

American Eel Range State Workshop Santo Domingo 4-6 April 2018

Dr. David Freestone
Executive Secretary,
Sargasso Sea Commission

2nd Range State Meeting on the European Eel
Malmo, Sweden
15-16 May, 2018

American Eel Range State Workshop

Hosts : Dominican Republic

Sponsors: US FWS and DFO

Organizers: Sargasso Sea Commission

To contribute to implementation of CITES Decisions
17.186 & 7 on *Anguilla* species

- a) promote international or regional cooperation on a species-by-species basis, including the convening of regional meetings to discuss how to fill the information gaps and ensure long-term sustainability in the face of increasing demand from international trade;
- b) provide the Secretariat and their consultants with specific information needed for the purposes of completing Decision 17.186 a) and b) as well as the results of the regional meetings; and
- c) participate, where appropriate, in the technical workshops and share expertise and knowledge.

American Eel Range State Workshop

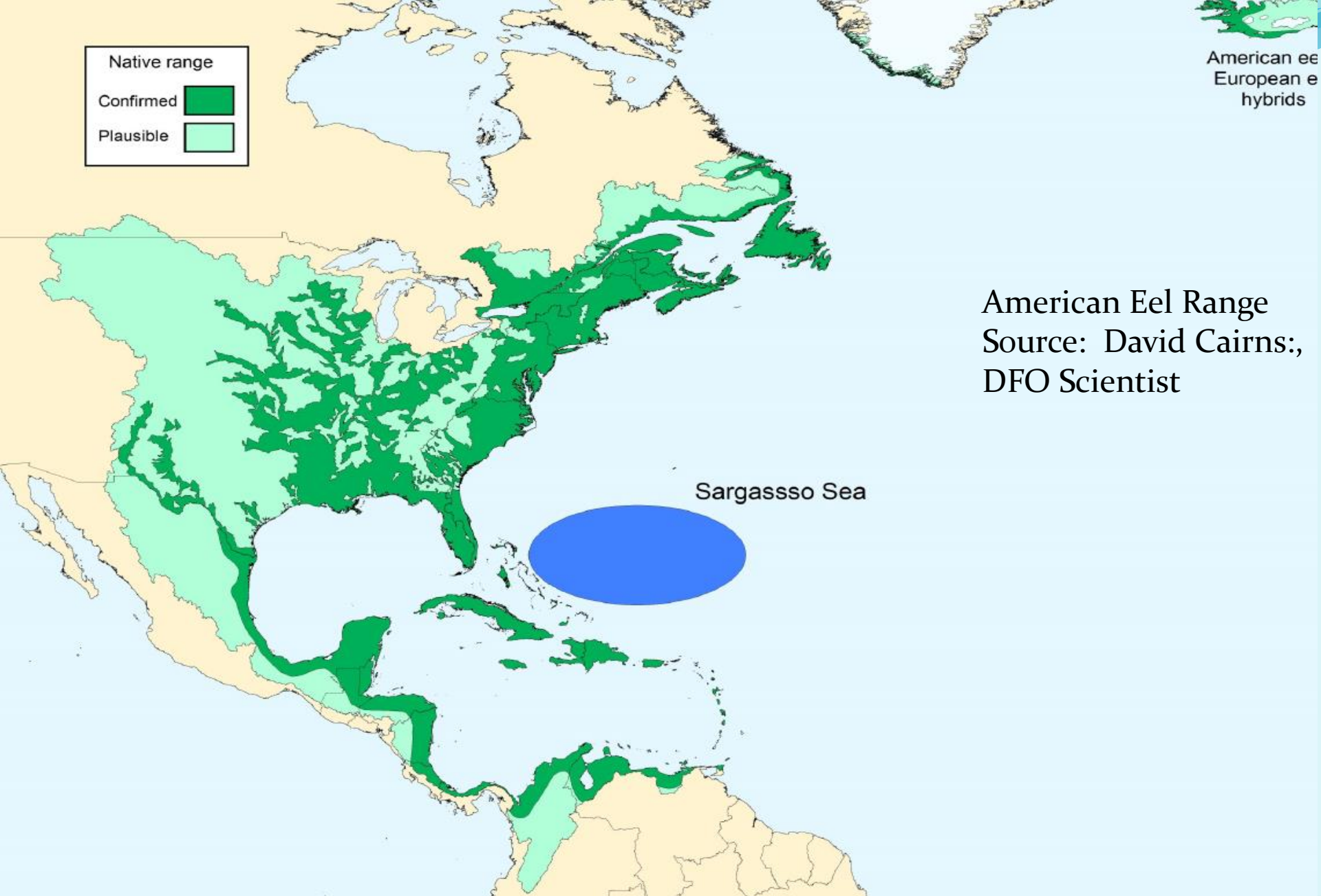
Santo Domingo 4-6 April 2018

Participants

- Bahamas
- Belize
- Canada
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Dominican Republic
- Jamaica
- Honduras
- Nicaragua
- United States

Range States unable to attend But sent information

- Haiti
- Mexico
- Panama



American Eel Range
Source: David Cairns,
DFO Scientist

How to assess American eel status

2. Analytical stock assessment

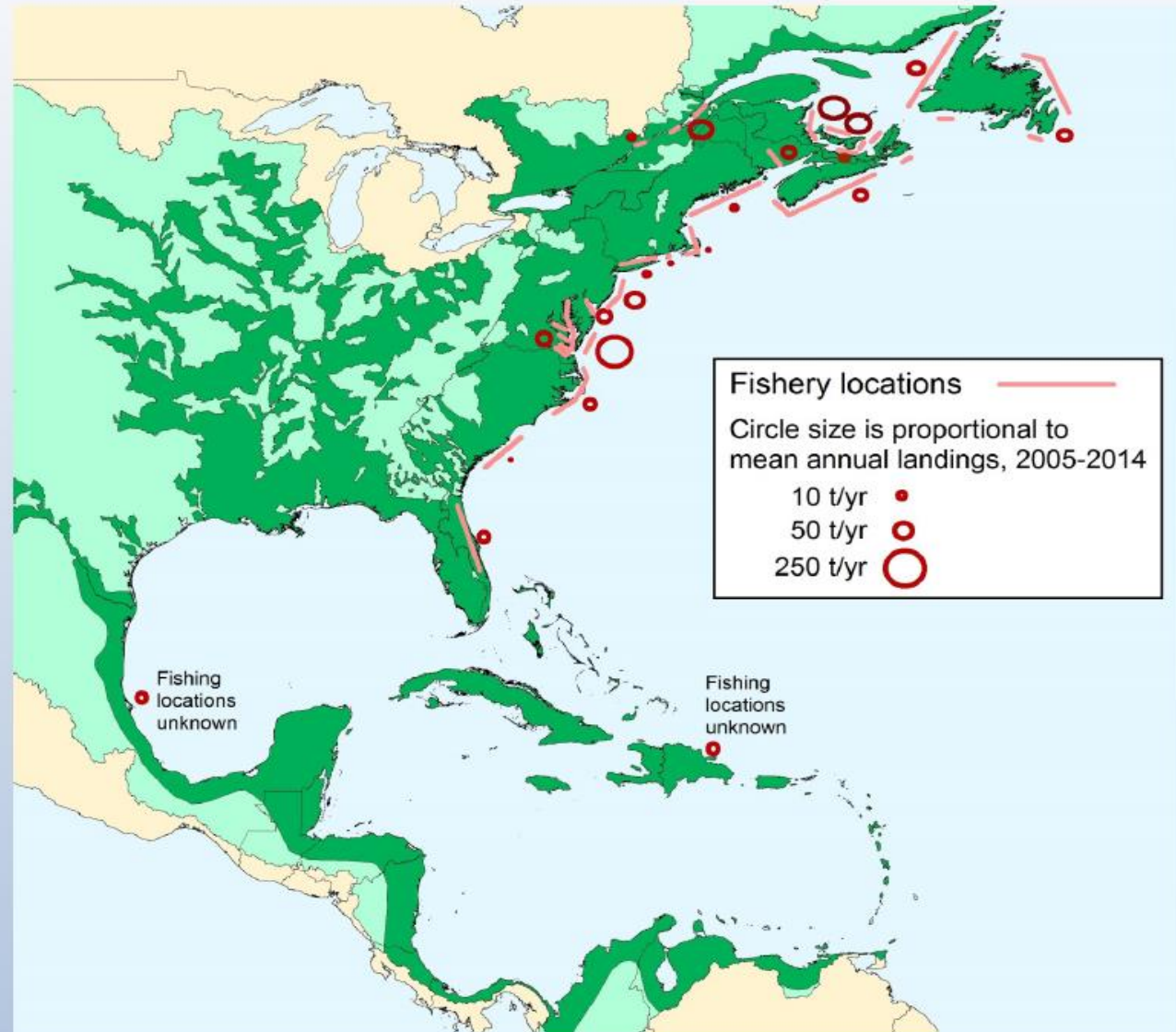
Challenges:

Most of range is unfished

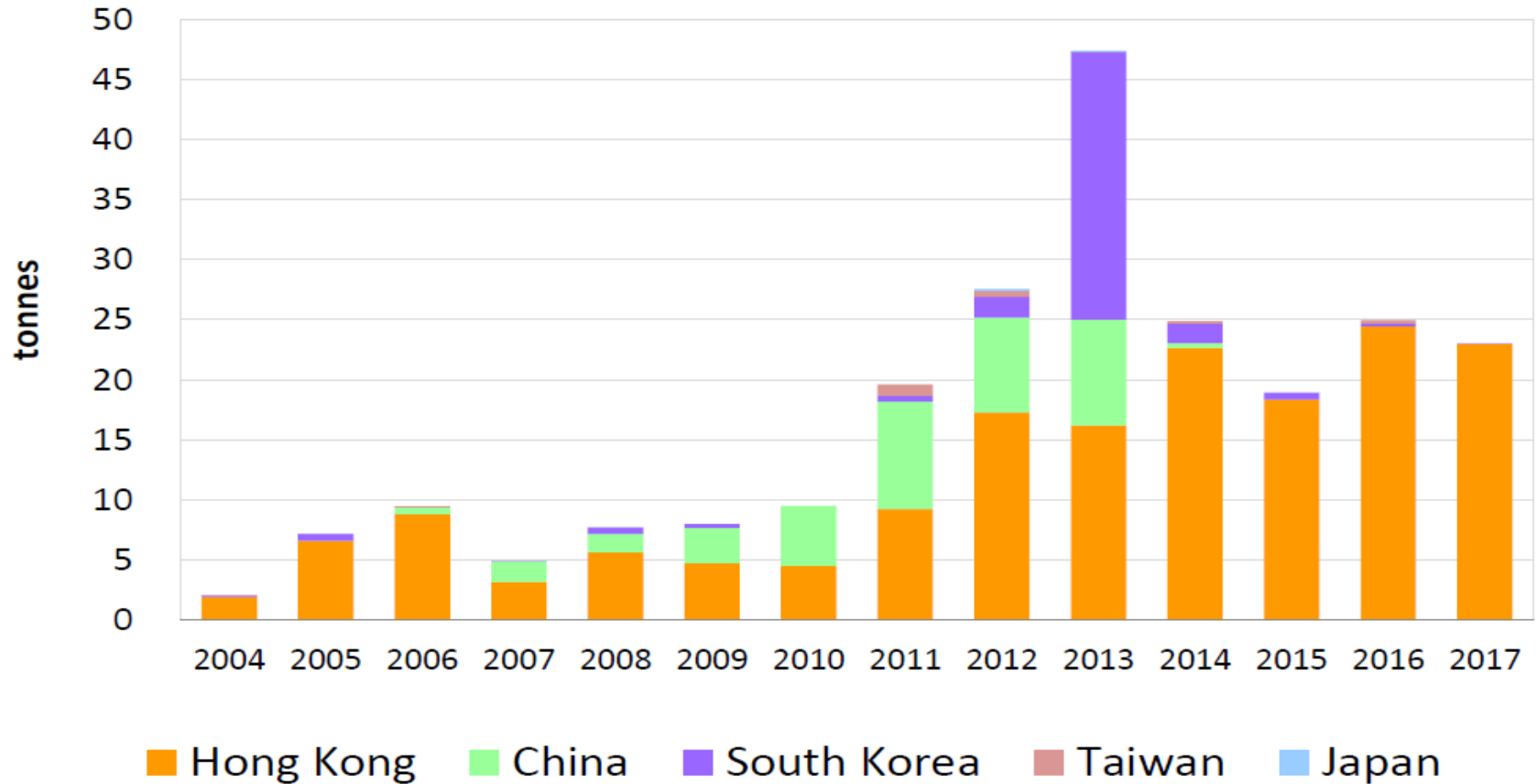
Most of range has no demographic data

Source:

D Cairns: DFO Scientist

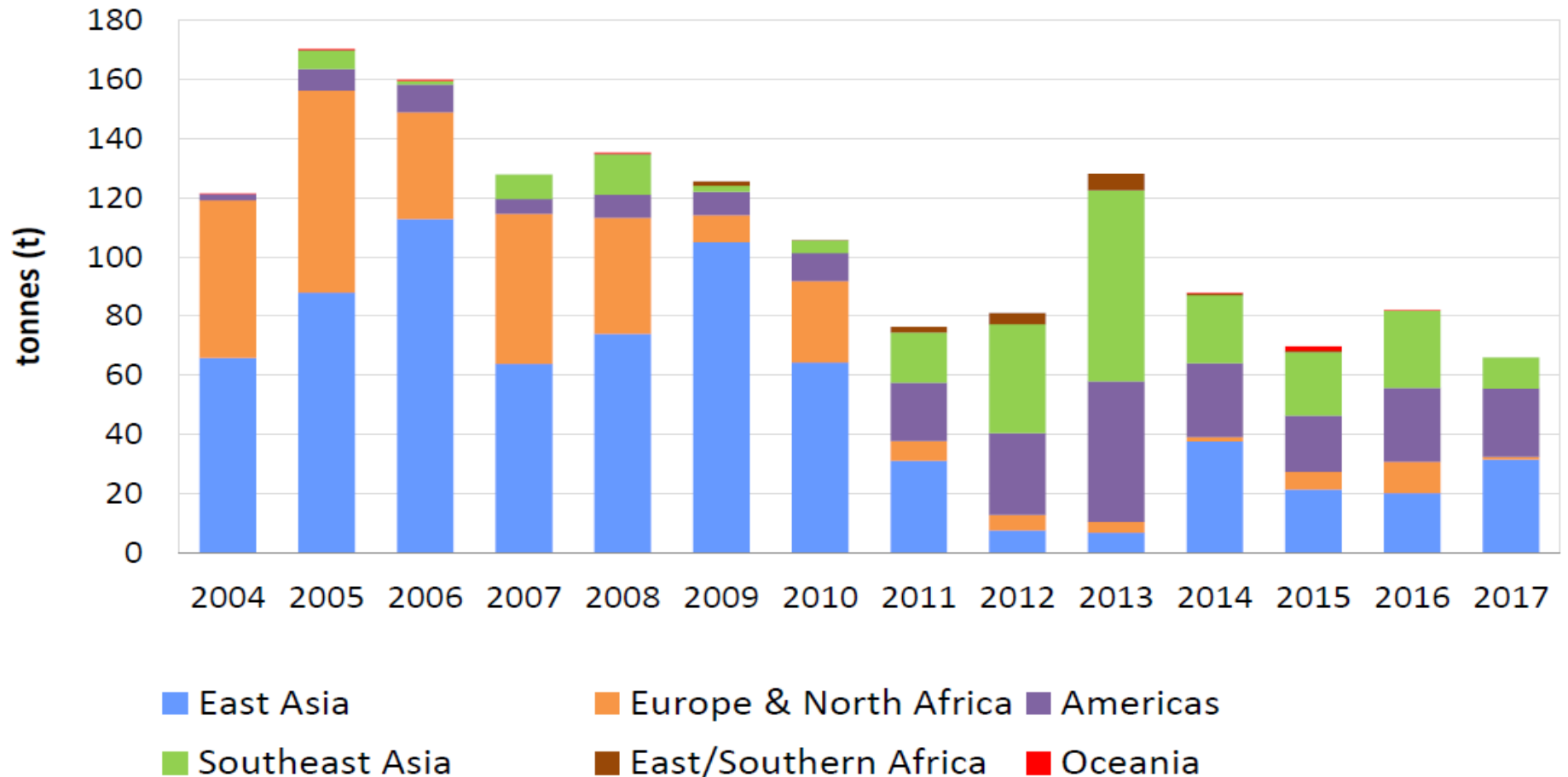


East Asian imports of live eel fry from *A. rostrata* range States (tonnes)



Source: Vicki Crook, 2018

Changes in live eel fry supply since the CITES listing/EU trade ban

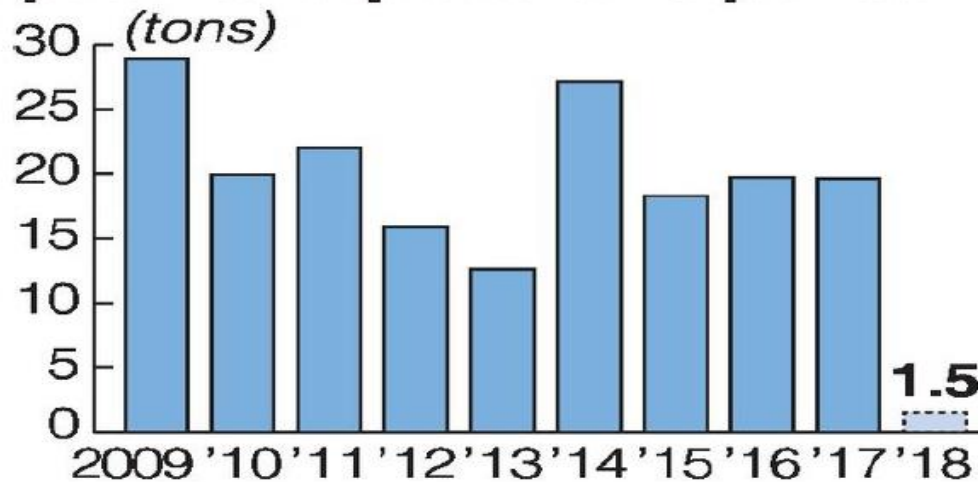


Source: Vicki Crook, 2018

ANGUILLA JAPONICA A WARNING

TOKYO (The
Japan News/ANN)

**Volume of glass eels caught,
put into aquaculture ponds**



** Total for Nov.-May period. The
2018 figure is from November to
the end of January.*

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Canada

INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT OF *A. ANGUILLA* AND *R. ROSTRATA*



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Canada

Overview

- Billion Dollar trade- mostly based in China – through Canada and Hong Kong
- Much of the catch and the trade is illegal
- Anguillid Species are being mixed for reimports to Europe, US and Japan - often falsely labelled as *A rostrata* to avoid CITES restrictions
- Very high prices for *Anguilla japonica* elvers have driven up prices for all elvers
- Apart from Canada and US very little management or trade controls in *A rostrata* range states