



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**

**ALASKA  
FISHERIES  
SCIENCE  
CENTER**

# The risk-matrix approach to evaluating fisheries bycatch

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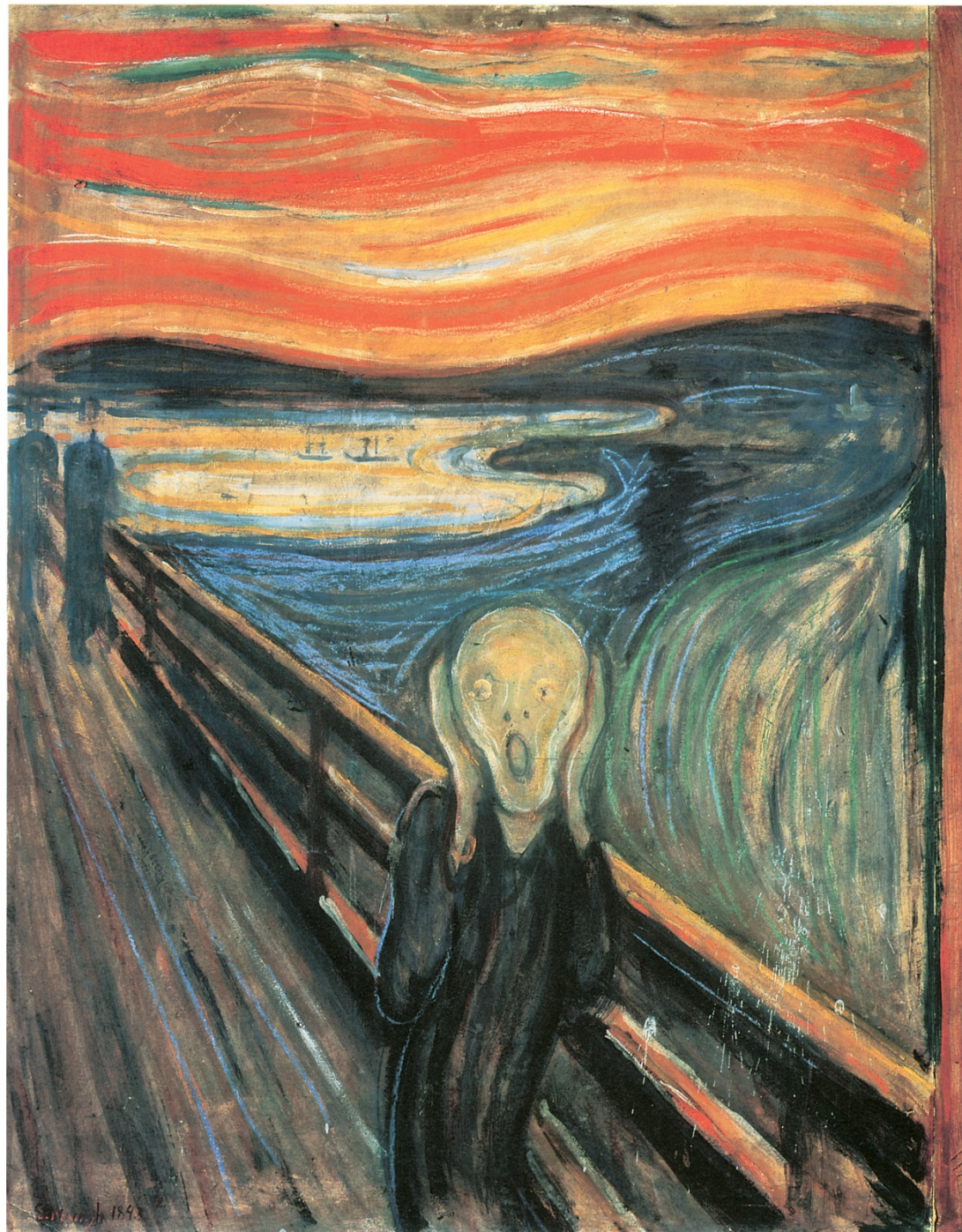
*Fishery Monitoring and Analysis Division*

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The scream of Nature.  
Edward Munch. 1893.



# WHAT SHOULD YOU REALLY BE AFRAID OF?

Fear, as FDR noted in 1933, paralyzes those who succumb to it. And yet much of what we worry about today is based on hype rather than reality. Yes, media headlines are partially to blame. But some things (sharks!) are just downright scary. Using the most recent U.S. data available, we hereby present a list of unsettling threats and their far riskier counterparts.

MURDERS (2008) <b>14,180</b>	SUICIDES (2006) <b>33,289</b>
CHILDREN ABDUCTED BY STRANGERS (1999) <b>115</b>	CHILDREN WHO DROWN IN POOLS (2008) <b>288</b>
BURGLARIES (2007) <b>2.2 MILLION</b>	IDENTITY THEFTS (2005) <b>8.3 MILLION</b>
SHARK ATTACKS (2009) <b>28</b>	DOG BITES <b>4.5 MILLION*</b>
AMERICANS KILLED BY TERRORIST ATTACKS AROUND THE WORLD (2008) <b>33</b>	AMERICANS WHO DIE FROM THE SEASONAL FLU <b>36,171*</b>
DEATHS BY ALLERGIC REACTION TO PEANUTS <b>50-100*</b>	DEATHS BY UNINTENTIONAL POISONING (2006) <b>27,531</b>
WOMEN WHO DIE FROM BREAST CANCER (2009) <b>40,170</b>	WOMEN WHO DIE FROM CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE (2009) <b>432,709</b>
FATAL AIRLINE ACCIDENTS (2005) <b>321</b>	FATAL CAR CRASHES (2008) <b>34,017</b>
AMERICANS AUDITED BY THE IRS (2009) <b>1.4 MILLION</b>	U.S. DEATHS <b>2.4 MILLION</b> (2007)

BY NUMBER 17, NYC,  
CLAUDIA KALB, AND  
ELIZABETH WHITE

\* ANNUAL AVERAGES  
AND ESTIMATES.

SOURCES: AMERICAN CANCER  
SOCIETY; AMERICAN HEART  
ASSOCIATION; CENTERS  
FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND  
PREVENTION; CONSUMER  
PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION; FEDERAL TRADE  
COMMISSION; INTERNAL  
REVENUE SERVICE; INTERNATIONAL SHARK ATTACK  
FILE; NATIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM CENTER;  
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC  
SAFETY ADMINISTRATION;  
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION  
SAFETY BOARD; NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE;  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

“Our fear of harm ought to be proportional not only to the magnitude of the harm, but also to the probability of the event”



“best available science”  
“best scientific advice”

Circle START Criteria  
Used To Select Patient  
Triage Category

**START TRIAGE**

All Wounds Wounded  
**MINOR**

Respirations 30  
Perfusion 2  
Mental Status Can Do

**RESPIRATIONS**

YES NO  
One 30/min Under 30/min  
**IMMEDIATE** **DECEASED**

Perfusion  
Radial Pulse Present  
Radial Pulse Absent  
Capillary Refill  
Over 5 Seconds Under 5 Seconds  
Control Bleeding  
**IMMEDIATE**  
Capillary Refill  
Over 5 Seconds Under 5 Seconds  
Control Bleeding  
**IMMEDIATE** **DECEASED**

**MENTAL STATUS**

Can't Follow Single Commands  
Can Follow Single Commands  
**IMMEDIATE** **DECEASED**

Personal Belongings Tag  
Tracking Tag, Etc.

**DISASTER  
RESPONSE  
TRIAGE TAG**

**A123456**

Salivation **NERVE**  
Lacrimation **AGENT**  
Urination **INDICATORS**  
Defecation  
Gastrointestinal Distress  
Emesis

Check Here Only If  
Decon Was Needed  
& Performed

**OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS** Are Involved in Incident  
Name / Relation:

Name M Age  
F

Address

Medical  
History

Meds

Allergies

Medical Crew

CHECK TYPES  
OF INJURIES

NOTE AREAS INJURED ON FIGURES BELOW



SPINAL  
BLUNT TRAUMA  
BURN  
FRACTURE  
LACERATION  
PENETRATING  
INJURY  
HEAD INJURY

MEDICAL PROBLEM:

TIME	PULSE	RESP	B/P	AVPU

LUNG SOUNDS: ECG / SpO2 / OTHER:

TIME	TREATMENT/MED/DOSE/BY	TIME	TREATMENT/MED/DOSE/BY

NO. OF MARK 1 KITS  
ADMINISTERED:

GRP1

GRP2

GRP3

NO. OF DIAZEPAMS  
ADMINISTERED:

SEX  
M / F

AGE

NAME

HOSP

TRANS  
TIME

OTHER FAMILY  
INVOLVED

PRIORITY  
0



DECEASED/EXPECTANT

PRIORITY  
0

PRIORITY  
1



IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY  
1

PRIORITY  
2



DELAYED

PRIORITY  
2

PRIORITY  
3



MINOR

PRIORITY  
3

PRIORITY  
4



INVOLVED  
BUT NO APPARENT INJURIES

PRIORITY  
4

PRIORITY  
0

DECEASED/EXPECTANT

PRIORITY  
0

PRIORITY  
1

IMMEDIATE

PRIORITY  
1

PRIORITY  
2

DELAYED

PRIORITY  
2

PRIORITY  
3

MINOR

PRIORITY  
3

PRIORITY  
4

INVOLVED  
BUT NO APPARENT INJURIES

PRIORITY  
4

TRANSPORTATION  
INFORMATION  
ON OTHER SIDE

ADULT TRANSPORT  
INFO / COMMENTS:

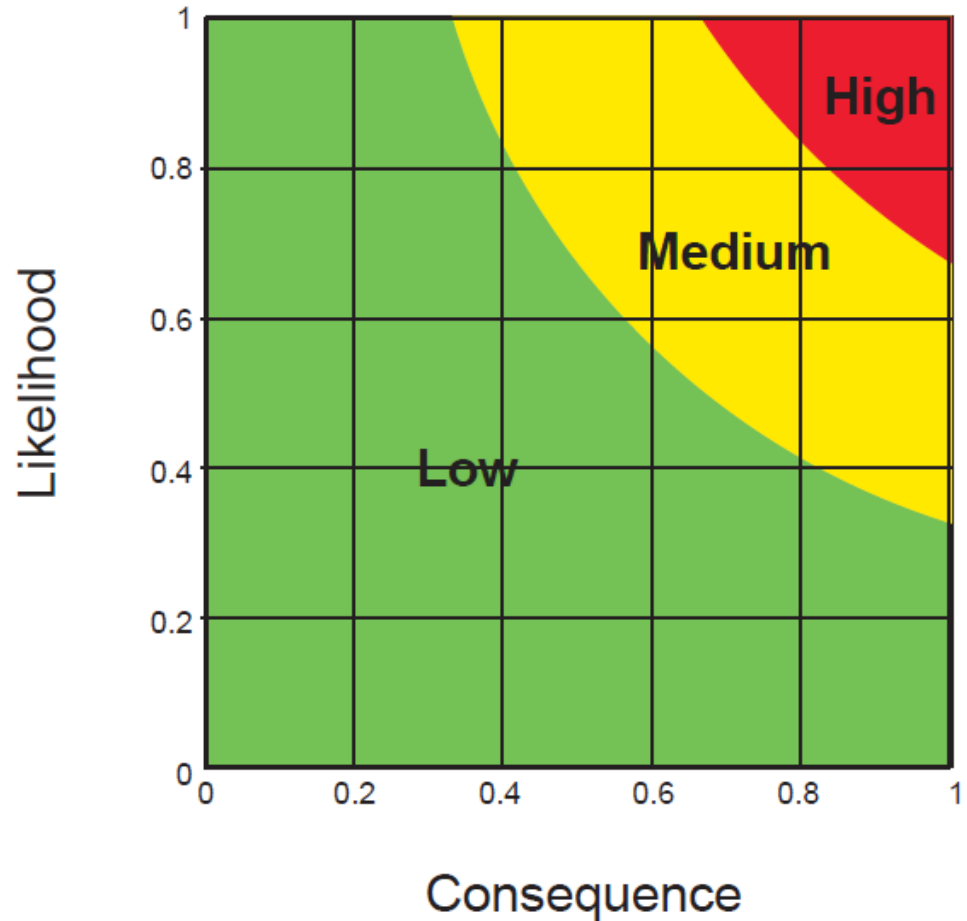
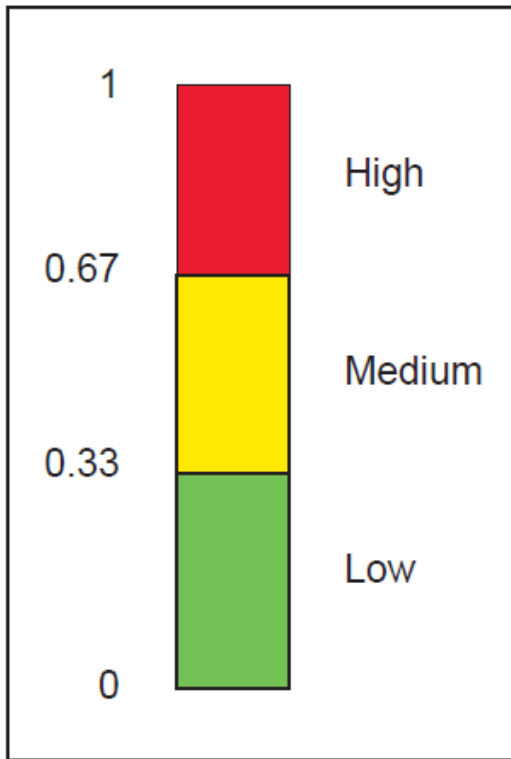
# 5 x 5 matrix with three levels of assessment after Cox (2009)

	Consequence				
Likelihood	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Almost Certain	Low	Low	Moderate	High	High
Likely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High
Possible	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate
Unlikely	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
Rare	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low

Cox, L.A. 2009. Risk analysis of Complex and Uncertain Systems. Springer, New York.



# Risk-Matrices aim to rank risks



**I DONT USUALLY DO THOUGHT  
EXERCISES**



**BUT WHEN I DO, I ALWAYS USE  
LOTS OF DATA**

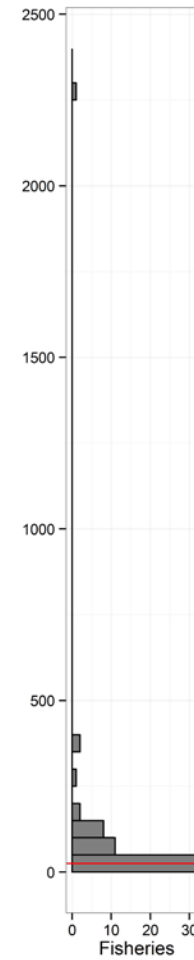
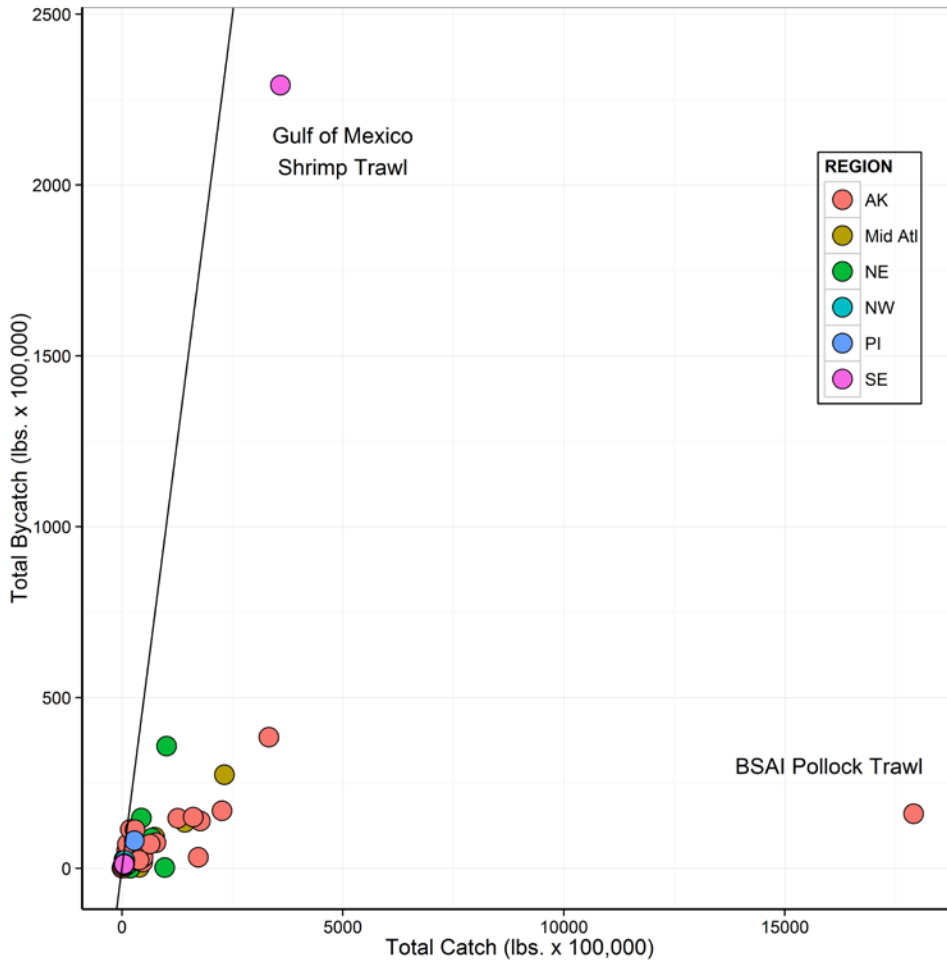
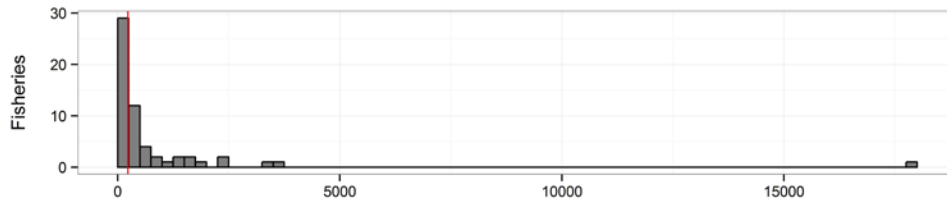
# Methods

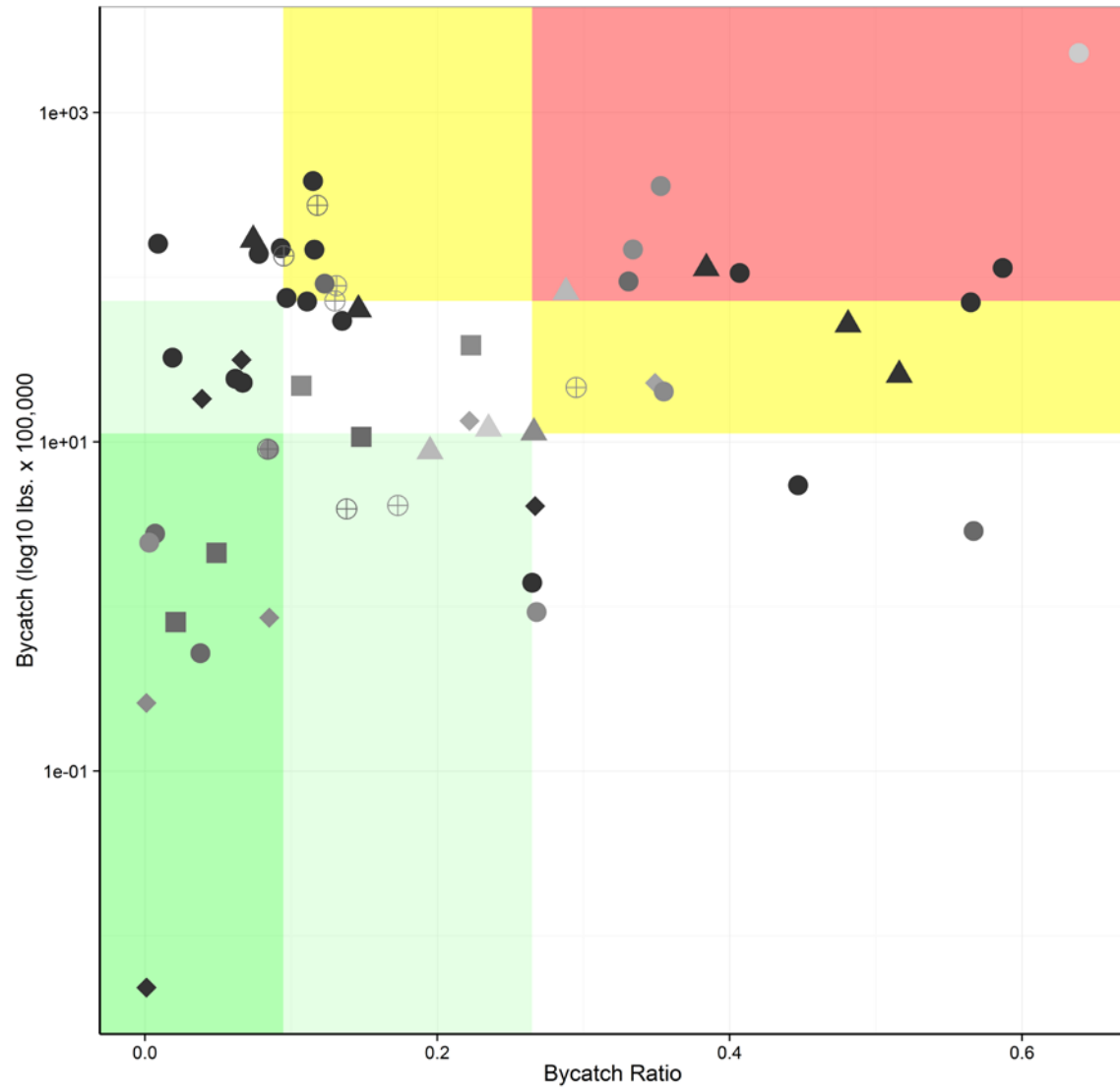
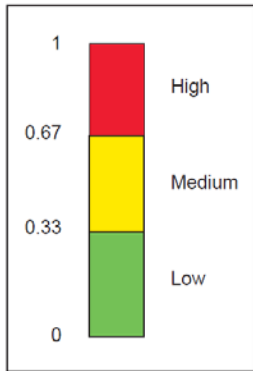
## National Bycatch Report Database System

- **First Edition Update 1**

<http://www.st.nmfs.noaa.gov/observer-home/first-edition-update-1>

- Bycatch amounts (fishery impact or magnitude)
  - Bycatch ratios (fishery efficiency)
- 
- Illustrate approach to evaluating fisheries bycatch using more than one metric following a “risk-matrix approach”





REGION ● AK ● Mid Atl ● NE ● NW ● PI ● SE  
 GEAR ■ Gillnet ▲ Longline ◆ Misc. Passive ⊕ Scallop Dredge ● Trawl

# Are two-axes too many? How about one?

$$Risk = LC$$

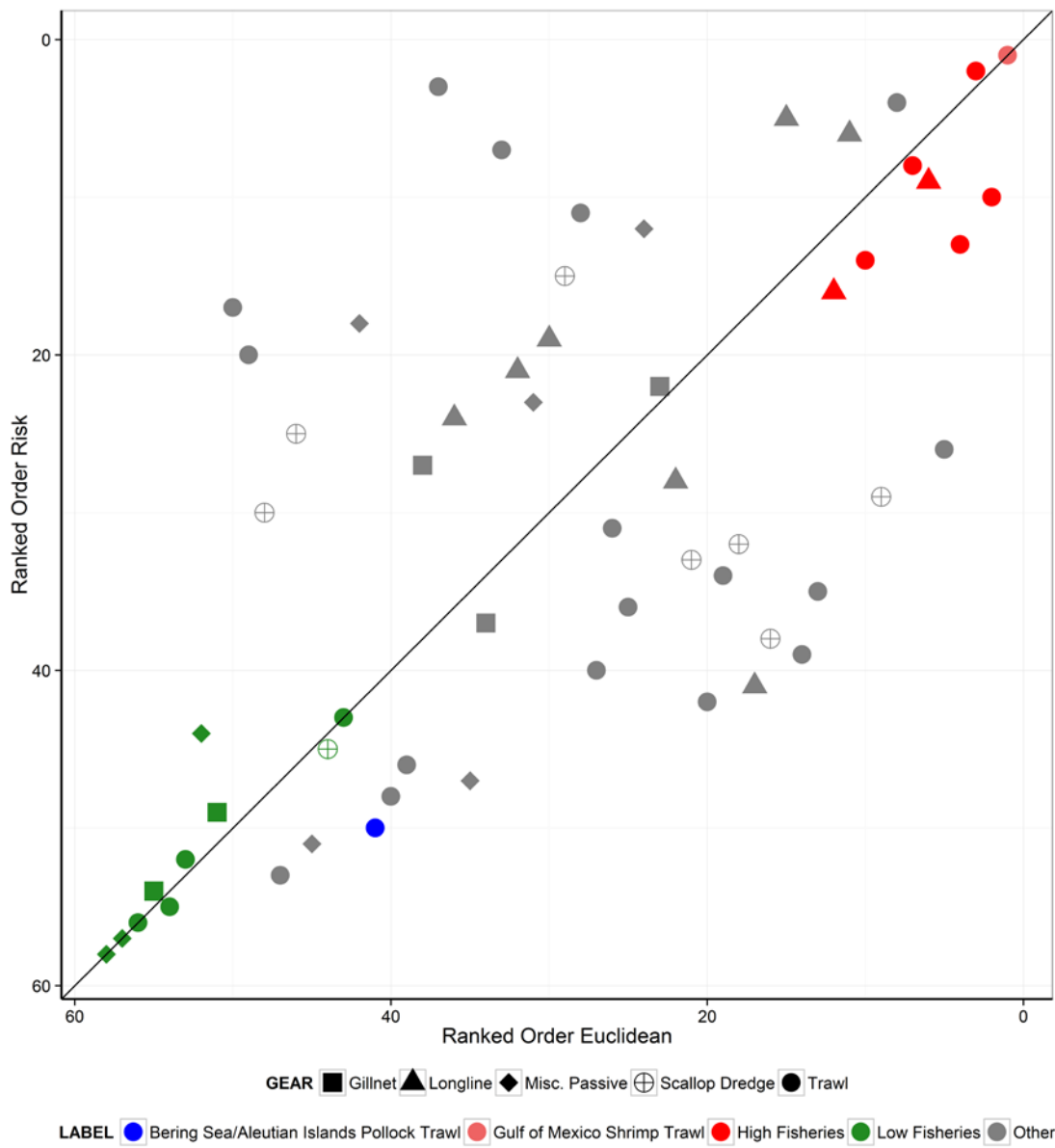
$$Risk = \left( \frac{r_i}{r_{\max}} \right) \times \left( \frac{b_i}{b_{\max}} \right)$$

$r$  is the bycatch ratio;  $b$  is the bycatch amount

Pickering, A. and S.P. Cowley. 2010. Risk Matrices: implied accuracy and false assumptions. *Journal of Health and Safety Research and Practice*: 9-16

$$Euclidean = \sqrt{\left( \frac{r_i}{r_{\max}} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{b_i}{b_{\max}} \right)^2}$$

Ormseth, O.A. and P.D. Spencer. 2011. An assessment of vulnerability in Alaska groundfish. *Fisheries Research*:127-133.





# How to allocate limited resources?

- There are separate components of bycatch similar to those used to define risk
- A single metric is possible...
- ...Robust and simple solutions remain elusive..
- Paradox: attempt to provide scorings to make decisions about what is important require those very decisions- (as soon as you decide a performance standard, you have decided what is important)







