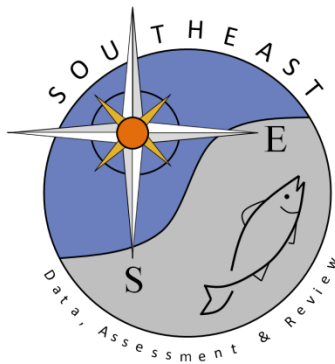


# Fisherman Feedback Report - Hogfish

Gulf Council Staff

SEDAR94-DW-20

29 July 2025



*This information is distributed solely for the purpose of pre-dissemination peer review. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy.*

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# Fisherman Feedback: Hogfish





# What is Fisherman Feedback?



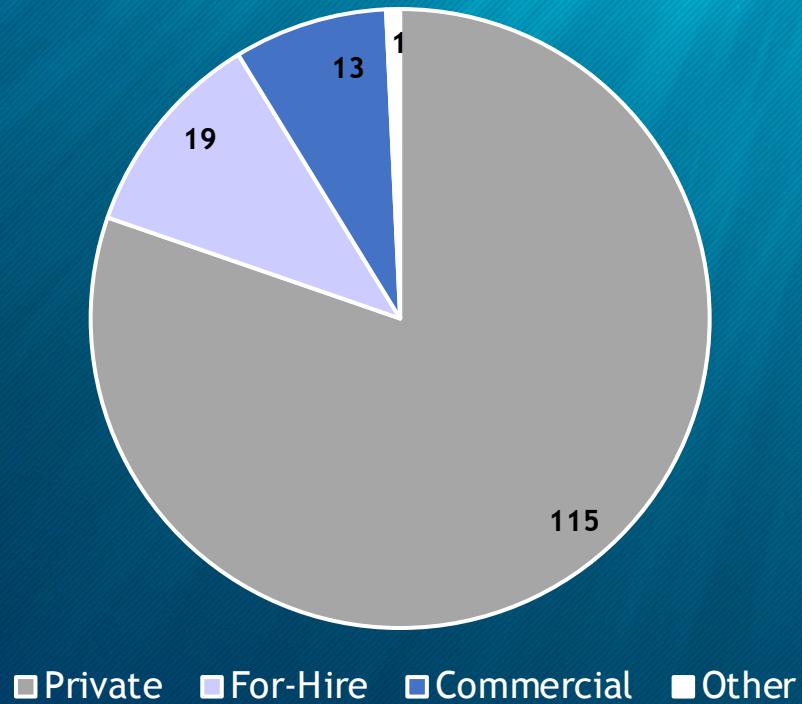
An online tool used to gather information on a fish stock from active fishermen on trends or unusual occurrence's that scientists and managers may not have observed.

- Respondents are voluntary
- The tool is advertised via press release, social media, and the Council's website

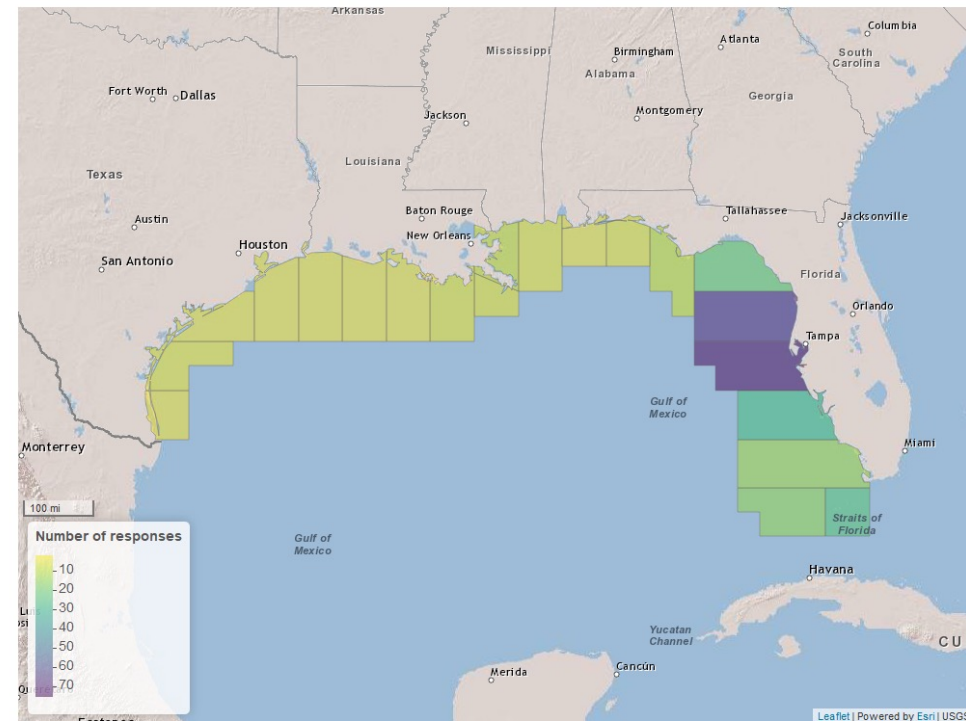




## Respondents by Sector Not limited to a singular response (n=147)



## Respondents by Area Not limited to a single area (n=279)



# Respondents



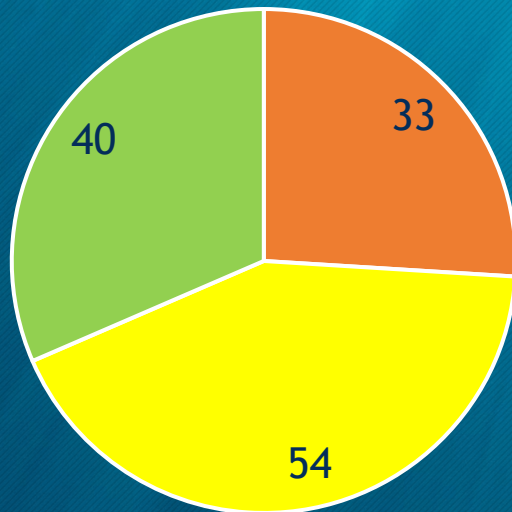
127 Unique responses received between June 20- July 21, 2025



# Overall Response Sentiment



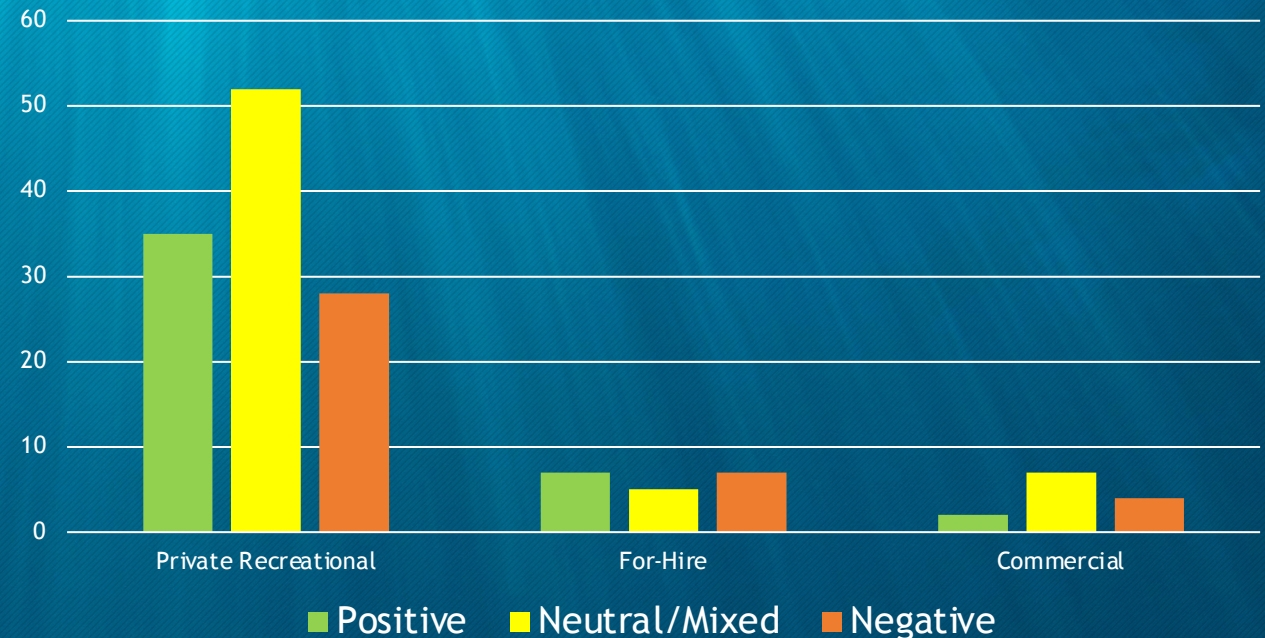
Overall Comment Sentiment



■ Negative ■ Neutral/Mixed ■ Positive

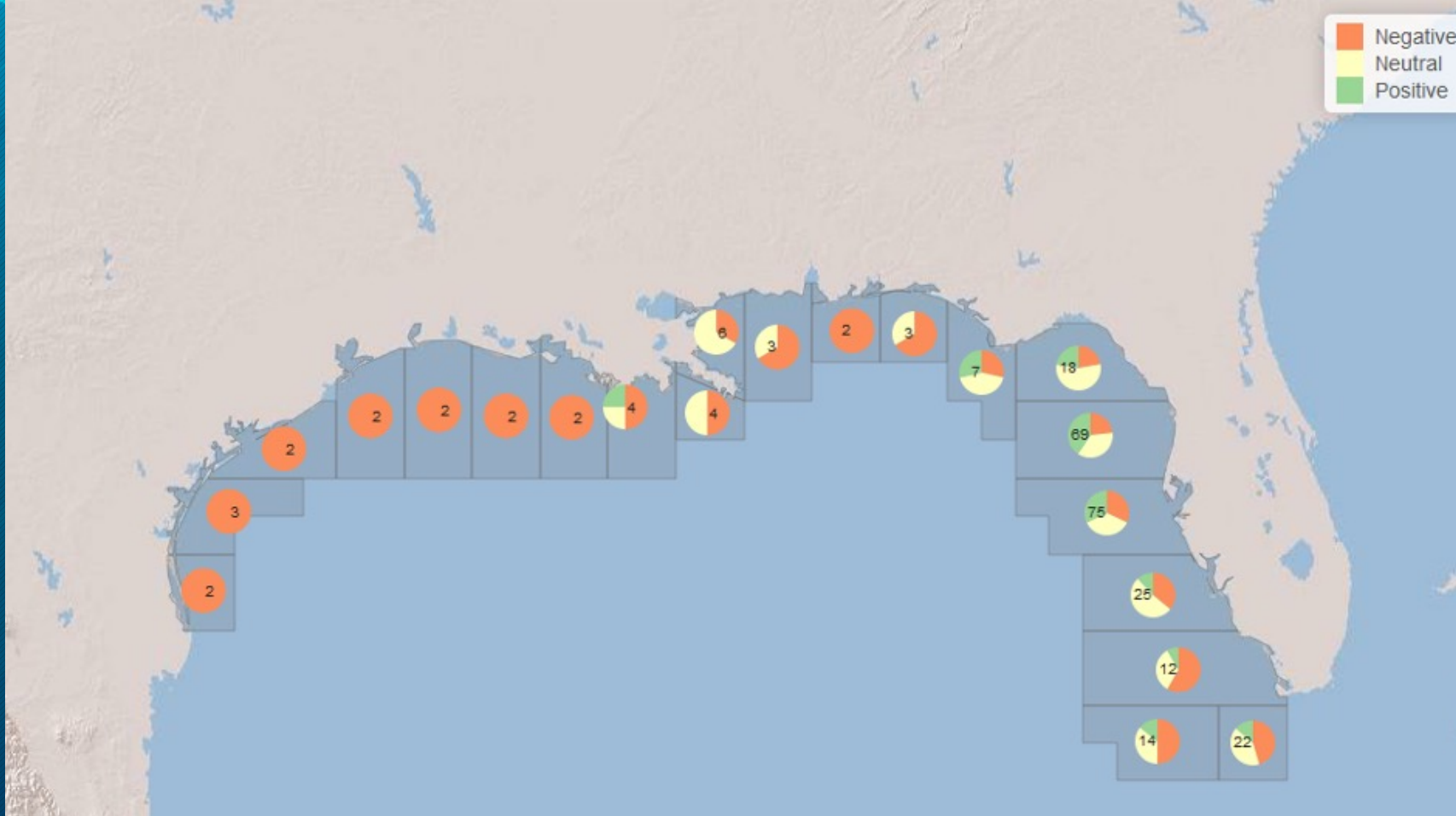
Number of responses indicating positive, negative, or neutral sentiment (n=127) classified by manual analysis

Overall Sentiment by Sector



Number of responses indicating positive, negative, or neutral sentiment sorted by self-selected sector (n=279)





# Overall Response Sentiment

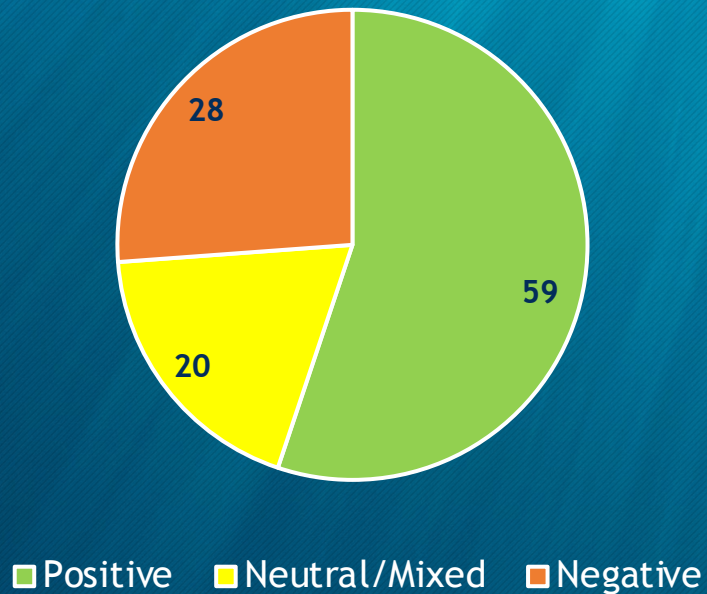
Each comment was analyzed for sentiment (n=127) and linked to self-selected areas (n=279)



# Stock Condition Sentiment

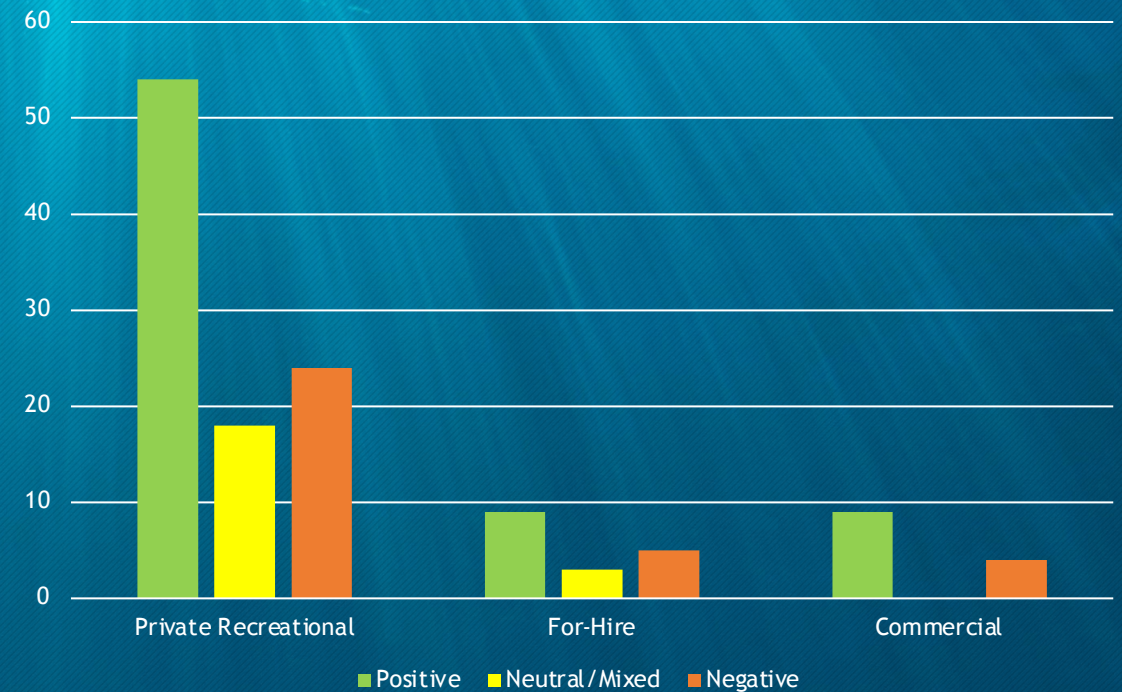


Stock Condition Sentiment



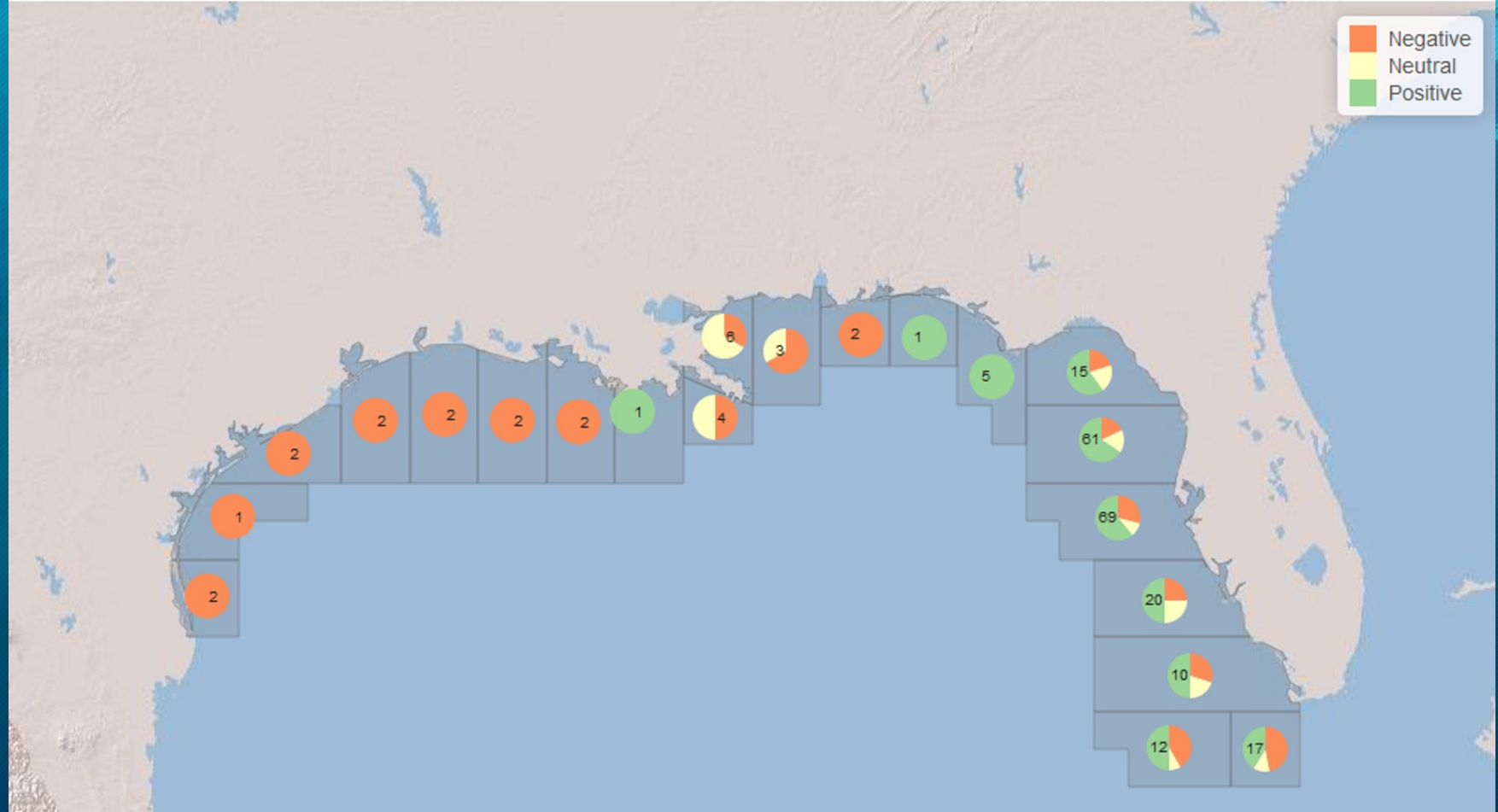
Number of comments indicating positive, negative, or neutral sentiment regarding stock condition (n=107)

Stock Condition Sentiment by Sector



Number of responses indicating positive, negative or neutral sentiment (n=107) sorted by self-selected sector (n=126)



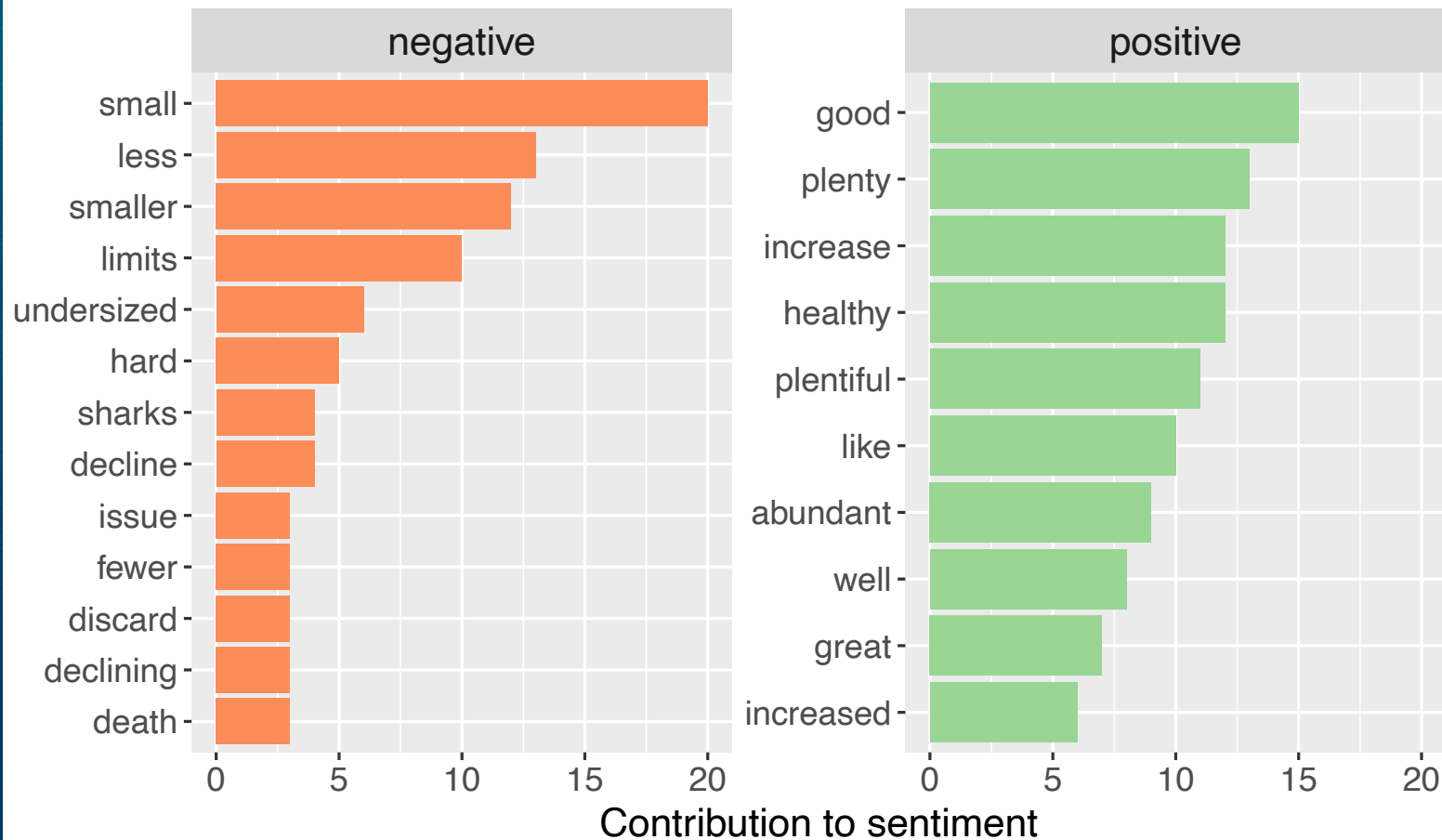


# Stock Condition Sentiment

Each comment related to the condition of the stock was analyzed for sentiment (n=107) and linked to self-selected areas (n=239)

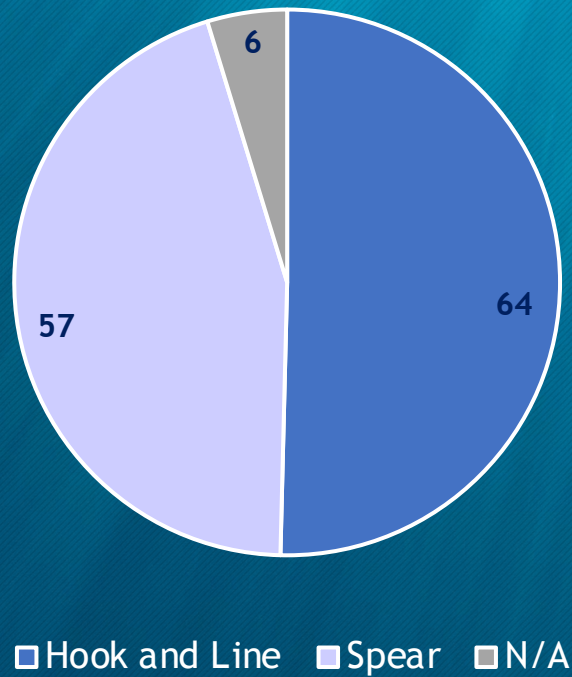


# Automated Analysis



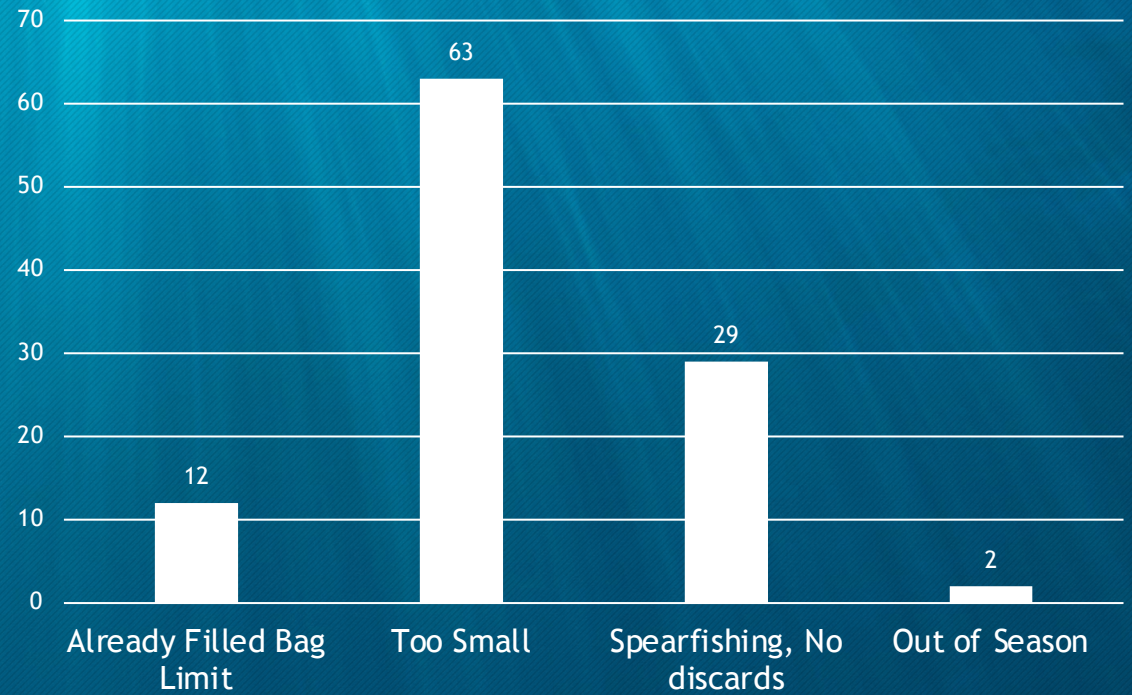


Primary Gear Type



Primary Gear Type  
(n=127)

Reason for Discard



Reason for discard  
(n=106)



# Themes



## Positive

- Lots of fish
- Spearfishing has little to no bycatch

## Neutral/Mixed

- Lots of little fish
- No change in the stock
- Hogfish move to deeper/cooler water in the summer months
- The fishery is healthy but, the bag limit should be reduced or the size limit should be increased

## Negative

- Gag closure has caused effort shift
- Hogfish are very susceptible to barotrauma
- Red tide has impacted the stock
- Hook and line effort has increased
- Hook and line fishing results in too many discards
- Too much spearfishing based harvest
- Too much commercial harvest







# Questions?