Fisherman Feedback: Hogfish









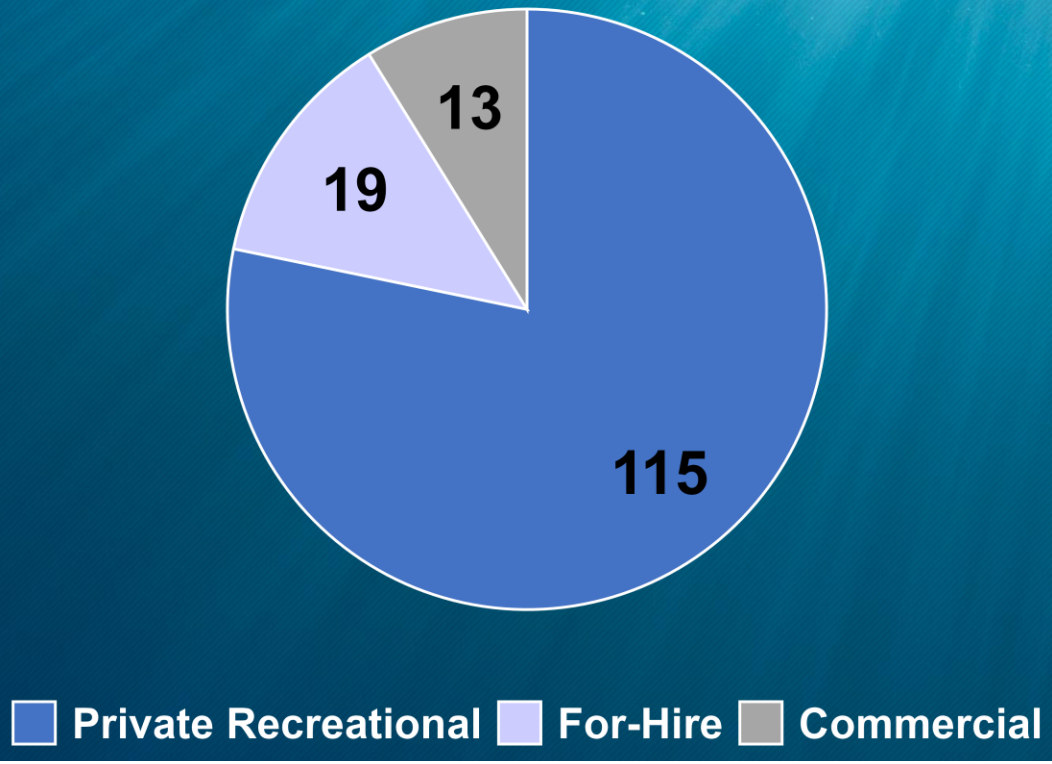
What is Fisherman Feedback?

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.

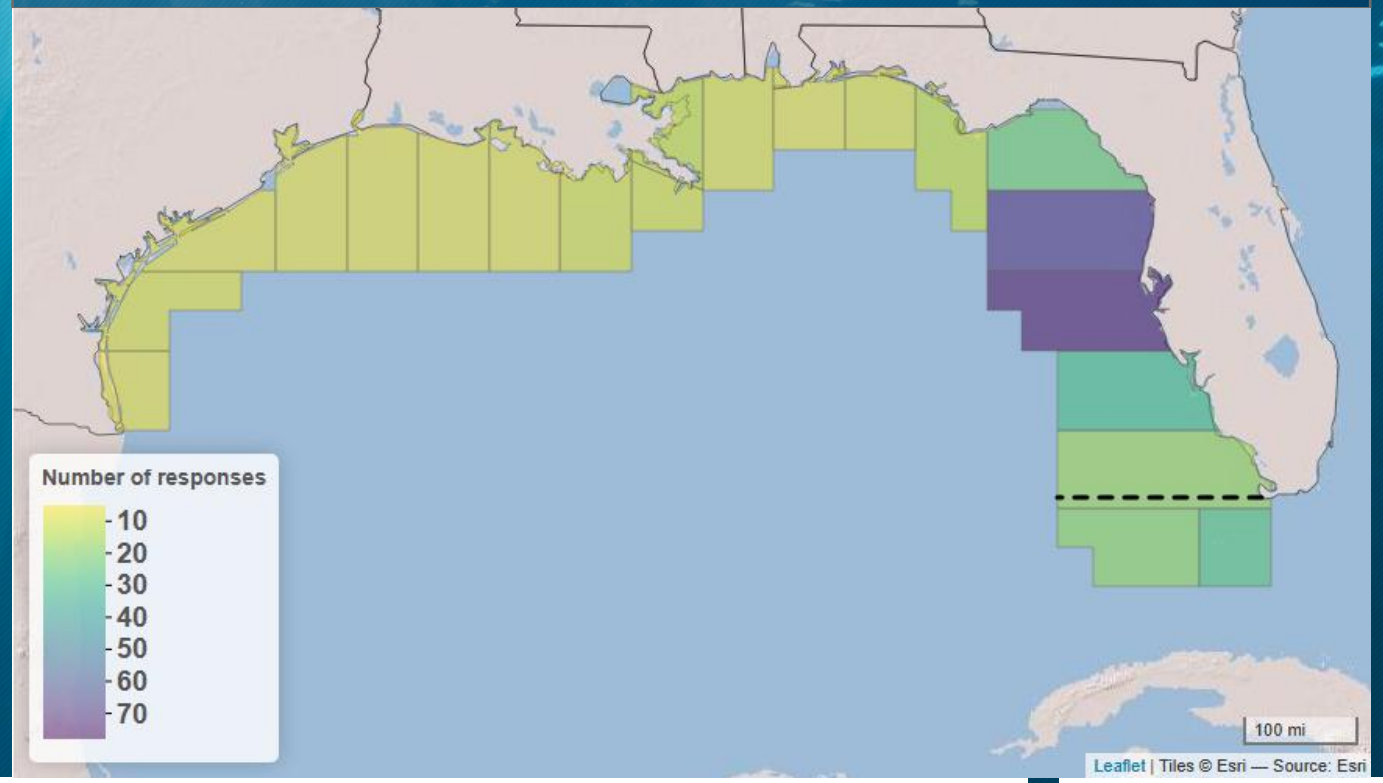
- Respondents are voluntary
- The tool is advertised via press release, social media, and the Council's website



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



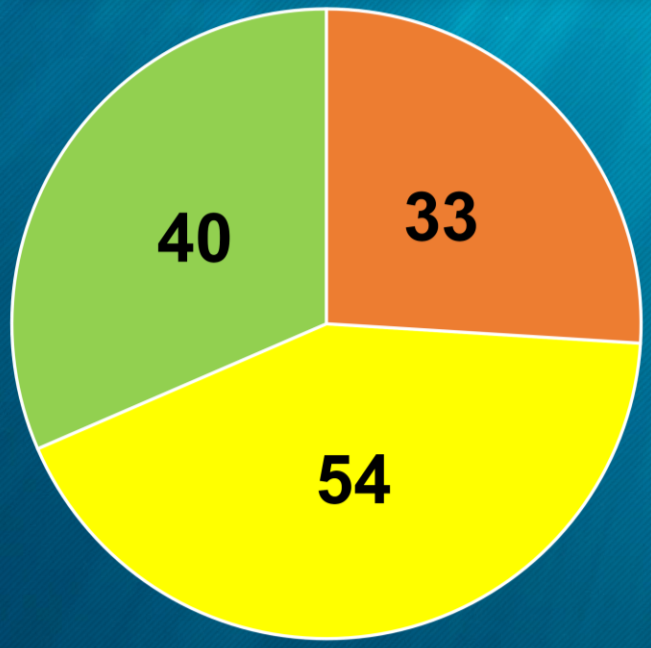
Respondents by Area
Not limited to a single area (n=279)



Respondents

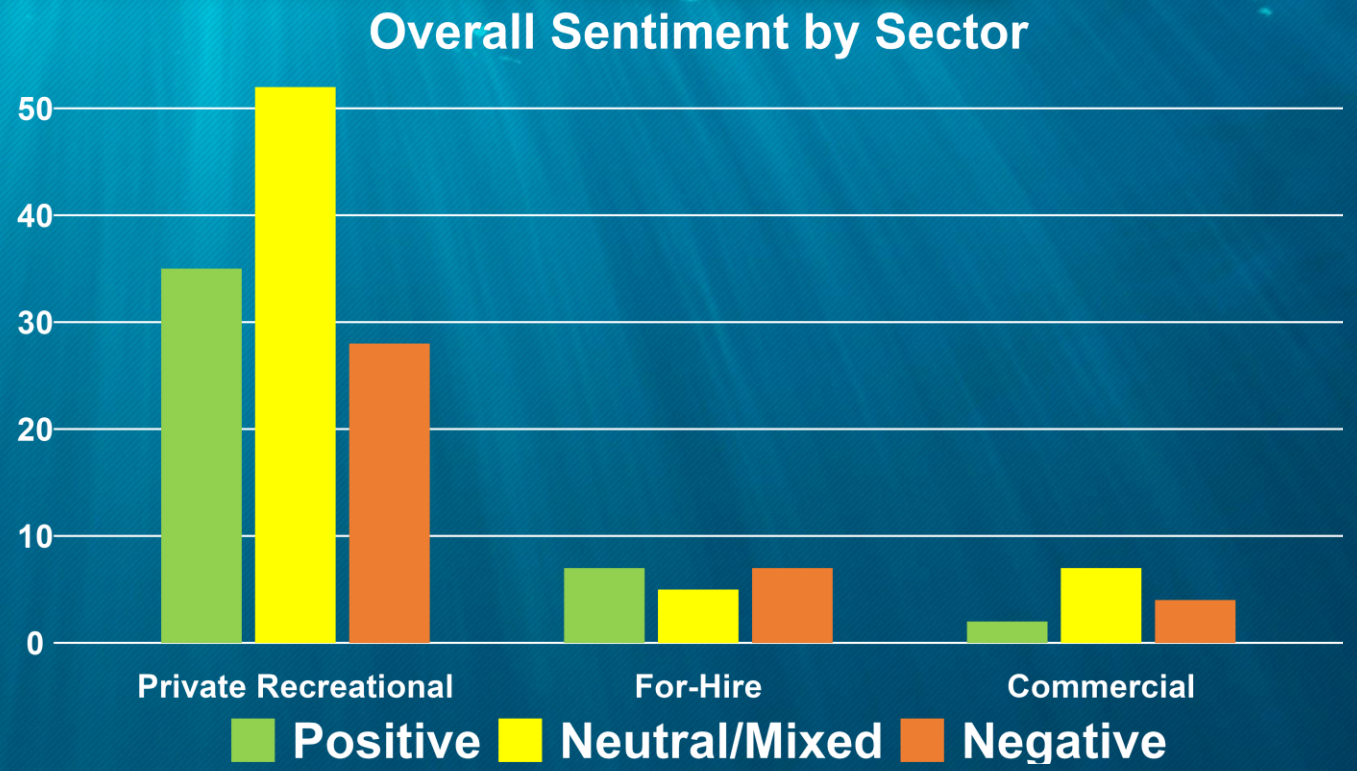
127 Unique responses received between June 20– July 21, 2025

Overall Response Sentiment

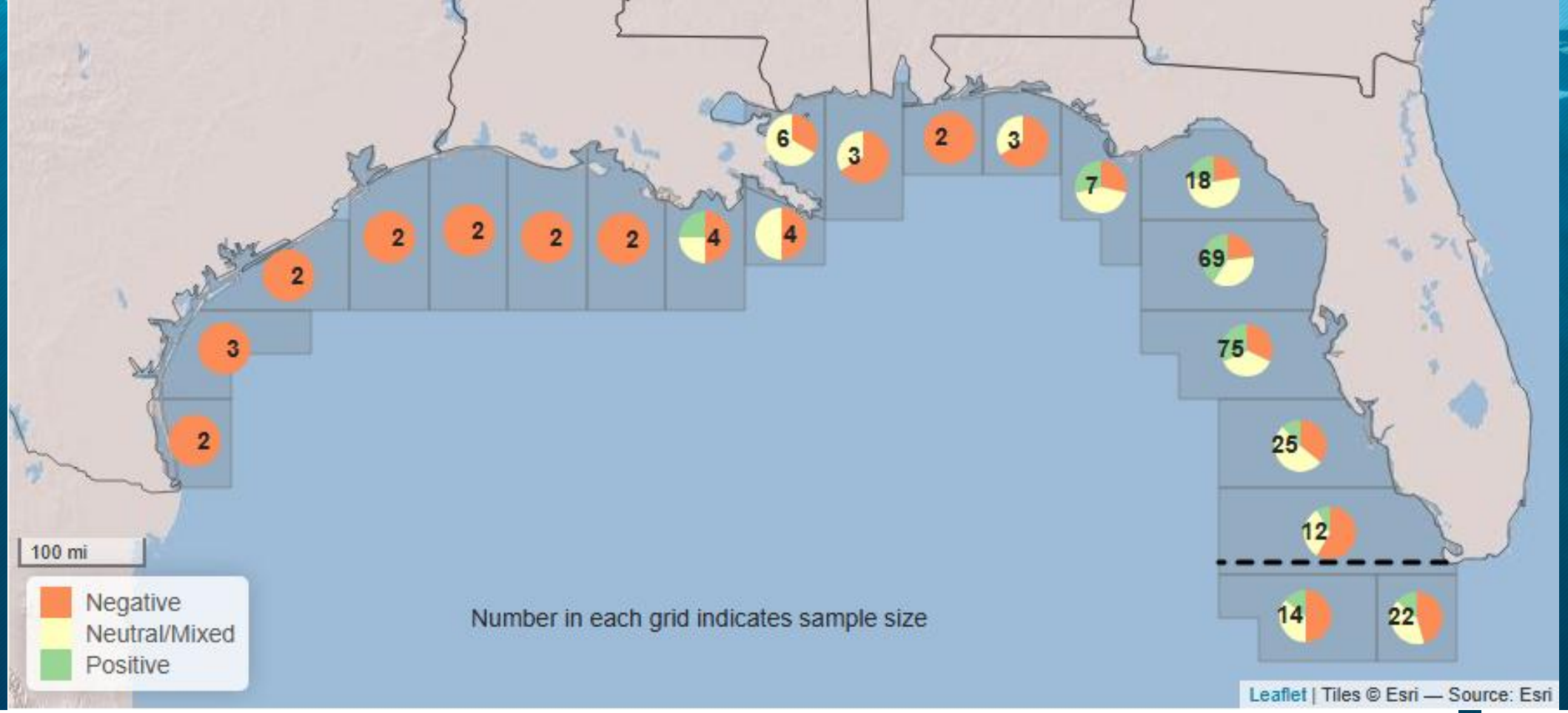


Positive Neutral/Mixed Negative

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



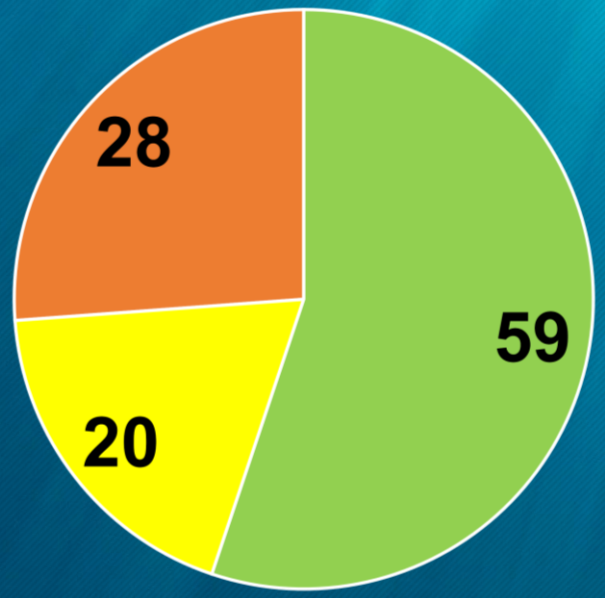
Number of responses indicating positive, negative, or neutral sentiment sorted by self-selected sector (n=279)



Overall Response Sentiment

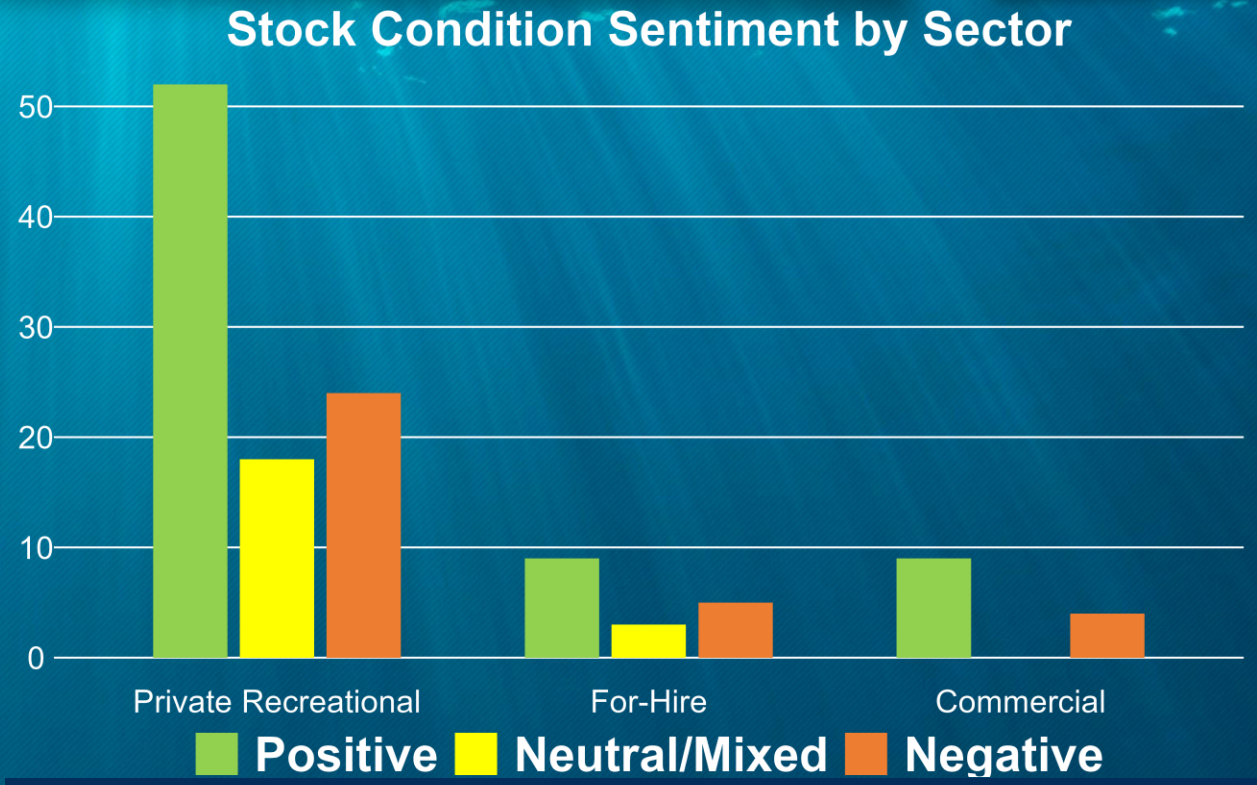
Each comment was analyzed for sentiment (n=127) and linked to self-selected areas (n=279)

Stock Condition Sentiment

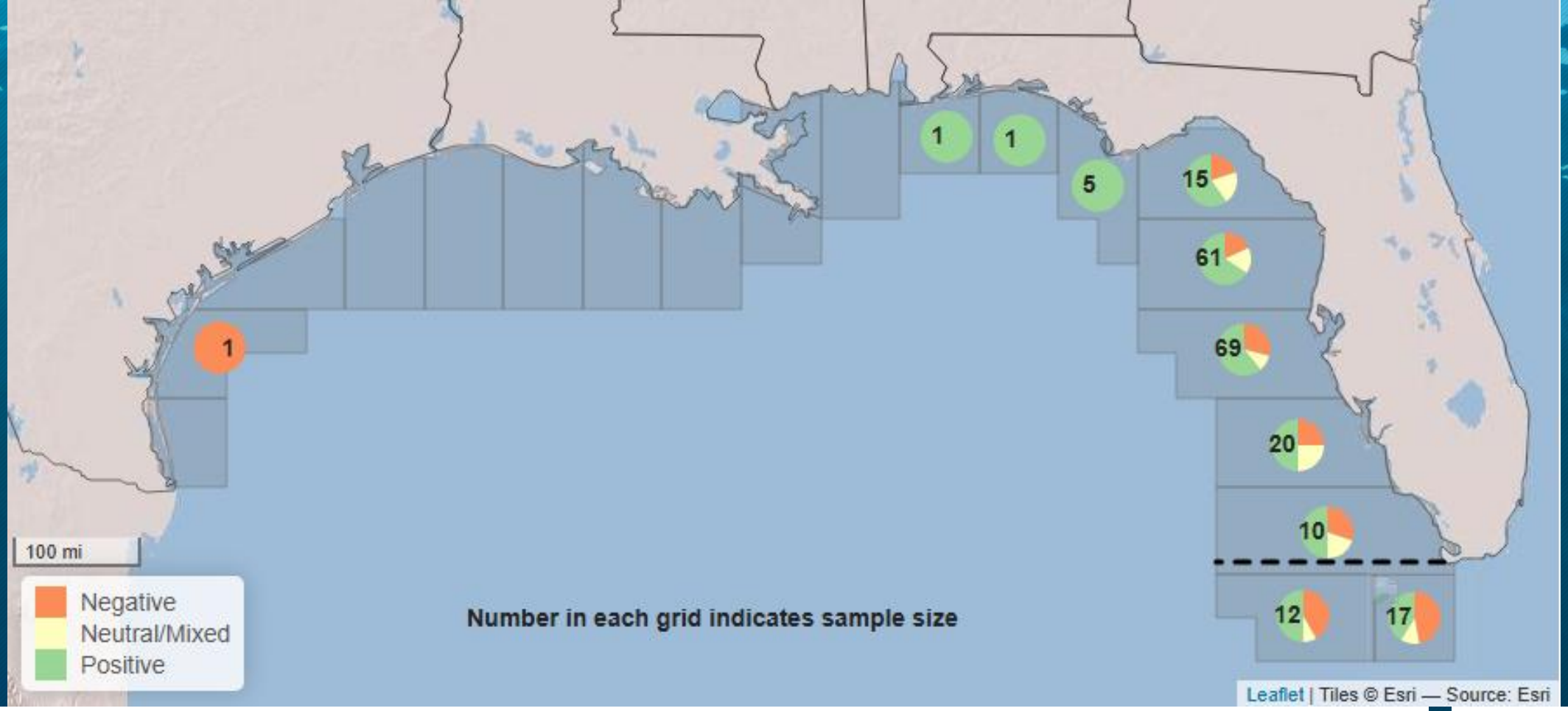


Positive Neutral/Mixed Negative

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



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

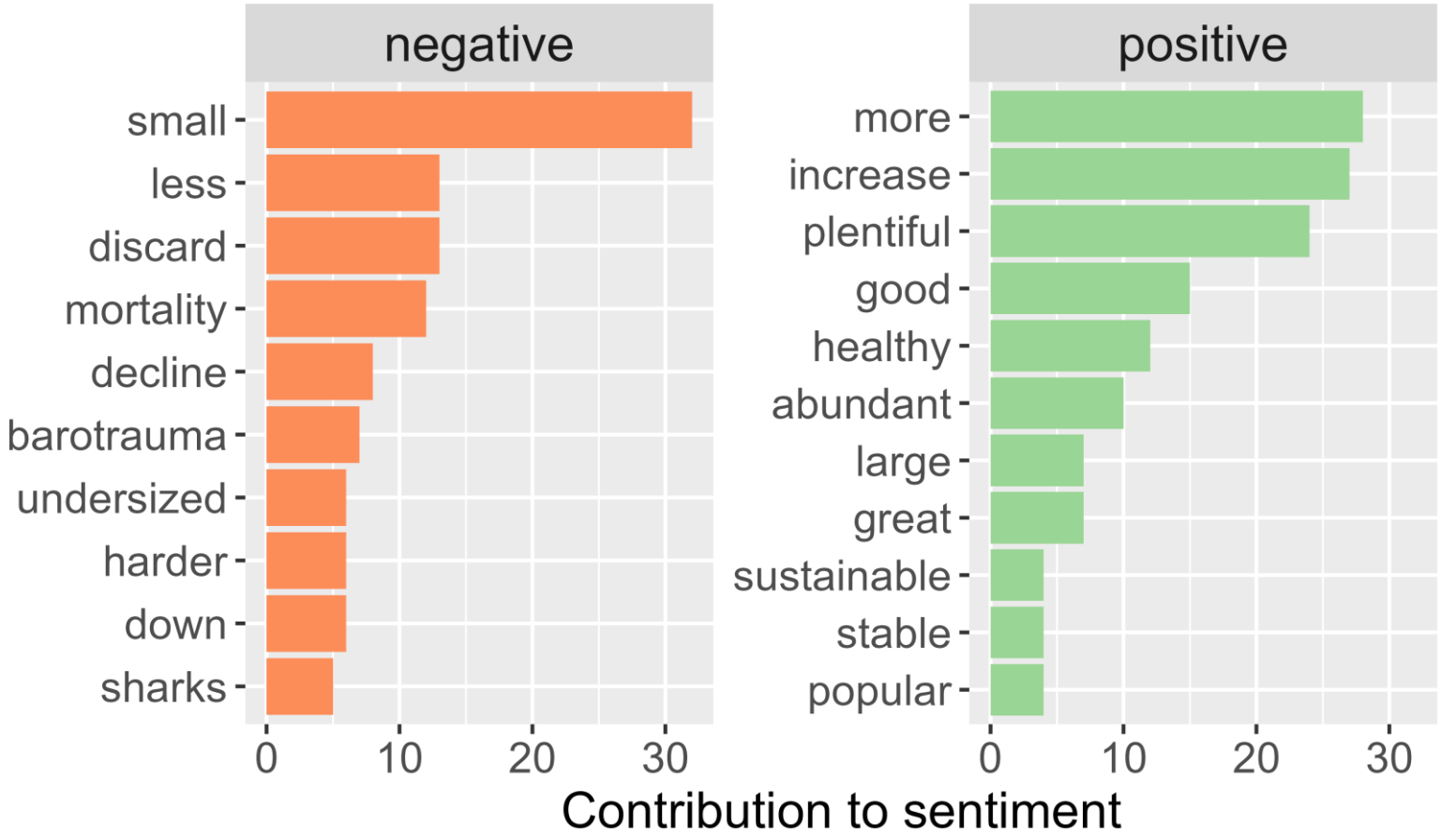


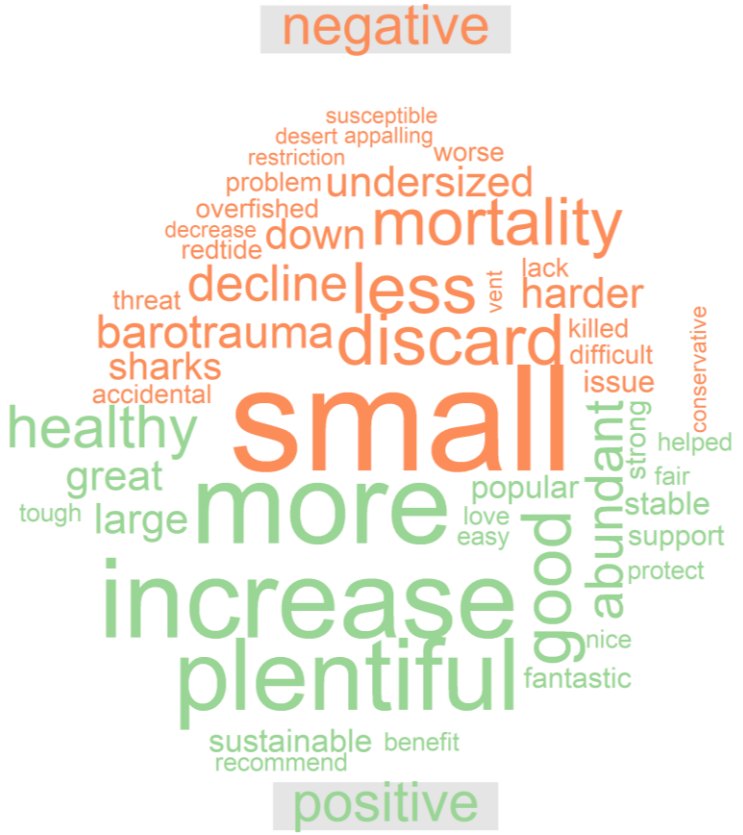
Stock Condition Sentiment

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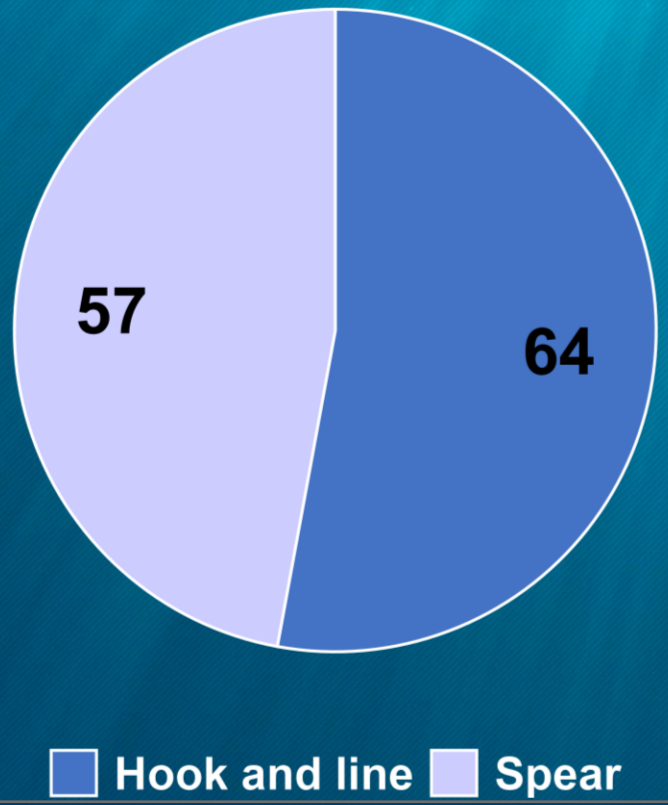
Each comment related to the condition of the stock was analyzed for sentiment (n=107) and linked to self-selected areas (n=239)

Automated Analysis

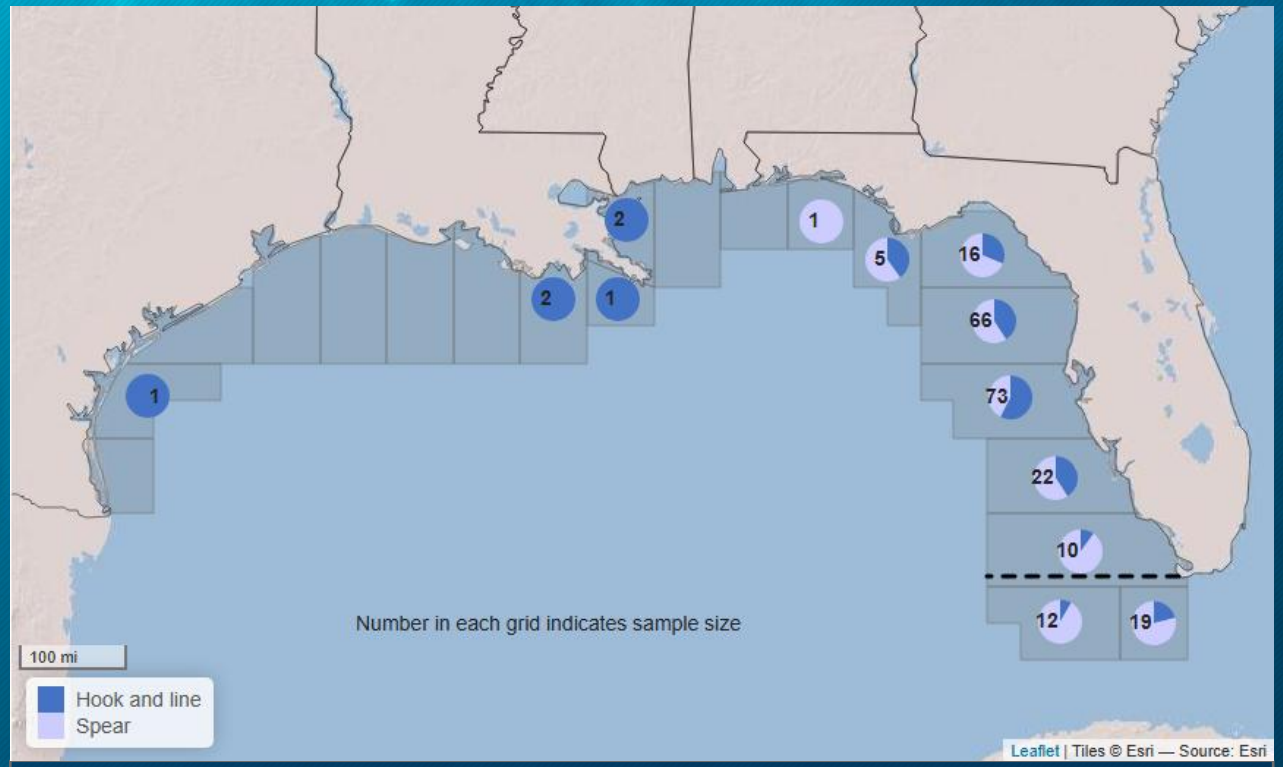




By Gear Type

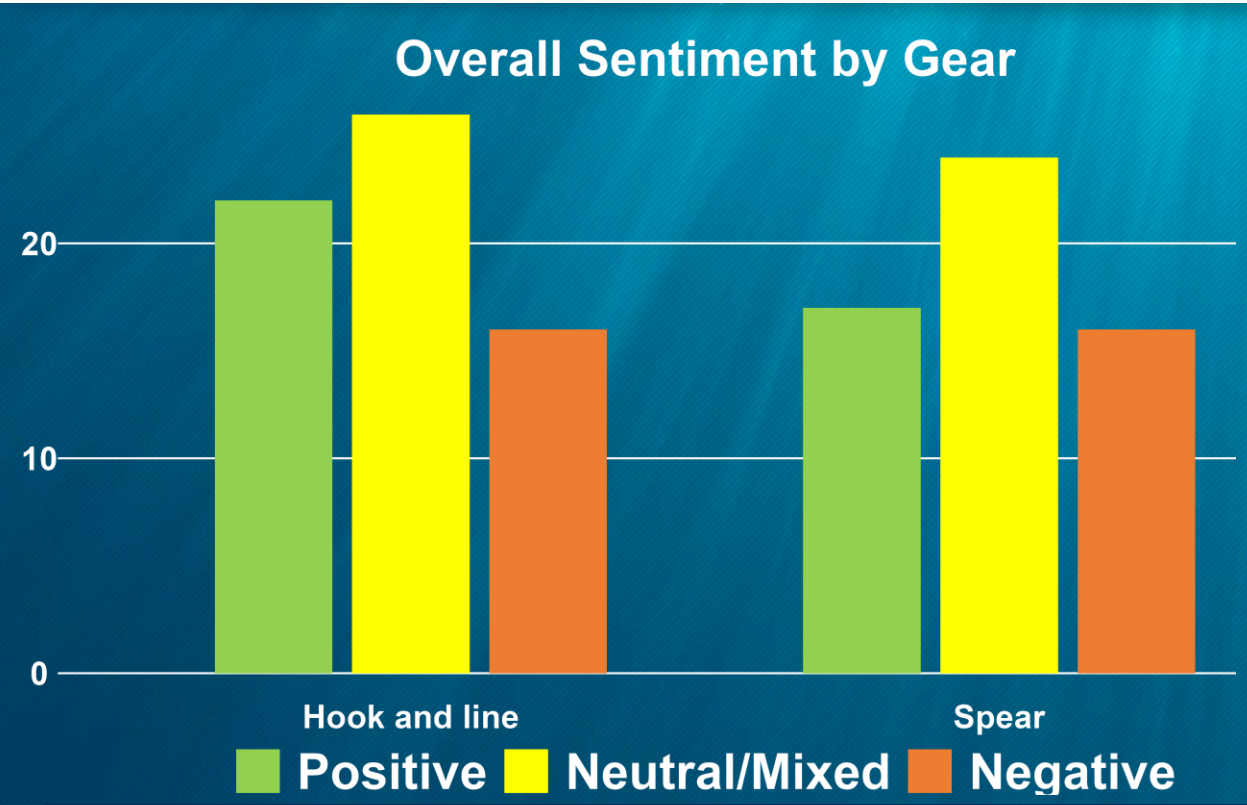


Primary Gear Type
(n=121)

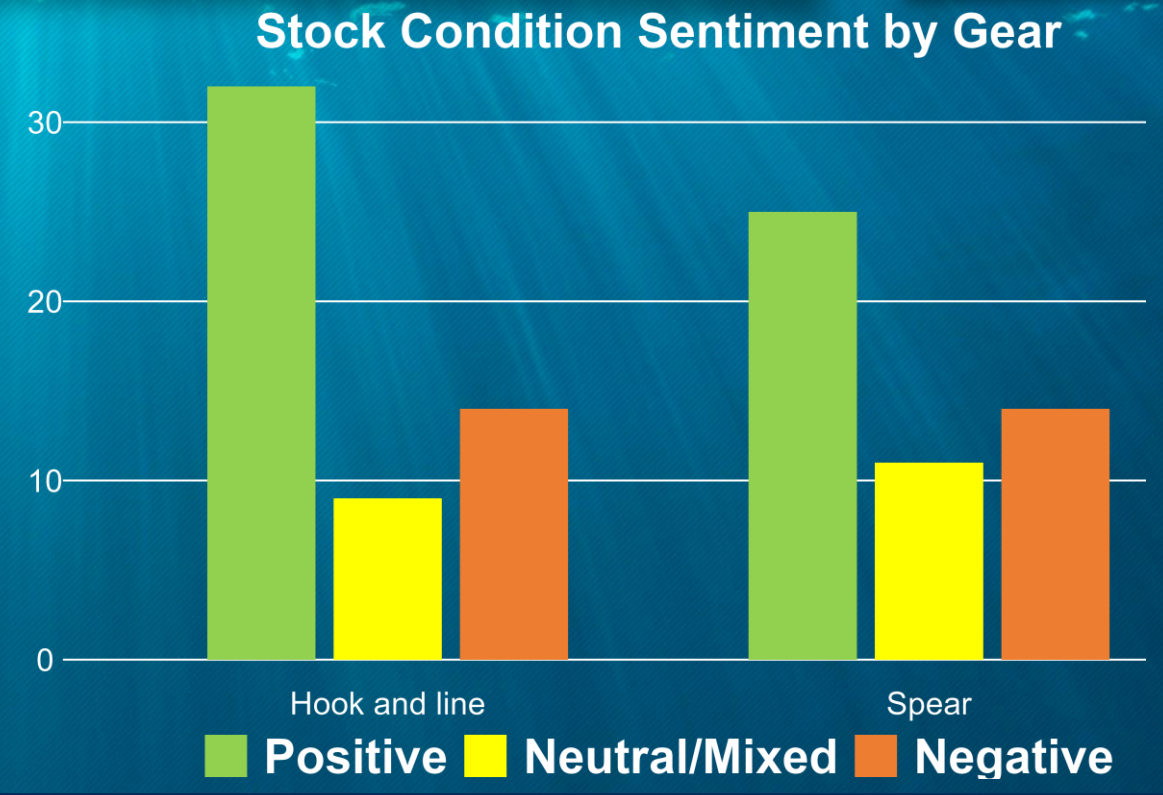


Gear type by area
Not limited to a single area (n=251)

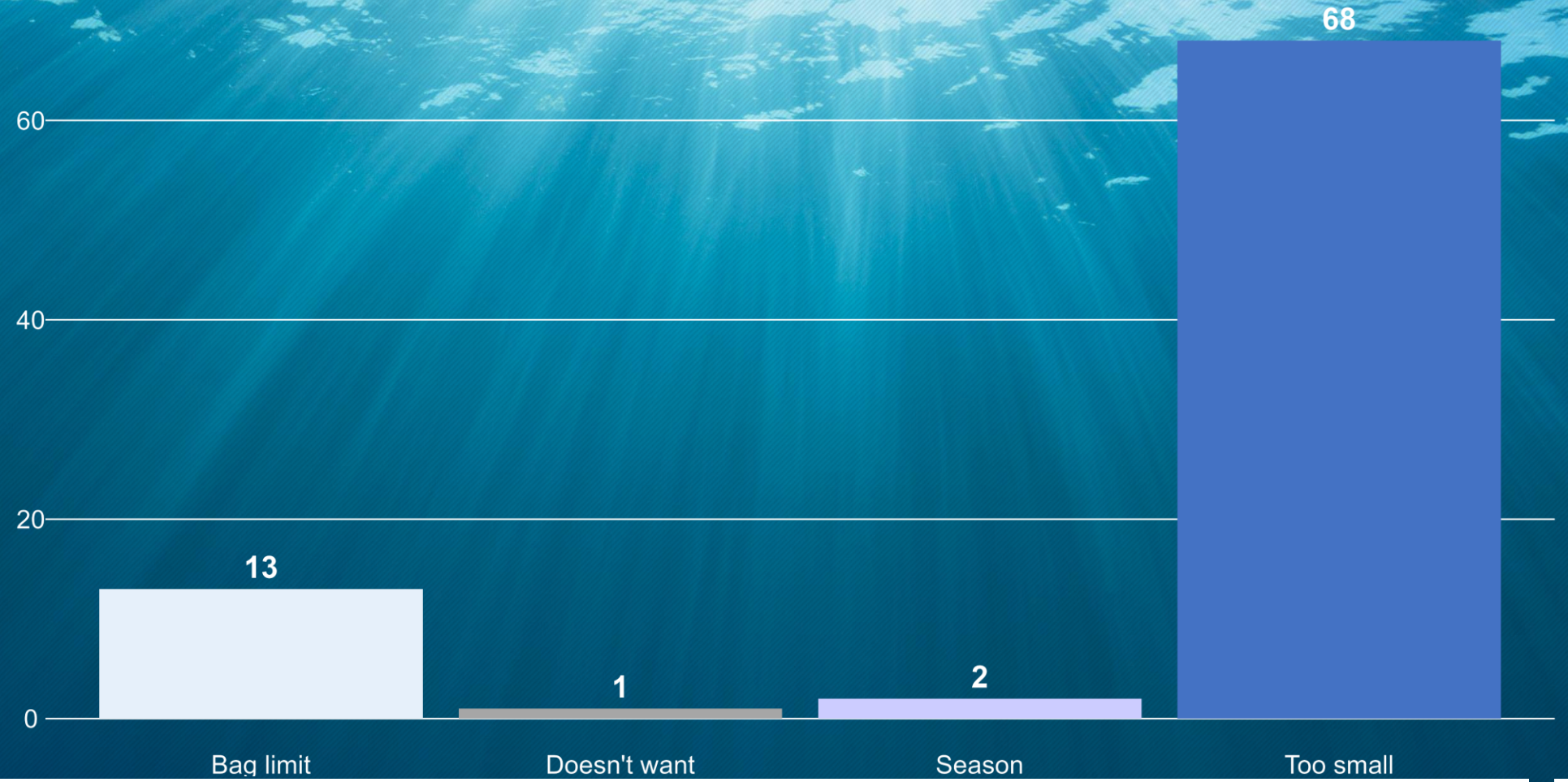
Sentiment by Gear Type



Number of responses indicating positive, negative, or neutral sentiment sorted by self-selected sector (n=121)



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



Reason for Discarding (n=84)

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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?

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