Updated analyses of the Fisheries Independent Monitoring Survey data of the Cape Point Region Rock Lobster resource of South Africa to include the 2015/16 season

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Abstract

Analyses of FIMS data are updated to include data for the 2015/16 season, which are available for the Cape Point region only. Results indicate a slight decrease in the abundance index compared to the previous season.

Introduction

In this paper the FIMS relative abundance indices for rock lobster, the FIMS length composition data and the percentage of females as reported in Brandão and Butterworth (2015) are updated to include FIMS data for the 2015/16 season for Cape Point.

Data and Methodology

Data from the FIMS surveys carried out over the period 1992/93 to 2015/16 for Cape Point are available for analysis.

Relative Abundance Indices

The overall CPUE index is the combination of the weighted mean CPUE (as a proportion of the total area surveyed) for each stratum (where stratum here reflects whether a station is within the 100 m contour (shallow), within the 100 to 200 m contour (deep), or if it lies within a "Hotspot"). The weighted mean CPUE for each stratum is given by the average of the weighted mean CPUE for each leg in that stratum. A full description of the methodology of the FIMS analysis to obtain relative abundance indices is given in Brandão and Butterworth (2009).

For the 1997/98 and the 2005/06 seasons, there was only one station in one of the Hotspot strata in one of the legs. The standard deviation ($\sigma_{y,z,\ell}$) for these two records was estimated as the average of the observed (and computable) standard deviations or CVs for that stratum. The choice between using the average of standard deviations or the average of the CVs was based on which measure was steadier over the years.

The 1999/00 FIMS data point is based on only a single leg (leg 2) as the first leg was not conducted. In the 2011/12 season there were no observations for the second leg of the Deep and one of the Hotspot strata. Therefore for these strata, means and standard deviations are based on a single leg.

Length composition and percentage of females

Brandão and Butterworth (2010) presented a method for obtaining length distributions whereby proportions are weighted and adjusted for small sample sizes. This method provides more appropriate length distributions in that the variation in the effort across stations, the variation in the area that each station represents and the effect of small sample sizes are all taken into account. They also presented a method to obtain annual percentage numbers of females that are weighted by area and adjusted for small sample sizes. These methods have been used in the analyses presented in this paper to obtain length distributions and annual percentages of females for rock lobster.

Results

Table 1 reports the FIMS CPUE indices for rock lobsters for the Cape Point region measuring more than 60 cm carapace length, together with their standard errors. Note that the standard error for the 2014/15 season has been corrected from that given in Brandão and Butterworth (2015). Figure 1 shows these indices together with 95% confidence intervals, calculated given an assumption of distributional lognormality. There is a decrease in the 2015/16 estimate compared to that for the previous season, but this remains appreciably higher than the estimates since the 2000's, except for the high estimate for the 2012/13 season.

Table 2 gives the length distributions of rock lobsters for the Cape Point region, with Tables (a) giving those for males, while Tables (b) give those for female rock lobsters. Figure 2 show the length distributions of rock lobsters for males and females.

Table 3 and Figure 3 give the estimates of the annual percentage female rock lobsters for the Cape Point region. The percentage of females in the last season has increased around Cape Point and is the highest value for the whole series.

Reference

Brandão, A. and Butterworth, D.S. 2009. Re-analysis of the Fisheries Independent Monitoring Survey of the rock lobster resource of South Africa. Marine and Coastal Management Document: MCM/2009/AUG/SWG-WCRL/11b.

Brandão, A. and Butterworth, D.S. 2010. FIMS length composition and percentage of females of the west coast rock lobster resource of South Africa. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Document: FISHERIES/2010/OCT/SWG-WCRL/30.

Brandão, A. and Butterworth, D.S. 2015. Updated analyses of the Fisheries Independent Monitoring Survey data of the rock lobster resource of South Africa to include the 2014/15 season. Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Document: FISHERIES/2015/JUN/SWG-WCRL/16.

Table 1. FIMS CPUE series for the Cape Point region and the corresponding standard errors.

Year	Cape Point
1992/93	140.75 (17.30)
1993/94	128.18 (13.47)
1994/95	112.43 (20.97)
1995/96	120.07 (17.61)
1996/97	75.50 (9.572)
1997/98	132.26 (19.17)†
1998/99	141.64 (16.32)
1999/00	86.60 (20.02)*
2000/01	100.71 (16.60)
2001/02	105.01 (18.17)
2002/03	52.02 (10.43)
2003/04	98.67 (14.48)
2004/05	89.05 (12.35)
2005/06	62.71 (35.89)†
2006/07	79.18 (21.90)
2007/08	106.65 (29.10)
2008/09	101.43 (33.20)
2009/10	101.02 (23.59)
2010/11	94.41 (18.17)
2011/12	105.61 (29.65)
2012/13	247.06 (87.33)
2013/14	115.58 (19.34)
2014/15	141.51 (21.10)
2015/16	131.56 (16.78)

* Based on only one leg of the survey.

† Standard error based on an estimate (see text) because only one station was sampled in a leg for a particular Hotspot.

Table 2a. Carapace length distribution (mm) of male rock lobster for the Cape Point region. The length distribution for 1999/00 is based on only one leg of the survey.

Year	<45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	75-80	80-85	85-90	90-95	95-100	100-105	105-110	110-115	115-120	120-125	125-130	130-135	135-140
1992/93	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.014	0.113	0.251	0.226	0.182	0.117	0.065	0.021	0.007	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1993/94	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.029	0.142	0.248	0.252	0.181	0.094	0.034	0.012	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1994/95	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.028	0.164	0.244	0.281	0.164	0.068	0.032	0.010	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1995/96	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.025	0.134	0.264	0.282	0.186	0.070	0.023	0.007	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1996/97	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.018	0.087	0.222	0.294	0.218	0.108	0.036	0.010	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1997/98	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.028	0.126	0.210	0.258	0.208	0.107	0.040	0.012	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1998/99	0.000	0.001	0.011	0.046	0.177	0.241	0.218	0.163	0.089	0.035	0.011	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1999/00*	0.000	0.001	0.010	0.037	0.137	0.269	0.268	0.158	0.081	0.028	0.009	0.002	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2000/01	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.022	0.096	0.206	0.293	0.201	0.104	0.049	0.019	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2001/02	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.024	0.099	0.194	0.268	0.232	0.105	0.043	0.021	0.009	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2002/03	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.019	0.089	0.206	0.245	0.222	0.134	0.055	0.019	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2003/04	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.015	0.103	0.203	0.236	0.206	0.136	0.065	0.023	0.007	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2004/05	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.021	0.094	0.210	0.287	0.207	0.106	0.044	0.015	0.008	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2005/06	0.000	0.001	0.011	0.029	0.094	0.222	0.293	0.207	0.097	0.031	0.010	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2006/07	0.000	0.000	0.008	0.041	0.127	0.176	0.257	0.215	0.114	0.043	0.014	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2007/08	0.000	0.001	0.012	0.049	0.147	0.217	0.254	0.178	0.095	0.032	0.010	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2008/09	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.025	0.111	0.221	0.307	0.192	0.095	0.031	0.010	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2009/10	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.018	0.101	0.175	0.310	0.201	0.121	0.046	0.018	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2010/11	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.021	0.143	0.169	0.324	0.168	0.114	0.035	0.016	0.005	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2011/12	0.000	0.000	0.009	0.025	0.127	0.141	0.300	0.167	0.150	0.041	0.032	0.005	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2012/13	0.000	0.000	0.017	0.017	0.219	0.117	0.294	0.100	0.163	0.029	0.027	0.011	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2013/14	0.002	0.005	0.082	0.104	0.307	0.191	0.176	0.064	0.048	0.015	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2014/15	0.004	0.009	0.000	0.091	0.047	0.320	0.174	0.228	0.055	0.047	0.011	0.008	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2015/16	0.002	0.010	0.087	0.071	0.283	0.197	0.224	0.065	0.043	0.009	0.004	0.002	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Table 2b. Carapace length distribution (mm) of female rock lobster for the Cape Point region. The length distribution for 1999/00 is based on only one leg of the survey.

Year	<45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70-75	75-80	80-85	85-90	90-95	95-100	100-105	105-110	110-115	115-120	120-125	125-130	130-135	135-140
1992/93	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.089	0.423	0.379	0.082	0.013	0.004	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1993/94	0.000	0.002	0.019	0.133	0.485	0.290	0.062	0.007	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1994/95	0.000	0.001	0.017	0.105	0.458	0.344	0.058	0.014	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1995/96	0.000	0.001	0.016	0.145	0.501	0.281	0.048	0.007	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1996/97	0.000	0.003	0.020	0.161	0.489	0.277	0.043	0.006	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1997/98	0.000	0.005	0.032	0.183	0.475	0.261	0.038	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1998/99	0.000	0.006	0.044	0.197	0.477	0.211	0.040	0.024	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
1999/00*	0.000	0.002	0.035	0.168	0.484	0.267	0.038	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2000/01	0.000	0.002	0.019	0.136	0.510	0.276	0.050	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2001/02	0.000	0.001	0.040	0.208	0.472	0.235	0.038	0.005	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2002/03	0.000	0.002	0.036	0.200	0.476	0.245	0.036	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2003/04	0.000	0.002	0.021	0.162	0.501	0.266	0.043	0.003	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2004/05	0.000	0.002	0.037	0.174	0.461	0.275	0.044	0.006	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2005/06	0.001	0.010	0.057	0.205	0.460	0.235	0.030	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2006/07	0.000	0.004	0.045	0.174	0.447	0.288	0.035	0.004	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2007/08	0.000	0.005	0.047	0.163	0.372	0.270	0.091	0.037	0.013	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2008/09	0.000	0.001	0.029	0.126	0.457	0.322	0.056	0.007	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2009/10	0.000	0.001	0.022	0.122	0.484	0.303	0.055	0.011	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2010/11	0.000	0.000	0.014	0.106	0.514	0.306	0.054	0.006	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2011/12	0.001	0.006	0.074	0.181	0.489	0.185	0.058	0.005	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2012/13	0.005	0.008	0.060	0.076	0.597	0.191	0.053	0.005	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2013/14	0.001	0.004	0.122	0.122	0.512	0.166	0.062	0.008	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2014/15	0.012	0.017	0.130	0.136	0.513	0.152	0.034	0.003	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
2015/16	0.002	0.008	0.123	0.177	0.492	0.155	0.037	0.003	0.002	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Table 3. Percentages of female west coast rock lobster for the Cape Point region.

Year	Cape Point
1992/93	24.49
1993/94	27.46
1994/95	24.16
1995/96	25.24
1996/97	21.70
1997/98	29.64
1998/99	30.77
1999/00	17.21
2000/01	21.68
2001/02	22.85
2002/03	17.63
2003/04	20.69
2004/05	22.94
2005/06	23.78
2006/07	27.45
2007/08	29.17
2008/09	23.72
2009/10	23.44
2010/11	12.68
2011/12	19.30
2012/13	23.39
2013/14	22.95
2014/15	27.86
2015/16	34.93

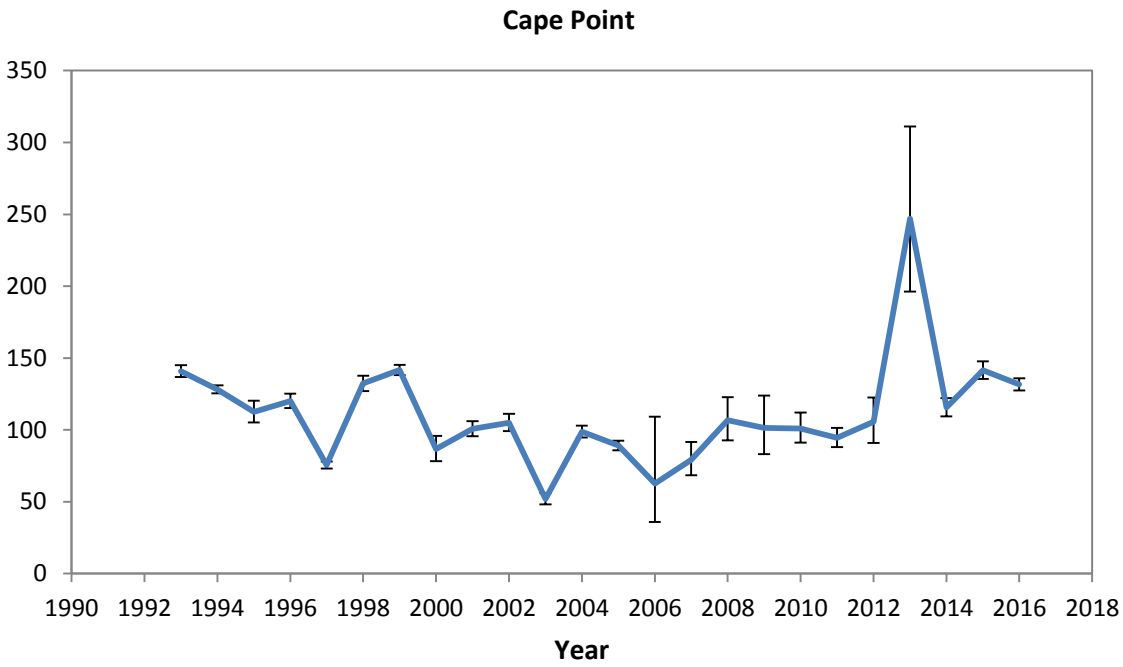

Figure 1. FIMS CPUE series (with 95% confidence intervals) for the Cape Point region. In this plot the period shown as 1993 corresponds to the 1992/93 season, and so on.

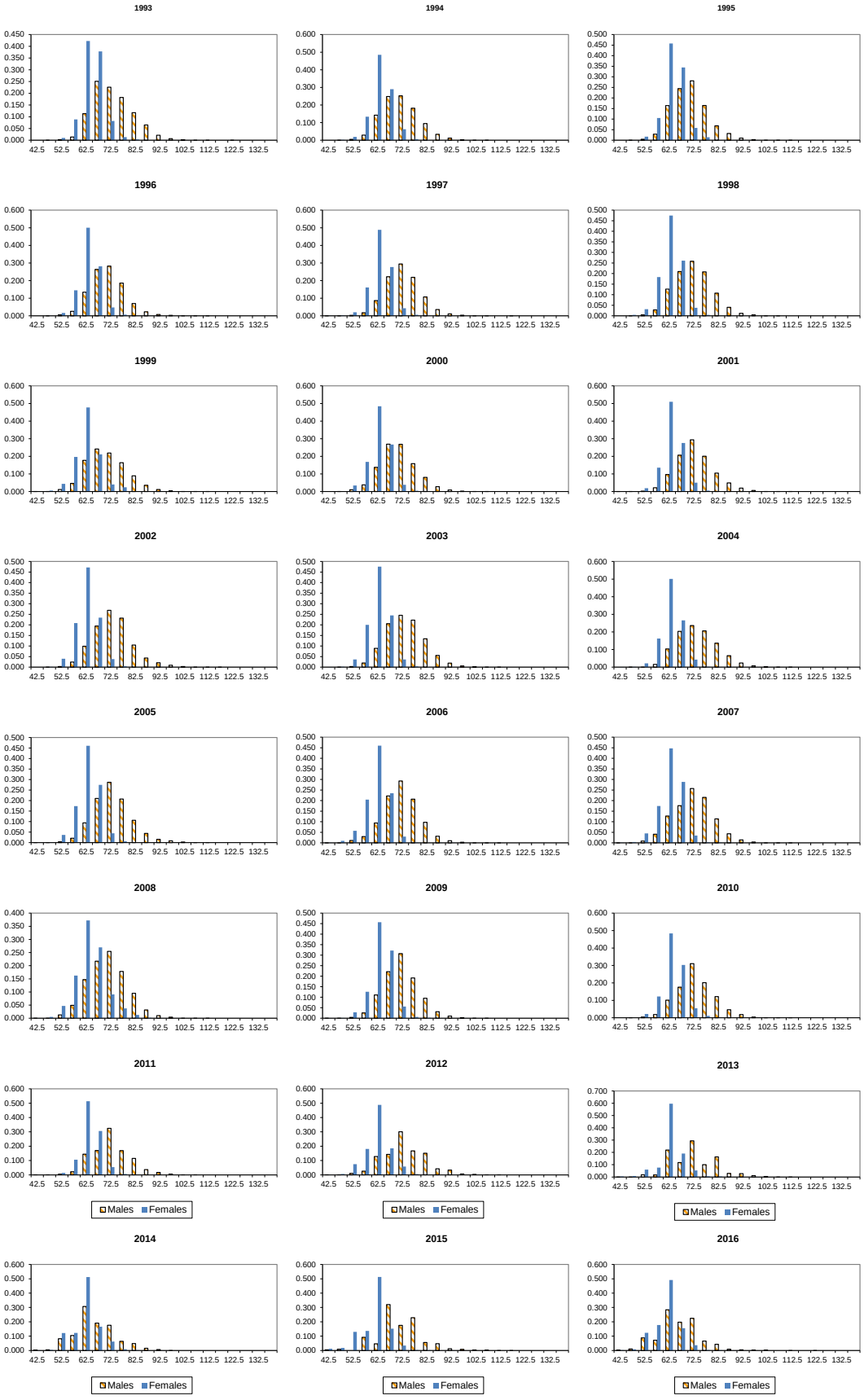

Figure 2. Length distributions of male and female rock lobsters for the Cape Point region.

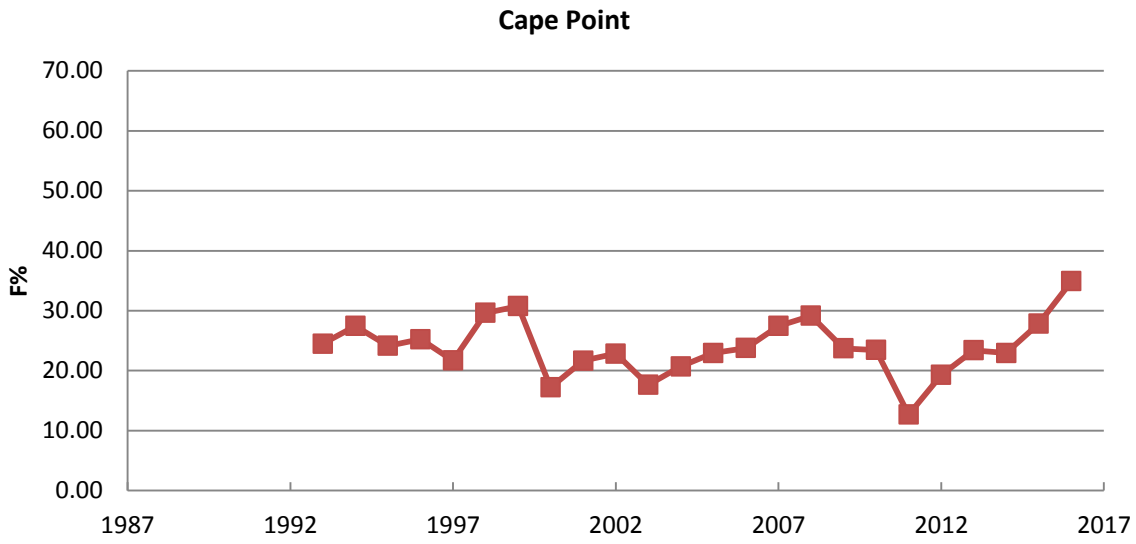

Figure 3. Percentage female rock lobsters to be used in the population assessment model for the Cape Point region.