



# **Status and management of Neritic Tunas in Thailand**

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# Introduction

- Marine fisheries are important role for economy of Thailand.
- Rapid development of fishing gears and fishing technology caused overexploited of resources.
- Neritic tunas are the important pelagic resources found 3 main species, longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*), kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*), and frigate tuna (*Auxis thazard*)
- In 2007 the production of neritic tunas amounted 112,646 tons (15.04 % of total pelagic catch) , valued 3,296 million THB.
- Neritic tunas in Thai waters were overexploited.

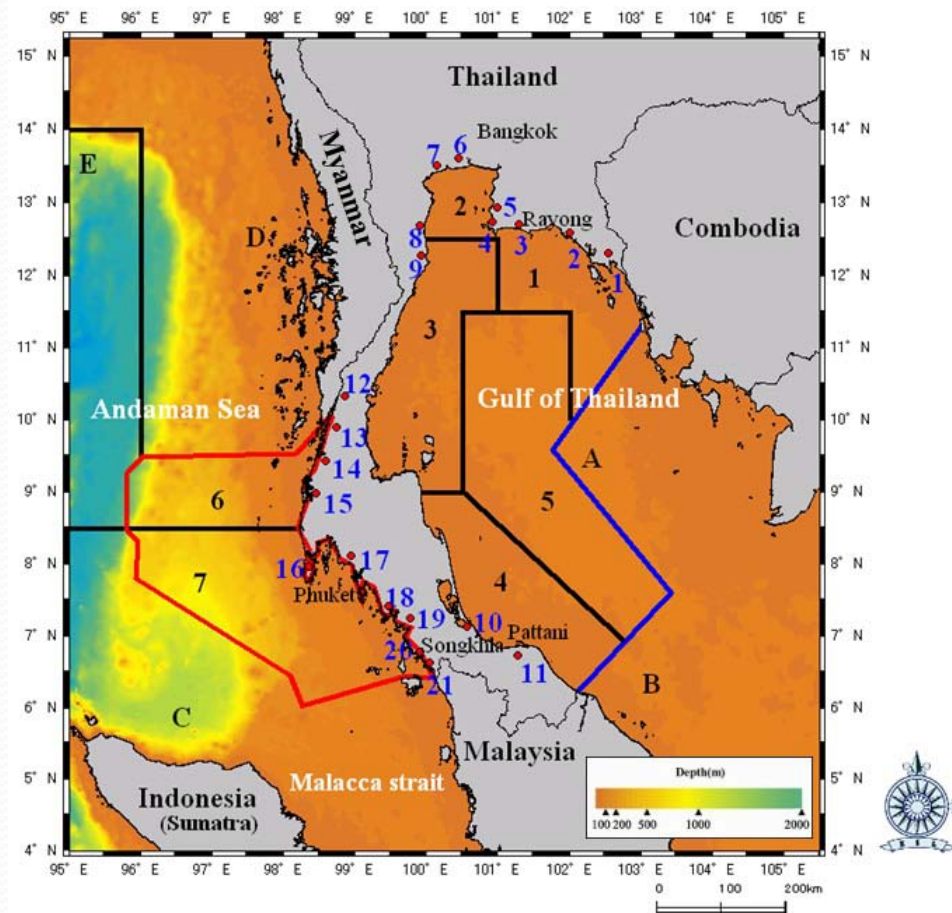
# Fisheries and Situation of neritic tuna

## Fishing Gears

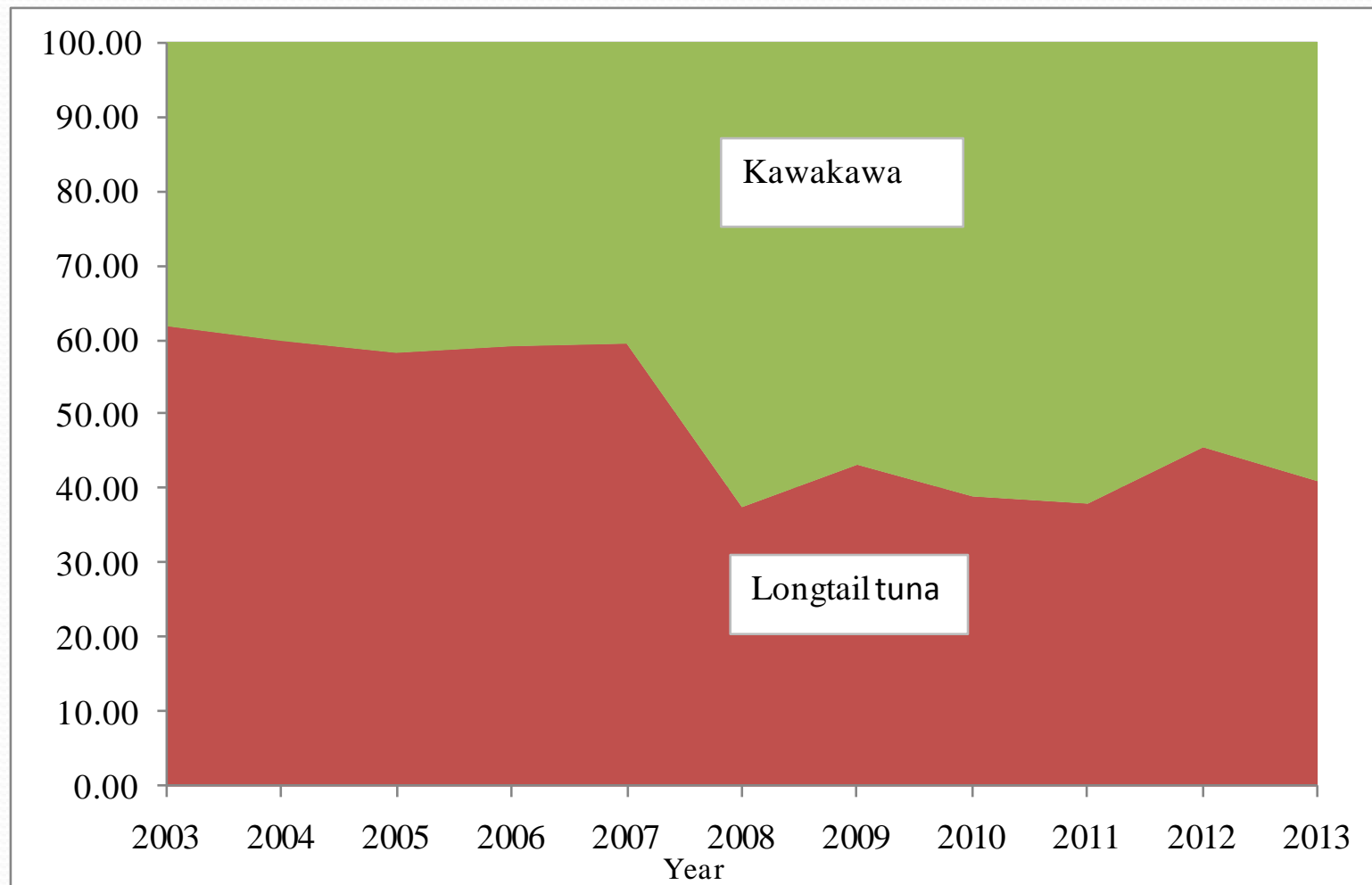
- The main fishing gears for neritic tuna fisheries are
  - Thai purse seine (TPS)
  - Fish aggregating device purse seine (FAD)
  - Light luring purse seine (LPS)
  - Tuna purse seine (TUN)

# Fisheries statistics of neritic tuna

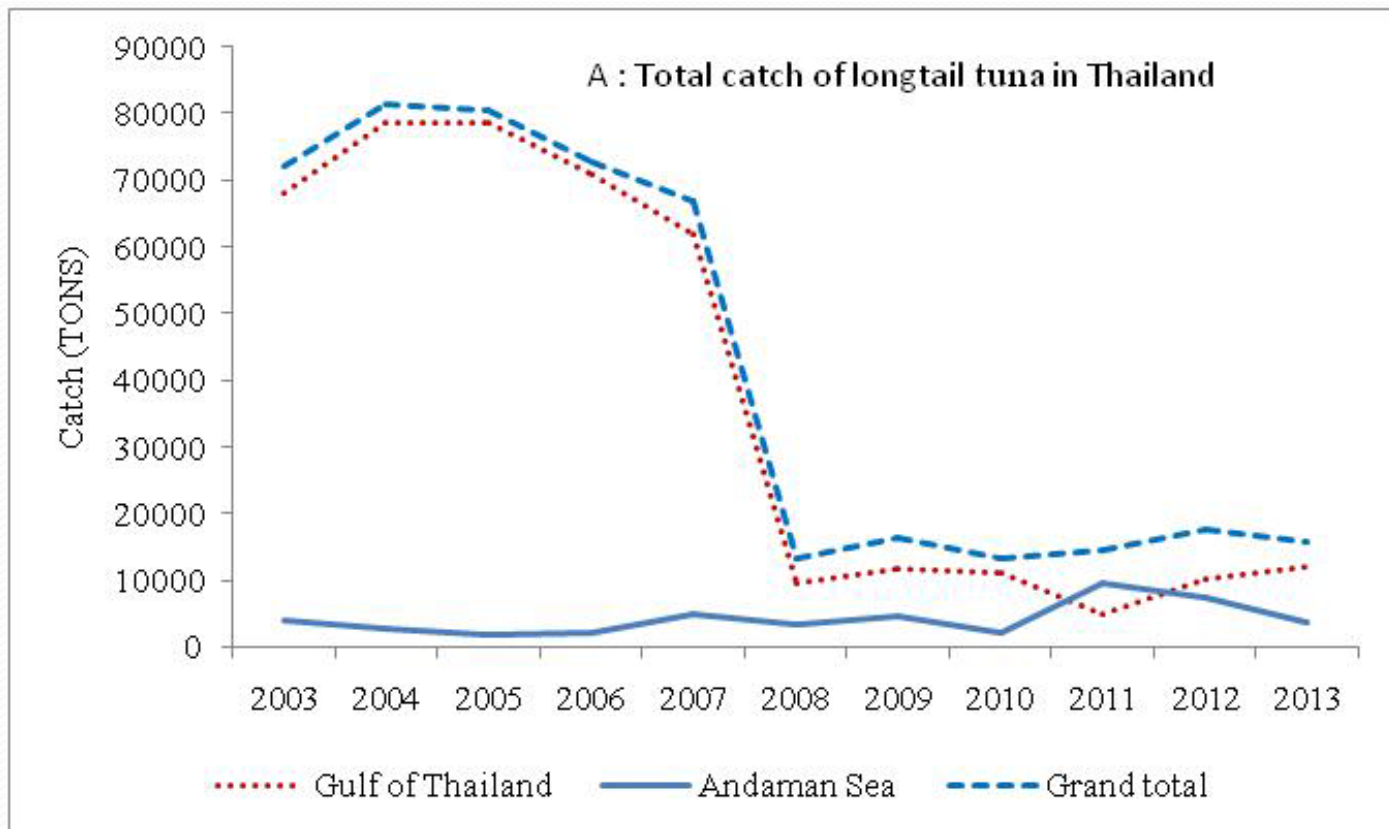
- zone 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 within Thai EEZs in the Gulf of Thailand; zone 6 and 7 within Thai EEZs in the Andaman Sea.
- zone A, B, C, D and E in areas beyond Thai EEZs



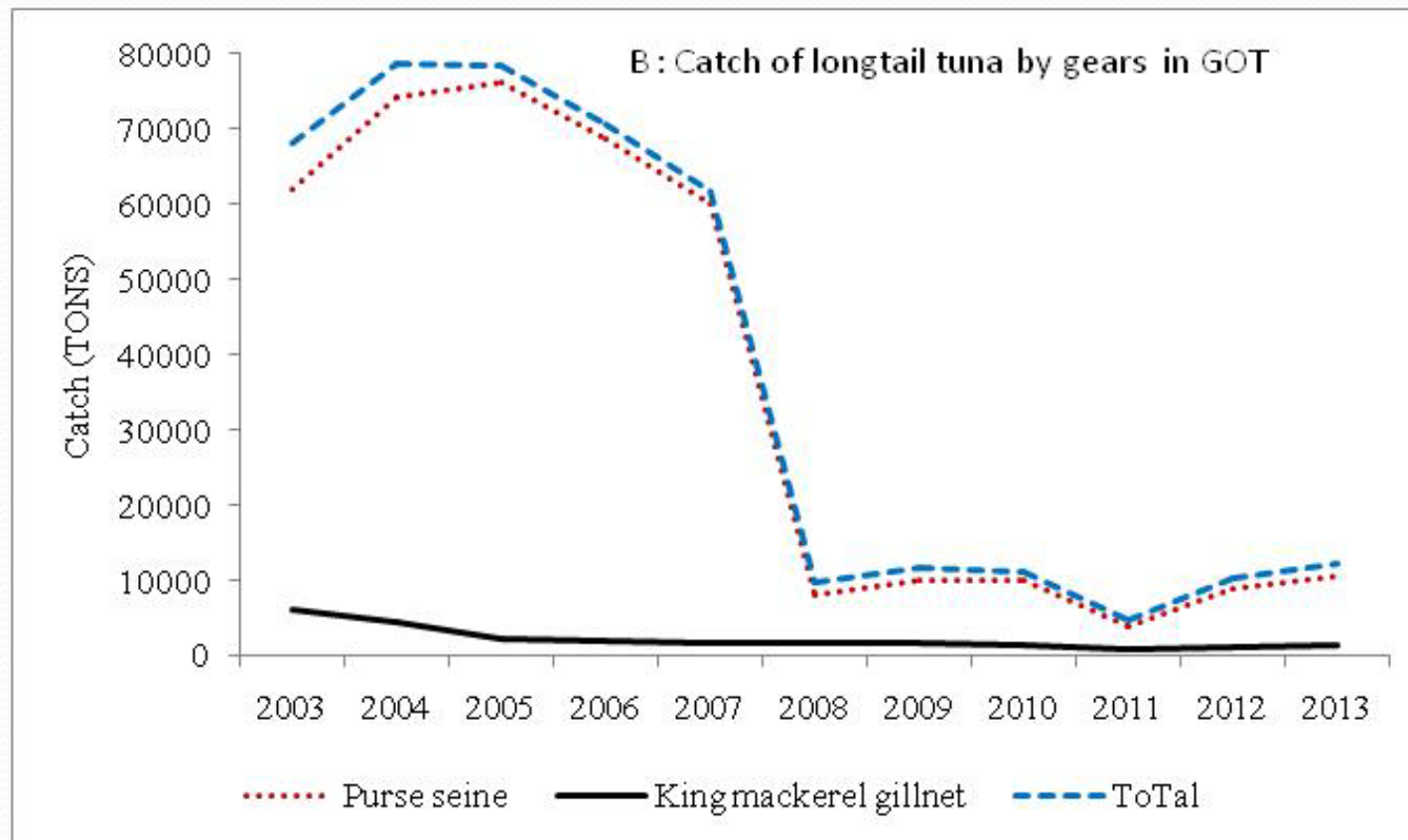
# Catch composition of longtail tuna and kawakawa in 2003-2013



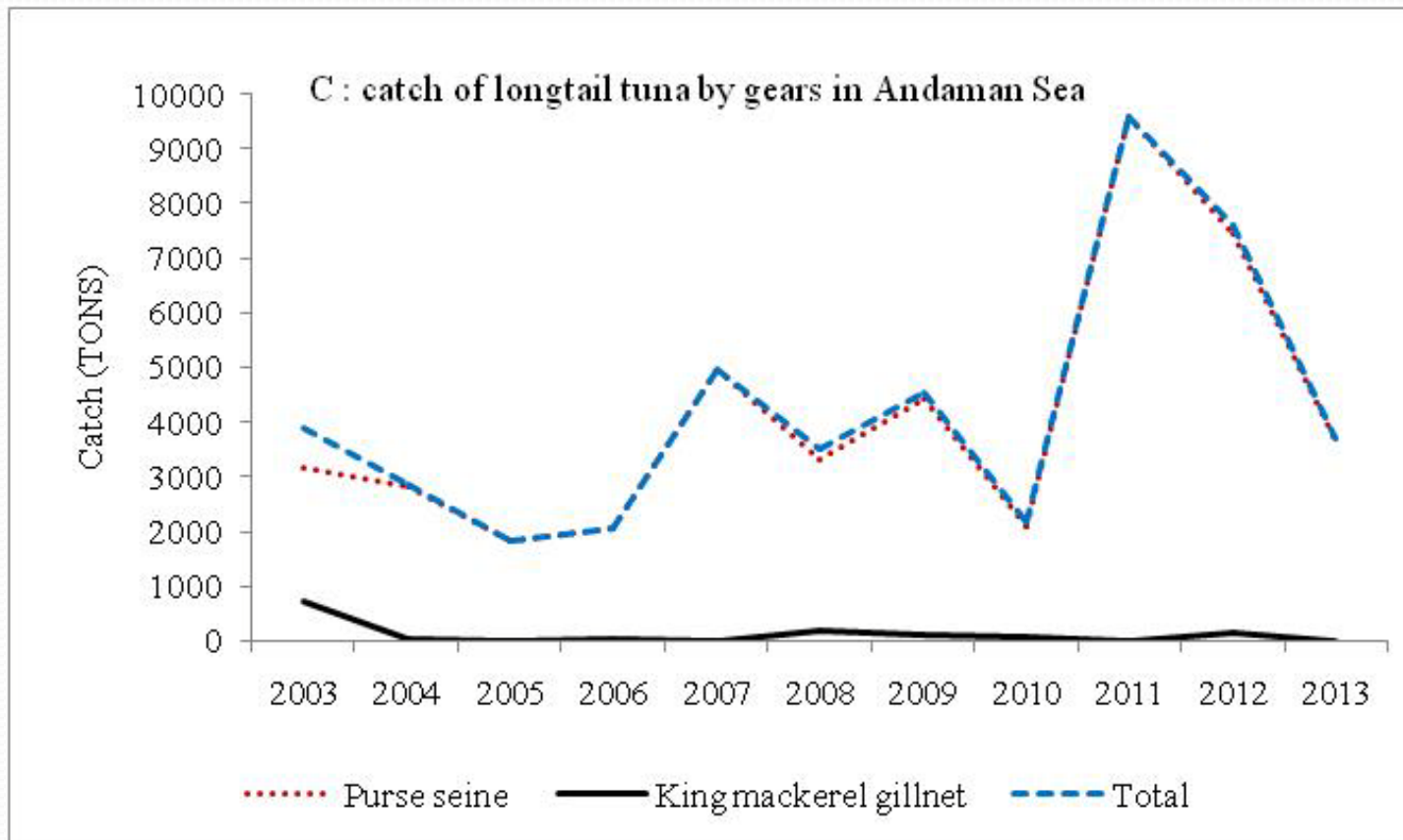
- Total catch of longtail tuna in 2003 to 2013 were 13,251 to 81,484 tons
  - Gulf of Thailand 4,844 -78,620 tons
  - Andaman Sea 1,819 -9,568 tons



- Catch from purse seine in GOT 1,819 to 9,568 tons
- King mackerel gillnet ranged 0-732 tons

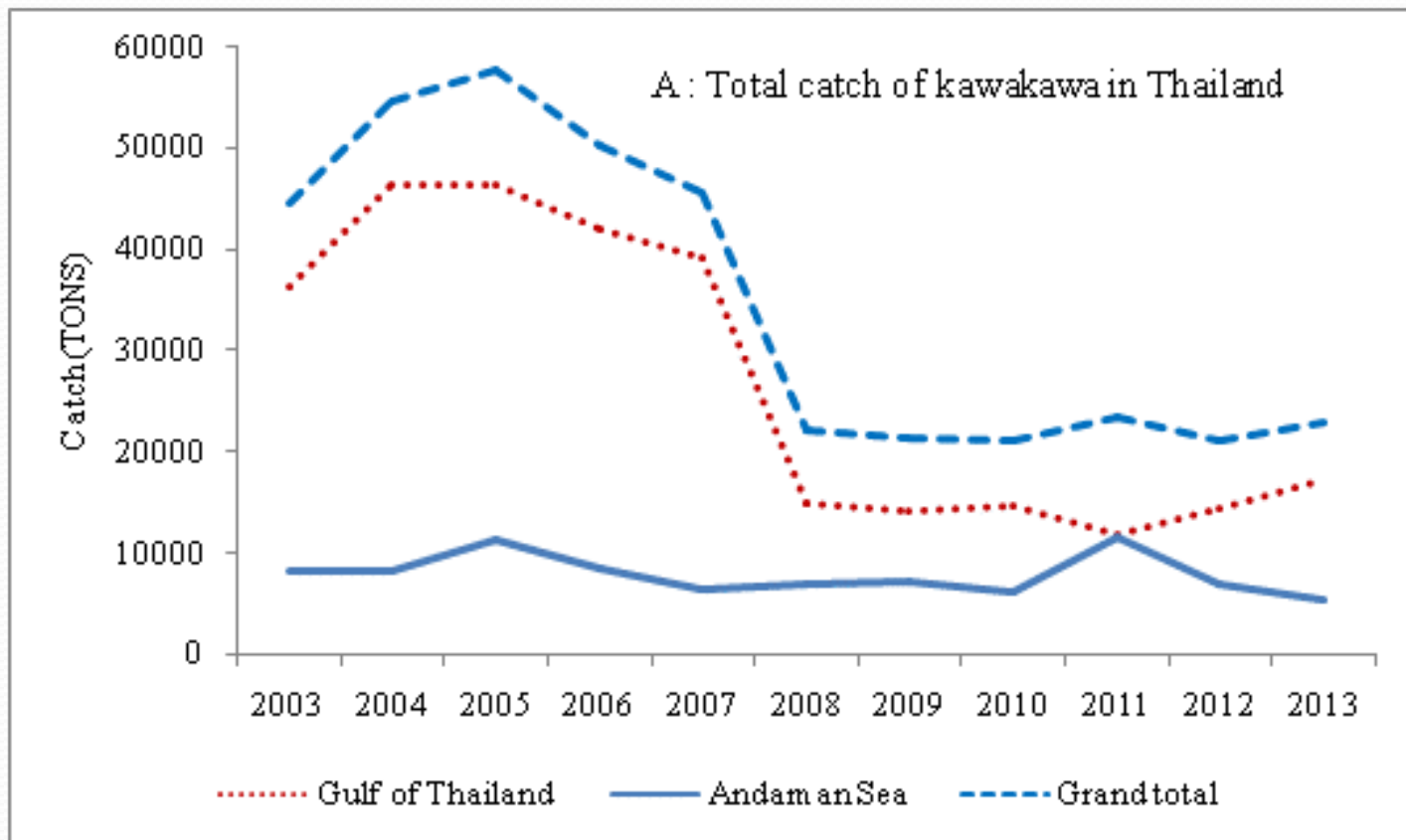


- Purse seine in Andaman Sea 1,819- 9,568 tons
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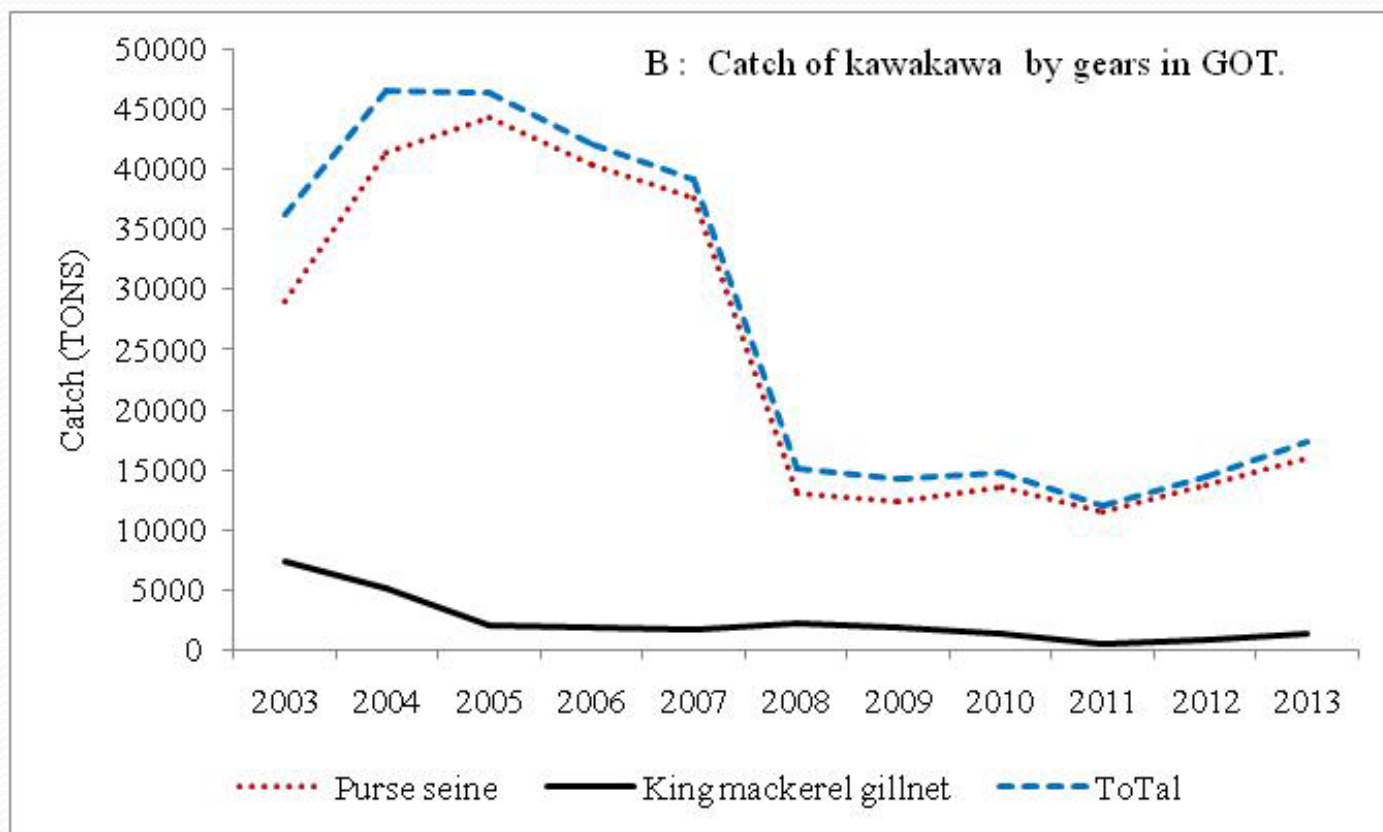




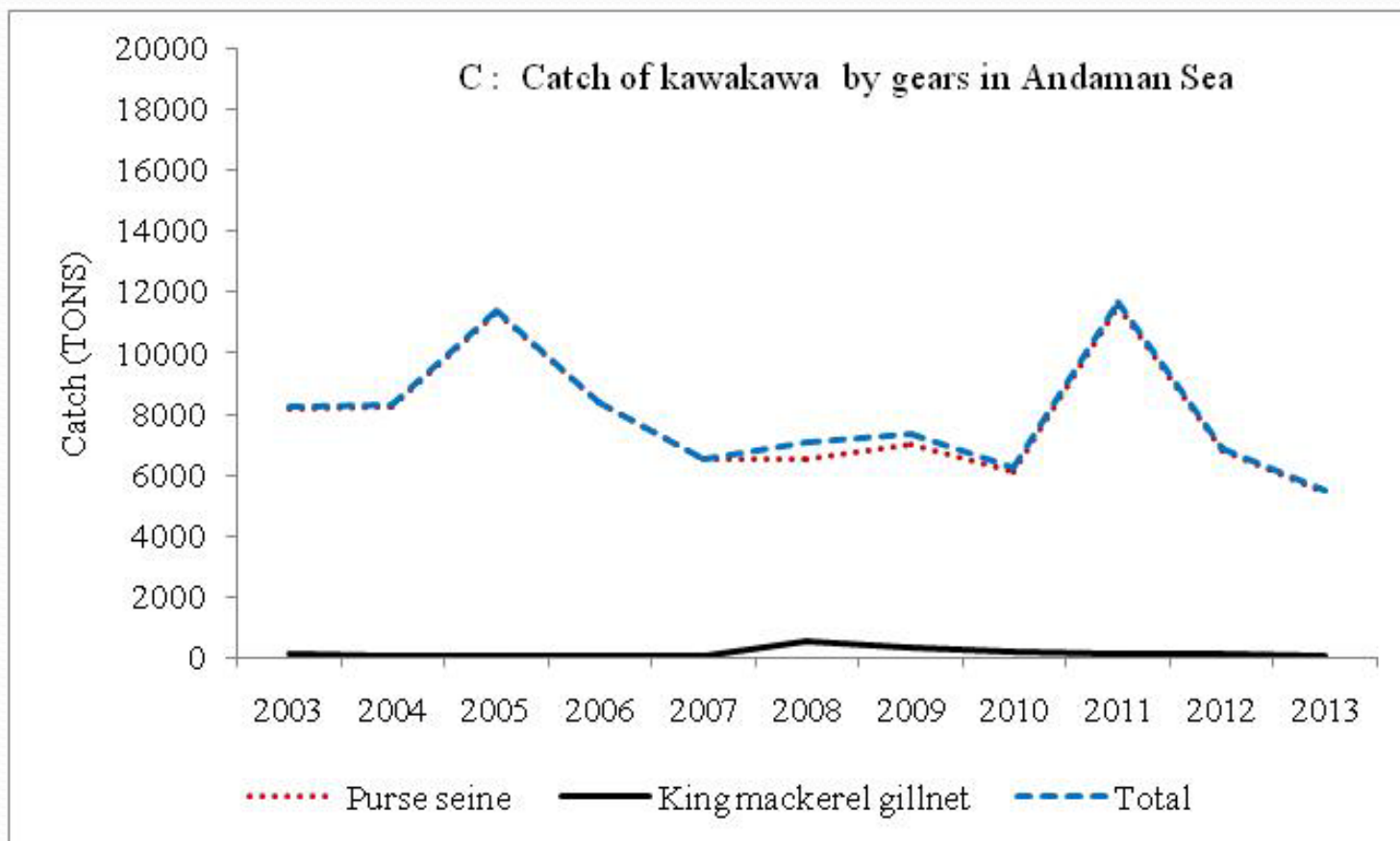
- Total catch of kawakawa in 2003 to 2013 were 21,006 - 57,620 tons
  - Gulf of Thailand 11,914 - 46,446 tons
  - Andaman Sea 5,440 – 11,630 tons



- Catch from purse seine in GOT 11,397 - 44,248 tons
- King mackerel gillnet 517-7,249 tons



- Catch from purse seine in Andaman sea 5,401 - 11,544 tons
- King mackerel gillnet 377 - 497 tons



## Management of Neritic Tuna in Thai Waters

1. Notification of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives for prohibition of certain kinds of fishing appliances in spawning and breeding seasons.

- in some localities of Prachuap Khiri Khan, Chumphon and Surat Thani Provinces. ( 15<sup>th</sup> Feb.- 15<sup>th</sup> May).

- in some localities of Phuket, Phang-nga, Krabi and Trang Provinces during 1<sup>st</sup> Apr.-30<sup>th</sup> June .

- prohibition of surrounding nets with meshes smaller than 2.5 cm fishing at night.

2. Thailand has “the Marine Fisheries Management Plan of Thailand (FMP)” in October 2015.

- required to transform an open-access fishery into a limited-access fishery based on balancing the fishing effort with MSY.

- closely linked to the National Plan of Action to NPOA-IUU

- will be implemented the e-logbook, e-licencing and Port State Measure (PSM) in 2016 and catch quota of longtail tuna in 2018

- started and implemented the VMS system on all fishing vessels (> 30 gross ton) and observer program in 2015.

3. Technical Study on neritic tuna

- Reproductive Biology of Kawakawa, Frigate Tuna and Longtail Tuna.

- The Status of Neritic Tuna Resources and Fisheries.



# Thank you

