



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
REPORT TO THE NORTH PACIFIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

Fisheries managed by the State of Alaska since the last Council report includes those for crab and Pacific cod.

Norton Sound Red King Crab: The overall Norton Sound red king crab GHL is 571,200 pounds and is allocated 92% to the summer season (475,824 pounds) and 8% (41,376 pounds) to the winter season; 7.5% of the total GHL (38,790 pounds) is allocated to a CDQ fishery and is available for harvest during the winter or summer season. This is the first year a portion of the GHL has been allocated to the winter fishery. The 2016 winter commercial fishery closed on April 21, 2016 with a total harvest of 79,986 pounds by 25 permit holders. The fishery-related mortality from the combined summer and winter commercial harvest, and subsistence harvest estimates (10,000 to 20,000 pounds) is expected to be 6% to 8% percent below the ABC.

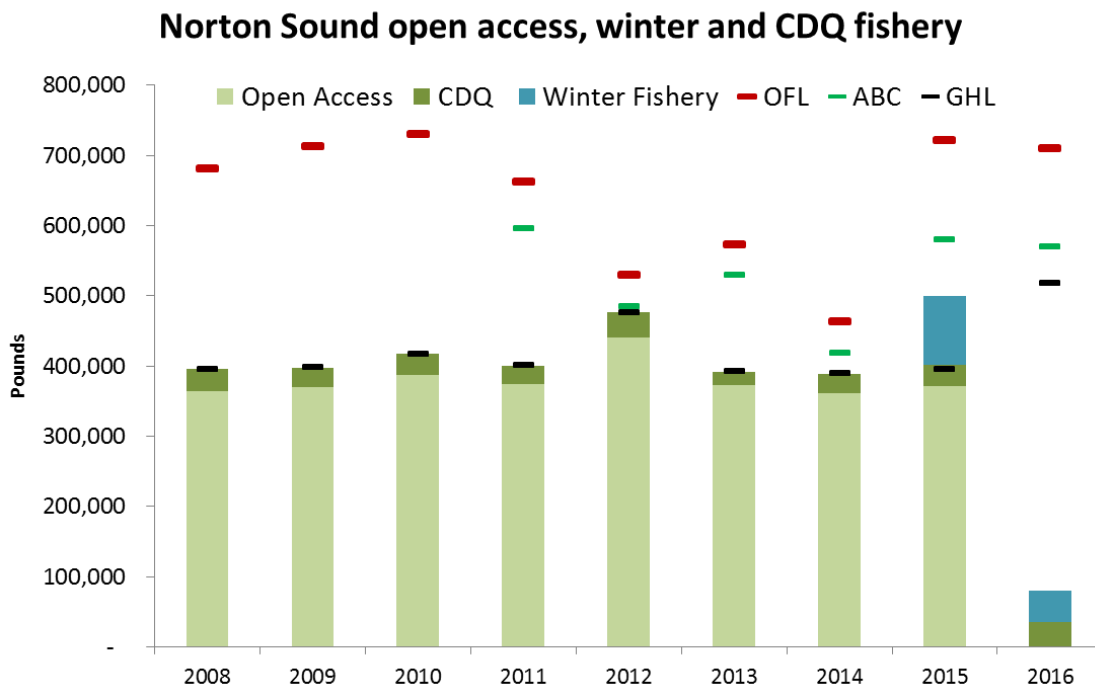


Figure 1. Norton Sound summer red king crab fishery harvest, TAC, ABC, and OFL, 2008 – 2016.

Bering Sea snow crab: The Bering Sea snow crab fishery opened on October 15, 2015 with a TAC of 40.61 mlbs. The fishery concluded with 100% of the TAC harvested prior to the regulatory closure. A total of 74 vessels participated this season. Catch rates were highly variable between vessels but the average CPUE was 146 crabs per pot.

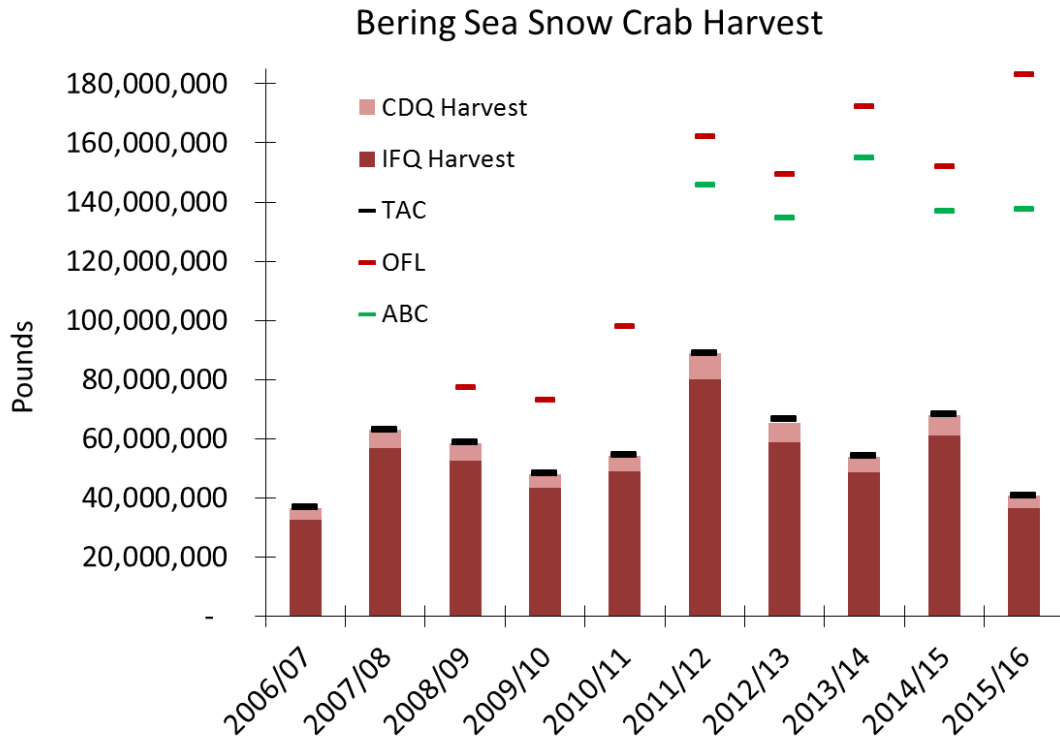


Figure 2. Bering Sea snow crab harvest, TAC, OFL, and ABC; 2006/07 – 2015/16 seasons.

Pacific Cod. State-water Pacific cod fisheries are established in the Prince William Sound, Cook Inlet, Kodiak, Chignik, South Alaska Peninsula, and Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands Management Areas. Guideline Harvest Levels (GHLs) are calculated as a percentage of area ABCs as follows:

State Management Area	Pacific cod ABC	GHL as % of ABC		2016 GHL (mt)
Prince William Sound	EGOA	25%		2,196
Chignik	CGOA		8.75%	4,315
Kodiak		25%	12.5%	6,164
Cook Inlet			3.75%	1,849
South Alaska Peninsula	WGOA	30%		12,151
Dutch Harbor Subdistrict	BS	6.4%		16,320
Aleutian Islands District	AI	27%		4,752

Central Region Pacific Cod

Prince William Sound: The state-waters jig season opened at noon on March 2, 24-hours after the closure of the CGOA federal A-season jig fishery, and closed on March 21 when the federal season was reopened. One vessel has registered to fish with jig gear and harvest remains confidential. The state-waters pot season opened on February 2, 24-hours after the closure of the CGOA federal A-season pot fishery, and closed on March 12, when the federal season was reopened. The state-waters fishery reopened on March 31, and remains open; however, no vessels have registered to fish with pot gear. The state-waters longline season opened on March 19, concurrent with the IFQ Halibut season opening date. Twenty-eight vessels registered to fish with longline gear and have harvested a total of 1,010,796 pounds (432 mt).

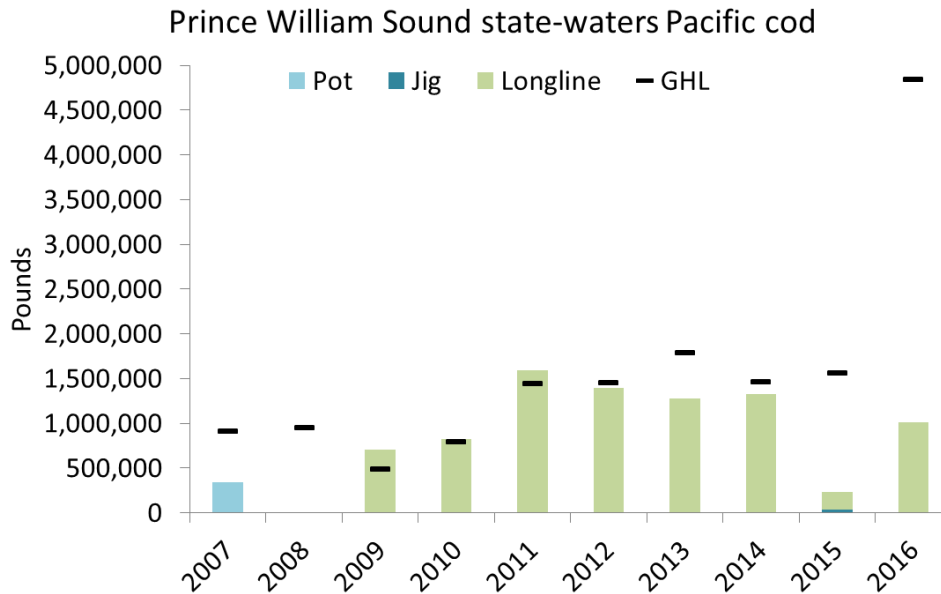


Figure 4. Prince William Sound state-waters Pacific cod harvest and Guideline Harvest Level, 2007 – 2016.

Cook Inlet: The state-waters jig season in Cook Inlet opened at noon on March 2, 24-hours after the closure of the CGOA federal A-season jig fishery, and closed on March 21 when the federal season was reopened. Seven vessels have registered for the jig fishery and harvested 55,673 pounds (25 mt). The state-waters pot season opened at noon on February 2, 24-hours after the closure of the CGOA A-season pot fishery, and closed on March 12, 2016 when the federal season was reopened. The state-waters fishery reopened on March 31, 2016 and remains open. Total pot fishery harvest to date is 2.8 mlbs (1,105 mt) by 14 vessels.

Cook Inlet state-waters Pacific cod

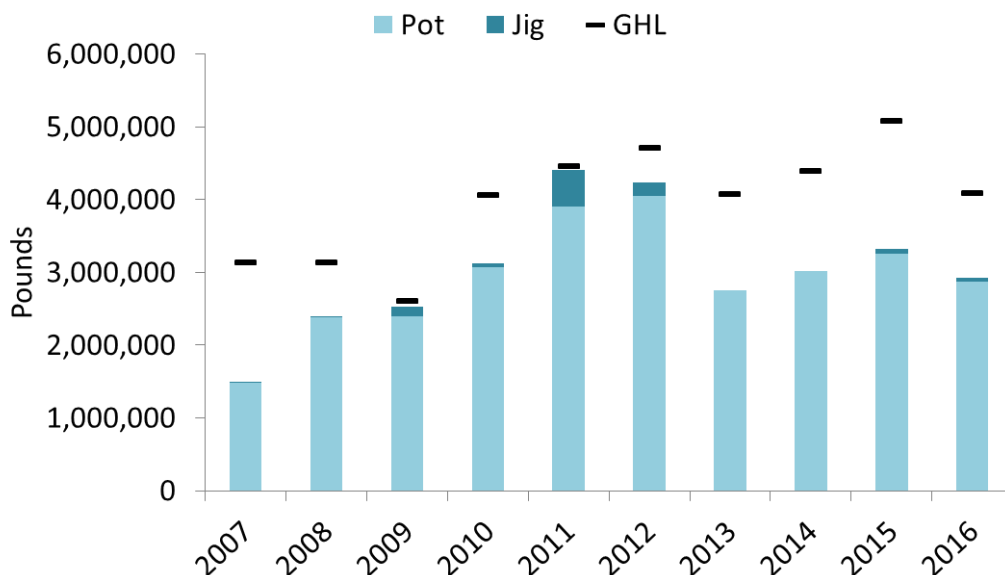


Figure 5. Cook Inlet state-waters Pacific cod harvest and Guideline Harvest Level, 2007 – 2016.

Westward Region Pacific Cod

Kodiak: The 2016 state-waters GHL for the Kodiak Area is allocated 50 percent to mechanical jig and hand troll gears and 50 percent to pot gear, or 6.79 mlbs (3,082 mt) each. The state-waters pot fishery opened on February 8, 2016, seven days after the CGOA federal A-season pot fishery closure, and closed on February 26, 2016. Total harvest by 36 vessels was 6.83 mlbs (3,100 mt), or 101% of the GHL. The state-waters jig fishery opened on March 3, 2016, 48-hours after the CGOA federal A-season jig fishery closure. To date, a total of 104 vessels have harvested 3.1 mlbs (1,421 mt).

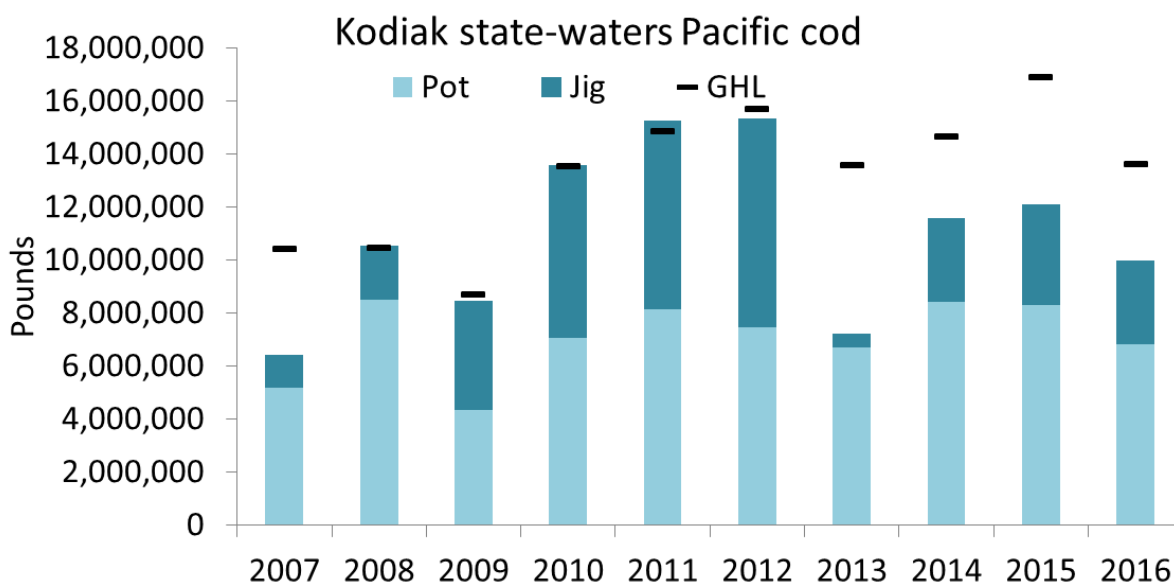


Figure 6. Kodiak state-waters Pacific cod harvest and Guideline Harvest Level, 2007 – 2016.

Chignik: The state-waters jig fishery opened by regulation on March 15.; however, no vessels have registered. The state-waters pot season opened by regulation on March 1, 2016. Total harvest by ten vessels was 8.56 mlbs (2,938 mt). The fishery closed April 16, 2016. Vessels participating in the Chignik Area may not exceed 58 feet in overall length.

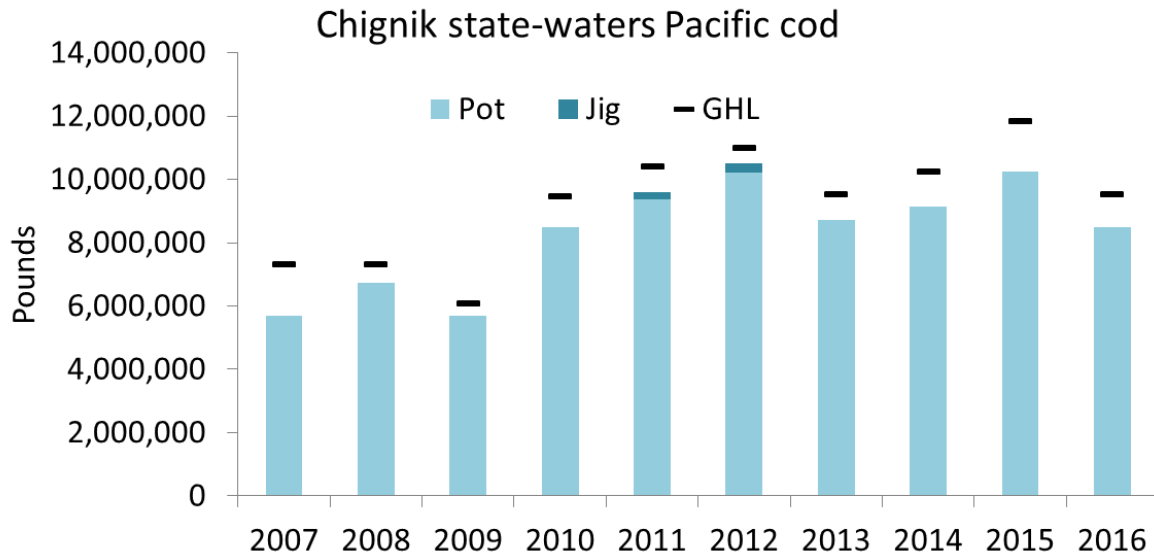


Figure 7. Chignik state-waters Pacific cod harvest and Guideline Harvest Level, 2007 – 2016.

South Alaska Peninsula: The South Alaska Peninsula (SAP) state-waters pot fishery opened March 15, with a GHL of 22.76 mlbs (12,151 mt). Eighty-five percent of the GHL in the SAP Area is targeted by pot gear and vessels may not exceed 58 feet in overall length. A total of 22.38 mlbs have been harvested in the state-waters pot fishery by 38 vessels. There is currently no effort in the fishery and the season remains open. The SAP state-waters jig fishery opened by regulation on March 15, 2016. Seventeen vessels have registered to fish and current harvest is 228,295 pounds (103 mt).

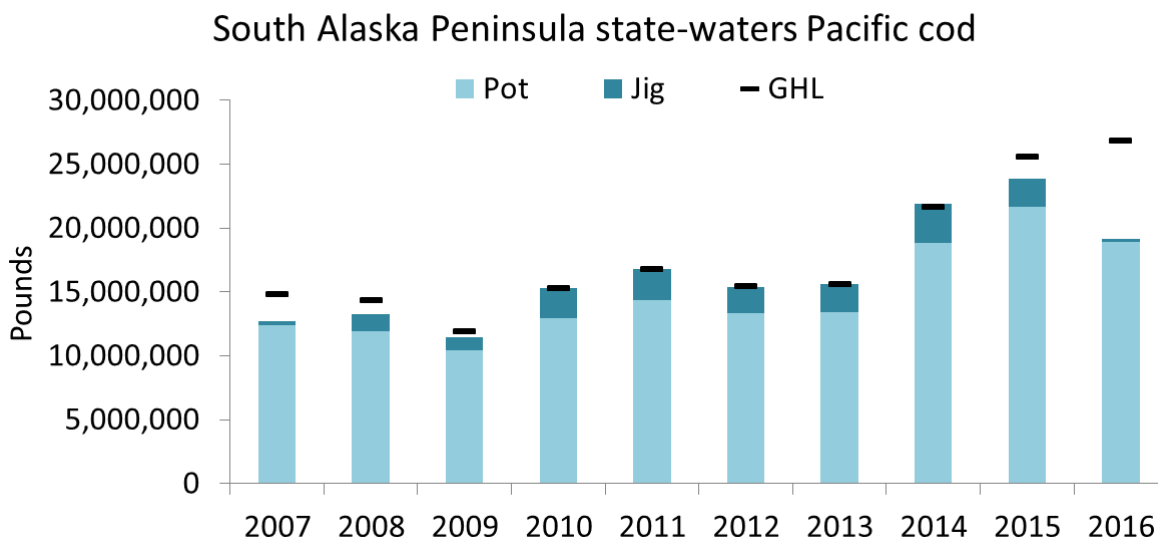


Figure 8. South Alaska Peninsula state-waters Pacific cod harvest and Guideline Harvest Level, 2007 – 2016.

Dutch Harbor Subdistrict: The Dutch Harbor Subdistrict opened on February 12, seven days after the initial federal Pacific cod season for the BSAI <60' hook-and-line and pot catcher vessel sector fishery closed with a GHL of 35.97 mlbs (16,320 mt). The fishery is only open to vessels ≤58' using pot gear (60 pot limit). The fishery closed April 22, 2016. The total harvest by 23 vessels was 35.52 mlbs (16,112 mt).

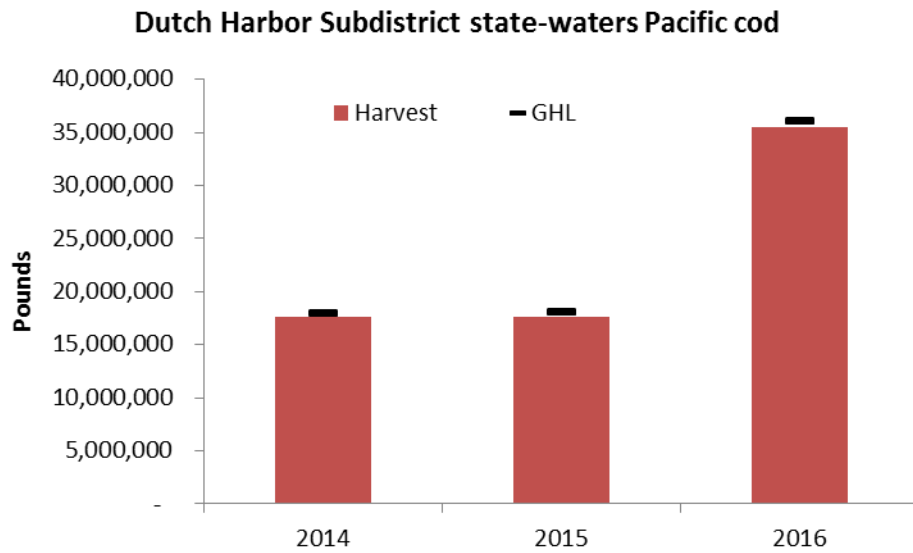


Figure 9. Dutch Harbor Subdistrict state-waters Pacific cod harvest and Guideline Harvest Level, 2007 – 2016.