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April 7, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: Fish and Wildlife Committee members

FROM: Mark Fritsch

SUBJECT: Briefing on Columbia River Basin salmon and steelhead returns for 2019 and run forecasts for 2020

BACKGROUND:

Presenters: Bill Tweit (WDFW), Art Martin (ODFW), Chris Kozfkay (IDFG)

Summary: The Council will be briefed on the 2019 returns and 2020 run forecasts of adult salmon and steelhead

Bill Tweit, (Special Assistant, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife) and Art Martin (Columbia River Coordination Section Manager, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife), will present the latest information on adult Chinook, coho, sockeye, and chum salmon and steelhead run forecasts for the Columbia rivers, and expectations for the 2020 fisheries. The presentation will also include a retrospective review of the 2019 adult salmon and steelhead returns and fisheries in the Columbia River excluding the Snake Basin.

Chris Kozfkay, (Natural Resource Program Coordinator, Idaho Department of Fish and Game) will provide the recent and historical returns of salmon and steelhead to the Snake River Basin along with the forecasted returns for 2020, focusing on the species/run groupings of spring, summer and fall Chinook salmon; summer steelhead; and sockeye salmon. Numbers of fish passing Lower Granite Dam comprise the aggregate count of adult salmon and steelhead destined for eastern Oregon's Grande Ronde and Imnaha river drainages and Idaho's Clearwater and Salmon River drainages.

Relevance: This information is relevant to our high-level indicators. It gives the region a preview for what is expected for adult returns in the current year.

Workplan: Fish and Wildlife Division preliminary work plan 2020; Program Implementation (2014 Program and 2020 addendum); Other program implementation.

More Info: Links:
Columbia River Forecasts: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/management/north-falcon/forecasts>
[2019 Forecast](#) Report to Council
[Joint State Staff Reports](http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/crc/) <http://wdfw.wa.gov/fishing/crc/>
Columbia River DART: <http://www.cbr.washington.edu/dart>

COLUMBIA RIVER SALMON AND STEELHEAD RETURNS



NPCC – March 2018

Presented by: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

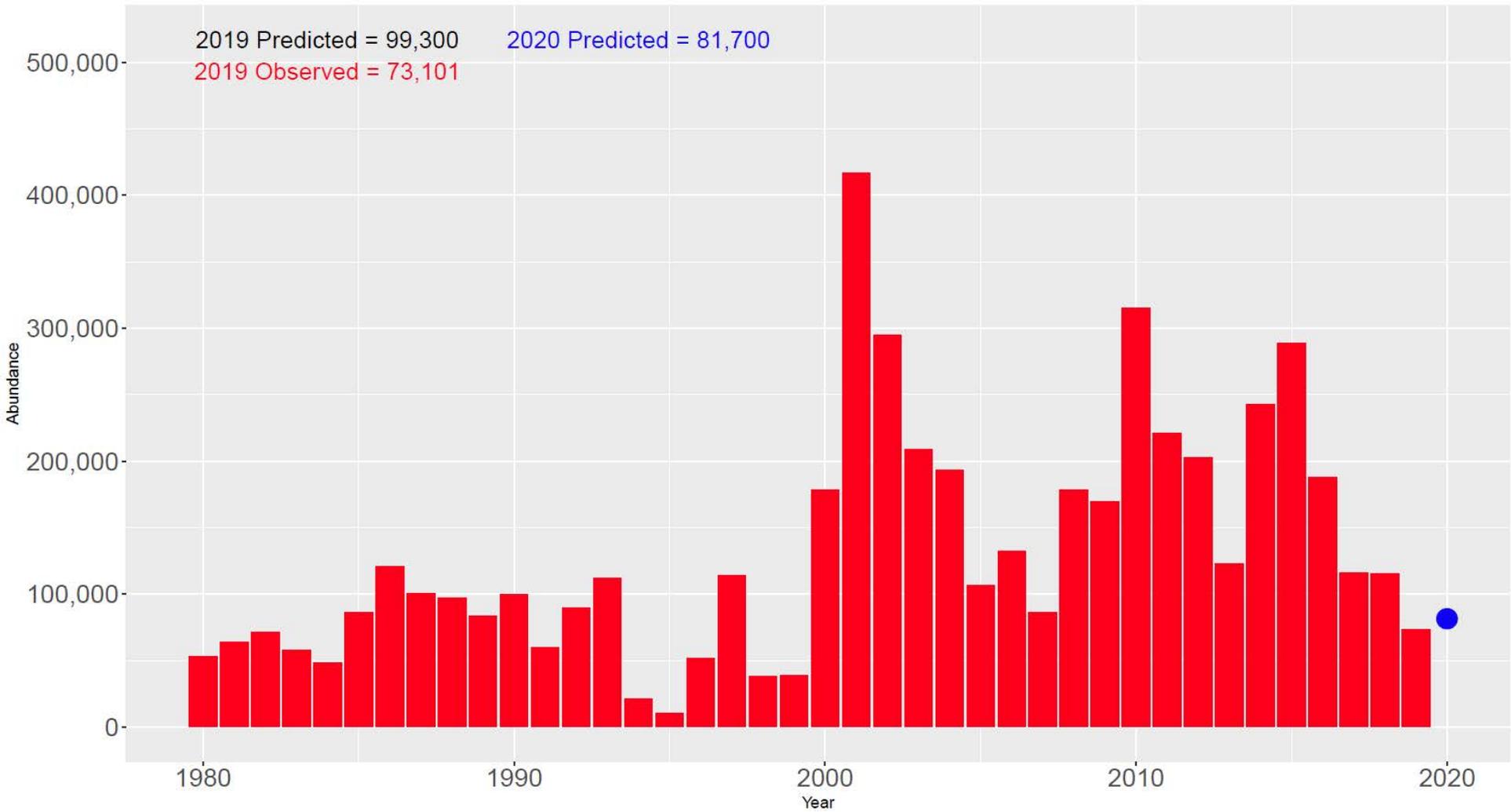
U.S. v Oregon

Technical Advisory Committee

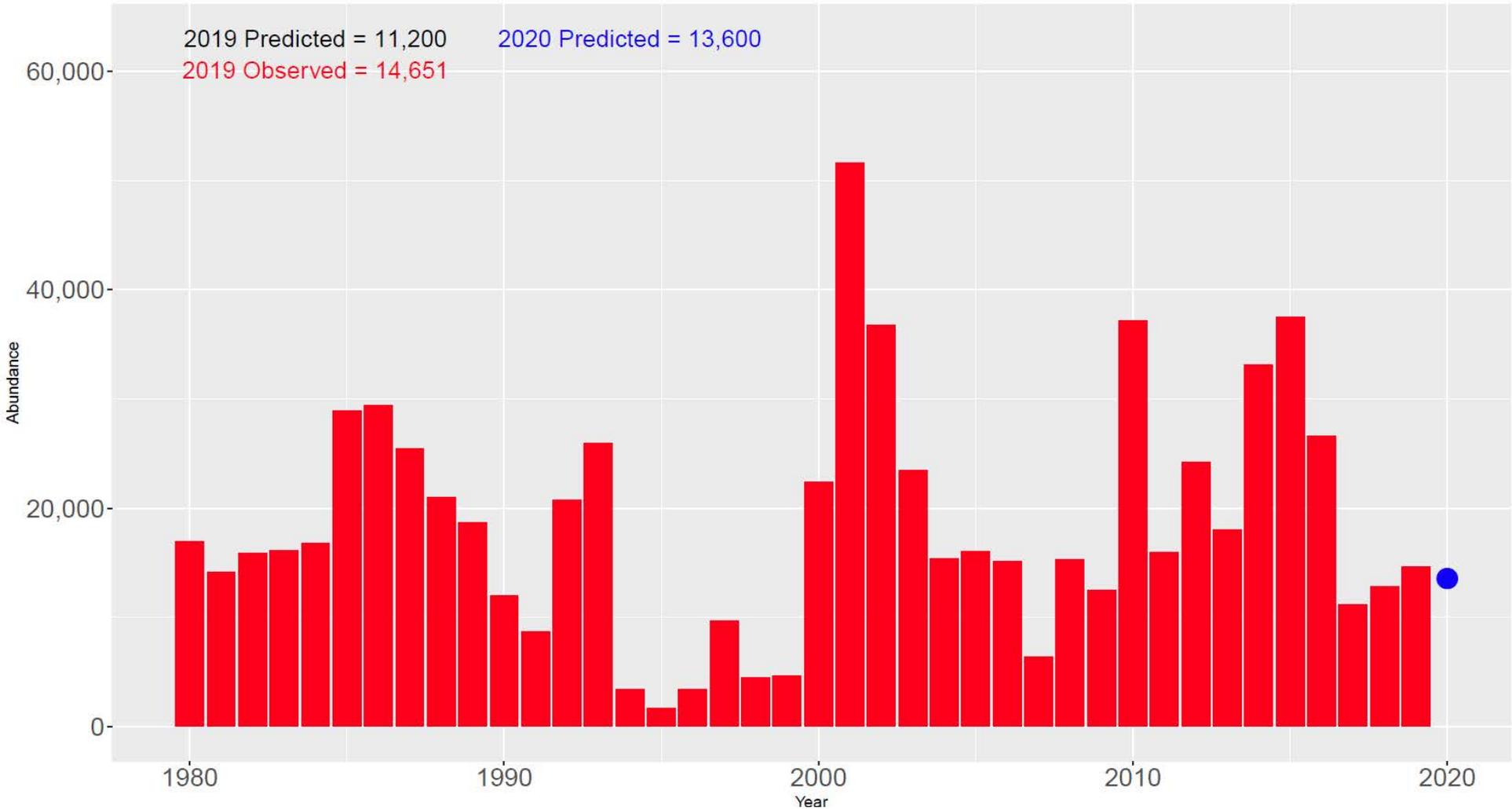
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- Consists of staff from federal, tribal and state entities.
- TAC 'reconstructs' Columbia River salmon and steelhead returns post season and develops preseason forecasts.
- TAC reviews salmon and steelhead stock status as the runs progress and provides inseason run size updates.
- In 2019, TAC met 31 times between April and October to provide inseason run size updates on upriver salmon and steelhead.
- These inseason updates allow fishery managers to adjust fisheries as necessary in order to remain within ESA limits and management guidelines.

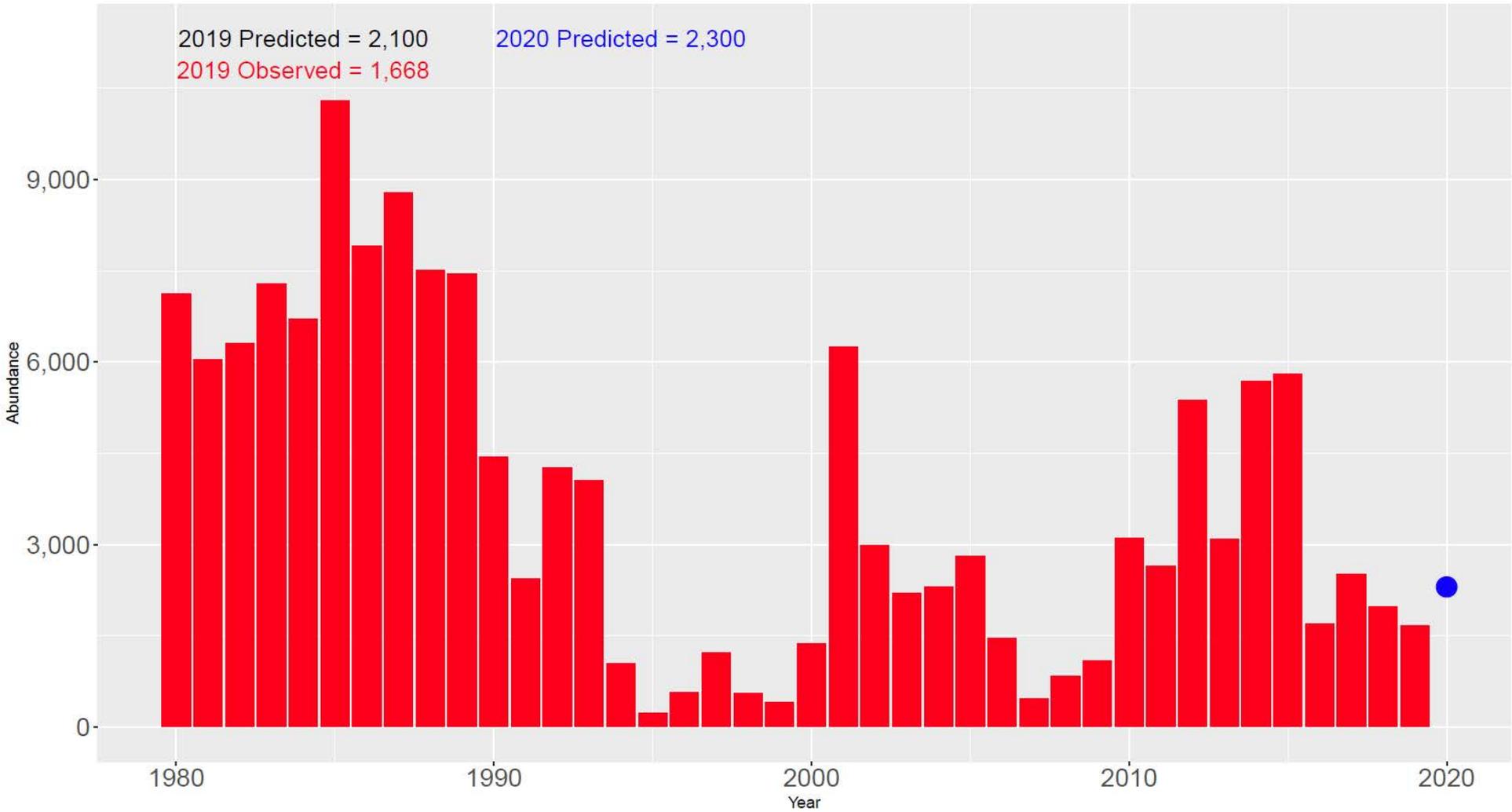
Upriver Spring Chinook



Upper Columbia Spring Chinook

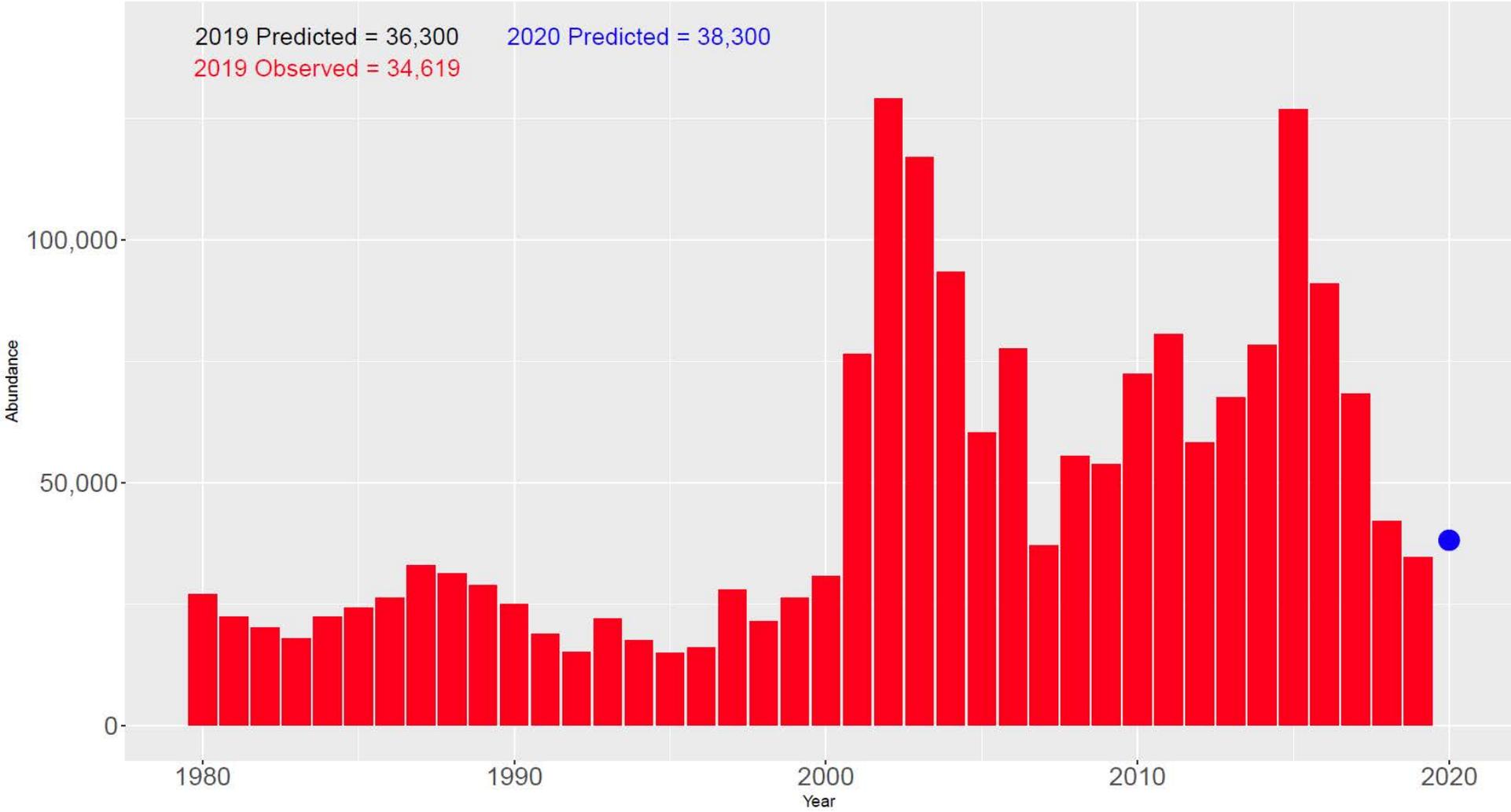


Wild Upper Columbia Spring Chinook

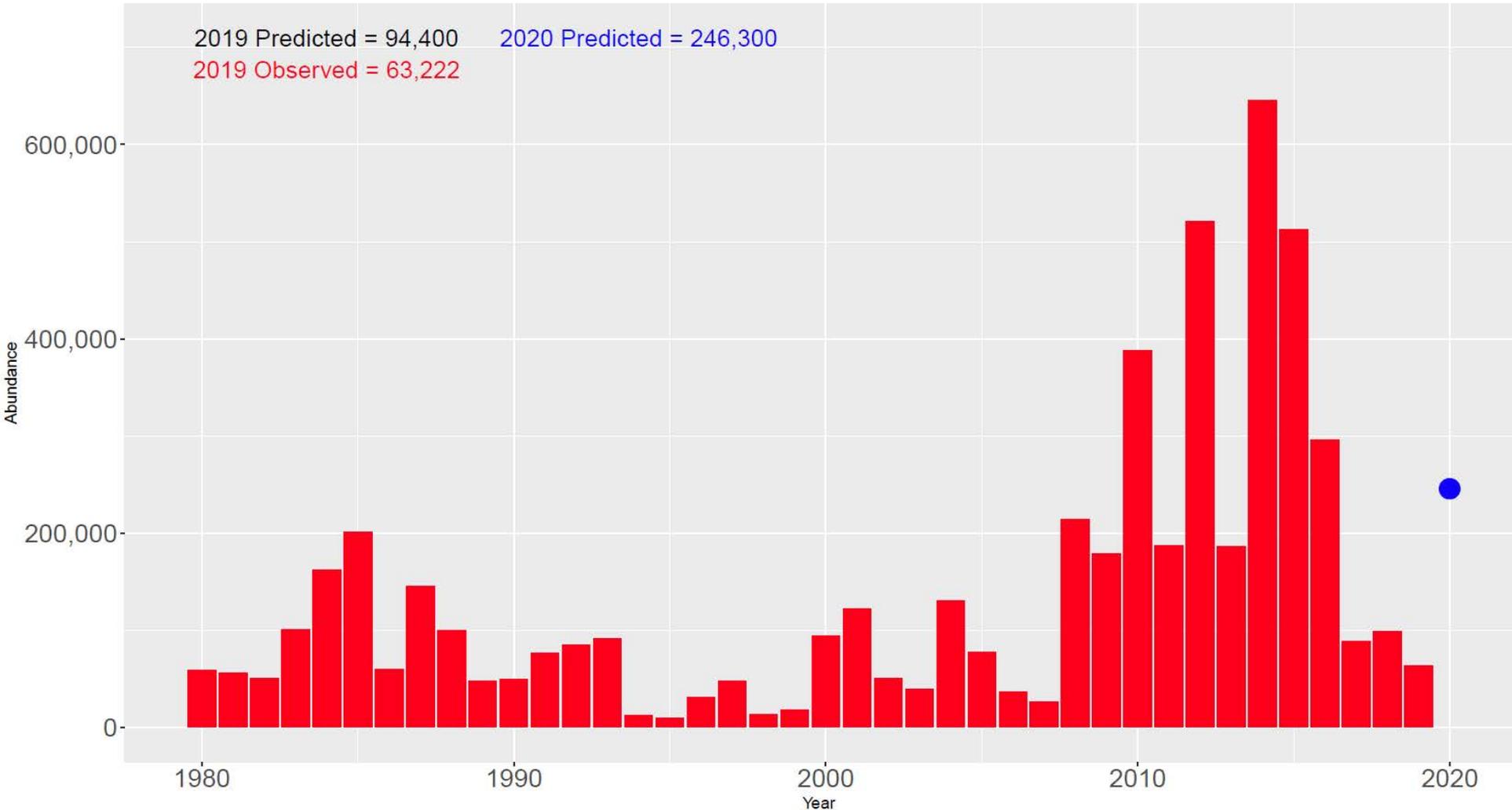


Upper Columbia Summer Chinook

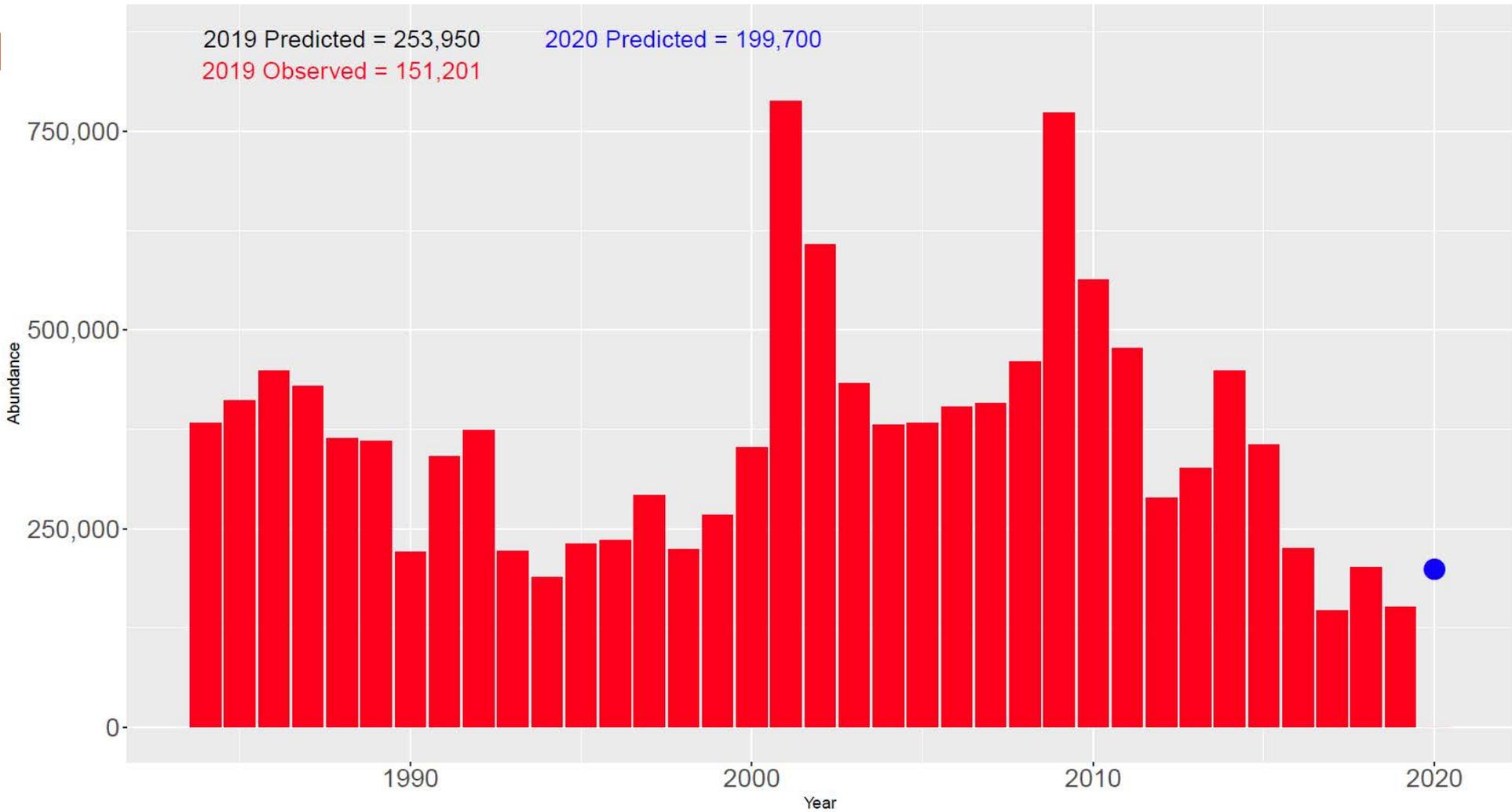
2019 Predicted = 36,300 2020 Predicted = 38,300
2019 Observed = 34,619



Columbia River Sockeye

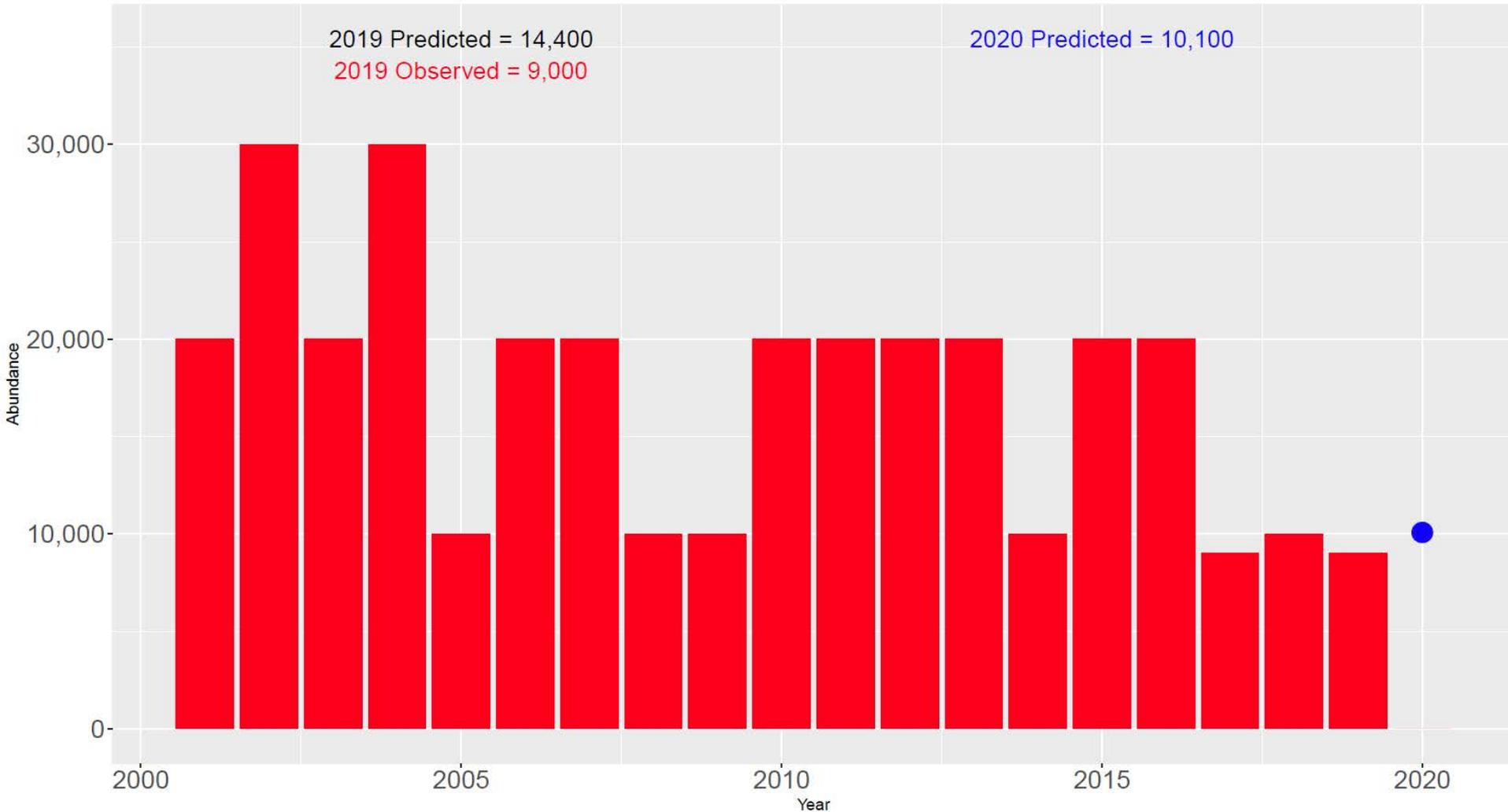


Upriver Summer Steelhead

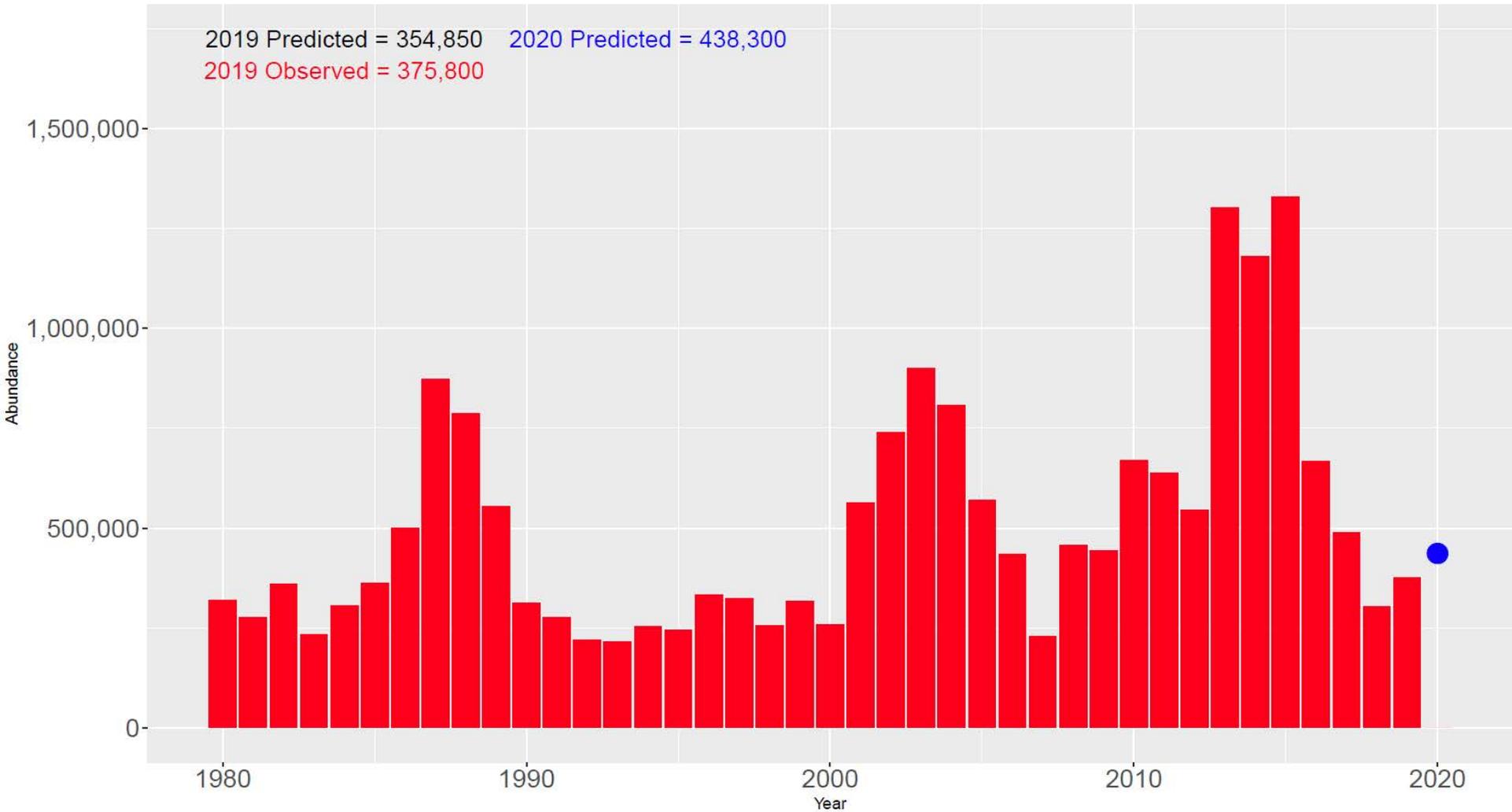


Wild Winter Steelhead

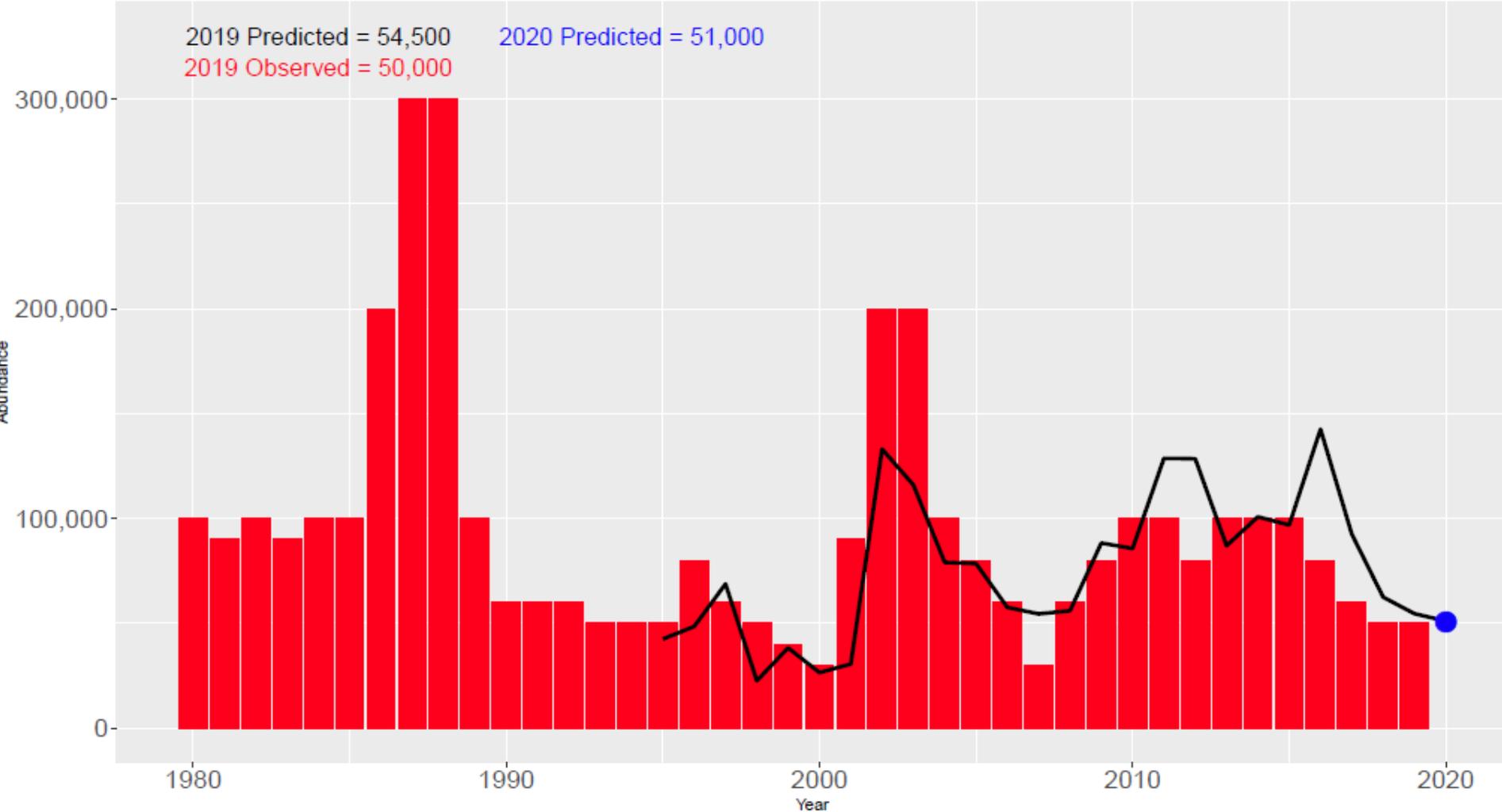
9



Total Fall Chinook

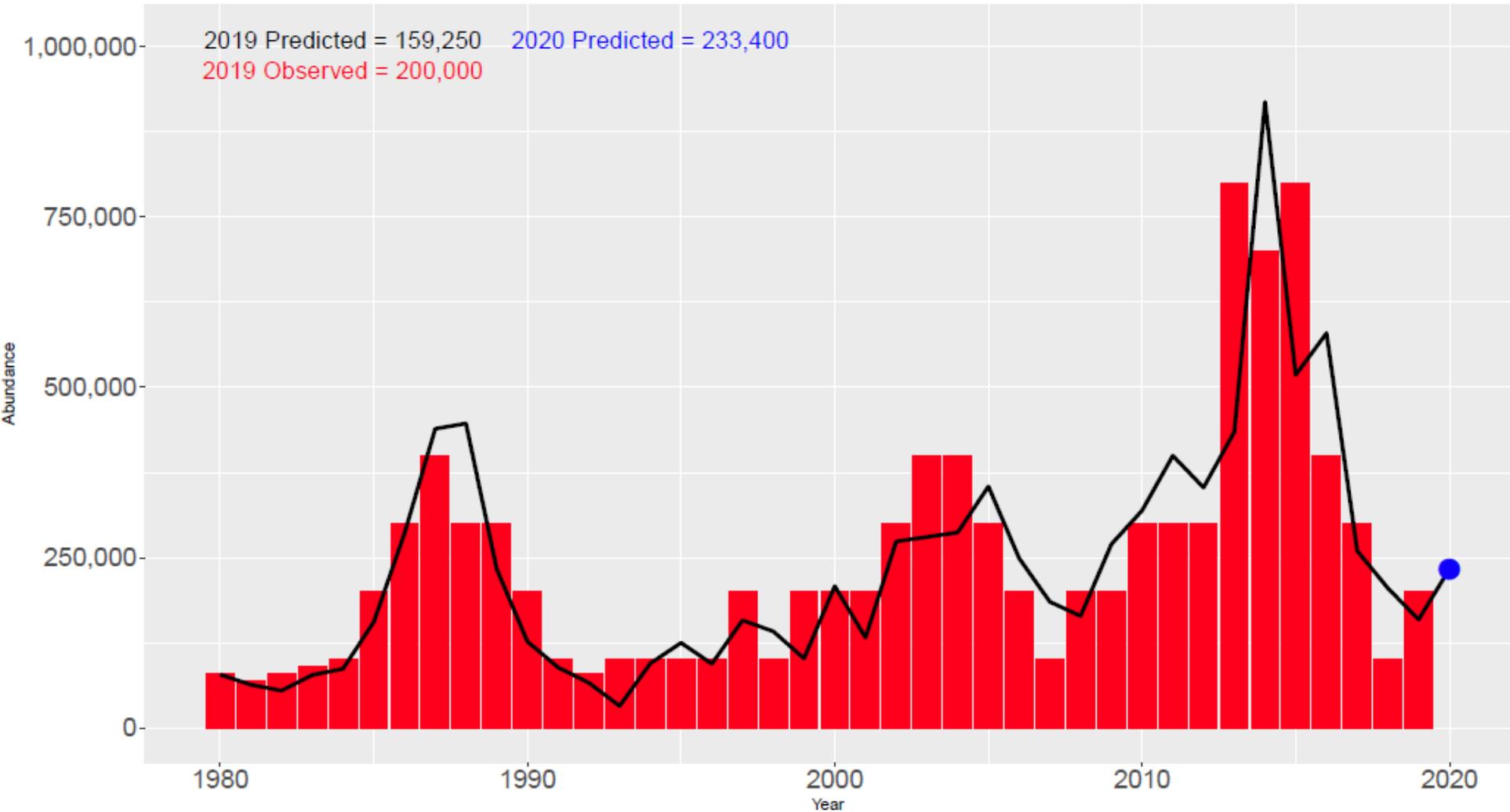


Fall Chinook Tule - LRH

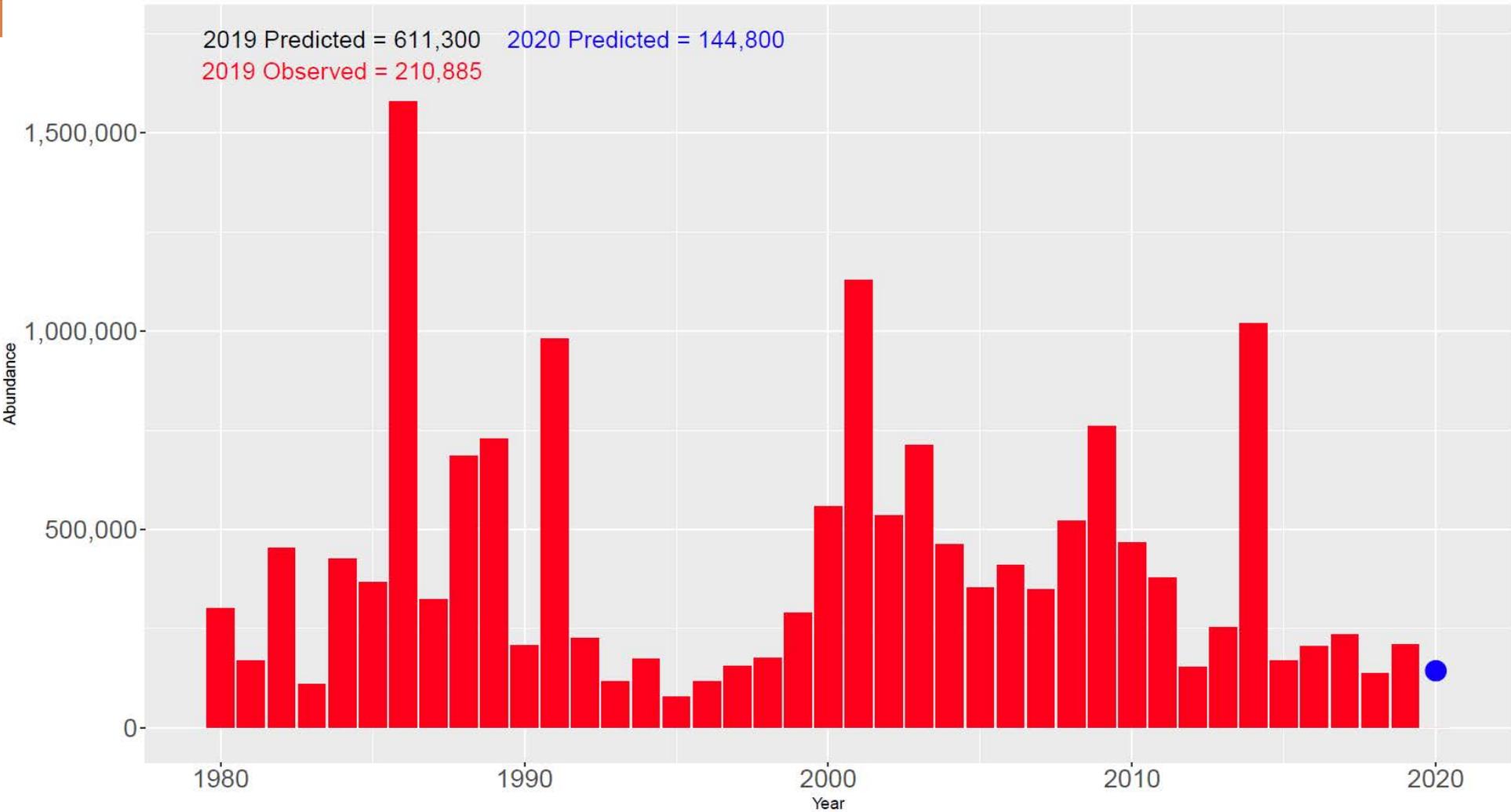


Fall Chinook - URB

12

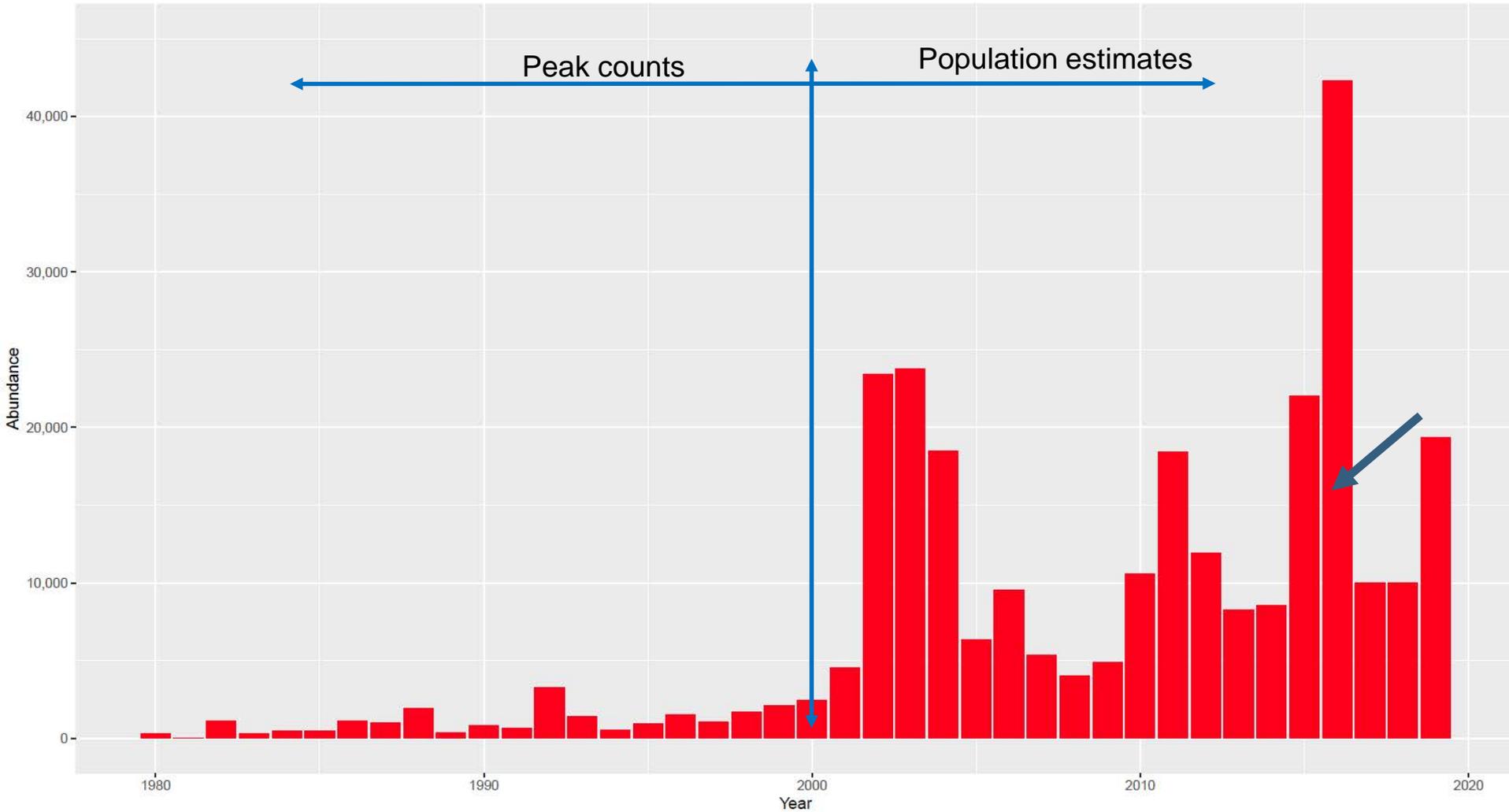


Columbia River Coho Returns



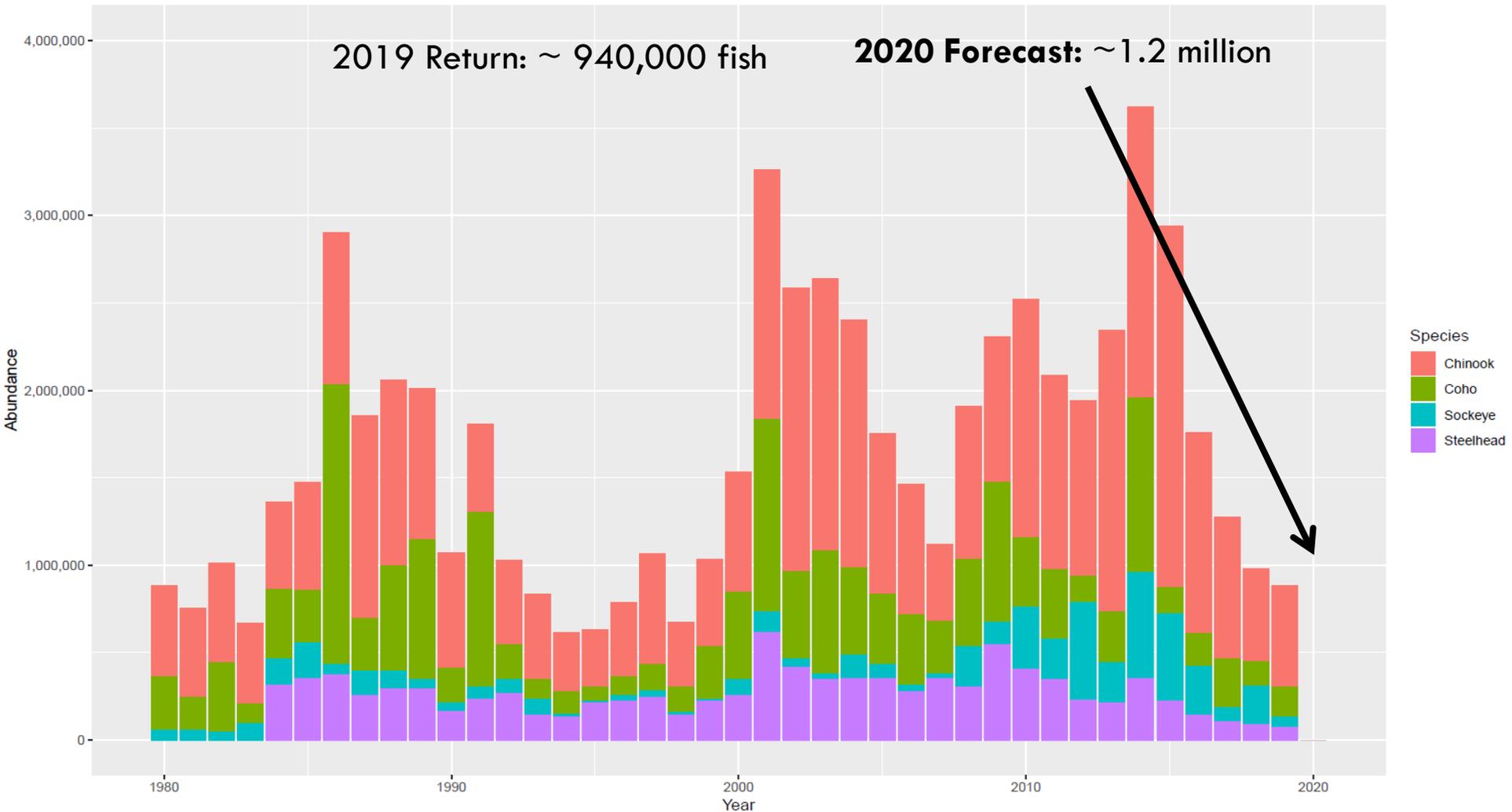
Columbia River Chum

14



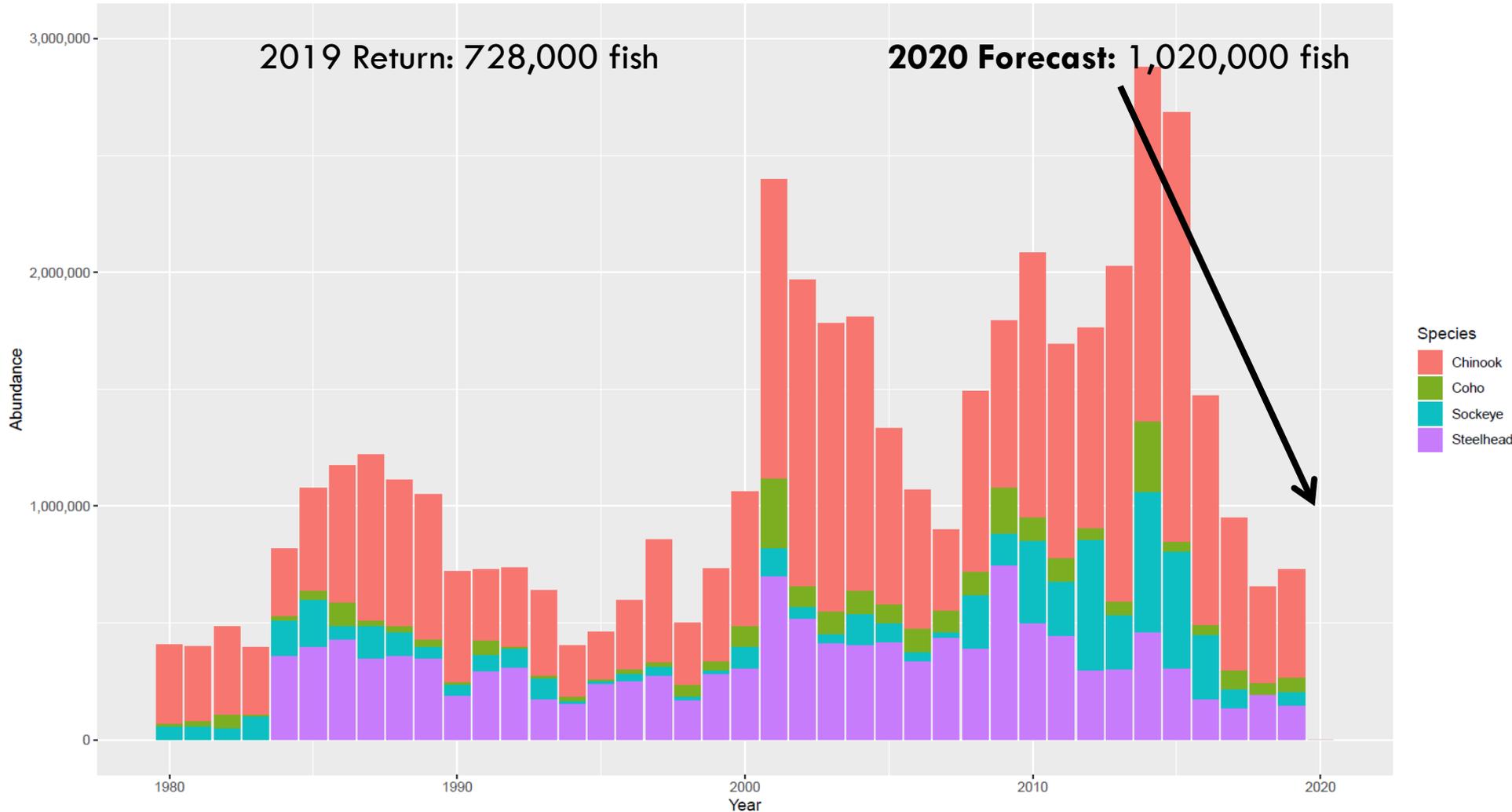
TOTAL Return of Salmonids to the Columbia River

15



UPRIVER Salmonids Returning to the Columbia River

16



2019 Fisheries Conservation

17

- Summer Steelhead return was lowest since 1979 (2018 was 2nd lowest)
 - Decline driven by B-index
 - Bright spot: Total A-index steelhead similar to 2018 (slightly lower)
- Co-managers worked together to reduce recreational impact to steelhead
- Columbia (OR & WA) and Snake (WA)
 - Summer – chinook targeting closed below PRD.
 - Fall – rolling closures due to Chinook and steelhead run-size downgrades

2019 Non-Indian Sport Fisheries

18

▣ Spring Chinook

- Below Bonneville:
 - 39,400 angler trips
 - 1,680 hatchery fish kept
- Bonneville to WA/OR border:
 - 280 hatchery fish kept
- Snake River (WA waters):
 - 330 hatchery fish kept

▣ Summer Season

- Below Bonneville:
 - 19,800 angler trips
 - 0 hatchery Chinook
 - 1,400 hatchery steelhead (May-June)
 - 110 sockeye
- Bonneville - Priest Rapids:
 - 0 hatchery Chinook
 - 0 sockeye
- Priest Rapids – Chief Joseph:
 - 6,025 hatchery Chinook
 - 185 sockeye

▣ Fall Season

- Buoy 10:
 - 76,900 angler trips
 - 11,200 Chinook kept
 - 23,500 hatchery coho kept
- Below Bonneville:
 - 58,700 angler trips
 - 7,200 Chinook kept
 - 1,050 hatchery coho kept
 - 0 hatchery steelhead kept
- Hanford Reach:
 - 30,700 angler trips
 - 11,800 Chinook kept

2018 Non-Indian Commercial Fisheries

19

MAINSTEM FISHERIES

- ▣ Spring Season – Closed
- ▣ Summer Season – Closed
- ▣ Fall Season –
 - 8,150 Chinook
 - 220 Coho

SELECT AREA FISHERIES (SAFE)

- ▣ Spring Season
 - 2,860 Chinook
- ▣ Summer Season
 - 280 Chinook
- ▣ Fall Season
 - 3,400 Fall Chinook
 - 19,100 Coho

2019 Treaty Indian Fisheries

20

Landed fish are either kept for ceremonial & subsistence (C&S) purposes, or sold commercially.

- ▣ Spring Chinook –
 - 4,700 fish
- ▣ Summer Chinook –
 - 5,600 fish
- ▣ Sockeye –
 - 1,100 fish
- ▣ Summer Steelhead –
 - 860 in spring/summer
 - 3,100 in fall
 - 4,000 TOTAL
- ▣ Fall Chinook –
 - 55,400
- ▣ Coho –
 - 2,500

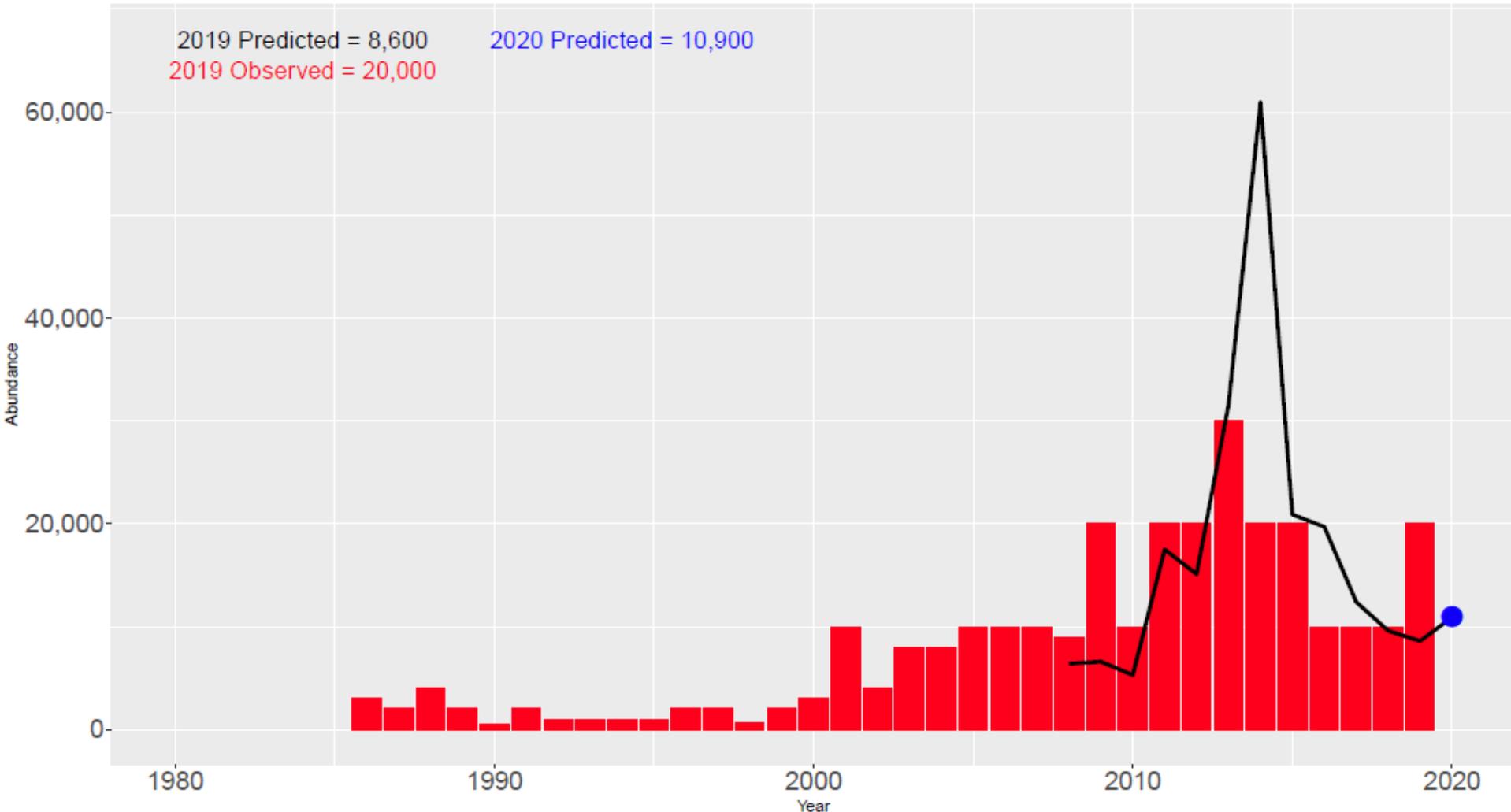
Questions?

21



Fall Chinook Snake River - Wild

22



SNAKE RIVER SALMON AND STEELHEAD RETURNS

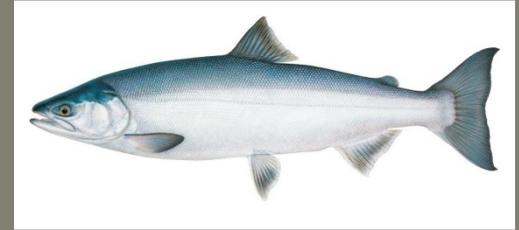
Natural-origin and Hatchery-origin



Spring/Summer Chinook
Fall Chinook



Summer Steelhead



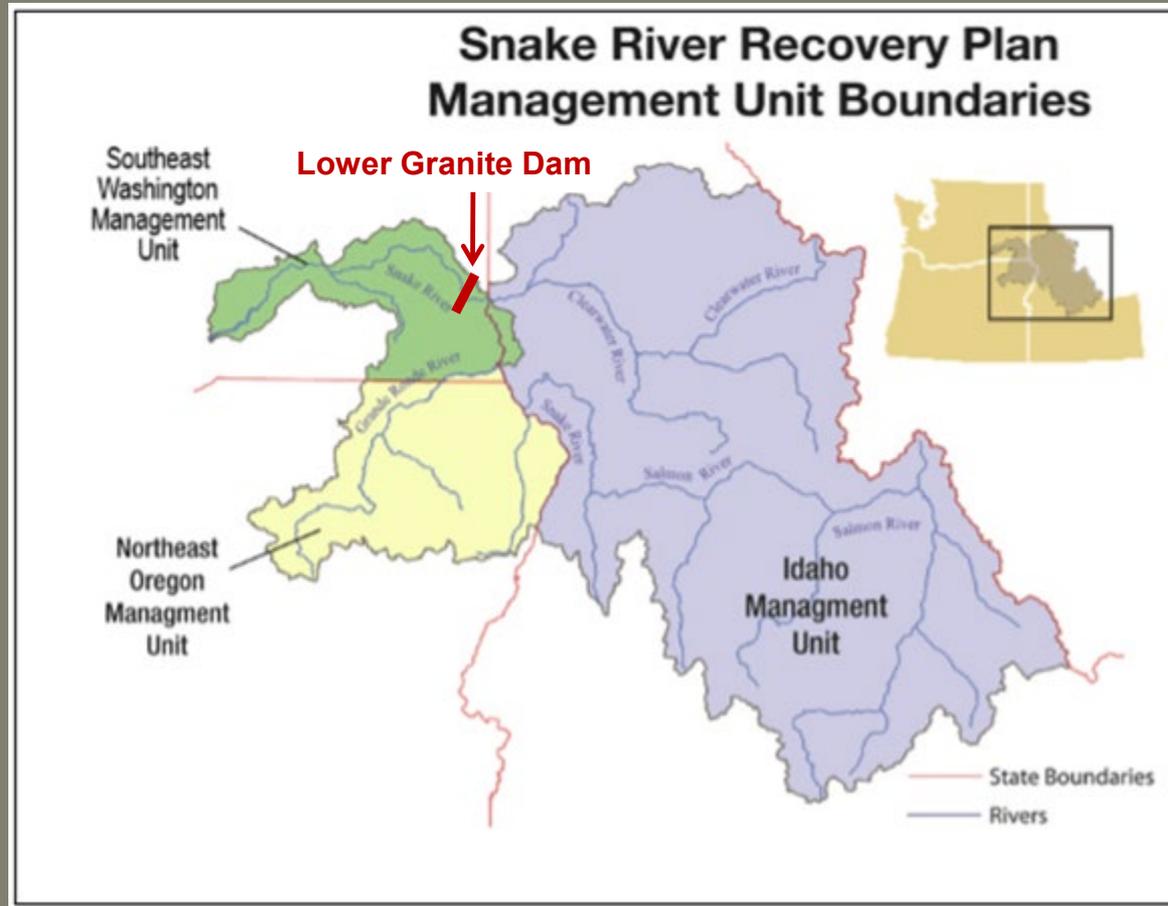
Sockeye

NPCC – March 2020

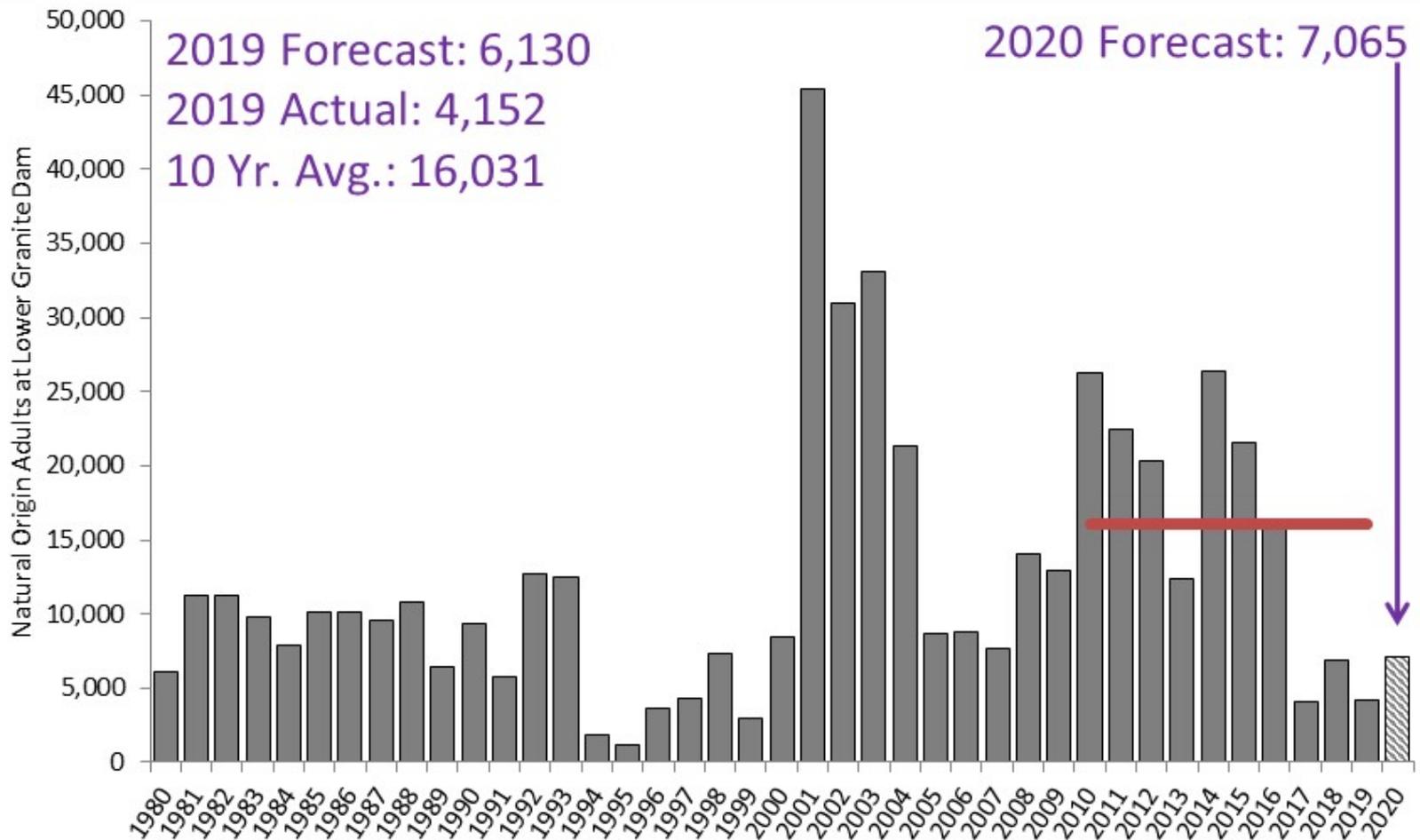
Presented by: Christine Kozfkay
Idaho Department of Fish and Game



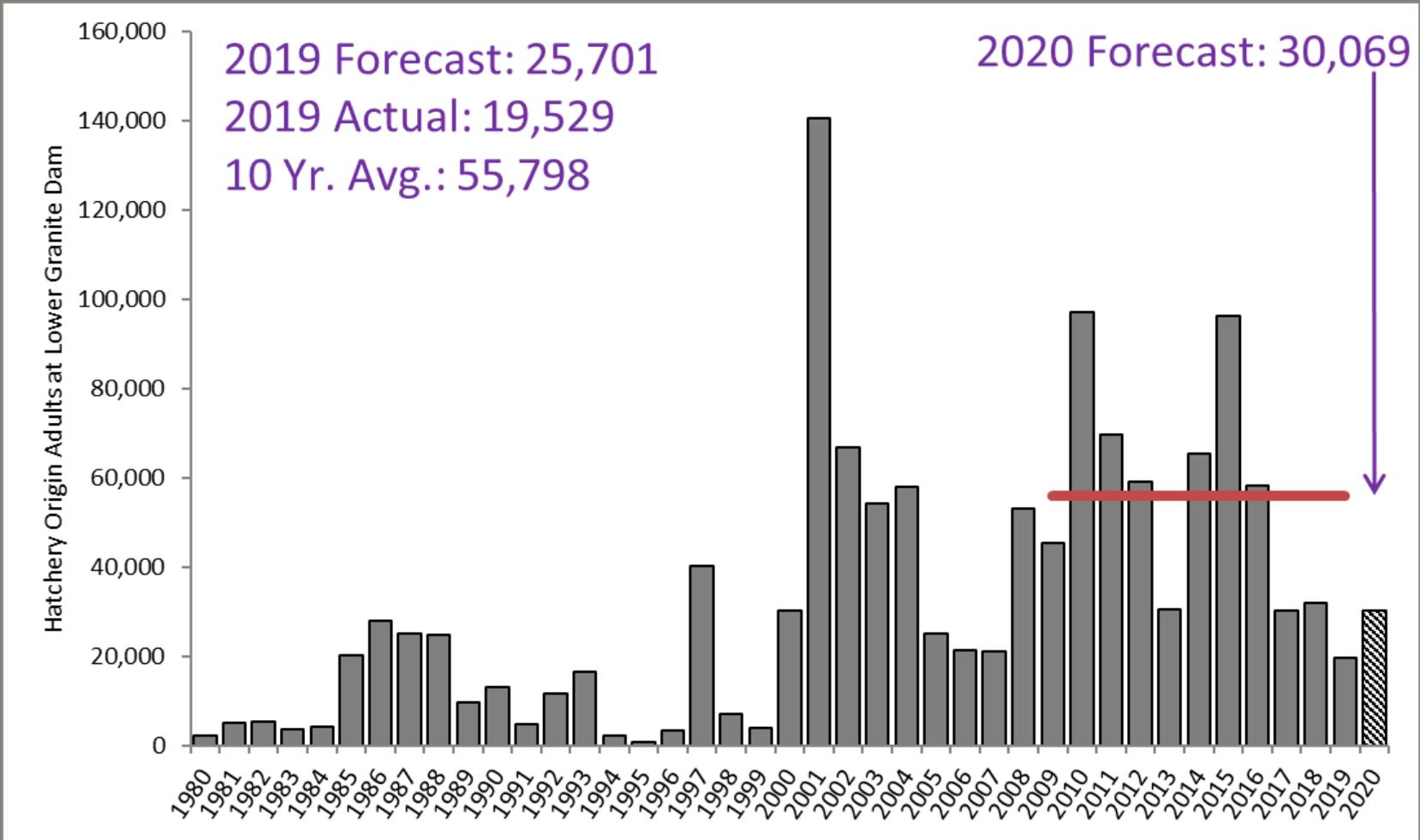
SNAKE RIVER SALMON AND STEELHEAD RETURNS



NATURAL-ORIGIN SPRING/SUMMER CHINOOK

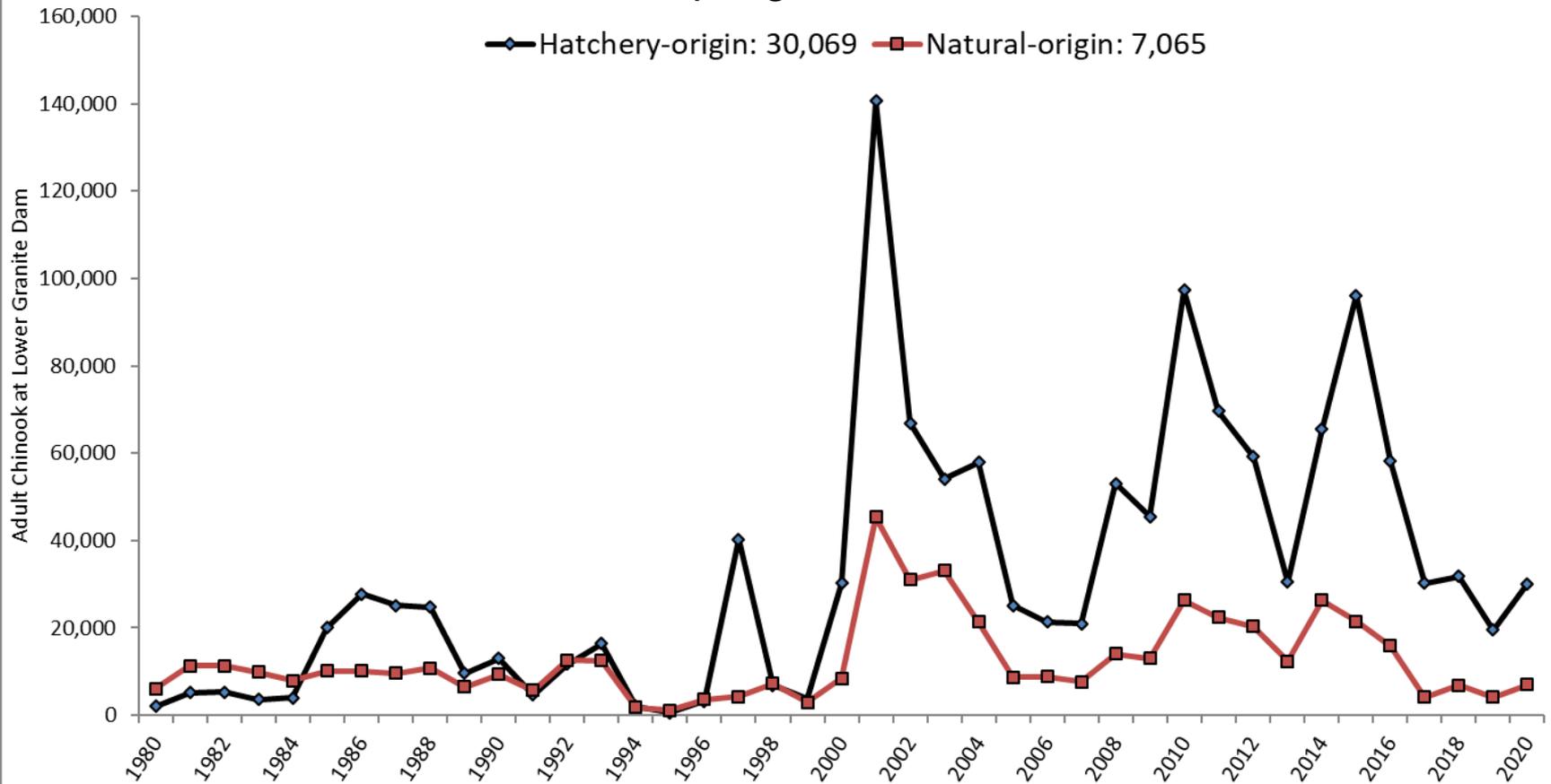


HATCHERY-ORIGIN SPRING/SUMMER CHINOOK



COMBINED NATURAL- AND HATCHERY-ORIGIN SPRING/SUMMER CHINOOK

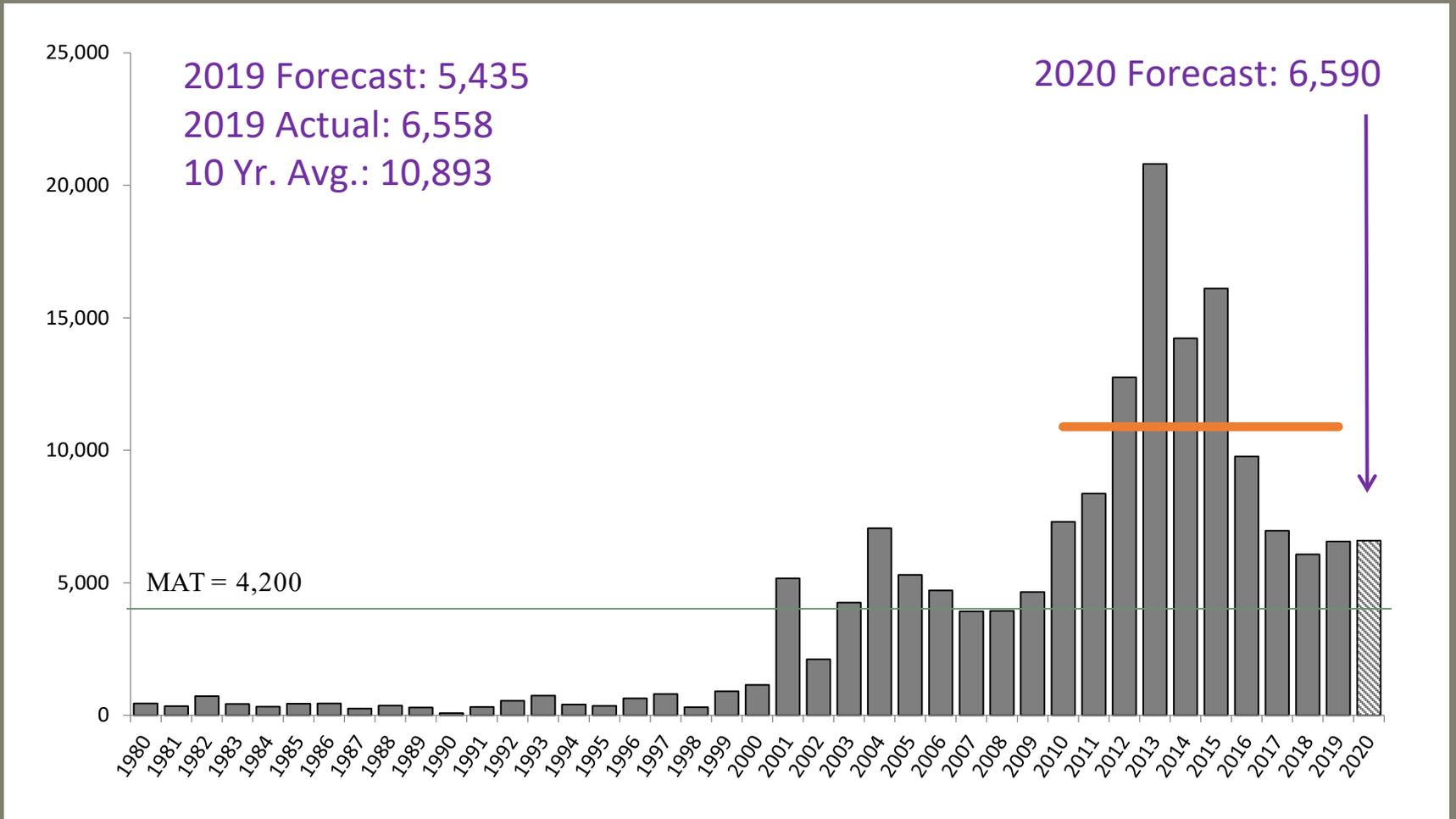
Snake River 2020 Spring/Summer Chinook Forecast



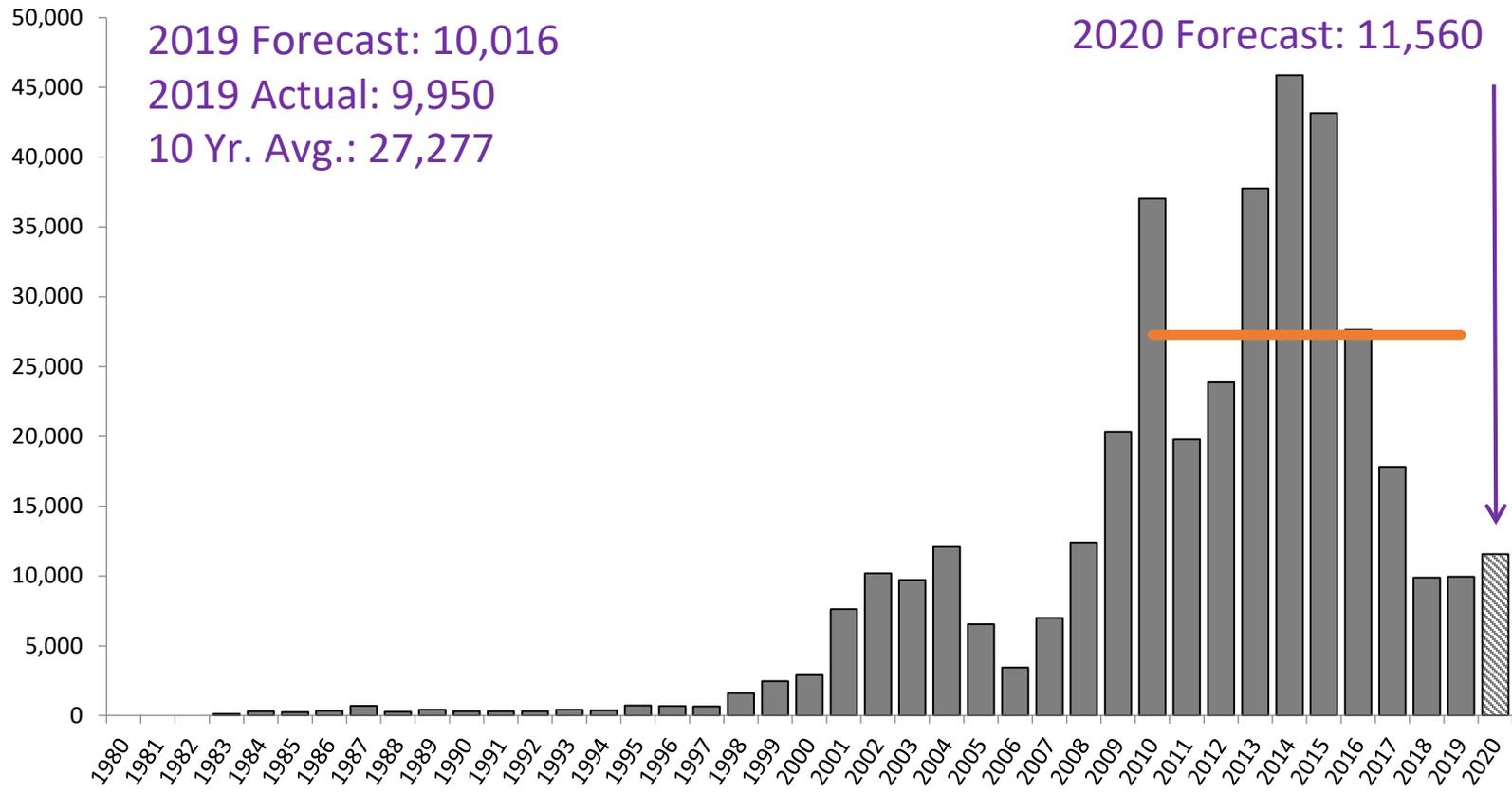
22	4	6	7	2	15	17	19	11	10	1	9	13	5	3	8	14	19	21	18	12
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NATURAL-ORIGIN FALL CHINOOK



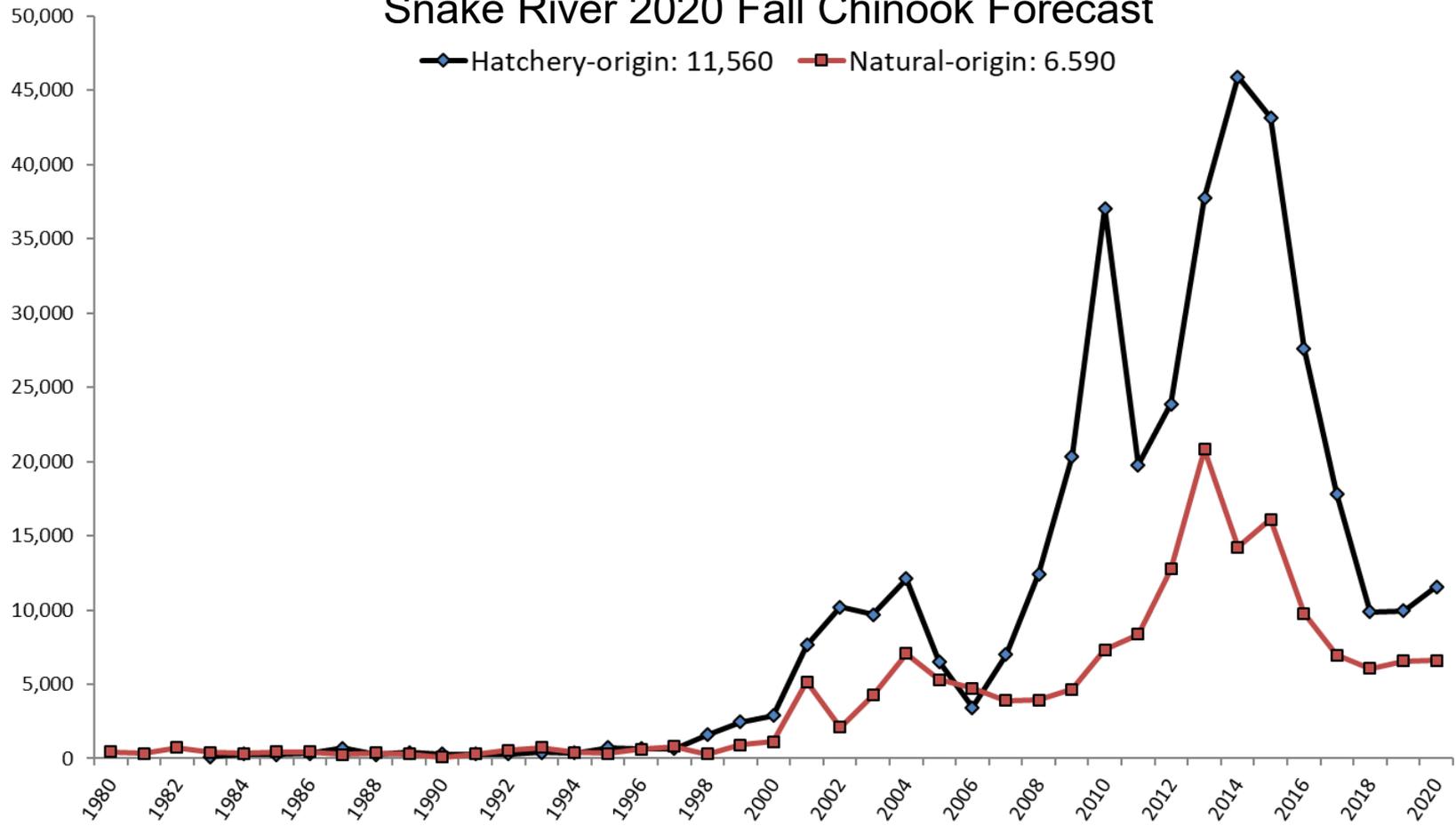
HATCHERY-ORIGIN FALL CHINOOK



COMBINED NATURAL- AND HATCHERY-ORIGIN FALL CHINOOK

Snake River 2020 Fall Chinook Forecast

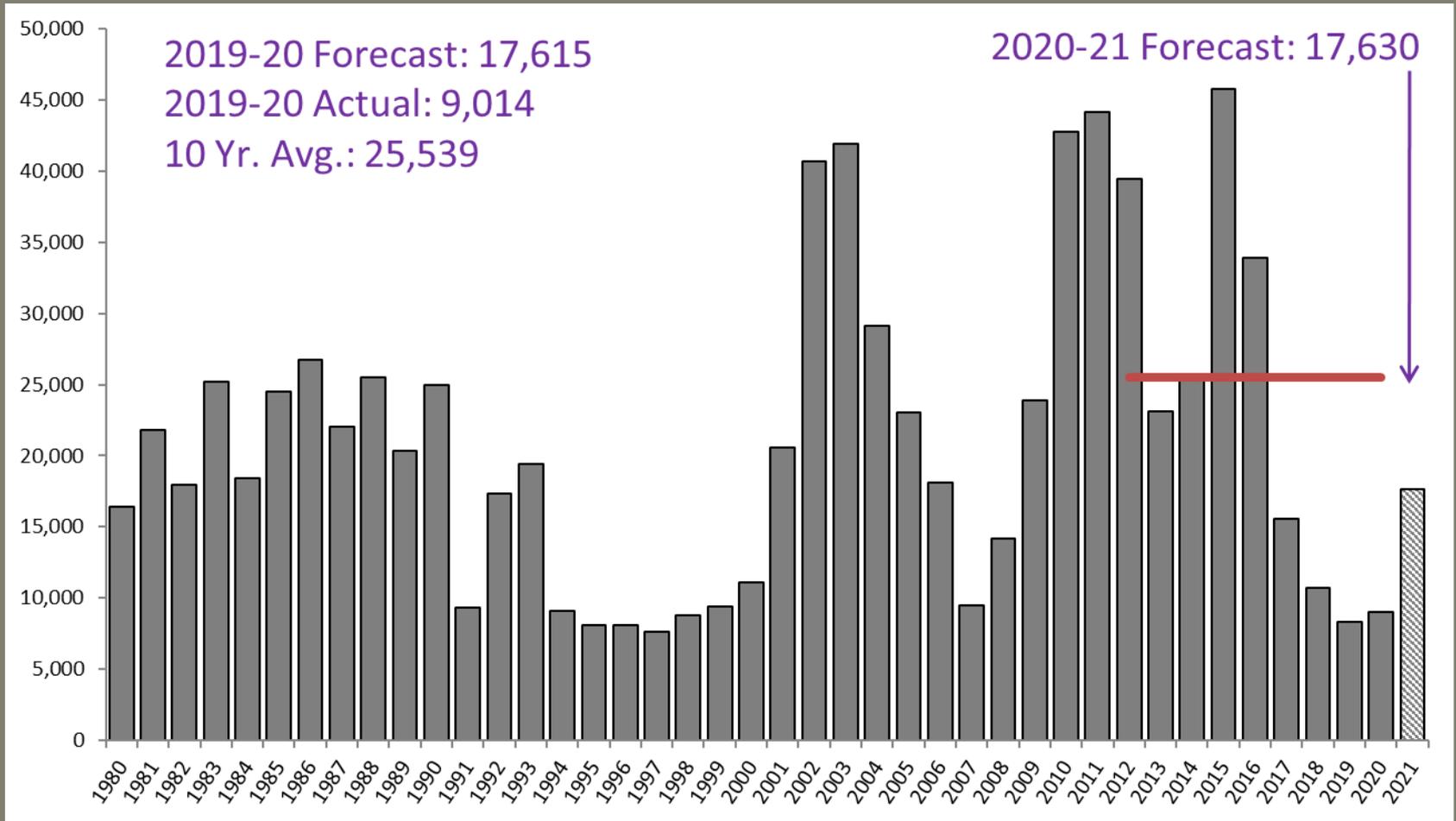
◆ Hatchery-origin: 11,560 ■ Natural-origin: 6,590



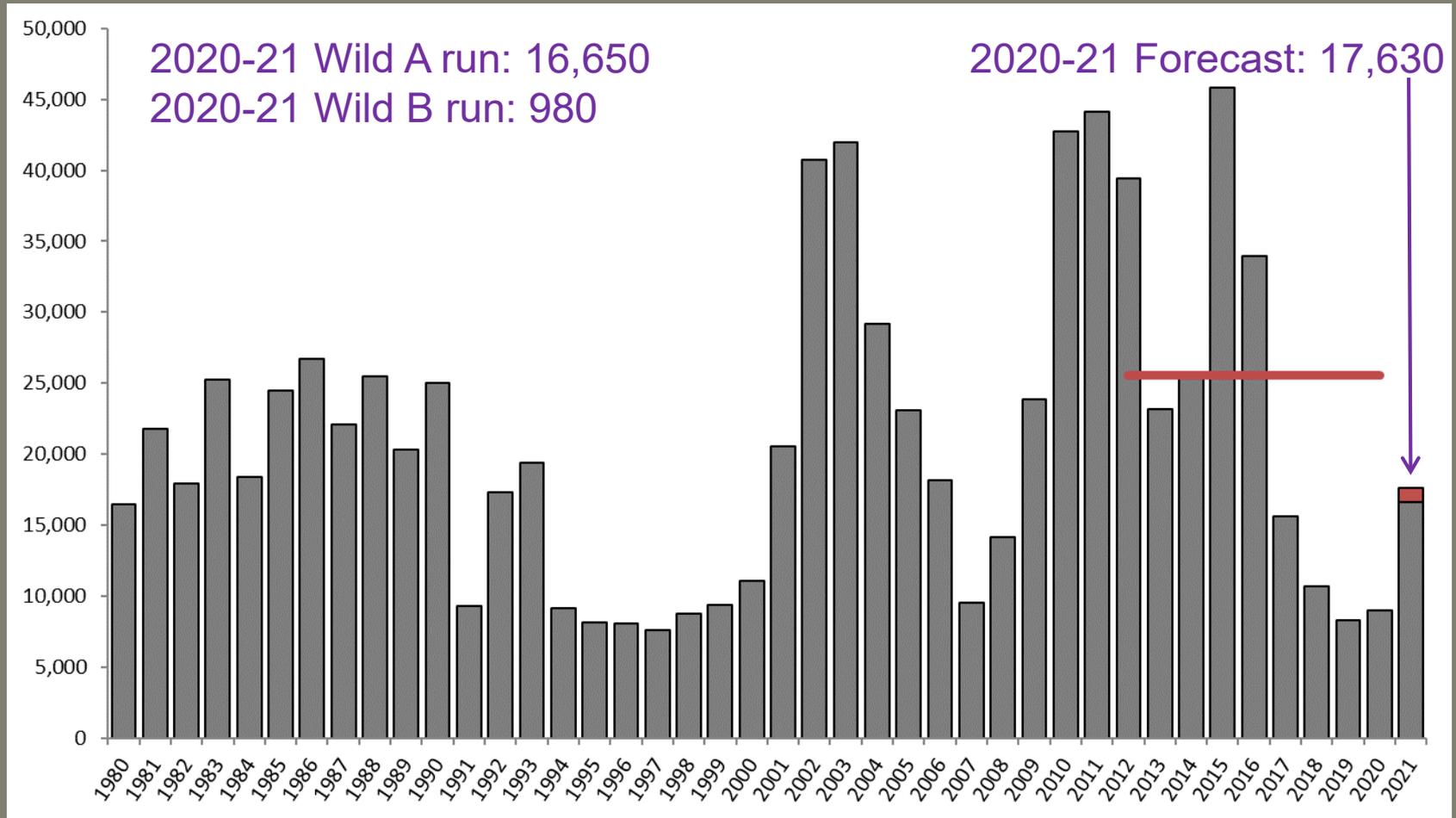
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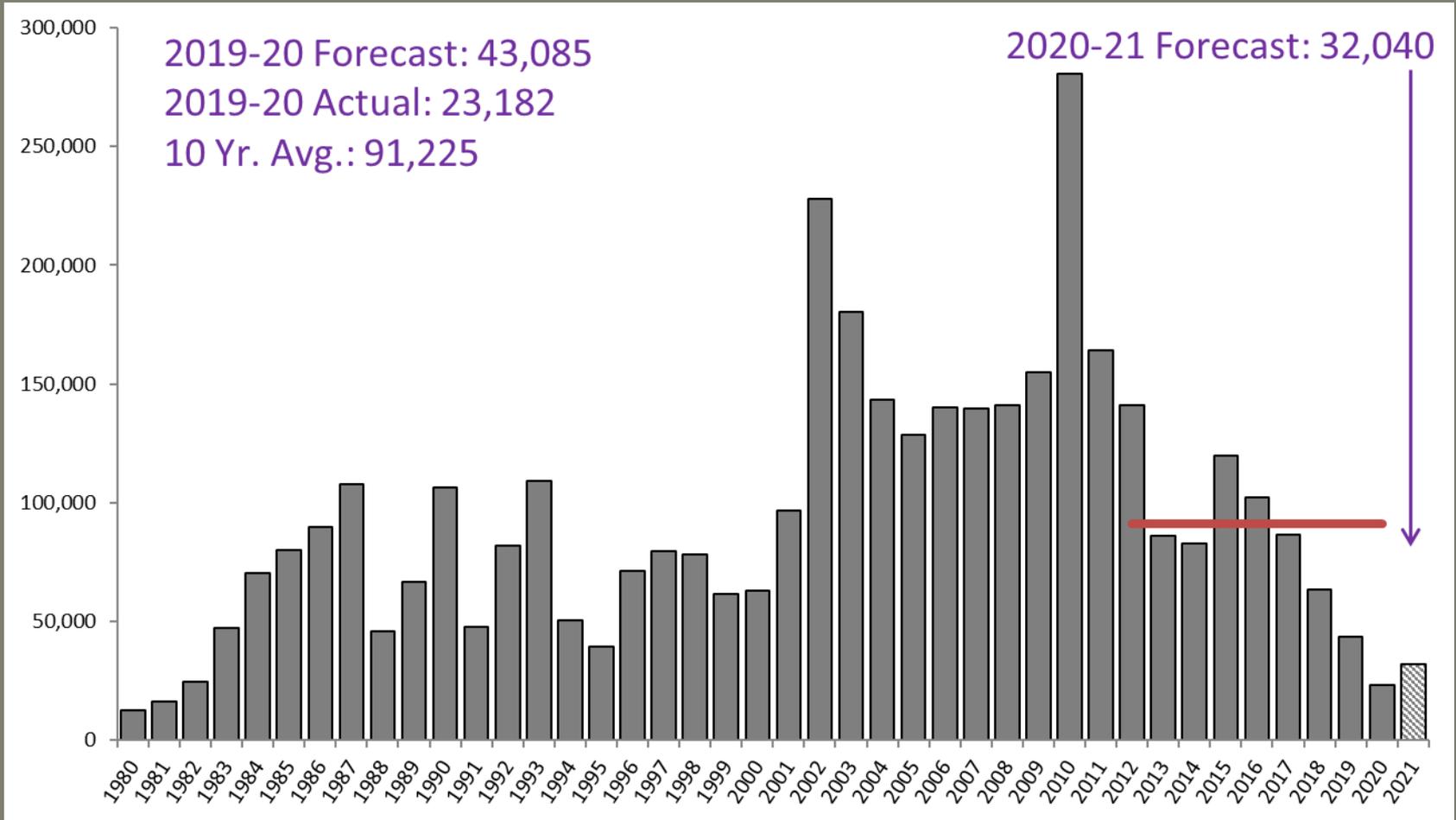
NATURAL-ORIGIN SUMMER STEELHEAD



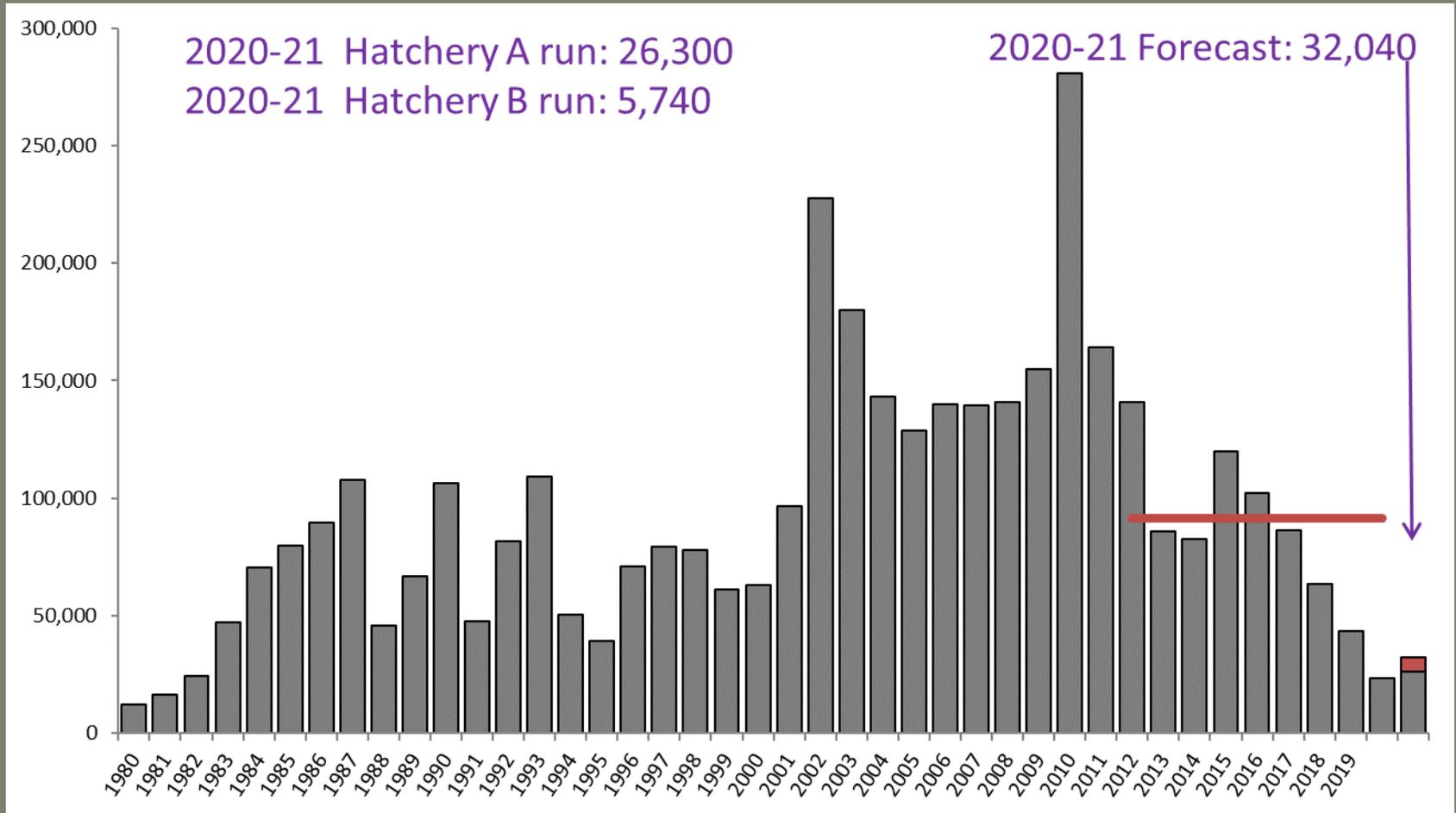
NATURAL-ORIGIN SUMMER STEELHEAD



HATCHERY-ORIGIN SUMMER STEELHEAD

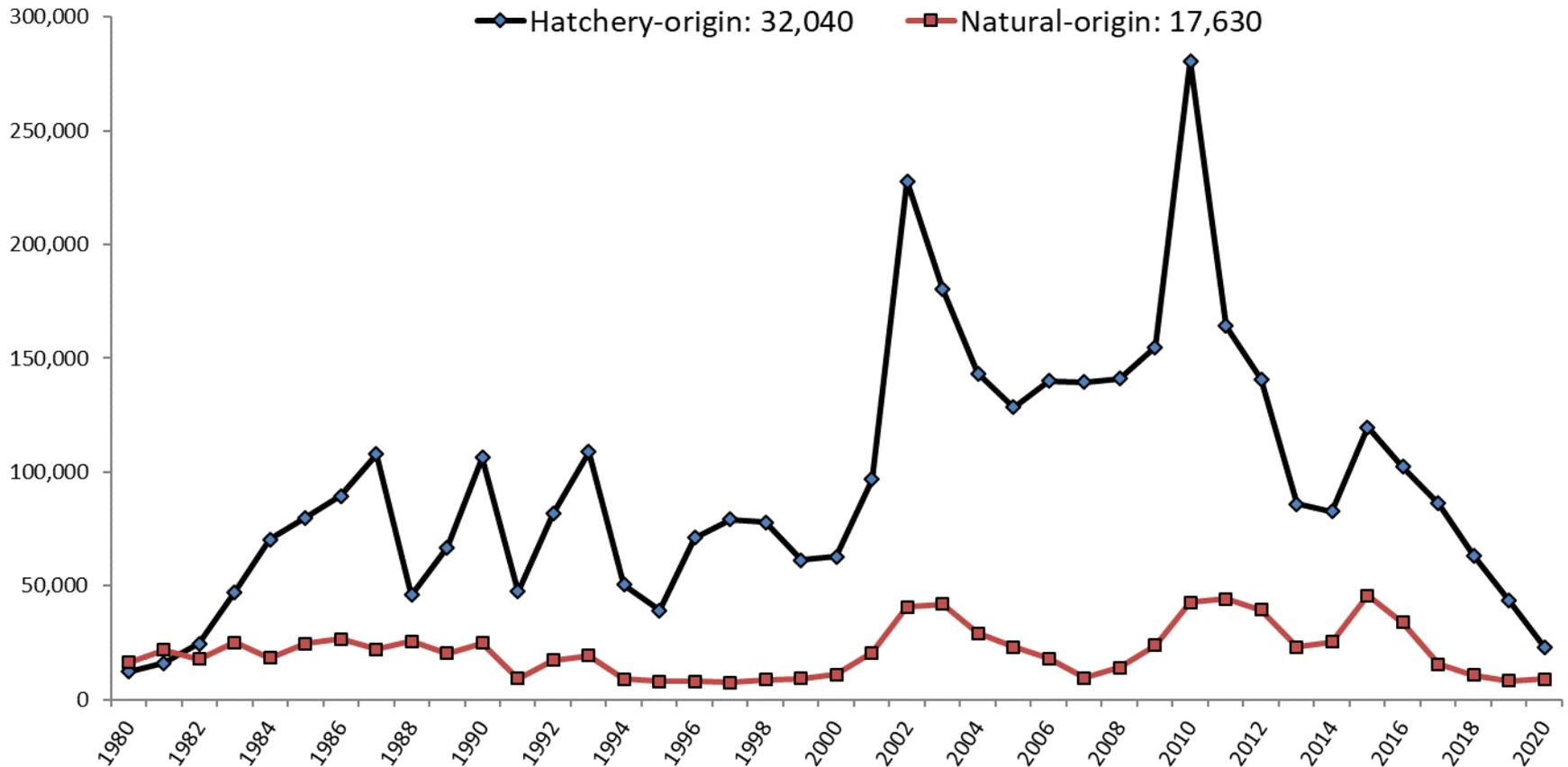


HATCHERY-ORIGIN SUMMER STEELHEAD



COMBINED NATURAL- AND HATCHERY-ORIGIN SUMMER STEELHEAD

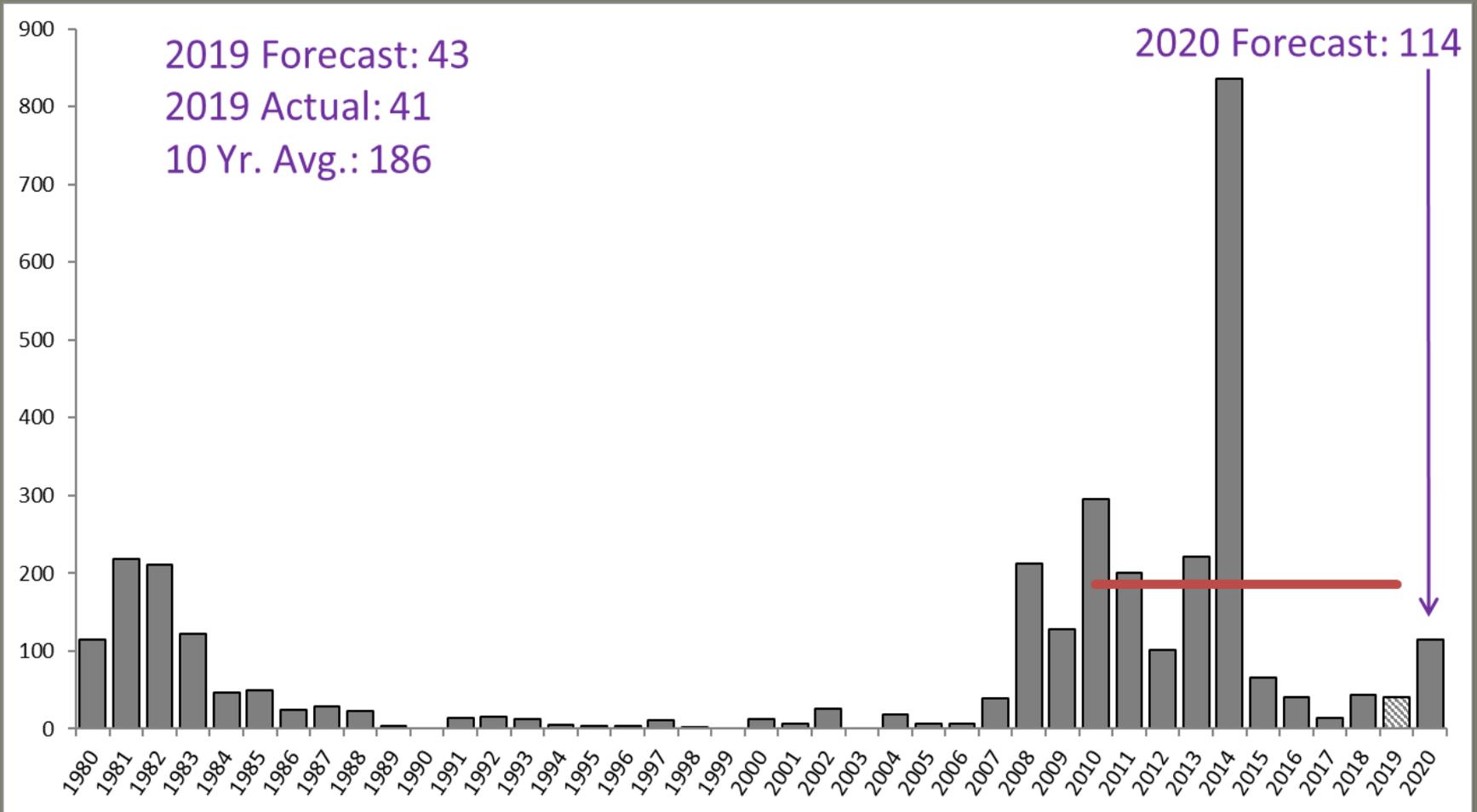
Snake River 2020-2021 Summer Steelhead Forecast



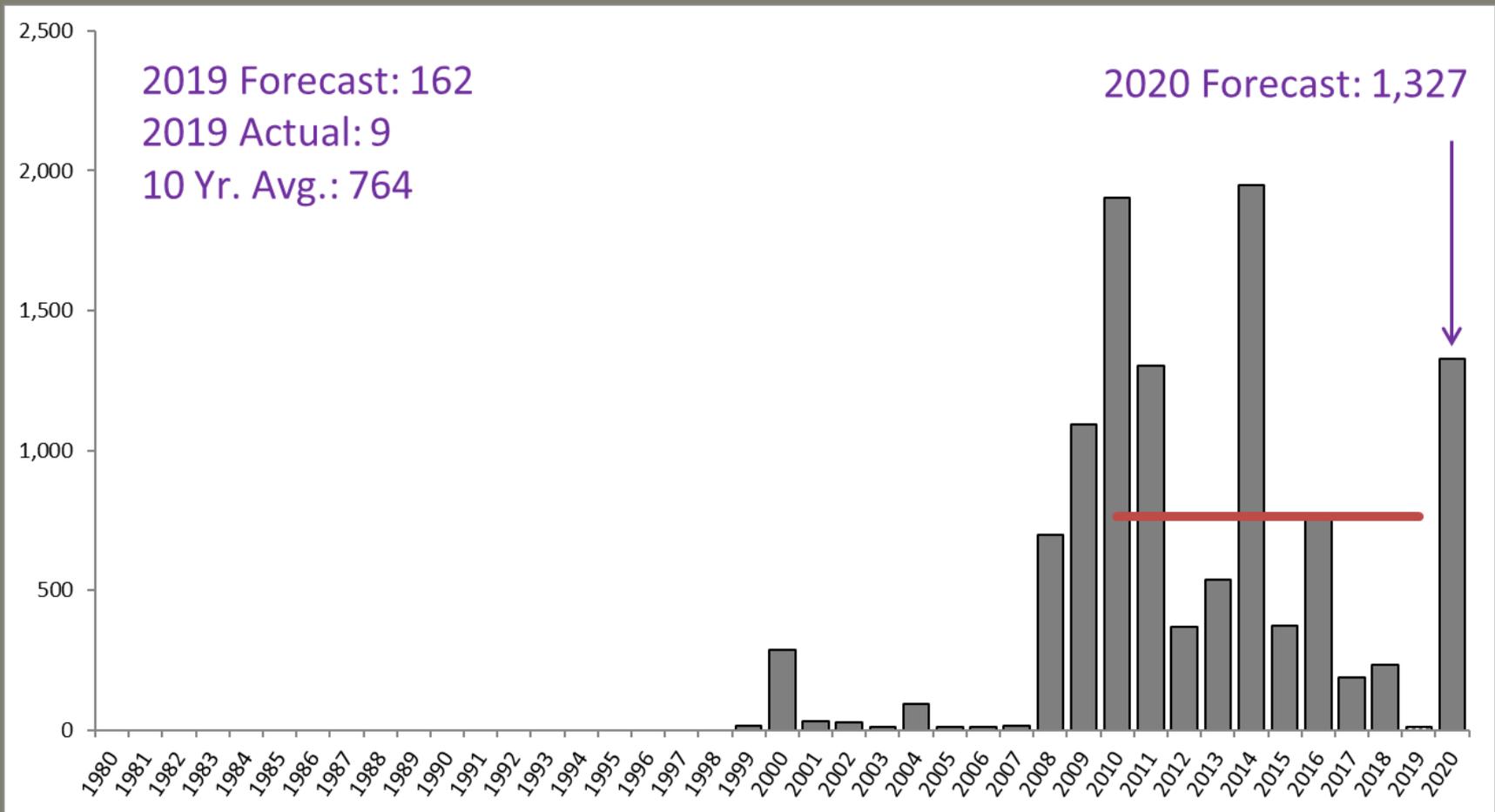
22	4	6	7	2	15	17	19	11	10	1	9	13	5	3	8	14	19	21	18	12
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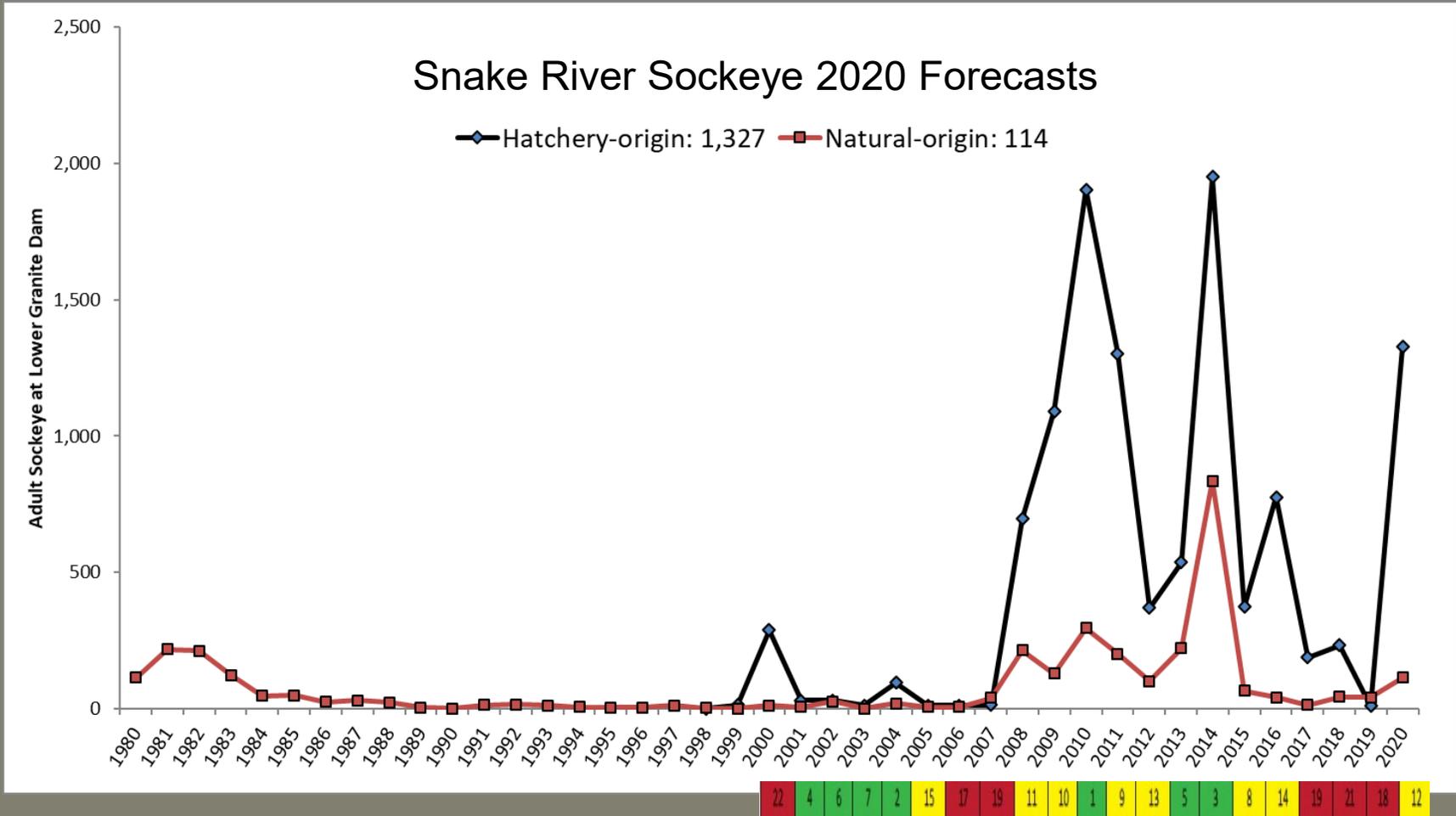
NATURAL-ORIGIN SOCKEYE



HATCHERY-ORIGIN SOCKEYE



COMBINED NATURAL- AND HATCHERY-ORIGIN SOCKEYE



QUESTIONS

