

# Does the American lobster fishery need a bait testing service to facilitate change in bait use?

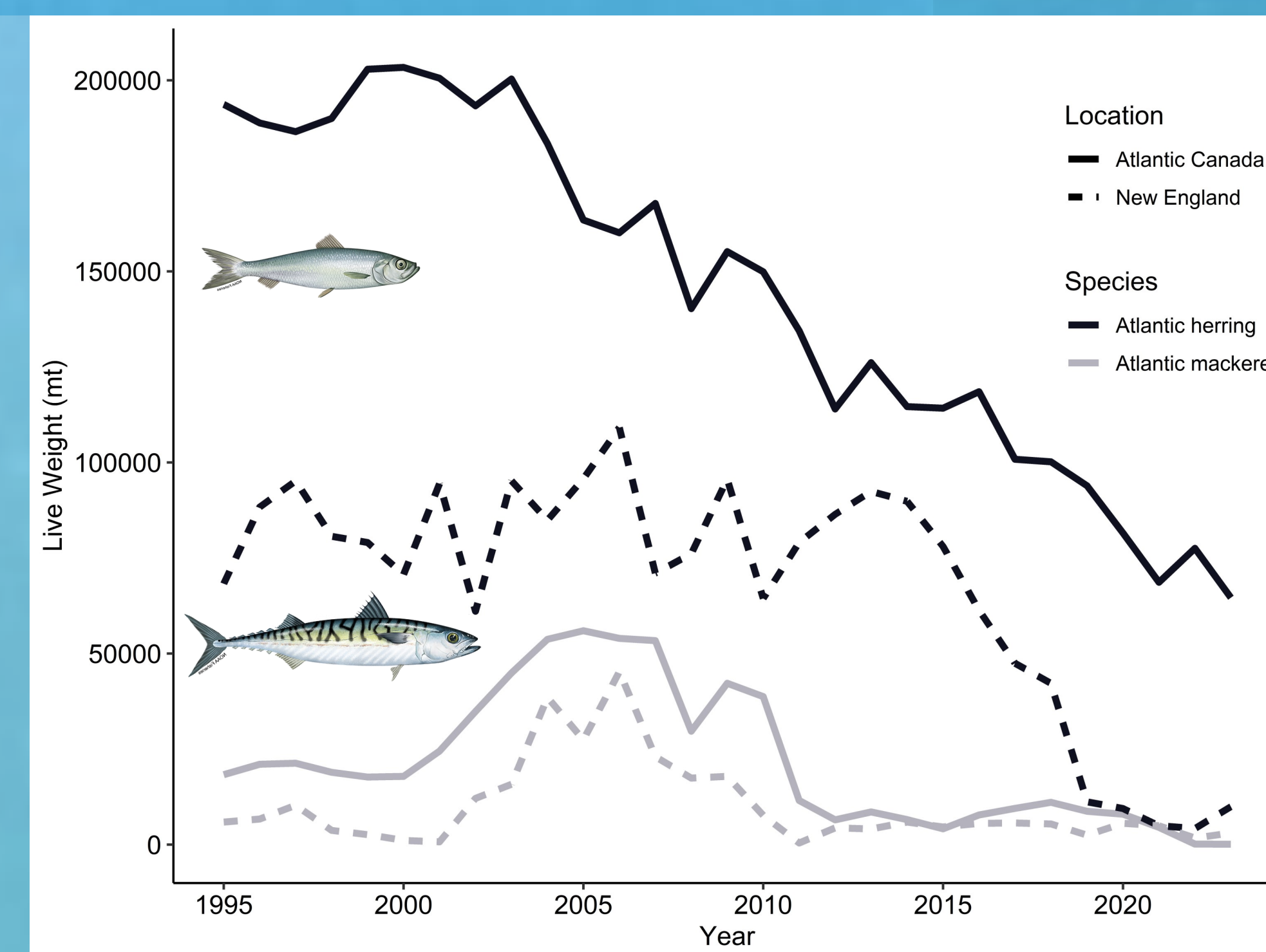
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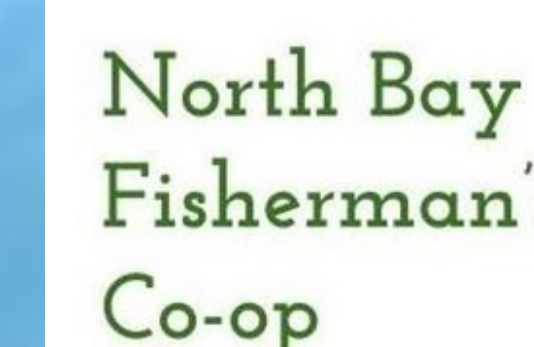
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## Problem: The Bait

- The American lobster fishery needs new baits.
- Bait costs are increasing and the sustainability of some bait fisheries is questionable.
- Industry must find new baits on their own, risking livelihoods on the possibility of poor performing baits.



Data from NOAA FOSS and DFO Seafisheries Landings



## A Solution: a Bait Testing Service

A science-based testing service could help facilitate the discovery and implementation of sustainable alternative baits.

## Methods:

Stage 1: Baited Remote Underwater Video

Stage 2: Traps with accelerometry

Stage 3: Catch per unit effort data

## Goal:

Foster economically feasible development of sustainable baits from a variety of sources to provide a robust solution to current bait problems.



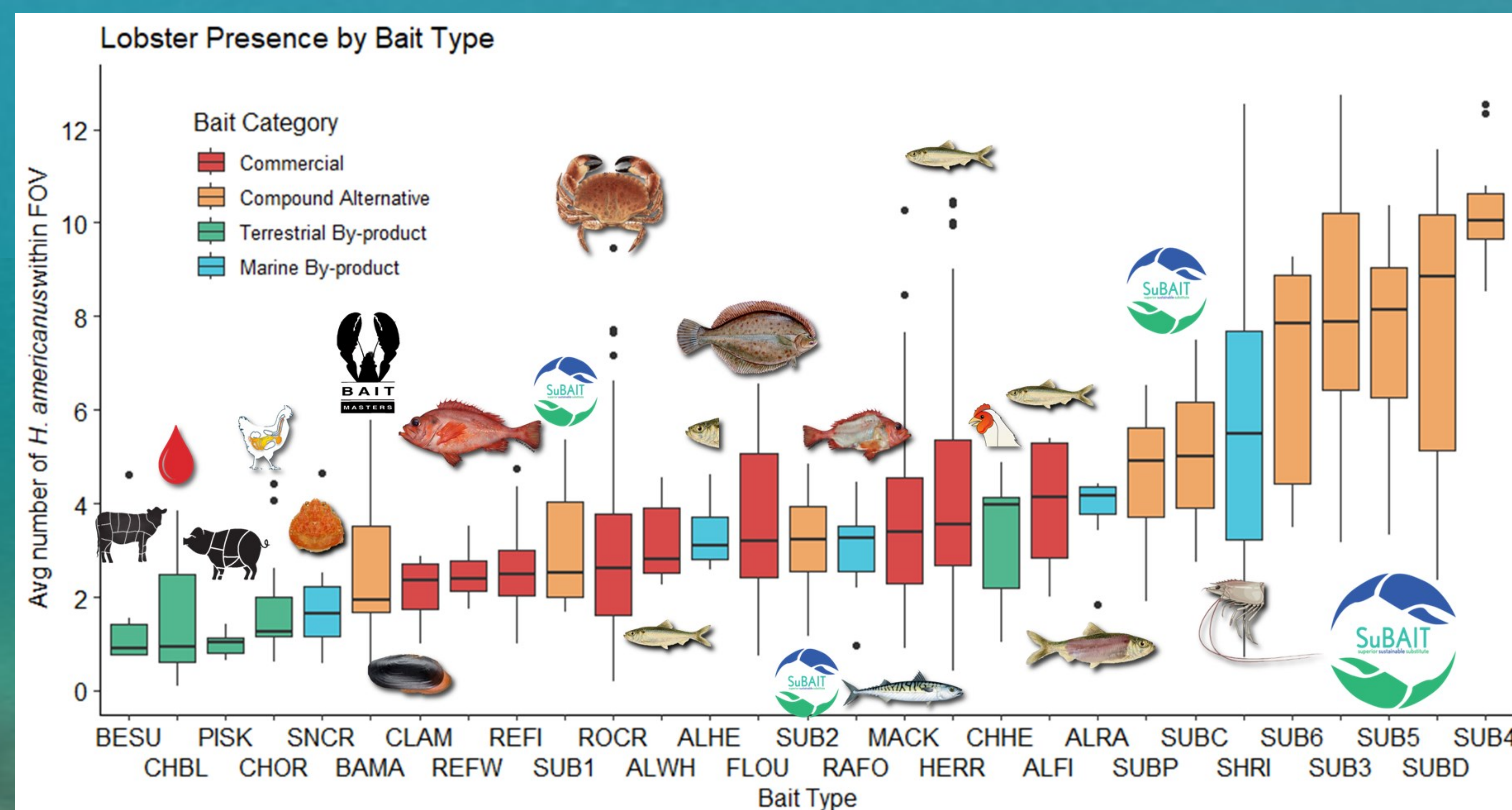
BRUV Field of view (Walls et al. 2025)



Trap with approximate accelerometer location (Gutzler et al. 2023)



For more information or to get involved:



Previous experiments have already explored the comparative attractiveness of 40 different baits. Additional factors that significantly impacted lobster responder to bait included deployment location, time of year, and benthic substrate.