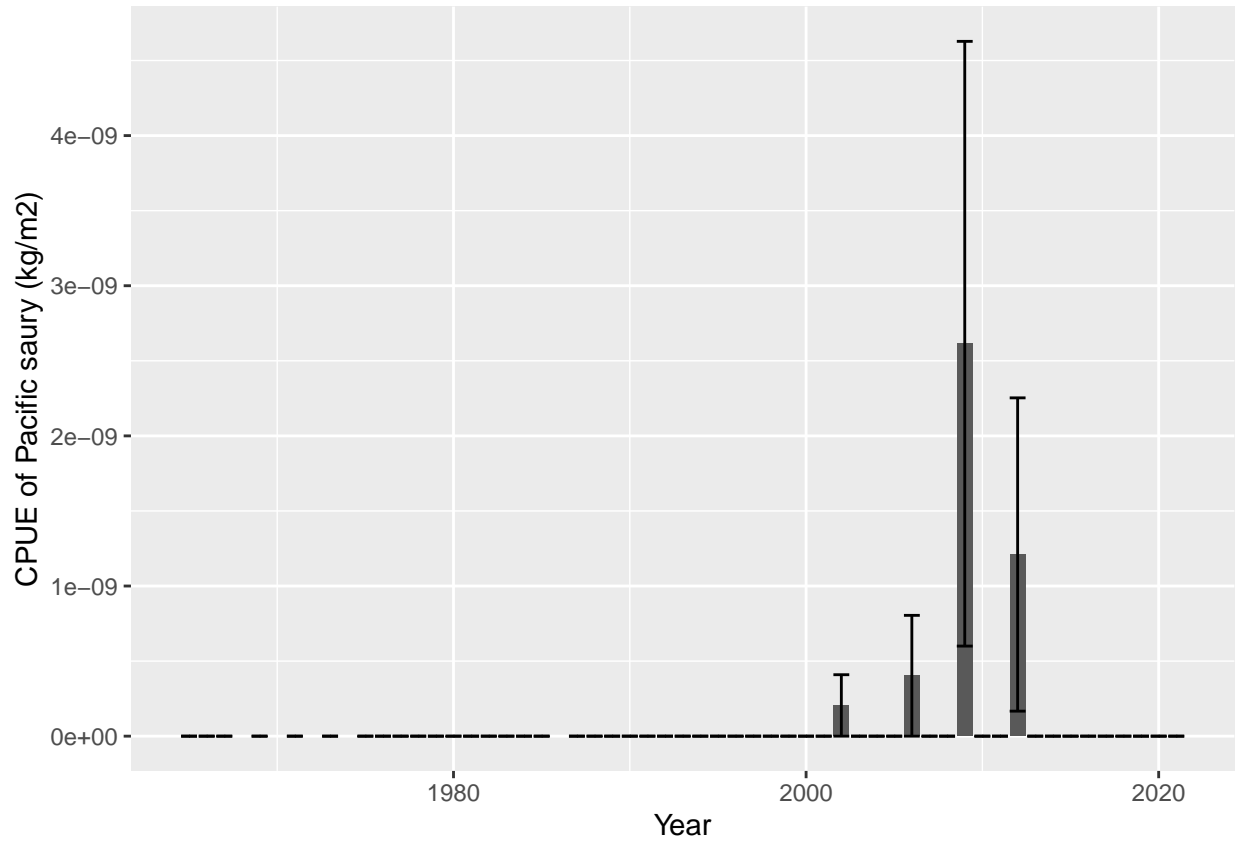
### Commercial catches

There are  $n = 259$  records of Pacific saury bycatch in commercial fishing gear. These records are from bottom trawl, midwater trawl, and the hook and line halibut fisheries. There are a number of records of catches of sauries which were assumed to be Pacific saury and included in this report.

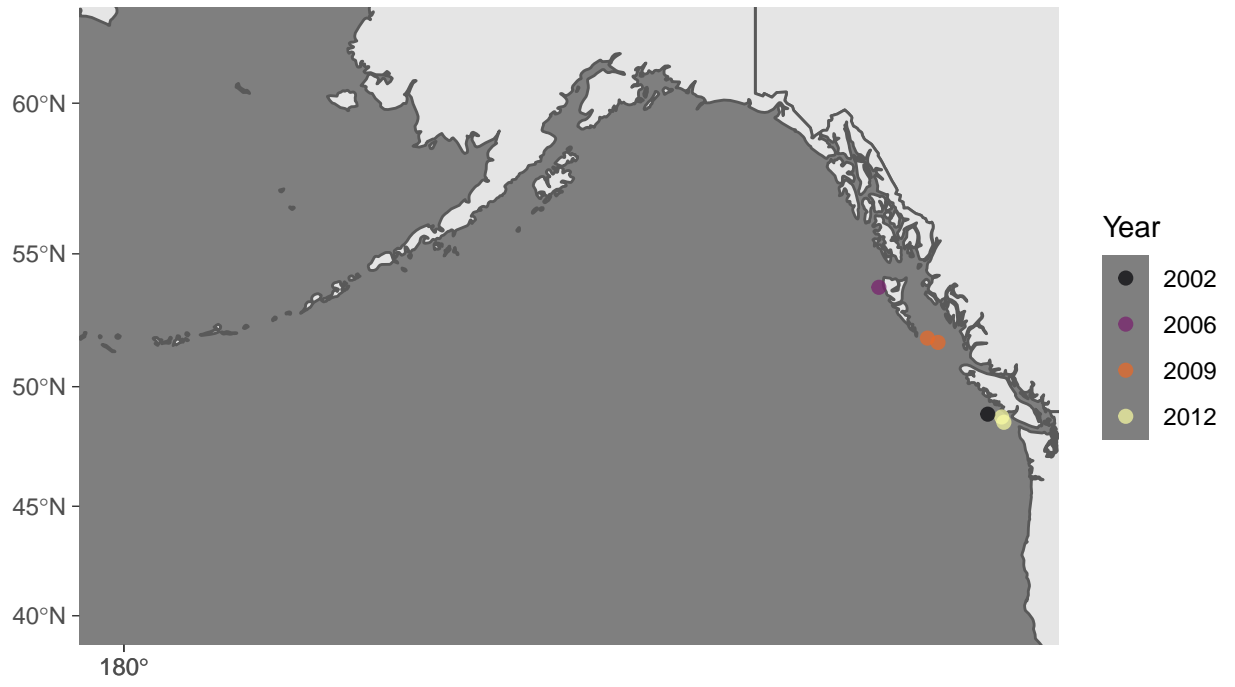


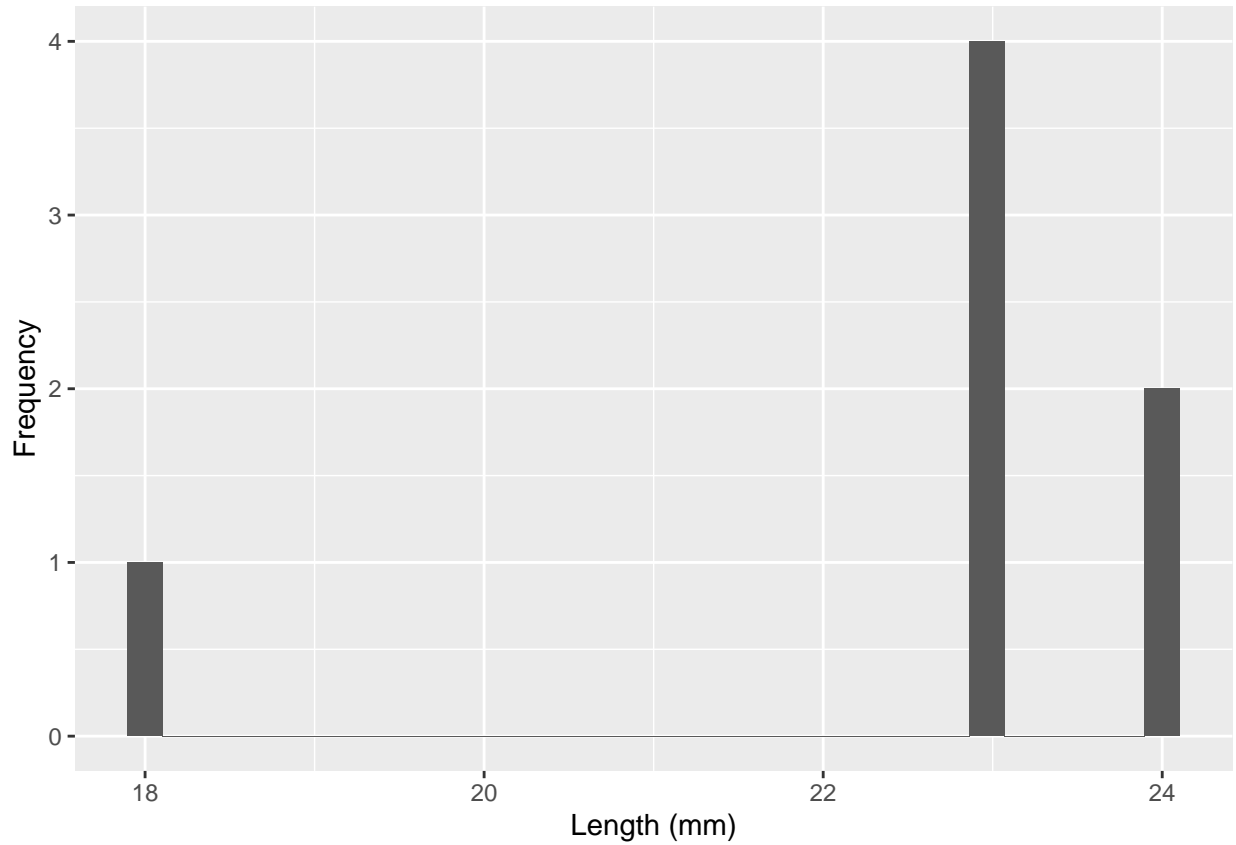
### Research catches

The catch per unit of effort (CPUE) of Pacific saury in survey catches (bottom trawl, midwater and surface trawls) is zero in most years (Figure 1). In 2002, 2006, 2009 and 2012 there were a total of 6 bottom trawl survey tows capturing Pacific saury (1, 1, 7, 1, 1 and 3 individuals respectively).



The Pacific saury were mostly captured on the outer coast surveys and inside Queen Charlotte Sound (Figure 2). However, this mostly reflects the areas where the surveys are conducted (on the shelf and continental slope exclusively), rather than representing the distribution of Pacific saury in the area. There are also reports of juvenile and adult Pacific saury being captured on Oceanographic cruises to Ocean Station P using bongo nets. However, this data was not available.

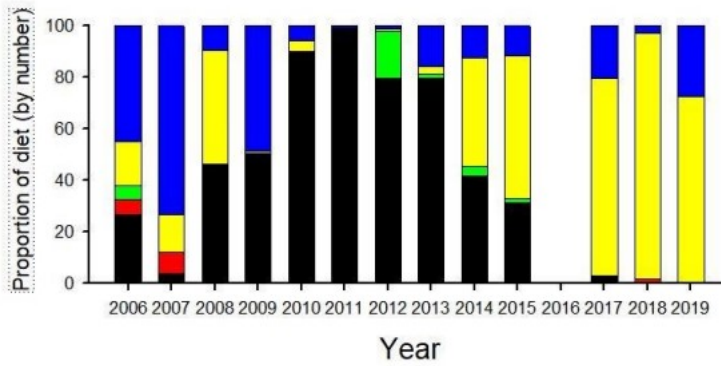




Only n = 7 Pacific saury lengths have been collected in surveys in Canada since 1991.

### Other observations

Pacific saury are a regular component, sometimes comprising a large portion of the diet of seabirds in BC. For example, Pacific saury are regularly fed to nestlings in the Rhinoceros Auklet colony on Triangle Island (figure below reprinted from DFO 2020). Pacific saury are also observed in some years as a component of salmon diet. In 2022, Pacific saury were observed in the diet of multiple coho salmon captured in July off the west coast of Vancouver Island (J. Boldt, pers. comm.).



Appendix Figure 2. Interannual variation in the diets fed to nestling Rhinoceros Auklets on Triangle Island, within the SimNWA, by percentage number from 2006-2019. Pacific sand lance is in black, Pacific herring in red, juvenile salmon in green, juvenile rockfish in yellow, and others (largely Pacific saury, squid) in blue.

