

Introduction and Context



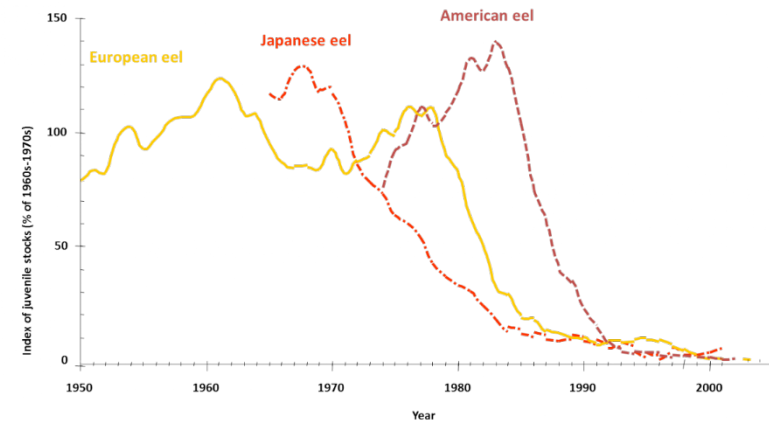
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Anguillid eels

- 16 species – various opinions on sub-species / populations.
- Common, complex life cycle.



- 'Temperate' spp. recruitment decline.
- Poor understanding of other species.
- Suite of potential impacts.



Trends in glass eel recruitment for the European eel (*A. anguilla*), Japanese eel (*A. japonica*) and American eel (*A. rostrata*) (from Dekker 2004).

Potential impacts

- Climate change / Changing oceanic currents
 - Disease / Parasitism
 - Pollution
 - Barriers to migration / Habitat loss
 - Predation
 - Unsustainable exploitation and trade
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- These will vary depending on species and location
 - Many still not fully understood
 - Management limited to continental waters

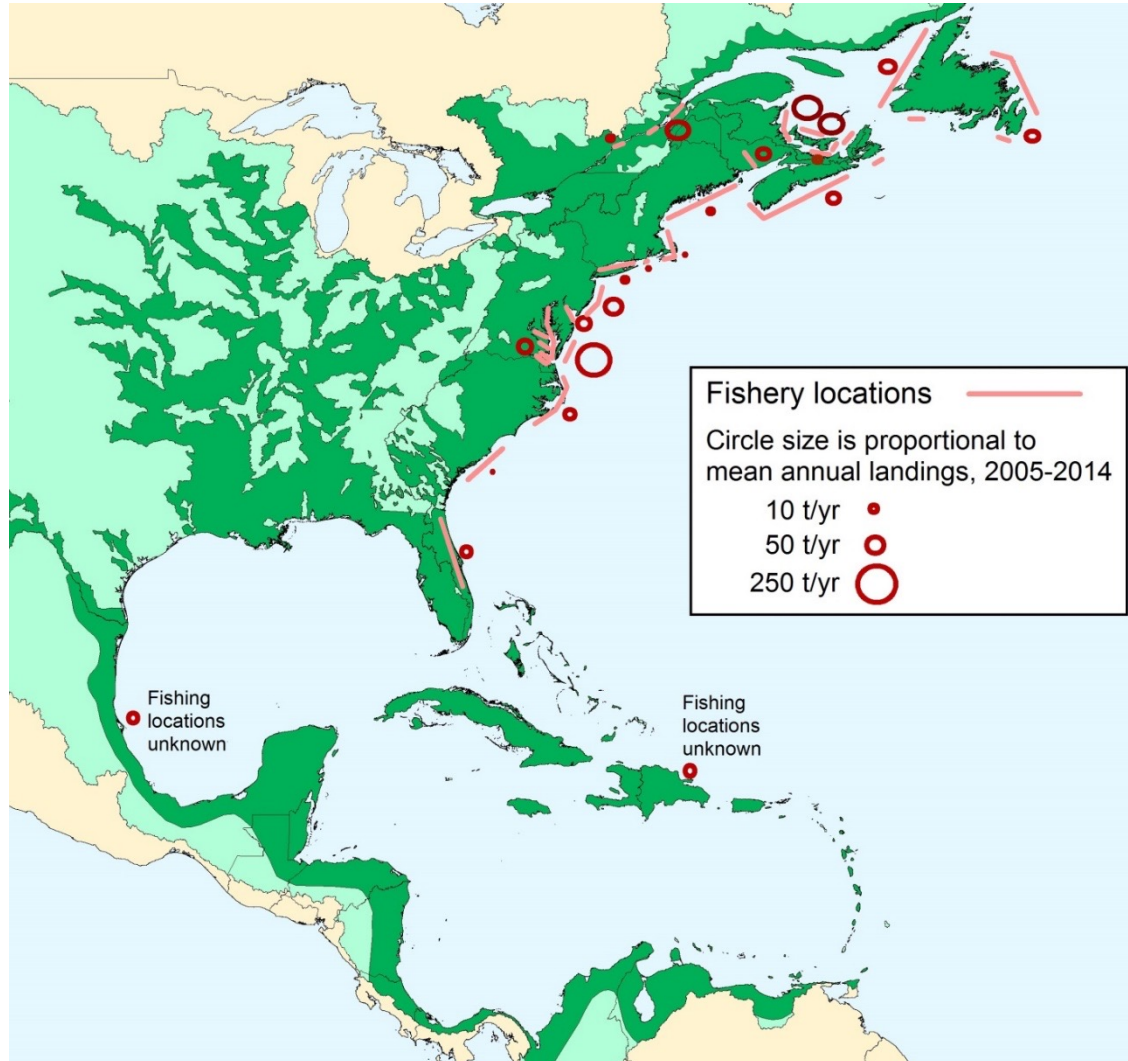
American eel



American eel

- Better understood in Northern range states.
- Historic decline but stable at relatively low abundance.
- Exposed to all of the suite of threats.
 - Varies with location.

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American eel

- Better understood in Northern range states.
- Historic decline but stable at relatively low abundance.
- Exposed to all of the suite of threats.
 - Varies with location.
- Fisheries occur across the range.
- Varying scales of exploitation and understanding.
- Presently no range-wide mechanism for co-operation.

DR Workshop

- “Achieve conservation and sustainable use of the American eel, *Anguilla rostrata* across its distribution through international cooperation and coordination among its range States”.
- “Develop mechanisms such as MoUs between authorities involved in eel management, at national and multi-national levels, to promote communication and cooperation between range States.”
- “Develop a regional framework/strategy with short-, medium- and long-term objectives using lessons learnt from other species and regional plans...”

CITES

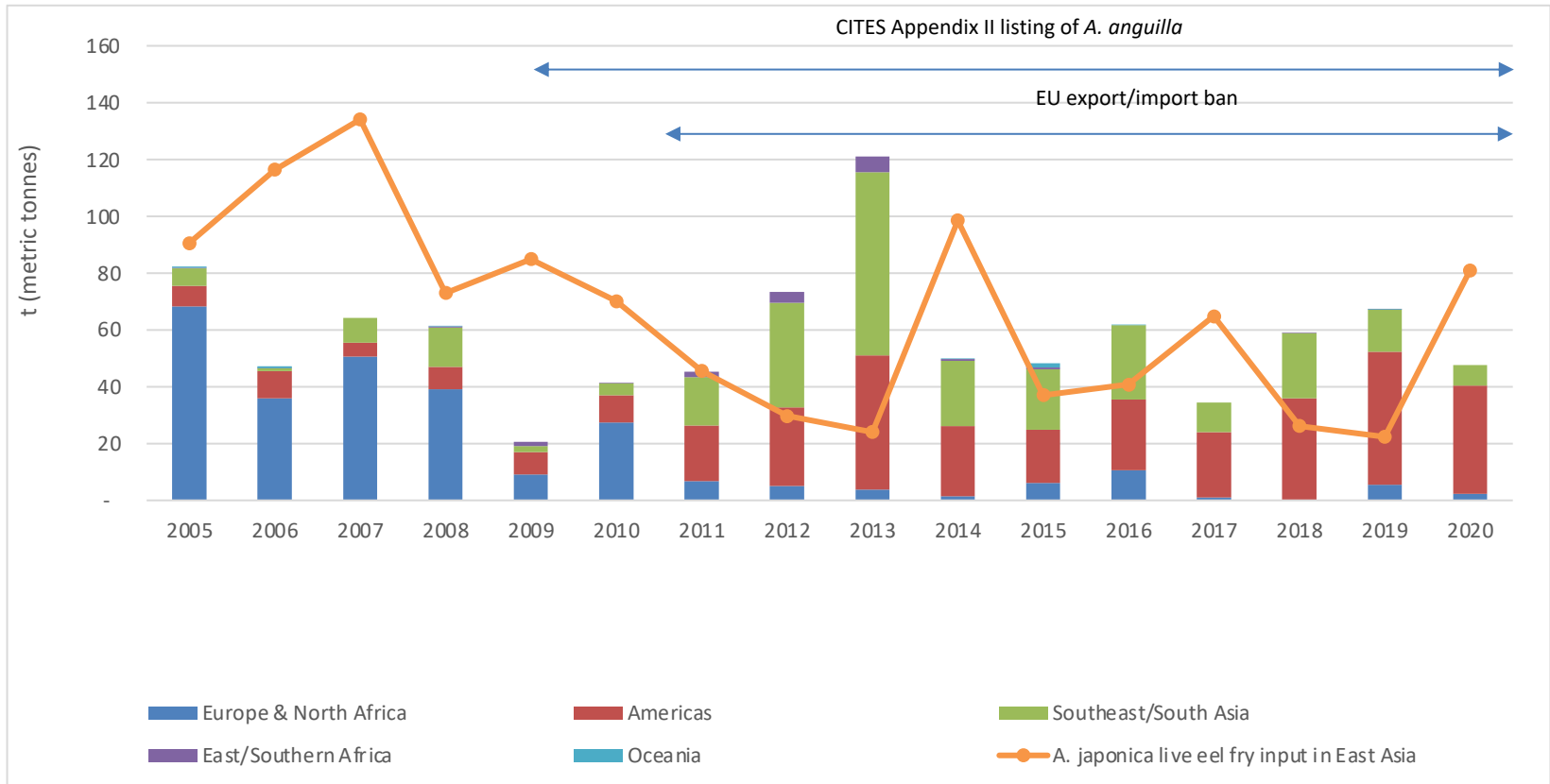
- *“International agreement between governments. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival.”*
- European eel listed **Appendix II** in 2007.
 - Control of trade to prevent unsustainable use
 - ‘Non-Detriment Finding’
 - Analysis to evidence trade is sustainable.

EU export ban

- EU export ban in 2010
 - N. Africa – *A. anguilla*
 - Americas – *A. rostrata*
 - S.E. Asia – *A. bicolor*



Change in trade



- Import of glass eels/elvers for farming to East Asia.
- Strongly influenced by Japanese eel availability.

Change in trade



- Prepared eel exports from China by weight in 2017.

EU export ban

- EU export closure
 - N. Africa – *A. anguilla*
 - Americas – *A. rostrata*
 - S.E. Asia – *A. bicolor*
- CoP17 Decisions
 - DR Workshop
- CoP18 Decisions
 - Range state co-ordination



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European eel

- 2007 – Council Regulation (EC) No. 1100/2007
 - National Eel Management Plans
- 2009 – CITES Appendix II listing
 - 2010 – EU trade cessation
 - Genus-wide approach
- 2013 – CMS Appendix II listing
 - Range state meetings
 - Action plan



Japanese eel

- 2014 – ‘Informal Consultation’
- China, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.
- *‘Cooperate on the conservation and management measures of Japanese eel stock and other relevant eel species’*
- *‘...sustainable use of eel species after 2014 including the limit on eel seeds input into aquaculture ponds...’*



Tropical anguillid eels

- Japanese-funded initiative for collaboration – SEAFDEC.
- Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam.
- *'...vision of developing the effective management practices for sustainable use and conservation of anguillid eel resources.'*
- Focus on *A. bicolor* and *A. marmorata*
- Importance of transboundary collaboration.
- Research, policy development, fisheries and aquaculture, trade and utilization, and habitat conservation.

Workshops aims

- Share experiences and perspectives
- Address questions and concerns
- Identify key steps to be taken in the short-term
- Establish an appropriate forum and framework
- Draft a roadmap to deliver agreed objectives